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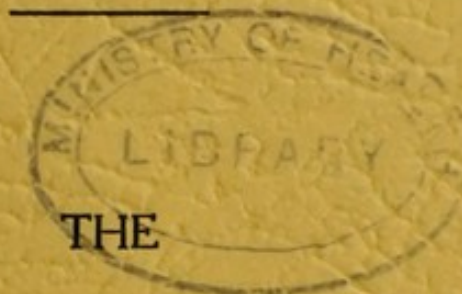
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THE  
**ANNUAL REPORT**  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND THE  
SANITARY INSPECTOR  
for the Year 1951

MASSEY, TROWBRIDGE





Bradford and Melksham Rural District Council

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THE  
ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
AND THE  
SANITARY INSPECTOR  
for the Year 1951

London and Fillingham Street, London, England

THE  
ANNUAL REPORT  
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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
SANITARY INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1901

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*To the Chairman and Members of the*

BRADFORD AND MELKSHAM RURAL DISTRICT  
COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies, and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1951, based on Ministry of Health Circular 42/51.

The District has remained free from serious epidemics throughout the year and the customary standard of good health which this district enjoys has been maintained.

The work of the Public Health Department in carrying out its varied functions in the field of Preventive Medicine is not easily measured and a large amount of routine work has to be undertaken to maintain existing standards. Considerable knowledge has still to be gained concerning the prevention, spread and control of certain infectious diseases such as Poliomyelitis and the development of effective protective agents against them is eagerly awaited. Everything possible needs to be done towards educating the public to an even higher standard of preventive hygiene and in the early recognition of dangerous diseases such as cancer and tuberculosis. This would help to eliminate much needless sickness and suffering, and reduce the growing expense of hospitals, sickness benefits, etc., which would in turn increase the national output and benefit the community generally.

It is hoped that the true value of Preventive Medicine in minimising sickness will be increasingly appreciated and that research and the carrying out of the many contributory factors in this vital field will not be hampered by lack of public interest and adequate funds.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Noble for his help and co-operation during the year, and Mrs. Hannaford and Mr. Mills for clerical assistance so ably and so willingly given.

Yours faithfully,

R. BRUCE KILLOH,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## **PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY**

### **Medical Officer of Health :**

R. BRUCE KILLOH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,  
who is also Medical Officer of Health to Melksham  
Urban District.

### **Sanitary Inspector :**

W. A. NOBLE, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

### **Clerical Staff :**

MRS. K. P. HANNAFORD  
MR. R. S. MILLS  
MISS M. S. WELLS

### **Offices :**

The office of the Medical Officer of Health is 1, King  
Street, Melksham. Tel. Melksham 2307.

The office of the Sanitary Inspector is in Abbey House,  
Bradford-on-Avon. Tel. Bradford-on-Avon 832174.



## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of the District (Acres)	...	...	...	26,881
Number of Parishes	...	...	...	13
Estimated Population (including Service Personnel)	...	...	...	13,380
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	2,899
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£60,997
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	£255

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

The following statistics have been compiled from information received from the Registrar General :—

### Births

#### Live Births

Births				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	92	76	168
Illegitimate	...	...	...	2	6	8
Total number of live births				94	82	176

Birth Rate for the District (i.e., per 1,000 population)	13·15
Comparative figure for England & Wales	15·5

#### Still Births

Births				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	3	1	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total number of still births				3	1	4

Still Birth Rate for the District	0·30
Comparative figure for England & Wales	0·36

### Deaths

	Male	Female	Total
Number of Deaths in the Area	67	61	128
Local Death Rate (i.e., per 1,000 population)	...	...	9·56
Comparative figure for England & Wales	...	...	12·5

### Infant Mortality

## DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR

Deaths				Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	3	1	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	1	2
Total number of deaths				4	2	6

## DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE

Deaths	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate ... ..	3	—	3
Illegitimate ... ..	—	1	1
Total number of deaths ...	3	1	4

### INFANT MORTALITY RATE

Number of Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age  
per 1,000 live births                      ...                      ...                      ...

Comparative figure for England & Wales	...	29.6
--	-----	------

### Causes of Deaths

The causes of death, classified according to the Registrar General's system, are given in the following table:—

		Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis (respiratory) ...	...	1	—	1
(other) ...	...	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease ...	...	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	...	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	...	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections ...	...	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	...	—	—	—
Measles ...	...	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic disease ...	...	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm (stomach) ...	...	1	1	2
(lung bronchus) ...	...	1	1	2
(breast) ...	...	—	—	—
(uterus) ...	...	—	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	3	10	
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	...	1	—	1
Carried forward ...	11	6	17	



	Male	Female	Total
Brought forward ...	11	6	17
Diabetes ...	—	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	7	10	17
Coronary disease, Angina ...	10	3	13
Hypertension with heart disease ...	—	2	2
Other heart disease ...	14	20	34
Other circulatory disease ...	2	1	3
Influenza ...	2	2	4
Pneumonia ...	4	2	6
Bronchitis ...	4	2	6
Other diseases of the respiratory system	1	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	—	1
Gastritis, Enteritis, and Diarrhoea ...	—	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	1	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate ...	1	—	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—	—
Congenital malformations ...	1	1	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	4	7	11
Motor vehicle accidents ...	3	—	3
All other accidents ...	1	2	3
Suicide ...	—	2	2
Homicide and Operations of War ...	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	67	62	129

## OUTLINE OF THE HEALTH SERVICES OPERATING IN THE AREA

### Laboratory Facilities

The Laboratory attached to the Pathology Department of Salisbury General Infirmary undertakes all bacteriological and pathological examinations in the district.

In the part of the district nearest Bath, use is made by General Practitioners of the Laboratory at St. Martin's Hospital, Bath.

These laboratories with their skilled staff provide a most valuable service with regard to the examination of drinking water, food and milk samples, throat swabs, etc., and their willing co-operation and expert advice is greatly appreciated.



## Hospital Facilities

The South-Western Regional Hospital Board is responsible for hospital facilities in this district.

The two hospitals in the area are a general hospital in Melksham, and a hospital for the chronic sick at Semington. Other general hospitals are situated in Devizes and Trowbridge, with larger ones in Bath and Bristol.

The nearest hospital for the treatment of common infectious disease is the Isolation Hospital at Trowbridge, while cases of Poliomyelitis are generally treated in Bath Isolation Hospital. The nearest Smallpox Hospital is at Bristol.

## County Health Facilities

The following health services operating in the district are provided by the County Health Committee :—

Care of expectant and nursing mothers and young children.

Domiciliary Midwifery.

Health Visiting.

Home Nursing.

Arrangements for vaccination and immunization.

Ambulances and ambulance cars.

Domestic Helps.

Arrangements under Part III of the National Health Service Act for the prevention of illness ; care and after-care ; and health education.

Mental Health Service.

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEAR

Disease	1950	1951
Scarlet Fever ... ..	16	22
Whooping Cough ... ..	46	42
Poliomyelitis—Paralytic ...	3	1
Non-paralytic		4
Measles ... ..	56	211
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	12	6
Dysentery ... ..	—	8
Erysipelas ... ..	2	—

# NUMBER OF CASES AND ADMISSIONS TO HOSPITAL

Disease	Number of Cases	Admitted to Hospital
Scarlet Fever ... ..	22	4
Whooping Cough ... ..	42	—
Poliomyelitis—Paralytic ...	1	1
Non-paralytic	4	4
Measles ... ..	211	—
Diphtheria ... ..	—	—
Pneumonia ... ..	6	—
Dysentery ... ..	8	—
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—

The distribution of cases according to age and sex are shown in the following tables.

## ANALYSIS UNDER AGE GROUPS

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis		Measles	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	3
1-2 years	—	—	4	8	1	—	20	17
3-4 years	—	1	4	4	1	—	33	23
5-9 years	2	5	7	9	2	—	45	50
10-14 years	—	1	—	1	—	—	6	4
15-24 years	12	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
25 and over	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
Not Known	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	1
TOTAL	15	7	16	26	5	—	111	100

Age Groups	Pneumonia		Dysentery		Erysipelas	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	—	—	7	1	—	—
5-14 years	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-44 years	1	2	—	—	—	—
45-64 years	2	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	1	—	—	—	—	—
Not Known	—	1	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	4	3	7	1	—	—



## DISTRIBUTION IN PARISHES

Parishes	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Poliomyelitis		Measles	Pneumonia	Dysentery	Erysipelas
			Paralytic	Non- Paralytic				
Atworth	—	—	—	—	42	—	—	—
Broughton Gifford	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—
Hilperton	—	1	—	—	5	—	8	—
Holt	—	16	—	—	34	1	—	—
Limpley Stoke	1	4	—	—	13	—	—	—
Melksham Without	12	7	1	—	74	2	—	—
Monkton Farleigh	1	6	—	1	2	—	—	—
Semington	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
South Wraxall	1	3	—	—	3	—	—	—
Staverton	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Westwood	2	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Wingfield	—	2	—	2	7	—	—	—
Winsley	—	1	—	1	9	2	—	—
TOTAL	19	41	1	4	204	5	8	—

### Poliomyelitis

Of the five cases of poliomyelitis recorded only one was paralytic in nature and recovery has been complete. It will be observed from the table that all were young males.

Two members of one family contracted the disease, which was unusual, as normally, in keeping with the other cases, the disease is sporadic in nature.

### Tuberculosis

NEW CASES				
Year	No. of cases			
1950	...	...	...	7
1951	...	...	...	10



Distribution of new cases according to age, sex, and localisation of disease, is as follows :—

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths	
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		M.	F.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 Years	—	—	—	—	—	—
6-15 "	—	—	—	—	—	—
16-25 "	3	2	—	—	—	—
26-35 "	—	—	—	—	—	—
36-45 "	1	1	—	—	1	—
46-55 "	—	2	—	—	—	—
56-65 "	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65	—	—	—	—	—	—
Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	4	5	—	—	1	—

From the above table it will be seen that 9 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1951. One death from tuberculosis was recorded.

### Housing of Tuberculosis Patients

During the year, cases were referred by the Chest Physician for consideration for re-housing. These cases are classified as follows :—

*Certificate No. 1.* Sputum-positive cases where re-housing is considered urgent for the prevention of infection.

*Certificate No. 2.* Where better housing would be desirable in order to improve and maintain the patient's health.

*Certificate No. 3.* Where improved housing would be beneficial but is not an urgent matter.

The following is a summary of the cases dealt with during the year :—

Type of Case	No. of cases referred	No. of cases re-housed
Certificate No. 1	2	1
Certificate No. 2	—	—
Certificate No. 3	—	—

## Mass Radiography

During October the Mass Radiography Unit visited the New Mendip Engineering Company Ltd. A total of 151 persons attended for examination. Three persons were found to have simple non-tuberculous conditions, and three were kept under observation. I am glad to report that no case of tuberculosis was found.

It may be possible to arrange for a further visit of the Mobile X-Ray Unit to the district when a larger number of the general public may be enabled to take advantage of this very important service.

## Diphtheria Immunization

Diphtheria immunization is carried out systematically throughout the district by General Practitioners and County Medical Officers, in homes and schools.

Diphtheria immunization was suspended for a time during the summer owing to the prevalence of Poliomyelitis in this and neighbouring districts.

## Immunization Statistics, 1951

Number of primary immunizations completed during 1951 :—

Up to 4 years of age	...	...	...	139
From 5-14 years of age	...	...	...	9

Number of reinforcing injections administered ... 168

Total immunized child population at 31st December, 1951 :—

Up to 4 years of age	...	...	...	467
From 4-14 years of age	...	...	...	1242
TOTAL				1709

## Vaccination

Number of persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) during 1951 :—

Age Group	Number Vaccinated	Number Re-vaccinated
Under 1 year	35	—
1-4 years	7	1
5-14 years	16	1
Over 15 years	16	45
TOTAL	74	47



Vaccination is performed under the National Health Service by General Practitioners. Emergency clinics can be operated in the event of an outbreak of smallpox in County Health Clinics at Salisbury and Swindon. Vaccination propaganda is undertaken by the County Health Authority.

It would appear that too few babies are being vaccinated at the present time, and in sharp contrast to diphtheria immunization, which is relatively popular, vaccination in infancy is in my experience inclined to be viewed with relative indifference at the present time. Everything possible, therefore, requires to be done toward stimulating public opinion in favour of vaccination and impressing on them the constant danger of smallpox outbreaks in a poorly protected community.

### **Food Poisoning**

There were no outbreaks or known cases of food poisoning in the district during 1951.

### **National Assistance Act, 1948**

#### **SECTION 47 : REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION**

During the year one case was kept under review, but I am happy to report that it was not found necessary to obtain compulsory removal of any persons against their will from their homes.

This step is one that should only be considered after all the assistance that can be given by Home Helps, District Nurses, National Assistance Officers and Welfare Officers, etc., has failed to provide the care and attention needed, and it is felt that there is need for more co-ordination of these services which are available to assist the aged and infirm.



# REPORT

## OF THE

### SANITARY INSPECTOR

---

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my fourth Annual Report to this Council.

May I again express my gratitude for the helpful guidance I have received from the Chairmen and Members of the Council and Committees.

My sincere thanks are due to Dr. Killoh for his co-operation and for the presentation of this joint report in its present form.

I am considerably indebted to Miss M. S. Wells for her clerical assistance, so readily and so capably done. The Rodent Operator and the five members of the Refuse Collection and Disposal Staff have also worked admirably at their duties, which are not always congenial.

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. NOBLE,

*Sanitary Inspector.*

---

#### STAFF

Clerk/Typist	MISS M. S. WELLS
Rodent Operator	MR. A. J. BODDY
Refuse Collection	MR. J. H. GOODENOUGH MR. R. HINTON MR. W. CARTER (from 17th Sept., 1951)
Tip Operators	MR. T. COX MR. P. SAWYER (from 10th Sept., 1951)

## MEAT AND FOODS

			Number	Inspections	Notices Served	Notices complied with
Bakehouses	...	...	3	7	2	1
Slaughterhouses	...	...	3	33	—	—
Butchers' Shops	...	...	3	6	1	—
Catering Establishments	...	...	45	31	1	—
Food Shops	...	...	36	50	1	2
Licensed Premises	...	...	29	32	—	4
Licensed Slaughtermen	...	...	6	—	—	—

*Note*—It will be noticed throughout this report that on occasion, more notices are shown as "complied with" than "served." This is explained by work, requested in 1950, being completed in 1951.

During the year, 148 horses have been killed for human consumption. 8 lungs (parasitic), 23 livers (parasitic), and 2 kidneys (cystic) were condemned as unfit for food. No carcass meat was condemned.

It is of interest to say that no evidence of Tuberculosis was observed, and that the meat is remarkably free from disease. One specimen of lung tissue and bronchial lymphatic gland was sent to the Department of Preventive Medicine at Bristol University. The report confirmed the presence of anthracosis with silicosis. Enquiries showed that the horse had been worked in a coal mine.

At various other premises, the following articles were condemned :—

Corned Beef	...	...	...	...	2 tins
Plum Pudding	...	...	...	...	13 tins
Braised Beef Steak	...	...	...	...	36 tins
Crushed Pineapple	...	...	...	...	84 tins
Sugar	...	...	...	...	1 tin
Savoury Steak	...	...	...	...	54 tins
Beef Steak	...	...	...	...	815 tins
Ham	...	...	...	...	5 tins
Pigs' Kidneys	...	...	...	...	11 tins

Wherever possible the condemned food is re-processed or used for animal foodstuffs.



A further opportunity to remind food handlers of the need for strict hygiene was afforded in November, when the Council agreed to the issue of notices requesting that dogs be kept out of food premises, to shops, restaurants, etc.

This action formed part of a campaign which has consisted of personal visits and inspections in 1948 and 1949 and the adoption and circularisation of the Ministry of Food's Model Byelaws in 1950.

### ICE CREAM

			Number	Inspections	Notices Served	Notices complied with
Retailers	...	...	14	207	1	1
Manufacturers	...	...	—	—	—	—

The results of the year's sampling are set out in Appendix "A" of this report. Enquiries and check samples are made following a poor sample result. All the ice cream is manufactured outside this district.

The 1951 results show a definite improvement over the figures for 1950, and the Council's policy of registering general stores for the sale of pre-packed ice cream only, appears to be fully justified.

During the year, the Council refused registration for the sale of ice cream at premises which did not comply with Section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. The occupier appealed, but the local Magistrates upheld the Council's decision.

### MILK AND DAIRIES

#### MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

			Number	Inspections	Notices Served	Notices complied with
Dairies	...	...	8	184	—	—
Distributors	...	...	11			
Producer/Retailers	...	...	35			



## MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS

"Tuberculin Tested" Dealers' Licences	...	...	4
"Pasteurised" Dealers' Licences	...	...	4
Supplementary "Tuberculin Tested" Dealers' Licences	...		4
Supplementary "Pasteurised" Dealers' Licences	...		2

Appendix "B" of this report sets out the sample results of "designated" milk. In two cases the results cannot be considered satisfactory. Thorough investigations were made, and, in each case, it is thought that the cause of the sample failures was discovered and rectified.

In renewing the licences for 1952, it has been made clear to those dairymen that an improvement is essential, and if three consecutive samples fail, the question of revocation of the licence will have to be considered.

During the year, 13 samples have been taken for biological examination, and in each case the report was "tubercle bacillus not present." The number of such samples is really insufficient, but is limited owing to lack of staff.

## WATER

Number of Public Water Supplies in the District	...	18
Number of Bacteriological Samples obtained during 1951		70
Number of Samples taken for chemical analysis during 1951	... ..	—

Appendix "C" of this report sets out the sample results for the year.

Three unsatisfactory supplies have been discontinued as a result of the main extension schemes carried out by this Council.

The various water supplies are not uniformly satisfactory in quality or quantity. The Council Surveyor has various schemes in hand which will result in considerable unification and improvement.

I am not in a position to give, with any degree of accuracy, the number of houses and the population in each Parish supplied from public water mains direct to houses, or by means of stand-pipes. None of the water supplies appear to be liable to plumbosolvent action.

A typical report of a satisfactory bacteriological examination is given below :—

## SALISBURY AREA PATHOLOGICAL SERVICE

Pathological Department,  
The General Infirmary,  
Salisbury.

### REPORT ON BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER

1. Bacteriological Count. Total colonies growing on agar at 37°C. in 48 hours :—NIL, per 1 m.l. of water.
2. B. Coli Counts at 37°C. in 48 hours and 44°C. in 48 hours.

Quantity of water tested	Acid and Gas from lactose	
	at 37°C.	at 44°C.
Five tubes of 10 m.l. water	—	—
Five tubes of 1 m.l. water	—	—

As a result of calculation made from above :—

- (1) Number of Coli Aerogenes per 100 m.l. growing at 37°C. ... ... NIL
- (2) Number of Faecal types of B. Coli per 100 m.l. growing at 44°C. ... ... NIL

### OPINION

Bacteriological examination shows no evidence of pollution.

Date : 14/3/51.

### FACTORIES

	Number	Inspections	Notices Served	Notices complied with
Factories with power ...	27	25	4	3
Factories without power ...	4	5	1	—
Outworkers ...	101	2	—	—

The requirements of the Factories Act, 1937, appear to be complied with but it is not possible to make as many inspections as are really necessary. Full details, as required by the Ministry, are contained in Appendix "D."



## SHOPS

	Number	Inspections	Notices Served	Notices complied with
Shops ... ..	39	22	4	2

Once again, pressure of other work has rendered it impossible to make the required inspections to ensure compliance with the Shops Act, 1950.

## PETROLEUM

	Number	Inspections	Notices Served	Notices complied with
Licensed Premises ...	38	25	6	5

Various Licence Holders have installed new pumps, and endeavours are made to ensure that there is compliance with the Model Conditions in respect of electrical equipment associated with petrol service pumps.

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

	Number	Inspections
Site Licences ... ..	14	} 74
Individual Licences ... ..	—	
Licences Refused ... ..	—	

The Council decided to post notices of the Wiltshire County Council's Byelaws, as to the control of Caravan Dwellers, on Norrington and Broughton Commons, Broughton Gifford. It is surprising to be able to report that the gypsy nuisance has practically disappeared.

## RODENT CONTROL

Number of visits made by Rodent Operator ... ..	1,246
Estimated number of rats destroyed ... ..	3,802
Estimated number of mice destroyed ... ..	—

The Rodent Operator now spends three weeks out of four in this Council's service. Steady progress is being made and the Council are shortly to consider the question of rodent inspections of farms.

A case of Weil's Disease (Rat Jaundice) in a farm-worker occurred towards the end of the year. Intensive rodent destruction, by the Agricultural Executive Committee, neighbouring authorities, and ourselves, was put in hand and rats have been submitted to the Leptospira Laboratory. No further cases have been reported.

Details, in the form required by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, are given in Appendix "E."

### REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

This service, with a mainly weekly collection, has been maintained throughout the year with remarkably few complaints. Credit is due to the driver and loaders for this satisfactory record.

There have been various staff changes and it was found necessary to provide housing accommodation in order to secure the services of a suitable Loader/Relief Driver.

Owing to some unsatisfactory temporary labour, a fire broke out on the 13th August, 1951, at our secondary tip at Avoncliff. The fire was still burning at the end of the year, and this has entailed some considerable anxiety and dislocation.

### SALVAGE

During the year, the following items of salvage have been sold :—

			Weight	Approx. Value
Waste Paper	...	...	40 tons 16 cwt. 2 qrs.	£474 0 0
Rags	...	...	15 cwt.	£11 0 0
Bones	...	...	3 cwt.	£1 0 0
Scrap Metal	...	...	2 tons 7 cwt. 3 qrs.	£10 0 0
TOTAL ...				£496 0 0

These figures are encouraging and show an increase, for waste paper, of 53 per cent. weight and 343 per cent. gross value over the 1950 collection figures.

The Council entered the 1951 National Waste Paper Contest and have endeavoured to stimulate the collection of paper by the



issue of posters to Parish Councils, the provision of sticky labels, asking for householder' co-operation, for the collectors to affix to dustbins, and a salvage bonus scheme for the staff.

### CESSPOOL EMPTYING SERVICE

This service, which was brought into operation in 1948, has been utilised to clear 175 cesspools and septic tanks during 1951. The contractors, employed by the Council, visit the district every three months and carry out work notified to my office following newspaper advertisements.

To save correspondence, a standing order scheme has been established, and instructions have been received for 165 clearances every year, quite apart from any enquiries made following our quarterly advertisement.

The growth of the service can be judged by the clearance figures given below :—

1948	...	...	75 clearances
1949	...	...	98 clearances
1950	...	...	120 clearances
1951	...	...	175 clearances

### HOUSING

Number of houses inspected and recorded	...	...	1
Number of houses suitable for action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	—
Number of houses suitable for action under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	1
Number of Demolition Orders issued	...	...	—
Number of undertakings accepted under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	—
Number of notices under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936	...	...	—

No progress has been made under the Rural Housing Survey and old property continues to deteriorate. We shall be faced with a difficult and large problem in later years.

No improvement grants, under the Housing Act, 1949, have been made and no proceedings have been taken under Sections 12, 25, 26 or the Overcrowding Sections of the 1936 Act.

Some amendment to the restriction of rents appears to be a pre-requisite to the improvement, or indeed adequate maintenance, of cottage property. The scheme of rent increases submitted in November to the Minister of Housing and Local Government by the Sanitary Inspectors' Association deserves most serious consideration. It affords a practical solution to some existing difficulties, but is likely to raise issues on the rising cost of living.

### **PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936**

Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	135
Number of informal notices served	...	...	...	...	46
Number of statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	1
Number of informal notices complied with	...	...	...	...	39
Number of statutory notices complied with	...	...	...	...	—

Once again, a variety of complaints have been received and investigated. It is only if friendly informal action is unsuccessful that the cases are reported to the Public Health Committee for consideration of statutory action.

A summary of work carried out by informal action is given in Appendix "F" of this report.

### **RIVERS, STREAMS AND SEWERAGE**

Informal action has been taken in various parts of the district to prevent pollution of streams and water courses. Sewer ditches continue to be a problem. Only three of the 13 Parishes (Winsley, Hilperton and Holt) have sewerage systems, but additional schemes are envisaged by the Surveyor to the Council.

### **SWIMMING BATHS**

There are no swimming baths or pools open to the public in this area. Various samples and some advisory work was undertaken for a private pool at a school.

### **SMOKE ABATEMENT**

No action was found to be necessary during the year with regard to smoke abatement.



## RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Two premises have been registered in accordance with the new Act. Enquiries and inspections were carried out and preparations have been made for routine sampling next year.

## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Preparatory inspections have been made in connection with the Pet Animals Act, 1951, which comes into operation on the 1st April, 1952.

The R.S.P.C.A. Inspector has very readily given technical advice on these inspections.

## GENERAL

The following visits have been made in connection with miscellaneous items requiring attention :—

Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	400
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	167
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	10
Miscellaneous Housing visits, including visits to Council House applicants (for allocation of insanitary and overcrowding points) and Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts enquiries						
	...	...	...	...	...	97
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	22
Refuse Collection and Disposal			...	...	...	189
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	26

# APPENDIX "A" ICE CREAM RETAILERS — SAMPLE RESULTS, 1951

Retailer.	Provisional Grading of Samples as laid down by Public Health Laboratory Service and Ministry of Health.	Percentage of Samples.			
		Grade I	Grade I or II	Grade III	Grade IV
A	I, I ...	100	100	—	—
B	II, I, I, III, I, I, I ...	75	88	12	—
C	II, I, I, II, I, I, I, II, III, I, I, I	69	92	8	—
D	I, I, I, I, I, I, I, IV, I, I, I	92	92	—	8
E	I, I, I, I, IV, II, II, I, II ...	56	89	—	11
F	II, II, I, I, II, I, I, I ...	67	100	—	—
G	I, I, I, II, III, I ...	67	83	17	—
H	IV, IV, I, II, IV, I, I, I, III, I, I, I, II	54	69	8	23
I	I, I, I, I, I, I, I, I ...	100	100	—	—
J	II, I, I, I, III, II, IV, I, I ...	56	78	11	11
K	I, I, IV, I ...	75	75	—	25
L	I, I, I ...	100	100	—	—
M	I, I, I, I, I, I, II, IV, I, I ...	80	90	—	10
N	I, I, I, I, I, II, II, I, I ...	78	100	—	—
Average ...		76 per cent.	90 per cent.	4 per cent.	6 per cent.

Note—The Public Health Laboratory Service suggests that 50 per cent. of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade I, 80 per cent. into Grade I or II, no more than 20 per cent. into Grade III, and none into Grade IV.



# APPENDIX "A" (continued)

## ICE CREAM MANUFACTURERS SAMPLE RESULTS, 1951

Manufacturer	Provisional Grading of Samples as laid down by Public Health Laboratory Service and Ministry of Health.	Percentage of Samples.			
		Grade I	Grade I or II	Grade III	Grade IV
T	IV, IV, I, II, IV, II, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, III, I, III, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, II ...	68	80	8	12
U	I, I, I, II, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, III, II, IV, I, I, I, I, I, I	80	90	5	5
V	I, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, II, IV, IV, II, I, I, I, I, I, I ...	86	93	—	7
W	II, I, I, I, II, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, I, II, II, I, I, II, III, III, I, I, I, I	71	92	8	—
X	II, II, I, I, II ...	40	100	—	—
Y	I, I, I, IV, IV, I, II, II, I, II	50	80	—	20
Z	I, I, I, I, I ...	100	100	—	—
Average ...		71 per cent.	91 per cent.	3 per cent.	6 per cent.

Note—The Public Health Laboratory Service suggests that 50 per cent. of a vendor's samples should fall into Grade I, 80 per cent. into Grade I or II, no more than 20 per cent. into Grade III, and none into Grade IV.

# APPENDIX "B"

## BACTERIOLOGICAL MILK SAMPLE RESULTS, 1951 Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949

Retailer	Type of Licence	TUBERCULIN TESTED												Percentage of Satisfactory Samples during 1951
		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	
A	Supplementary	S(2)	U(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	U(2)	—	—	U(1)	S(1)	—	50%
B	Dealers	S(1)	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	S(1)	S(1)	—	U(1)	S(1)	S(1)	—	88%
C	Dealers	S(1)	S(1)	—	U(1)	U(1)	S(2)	S(1)	—	S(1)	S(1)	S(1)	S(1)	83%
D	Supplementary	S(1)	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	U(1)	—	—	—	S(1)	S(1)	—	86%
E	Dealers	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	S(2)	—	—	—	S(1)	S(1)	S(1)	100%
F	Supplementary	—	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	—	—	—	S(1)	—	—	100%
G	Supplementary	S(1)	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	S(1)	U(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	S(1)	88%

## Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949

### PASTEURISED

Retailer	Type of Licence	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Percentage
		U(1)	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	—	S(1)	—	
H	Supplementary	S(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	83%
I	Dealers	—	—	—	—	U(1)	S(2)	S(1)	—	S(1)	S(1)	U(2)	—	70%
J	Supplementary	—	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	—	—	—	S(1)	—	—	100%
K	Dealers	S(1)	S(1)	—	S(1)	S(1)	S(1)	S(1)	—	S(1)	S(1)	S(1)	S(1)	100%
L	Dealers	S(1)	S(1)	—	S(1)	S(1)	—	S(2)	—	S(1)	S(1)	S(1)	S(1)	100%
M	Dealers	S(1)	S(1)	—	S(1)	S(1)	—	S(2)	—	S(1)	S(1)	S(1)	S(1)	100%

Note—S denotes satisfactory result. U denotes failure in methylene blue or phosphatase test. (Number) denotes number of samples obtained during the month.



# **APPENDIX "C"                      BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER SAMPLE RESULTS, 1951**

Name of Supply.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Remarks.
Avoncliff Supply	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	—	S(1)	—	—	Chlorinated supply.
Chalfield Supply	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	U(1)	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	Chlorinator installed in February, 1949.
Conkwell Supply	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	—	U(1)	—	—	Warning notice fixed in January, 1949.
Combe Down Water Company	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	—	S(1)	—	—	Chlorinated supply.
Holt Water Company	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	—	S(1)	—	—	Chlorinator installed in April, 1949.
Limpley Stoke Middle Village Spring Supply	U(1)	—	U(1)	—	—	U(1)	—	—	—	U(1)	—	—	Warning notice fixed in March, 1949.
Limpley Stoke Lower Village Spring Supply	U(1)	—	U(1)	—	—	U(1)	—	—	—	U(1)	—	—	Warning notice fixed in January, 1949.
Farleigh Wick Supply (Capt. Pinckney's Supply)	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	Supply discontinued.
Farleigh Wick Supply (Capt. Whitehead's Supply)	U(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	Supply discontinued.

*Note*—S denotes satisfactory result. U denotes unsatisfactory result due to presence of faecal coli. (Number) denotes number of samples obtained during the month.

# **APPENDIX "C" (continued) BACTERIOLOGICAL WATER SAMPLE RESULTS, 1951**

Name of Supply.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Jun.	Jul.	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Remarks.
Farleigh Wick Pump Supply	U(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	— Supply discontinued.
Monkton Farleigh Ministry of Works Supply	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	—	S(1)	—	—	— Chlorinated supply.
Chippenham Water Scheme	S(1)	—	S(2)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	—	S(1)	—	—	— Chlorinated supply.
New Mendip Supply (Atworth)	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	U(1)	U(1)	—	S(1)	S(1)	—	—	—
New Mendip Engineering Company's Borehole Supply	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	S(1)	—	—	— Chlorinator to be installed.
Norrington Common Supply	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	—	S(1)	—	—	—
Staples Hill Dip Hole Supply	U(1)	—	U(1)	—	—	U(1)	—	—	—	U(1)	—	—	— Warning notice fixed in August, 1949.
Turleigh Troughs Supply	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	—	U(1)	—	—	— Warning notice fixed in August, 1949
Trowbridge Water Board	S(1)	—	S(1)	—	—	S(1)	—	—	—	S(1)	—	—	— Chlorinated supply.

*Note*—S denotes satisfactory result. U denotes unsatisfactory result due to presence of faecal coli. (Number) denotes number of samples obtained during the month.



# APPENDIX "D"

## FACTORIES

	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by Local Authority (non-power) ...	4	5	1	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (power) ...	27	25	4	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—

	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
<b>Defects</b>					
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	1	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Drainage of Floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...	2	2	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective ...	6	1	—	2	—

# APPENDIX "E"

## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

### PREVALENCE OF RATS AND MICE

Type of Property	Number of properties in Local Authority's Area				Analysis		
	Total	in which infestation was		Recorded Total	Number infested by		Mice only
		Notified by Occupier	Otherwise discovered		Major	Minor	
Local Authority's Property ...	5	14	4	18	14	4	—
Dwelling Houses ...	2750	54	63	117	30	87	—
Business Premises ...	150	5	9	14	9	5	—
Agricultural Property ...	220	3	1	4	1	3	—
TOTAL ...	3125	76	77	153	54	99	—



# APPENDIX "E" (continued)

## MEASURE OF CONTROL BY LOCAL AUTHORITY

Type of Property	No. of properties inspected	No. of inspections made	Number of notices served under Section 4		Number of treatments carried out				Block treatments of properties in different occupancies under Sect. 6(1) or by informal arrangement			
					By arrangement with Occupier		Under Section 5(1)		Number of Blocks	Surface		No. of separate occupancies
			Rats	Mice only						Rats	Mice only	
			Treatments	Works	Rats	Mice only	Rats	Mice only				
Local Authority's Property ...	34	98	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—		
Dwelling Houses ...	636	1044	—	—	117	—	—	4	13	—		
Business Premises ...	26	80	—	—	14	—	—	—	—	—		
Agricultural Property ...	17	24	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—		
TOTAL ...	713	1246	—	—	153	—	—	4	13	—		

## APPENDIX "F"

### SUMMARY OF IMPROVEMENTS AND WORK OBTAINED BY INFORMAL ACTION

Bakehouses—bakehouse limewashed	...	1	Drainage—improvements and new systems	27
Food Vans—improved food storage facilities		1	Private Houses—repairs to house ...	5
Food Shops—water heater and sink installed		1	Ditches—cleansed	4
Licensed Premises—water heaters installed and sanitary accommodation improved		4	Means of escape from fire installed	2
Ice Cream Premises—water heater installed and shop re-decorated	...	1	Schools—kitchen re-decorated	1
Factories—new or improved sanitary accommodation	...	2	Wells—cover repaired and improved	1
Petroleum—pumps installed as required by Acts and Conditions	...	4	Pig Food Bins—removed	1
			Moveable Dwellings—drainage, water and sanitary accommodation provided	2
			Various Premises connected to public sewer	15



MEANS OF COMING TO LOCAL AUTHORITY

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100

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