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RURAL DISTRICT OF  
CALNE & CHIPPENHAM

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REPORT  
OF THE  
Medical Officer of Health

for the YEAR ended

31st DECEMBER, 1948





# PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

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(a) Medical Officer of Health:

C. L. BROOMHEAD, M.D., D.P.H.

(b) *Senior Sanitary Inspector:*

E. W. Stevens, F.R.I.P.H.H., M.R., San.L., A.M. Inst S.E., who also holds the post of Surveyor.

*Additional Sanitary Inspectors:*

H. J. Taylor, Cert. S.I.B., M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

S. H. Murray, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A. who also holds the posts of Deputy Surveyor and Assistant Surveyor respectively.

# PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

OF THE

## AUTHORITY

(1) Medical Officer of Health

C. J. BROOMEHEAD, M.D., D.P.H.

(2) Senior Sanitary Inspector

E. W. BAKER, F.R.S.M., F.R.S., A.M., F.S.S., F.S.A.

also holds the post of Sanitary

Sanitary Inspector

H. J. BAKER, F.R.S.M., F.R.S., A.M., F.S.S., F.S.A.

also holds the post of Sanitary

Sanitary Inspector



REPORT  
of the  
Medical Officer of Health  
for the year ended  
31st December, 1948

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*To the Chairman and Members of the Calne and  
Chippenham Rural District Council.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year  
ended 31st December, 1948.

This report is based on Ministry of Health Circular 3/49 dated  
17th January, 1949.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

C. L. BROOMHEAD, M.D.,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

1893  
1894  
1895

REPORT  
of the  
Medical Officer of Health  
for the year ended  
31st December, 1898

To the Chairman and Members of the Council and  
Chippendale Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honor to present the Annual Report for the year  
ended 31st December, 1898.

This report is based on Statistics of Health Circular 3473 dated  
17th January, 1899.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

C. J. BROOMHEAD, M.D.,  
Medical Officer of Health.



## Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres) ... ..	86,034
Population (1948) ... ..	27,320
No. of Inhabited Houses (end of 1948 according to the Rate Book) ... ..	7,483
Rateable Value ... ..	£202,176
Sum represented by penny rate ... ..	£879

### Vital Statistics for 1948.

	M.	F.	Total.	Rate per 1,000	Rate per 1,000 E. & W.
<b>Live Births:</b>					
Legitimate ... ..	272	239	511		
Illegitimate ... ..	10	9	19		
TOTAL	282	248	530		
Birth Rate ... ..				19.3	17.9
<b>Still Births</b> ... ..	5	4	9	.32	.42
<b>Deaths</b> ... ..	128	127	255		
Death Rate ... ..				9.3	10.8
<b>Deaths from Puerperal Causes:</b>					
Puerperal Sepsis ... ..	—	1	1		
Other Maternal Causes ... ..	—	2	2		
<b>Deaths of Infants under 1 year:</b>					
All infants per 1,000 live births ... ..	9	8	17	32.07	
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ... ..	7	8	15		
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... ..	2	—	2		
<b>Deaths from:</b>					
Cancer (all ages) ... ..	27	17	44		
Measles (all ages) ... ..	—	1	1		
Whooping ... ..	—	—	—		
Cough (all ages) ... ..	—	—	—		
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ... ..	—	1	1		
Influenza ... ..	2	2	4		
Respiratory Diseases (21, 22, 23) ... ..	7	7	14		
Diseases of Heart and Blood Vessels (18, 19, 20) ... ..	47	56	103		

Birth Rate and Death Rate per 1,000 population shows a decrease over the year 1947, when they were 23.86 and 11.85 respectively. Death rate of infants under 1 year is less than in 1947 when it was 46.5 per 1,000 live births.



## Deaths from all Causes.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Male.	Female.	Total.
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	4	1	5
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	2	—	2
Syphilitic Diseases ...	—	—	—
Influenza ...	2	2	4
Measles... ...	—	1	1
Acute Polio-Myel. and Polio-Enceph.	—	—	—
Acute. Inf. Enceph. ...	1	—	1
Cancer of Buc. Cav., and Oesoph (M)			
Uterus (F) ...	2	2	4
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	3	—	3
Cancer of Breast ...	—	7	7
Cancer of all other sites ...	22	8	30
Diabetes ...	1	—	1
Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions ...	11	13	24
Heart Disease ...	31	33	64
Other Diseases of Circ. System ...	5	10	15
Bronchitis ...	2	1	3
Pneumonia ...	3	6	9
Other Resp. Diseases ...	2	—	2
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum ...	4	1	5
Diarrhoea under 2 years ...	—	1	1
Appendicitis ...	—	1	1
Other Digve. Diseases ...	1	6	7
Nephritis ...	5	3	8
Puer. and Post-Abort. Sepsis ...	—	1	1
Other Maternal Causes ...	—	2	2
Premature Birth ...	2	4	6
Con. Mal. Birth Inj. Infant Disease. ...	8	3	11
Suicide ...	1	1	2
Road Traffic Accidents ...	3	3	6
Other Violent Causes ...	2	—	2
All other Causes ...	11	17	28
Total	128	127	255

## Prevalence of Infectious Disease.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) occurring in the District during the Year 1948.

DISEASE.						Total Cases Notified.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	50
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	60
Measles...	...	...	...	...	...	426
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	4
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	...	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	12
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	—
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	7
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	1

Of the four cases of Poliomyelitis notified, two were subsequently confirmed.



## Tuberculosis.

### New Cases and Mortality.

AGE GROUP			New Cases				Deaths			
			Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	...								
1	...	...								
5	...	...			1	2		1	1	
15	...	...		2	2		2			
25	...	...	8	1		1			1	
35	...	...		1		1	1			
45	...	...	2				1			
55	...	...								
65 and upwards										
Totals			10	4	3	4	4	1	2	

The number of new cases of Respiratory Tuberculosis notified during the year was slightly less than during 1947. There is also a decrease in the number of cases of non-respiratory Tuberculosis notified.

Deaths from Tuberculosis are higher than in 1947 when 3 deaths only were reported from this cause.

Although the above figures are too small to arrive at a positive conclusion, at the same time it should be noted that the instance of Pulmonary Tuberculosis is now appearing in the age group 5—15 and 45. Pulmonary Tuberculosis is a community disease and as long as the acute infectious case, and the chronic ambulatory cases are not segregated in suitable hospital accommodation, there is a risk of the spread of pulmonary tuberculosis. Present housing difficulties of course contribute to this danger.

## **Mass Radiography.**

Arrangements were made for the visit of the Mobile X-Ray unit during January, 1949. A proportion of the residents in the Rural District attended for examination, but the overall figures were disappointingly small. 470 attended for examination, out of whom five revealed active, and five inactive tubercular conditions.

## **Clean Food.**

Meetings have been held with the Corsham Chamber of Trade, and the dangers of food poisoning, and the necessary action to prevent such an occurrence explained to the members. Although considerable interest was shown in the subject, it has not been possible to institute a Clean Food Campaign as has been arranged in the Boroughs of Chippenham and Malmesbury.



## **Water Supplies.**

I am indebted to the Council's Engineer, Mr. R. A. Witham, for the following technical information regarding Water Supplies. Appendix 3 gives details of water samples submitted for bacteriological examination.

### **Existing Source of Supply.**

No change has taken place during the year in the sources of supply, the water still being obtained from Widdenham, Nettleton, Goodshill, Washwells, Hilmarton, Foxham, Wick Hill, Slaughterford and Chippenham Borough. Appendix 1 at the end of the report gives particulars of the quantities obtained from each source during the year. Details of the parishes served are given in Appendix 2.

### **Widdenham.**

There has been no change in the pumping plant at this station. The water is chlorinated, three plants being provided for the four pumping units, one in No. 1 Pump House and two in No. 2 Pump House. To cover a possible breakdown of the chlorinator in No. 1 House a surplus water operated Hypochlorinator in the Council's possession has been installed there, so that all the chlorinating plant at this station is now in duplicate. The source of water for this station is a series of springs in Hungerford Wood. The considerable variation in the yield of these springs would appear to indicate that they are not deep seated and are, therefore, potentially liable to intermittent pollution. It follows that the efficiency and control of the chlorination treatment at this station is of great importance and a system of daily readings of the chlorine treatment has been instituted and a log is kept.

### **Nettleton.**

The submersible pump and motor in this borehole was renewed the previous year and has given no serious trouble during the current year. It is anticipated that the pump and motor may require overhaul during the coming year and for this purpose a spare unit is available. The water is chlorinated and weekly observations of the treatment are taken and recorded. It is hoped that by a re-arrangement of work among the staff a more frequent check on this plant can be obtained in the future.

### **Goodshill.**

No. 2 pump has been overhauled during the year, and No. 1 is under repair. The plant which consists of diesel engine driven borehole pumps runs about 8 hours and is left unattended for about 7 hours each day. There is a certain element of risk in this



arrangement, but the output of water does not justify the employment of a full-time attendant. In the autumn of last year an attempt was made to test the yield of this source by a 14-day pumping test, but this had to be abandoned. Owing to certain difficulties delaying the start, it was found that the underground water was rising so rapidly that the test would have been valueless as an indication of the minimum yield of the source. The future of this station is to some extent tied up with proposals for the supply of water to the eastern area of the district. It would appear that ultimately the station will either have to be equipped with automatic electrical plant or the whole source abandoned. The water from this source is not chlorinated.

### **Washwells.**

This gravitational supply is treated with a somewhat crude chlorination plant and the result of this treatment leave much to be desired. Unfortunately, the smallness of the yield of this source, its fluctuations and position make the question of an automatic chlorination plant very difficult. It is proposed to carry out certain experiments in the chlorination of this source during the coming year.

### **Hilmarton.**

This gravitational source is chlorinated and at the beginning of the year considerable difficulty with the plant provided was experienced. These difficulties have been largely eliminated by the appointment of a part time attendant who, living near the source, is able to give daily attention to the plant.

### **Foxham.**

This is another gravitational source which is chlorinated. After repeated unsuccessful attempts to get the original chlorinating plant to function reliably it has been abandoned and a much simpler plant devised. This has effected an improvement in the treatment of the water.

### **Wick Hill.**

This very small source, supplying a few houses and one farm only, is far from satisfactory. The water is obtained from springs and gravitates to the consumers and is not chlorinated. The consumers are warned periodically to boil their water before use. As the number of consumers is small and it is hoped before long that the source can be abandoned there appears to be no justification for any action which would involve further expenditure.

### **Slaughterford.**

This is a small unchlorinated private spring from which the Council take the surplus to supply a few cottages in the hamlet.



## Distribution.

During the year the only extensions to mains have been in connection with housing schemes. Extensions have been carried out at Corsham, Box, Yatton Keynell and Kington Langley, involving the laying of 1,500 yards of new mains.

Some trouble has been experienced during the year from corrosion of spun iron pipes in certain districts. A length of 200 yards of 4in. main has had to be renewed at Draycot after a life of only 8 years. Six bursts have been repaired on a length of 300 yards of main of a similar age at Hare Street, Bremhill. It would appear that more mains will have to be relaid for the same reason in the future. It will, therefore, be important to take all possible precautions to protect future mains from corrosion wherever the soil conditions are bad.

## New Schemes.

Application has been made for sanction to borrow £37,200 for water main extensions to the following places:—

- A.1. Mountain Bower, North Wraxall, Upper Wraxall, The Shoe.
- A.2. West Kington Wick.
- A.3. Ford.
- A.4. Allington.
- A.5. Leigh Delamere.
- A.6. Stanton St. Quintin, Lower Stanton St. Quintin.
- A.7. Langley Burrell.
- A.8. Upper Seagry, Lower Seagry.
- A.9. Goatacre, New Zealand.
- A.11. Wadswick.
- A.12. Hill Corner.

Approval has been obtained to extending the water main from Sutton Benger to Upper Seagry. This work has been placed out to contract.

Progress on the scheme to supply the eastern part of the district has been slow, but sufficient information has been obtained to show that the prospect of obtaining sufficient water in the Cherhill area is remote. It now appears probable that the 500,000 gallons a day required for this area can be obtained either from the Chippenham Corporation Waterworks or from a site between Chippenham and Lacock.

## Appendix I.

### Water obtained during 1948-49.

Source.	Quantity.
Chippenham Borough ... ..	134,497,000
Widdenham ... ..	99,183,000
Nettleton ... ..	26,700,000
*Goodshill ... ..	7,644,000
*Washwells ... ..	5,475,000
*Hilmarton ... ..	1,095,000
*Foxham ... ..	3,650,000
*Slaughterford ... ..	70,000
*East Tytherton ... ..	350,000
Compton Bassett (R.A.F.) ... ..	1,185,000
Yatesbury (R.A.F.) ... ..	735,000
	<hr/>
	280,584,000 gallons

\*Estimated quantities.

### Chippenham Borough Source.

This water was obtained in the quantities given at the following places:—

Yewstock ... ..	67,858,000
Monks Lane (Corsham) ... ..	49,196,000
Copenacre (Corsham) ... ..	13,100,000
Other Places ... ..	4,343,000
	<hr/>
	134,497,000 gallons



## Appendix 2.

### Distribution of Supplies.

<i>Parish.</i>					<i>Sources.</i>
Biddestone	...	...	...	...	Chippenham Borough Slaughterford
Box	...	...	...	...	Widdenham Washwells
Bremhill	...	...	...	.....	Chippenham Borough Wick Hill Foxham
Calne (Without)	...	...	...	...	—
Castle Combe	...	...	...	...	Chippenham Borough
Cherhill	...	...	...	...	—
Chippenham (Without)	...	...	...	...	Chippenham Borough
Christian Malford	...	...	...	...	Chippenham Borough
Colerne	...	...	...	...	Widdenham
Compton Bassett	...	...	...	...	R.A.F.
Corsham	...	...	...	...	Chippenham Borough Widdenham Goodshill
Grittleton	...	...	...	...	Chippenham Borough
Heddington	...	...	...	...	—
Hilmarton	...	...	...	...	Hilmarton
Kington Langley	...	...	...	...	Chippenham Borough
Kington St. Michael	...	...	...	...	Chippenham Borough
Lacock	...	...	...	...	Chippenham Borough Goodshill
Langley Burrell (Without)	...	...	...	...	Chippenham Borough
Nettleton	...	...	...	...	Nettleton
North Wraxall	...	...	...	...	—
Pewsham	...	...	...	...	Chippenham Borough
Stanton St. Quintin	...	...	...	...	—
Sutton Benger	...	...	...	...	Chippenham Borough
Yatton Keynell	...	...	...	...	Chippenham Borough

### Appendix 3.

#### Water Samples.

<i>Location.</i>	<i>Source of Supply,</i>	<i>Fit</i>	<i>Unfit</i>	<i>Suspect</i>
Box—High Level Tank	Hungerford Wood Springs after Chlorination ...	5	—	—
Bremhill (E. Tytherton)	Springs at Wick Hill, unchlorinated ...	—	3	3
Bremhill (E. Tytherton)	Regional supply ...	1	—	—
Colerne Village	Hungerford Wood, Springs after chlorination ...	4	—	—
Compton Bassett	R.A.F. Supply ...	3	—	1
Corsham, Goodshill	Spring Supply ...	—	—	1
Corsham Low Level Tank	Hungerford Wood, Springs after chlorination ...	5	—	—
Foxham (Stockham Marsh)	Springs at Gotshill after chlorination ...	2	2	1
Grittleton	Regional Supply ...	1	—	—
Hilmarton	Springs at Catcombe after chlorination ...	5	—	3
Nettleton	Borehole ...	5	—	1
Slaughterford	Springs ...	1	1	3
Washwells (Box)	Springs at Washwell after chlorination ...	5	—	1
Widdenham	Hungerford Wood Springs before chlorination ...	2	2	2
Yatesbury Village	R.A.F. Supply ...	1	1	—
Council Houses	Wells ...	1	5	—
Private samples taken and submitted for analysis		8	28	13
		49	42	29

In addition 5 samples of water from various sources were submitted for chemical analysis.



## **Sewerage.**

### **Biddestone.**

A combined sewer and surface water drain exists in this Parish, a part being laid with pipes, whilst another section comprises a stone drock; some minor repairs have been carried out to this. The sewer receives crude slop water drainage and the over-flow of cesspools and septic tanks. The water course running through the village receives the outfall of the sewer and during the normal flow of this water course, complaints are non-existent, but as soon as the dry weather approaches, nuisances arise.

A proper sewerage and sewage disposal scheme is required and this has been scheduled as a scheme to receive priority.

### **Box (Main Sewer Outfall).**

The outfall discharges into lagoons at Mill Lane, from which the effluent overflows into a system of irrigation channels before reception in the Box Brook.

The effluent is diverted periodically to allow aeration, cleansing, etc., of the channels, while others are in use. The works are obsolete and do not conform in any respect with modern practice of sanitary engineering. Samples of effluent taken in the past have shown that it does not conform with Ministry of Health standards for discharge into streams.

Only the village proper is sewered, except for two small areas, which are served with two local sewage disposal installations. These are situated at the Bassets and Middle Hill, where groups of houses drain into covered settlement tanks, with effluents discharging over filter beds of slag media. The filter of the former has been recently reconstructed and an improved distribution system is to be installed. The Middle Hill Works deal with a weak sewage as compared with other works, owing to the large volume of storm water conveyed by the sewer.

A new sewerage scheme for this Parish is also scheduled.

**Bremhill, Calne (Without), Cherhill, Chippenham (Without), Christian Malford, Compton Bassett, Heddington, Hilmarton, Langley Burrell (Without), Nettleton and North Wraxall.**

There are no sewerage systems in these Parishes. The larger properties are dependent upon small drainage disposal installations while occupiers of the smaller dwellings have to be content with the conservancy system and disposal of waste water in the garden. In some cases, however, ditches or water courses are used for the conveyance of drainage, and this often results in the production of nuisances and pollution of water supplies.



### **Castle Combe.**

A combined sewer and surface water drain discharging into the stream comprises the sewerage system of the Parish. The major portion of the houses have slop-water drains connected thereto while the closet accommodation is of the conservancy system.

A sewerage scheme for this area has been given priority by the Council and some progress has been made in the preparation of the scheme.

### **Colerne.**

The Sewage Disposal Works, situated in this Parish were constructed to serve the local R.A.F. establishment. A scheme for extending these works and sewerage the village has been prepared and construction works have commenced.

### **Corsham.**

These works are the largest in the district. During the year no special difficulty has been experienced although the disposal of sludge is always a problem at these Works.

A scheme for improving the sewerage of High Street and Church Street has been prepared and provision made for future development in the Priory Street and Bences Lane areas. The County Council are also preparing an improved surface water scheme for this area. Subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health it is hoped to carry out these works in 1949.

### **Grittleton.**

There is no proper system of sewerage in this Parish, although there are lengths of drains in the main street in the village proper and Littleton Drew, which act as sewers and receive the drainage from those properties connected to them. In each case the outfalls discharge into open water courses. This is not satisfactory and a sewerage scheme has been advocated for Littleton Drew where sanitary conditions are more acute.

### **Kington Langley.**

Apart from a small sewer in the centre of the village, which serves only a few properties, the Parish is not sewered. The sewer discharges into a cesspool on private land and overflows into a channel in a field for irrigation. This seldom causes any trouble.

There are one or two ditches into which overflows from drains and cesspools discharge, and these are cleansed periodically by the Council. A new sewage scheme is required and will receive priority.

### **Kington St. Michael.**

This Parish possesses two separate sewers and each has a different outfall. One discharges into a ditch running through grazing land at the lower end of the village, whilst the other discharges into a ditch adjoining the allotments in the upper part of the village. The sewage is received in both ditches in an untreated condition. A sewerage and sewage disposal scheme is required.



### **Lacock.**

The main Sewage Disposal Works receive the sewage from the major portion of the Parish. Part of the sewage is pumped whilst the rest is by gravitation. The works have always functioned satisfactorily during the year.

There are subsidiary works at Bewley Lane. The outfall empties into a settlement tank, from which the effluent overflows on to an aerating stair. The effluent is then received into a system of irrigating channels which are used alternatively. These works continue to function satisfactorily and the irrigation land absorbs all the effluent.

### **Pewsham, Stanton St. Quintin, and Sutton Benger.**

There are no proper systems of sewers existing in these four Parishes. Each Parish has lengths of pipes and ditches serving as sewers, but these are not efficient and require constant attention.

The ditches were originally surface water channels, which in the process of time, have slowly been converted into nothing more or less than sewers, conveying untreated sewage.

The closet accommodation in these Parishes is mainly of the conservancy system.

### **Yatton Keynell.**

There are several lengths of old sewers in the Parish which discharge into ditches. The present system is incomplete and unsatisfactory. A scheme of sewerage for the village is now being prepared. It will probably be possible to provide one disposal works for both Yatton Keynell and for Castle Combe.

## **Removal of Refuse.**

The Contract with the Council's Scavenging Contractor for the collection of Indestructible Household Refuse continued during the year, and refuse was collected from the various Parishes on the days indicated in the Schedule of Collection.

The refuse is collected in properly designed " Bedford " scavenging vehicles and the frequency of collection varies according to the Urban or Rural character of the Parish, hence collections are made at weekly, fortnightly or monthly intervals.

All refuse is disposed of by tipping in old quarries, disused pits, etc., and every effort is made to level and cover the refuse on the day of disposal. Difficulty is experienced in obtaining suitable material for covering these tips.



## Diphtheria Immunisation.

The following number of children have completed a full course of immunisation during 1948.

Ages 1—4, 376; ages 5—14, 68.  
Total 444.

It is estimated that the following percentage of children are immunised against Diphtheria:—

Ages 1—4 (39.6%). Ages 5—14 (64.8%).  
Total (54.5%).

## School Meals Service.

The following numbers of children received mid-day meals in School during October, 1948.

Part or full payment	...	...	...	...	755
Free	...	...	...	...	138

## Milk-in-Schools Scheme.

Average attendance October, 1948	...	2,505	
No. of one third pts. supplied on a day in October, 1948, on the basis of one third pt. per child	...	2,410	96.2%
Pasteurised milk supplied to	...	1,667	
Tuberculin Tested milk supplied to	...	518	
Accredited milk supplied to	...	163	
Non-designated milk supplied to	...	62	

## Schools Closures.

Derryhill	...	10-5-48—14-5-48	Measles
Hilmarton	...	16-7-48—23-7-48	Measles
Nettleton and Burton	...	12-4-48—23-4-48	Whooping Cough

## Child Neglect.

Four cases were investigated with the N.S.P.C.C. during the year under review. In two of the cases concerned, Orders were made for the removal of the children from the care of their parents.

These cases are still being kept under observation.



## Housing and Sanitary Inspections during 1948

### Housing.

The comprehensive survey of houses (as recommended in the Hobhouse Report) was continued during 1948 and the number of inspections completed by the end of the year was 911. These were placed provisionally in the following categories:—

Category 1.—Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	108
Category 2.—Minor defects	...	...	...	...	160
Category 3.—Extensive repairs	...	...	...	...	488
Category 4.—Appropriate for repair under Housing (Rural Workers) Act	...	...	...	...	53
Category 5.—Unfit and beyond repair at reasonable cost	...	...	...	...	102

At the end of June one of the Temporary Housing Inspectors was appointed Temporary Assistant Clerk of Works and the survey was continued by the remaining Housing Inspector, hence the decrease in the number of inspections as compared with 1947.

### Inspection of Houses under Housing Act 1936 and Public Health Act, 1936.

During a period of 12 months many complaints concerning housing conditions are received and these are fully investigated and any necessary action taken. 351 inspections of house property have been made during 1948 and in most cases informal letters have been sent to owners or occupiers asking them to remedy minor housing defects or abate overcrowding.

### Inspection and Supervision of Food.

#### Milk Supply, 1948.

Number of Farms on Register	...	...	...	...	515
Number of Milk Retailers	...	...	...	...	82
Number of T.T. Dealers	...	...	...	...	4
Number of Accredited Dealers	...	...	...	...	—
Pasteurisation Plants	...	...	...	...	—
Number of Accredited Farms	...	...	...	...	105
Number of T.T. Farms	...	...	...	...	96
Pasteurised Milk Dealers	...	...	...	...	5
T.T. Bottling Licences	...	...	...	...	3
Supplementary T.T. Licences	...	...	...	...	2
„ Pasteurised Licences	...	...	...	...	2
„ Accredited Licences	...	...	...	...	—



## Summary of work carried out.

Total number of Farms inspected during year	...	...	214
Farms requiring structural alterations, etc.	...	...	24
Farms requiring improvements in methods, etc.	...	...	12
Farms having structural alterations and cleansing completed			19
Farms found to be in a satisfactory condition	...	...	45
Total number of inspections	...	...	298
Statutory Notices served for structural alterations...	...	...	1

## Condemned Foods, 1948.

<i>Food.</i>	<i>Quantity.</i>	<i>Condition.</i>
English Lamb	5½ lbs.	Abscess
English Beef	53 lbs.	Bruising
Foreign Beef	17 lbs.	Bruising
Foreign Chitterlings	1 barrel	Putrefaction
Rolled Oats	23¼ cwts.	Infested with Weevils
Flour	140 lbs.	Tainted
Prepared Cereals	12 pkts.	Damaged and fouled by mice
Meat Paste	¼ lb.	Putrefaction
Dried Peaches	25 lbs.	Decomposition
Tea	1½ lbs.	Mould
Cornish Pasties	200	Putrefaction
Polonies	46 lbs.	Putrefaction
Meat Pies	63 lbs.	Putrefaction
Dried Egg	6 lbs.	Deterioration through long storage
Mustard	12 lbs.	Deterioration through long storage
Chocolate	1¼ lbs.	Damaged by fire
Cheese	17 lbs.	Putrefaction
Dried Prunes	8 lbs.	Decomposed
Dates	4½ lbs.	Decomposed
Tinned Plums	30 lbs.	Punctured and Blown
Tinned Peas	3½ lbs.	Blown
Tinned Sausage	1 lb.	Blown
Tinned Spaghetti	¾ lb.	Blown
Treacle tinned Pudding	1 tin	Blown
Tinned Soup	1 tin	Blown
Tinned Milk	2 tins	Blown
Tinned Beans	67 tins	Blown
Tinned Meat	5¾ lbs.	Punctured
Tinned Dried Milk	15 lbs.	Deterioration through damp.
Tinned Salmon	2 lbs.	Blown



## Food and Drugs Act, 1938

### Registration of premises used in connection with the Manufacture or sale of Ice-cream.

#### SECTION 14.

Number of premises registered for the manufacture, storage or sale of Ice-cream:—

(a) Cold Mix Method	...	...	2
(b) Hot Mix Method	...	...	3

Number of Premises registered for the storage and sale of Ice-cream, 13.

Cancelled Registrations, 5.

### Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947.

All the above registered premises have been visited regularly and advice given where necessary on the hygienic preparation and storage of ice-cream.

Particular attention is given to the manufacture and sale of Ice-Cream to ensure that the provisions of the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations are complied with.

### Ice Cream Sampling.

12 Ice-Cream samples were taken during the year and submitted to the Salisbury General Infirmary.

As a result of these tests the samples were placed in the following Provisional Grades:—

10 in Provisional Grade 1. Satisfactory.

2 in Provisional Grade 4. Unsatisfactory.

45 visits have been made to Ice-Cream premises this year.

## Bakehouse Inspections.

There are 15 Bakehouses in the Council's area situated in the following Parishes:—

Box	...	...	...	...	2
Bremhill	...	...	...	...	2
Castle Combe	...	...	...	...	2
Cherhill	...	...	...	...	1
Colerne	...	...	...	...	1
Corsham	...	...	...	...	4
Kington Langley	...	...	...	...	1
Kington St. Michael	...	...	...	...	1
Sutton Benger	...	...	...	...	1

One baker in Yatton Keynell has retired from business and his bake-house is no longer used.

Number of Inspections of Bake-houses, 9.



## **Infestations.**

### **Public Health Act, 1936. Sections 83—85.**

#### **Filthy and verminous premises or articles and verminous persons.**

Few cases of verminous premises or persons come to the notice of the Public Health Department. Persons suspected of being verminous attend at the Public Assistance Institute (now St. Andrew's Hospital). Their personal clothing and bedding is removed to the disinfection station for treatment.

Infested premises are inspected and a thorough spraying with a suitable insecticide is applied.

The Council's Refuse Tips are regularly treated once or twice a year to control cockroach and cricket infestations.

## **Offensive Trades.**

### **Public Health Act, 1936. Section 107.**

There are no Offensive Trade Establishments as defined in Section 107 of the Public Health Act 1936, within the area of the Council.

### **Rag and Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.**

There are no premises in the district which are governed by the provisions of these Acts.

## **Salvage Collected during 1948.**

The scheme for the collection of Salvage, particularly waste paper, was re-organised by the Council's Salvage Officer, and on the recommendation of this Officer, the Council purchased a Mobile Amplifier to be fitted to the Salvage Vehicles.

The purchase of this Amplifier proved an immediate success, for the amount of waste paper increased by approximately 4 tons per month and in a short while the money spent on purchasing the Amplifier was repaid, by the increased revenue received from the sale of Waste Paper.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qts.		£	s.	d.
Waste Paper collected, 1948	160	0	0	value	901	4	3
Waste Paper collected, 1947	89	7	0	value	504	13	0



# **Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919**

## **Infestation Order 1943.**

The Council continued with the services of its Rodent Operator and he was engaged throughout the year making surveys of Business Premises, Private Houses and Council Property, including Council Houses, Sewers and Sewage Disposal Works and Refuse Tips.

Poison bait treatments were carried out at all infested property.

Full details of all treatments have been recorded and all necessary information passed to the Regional Office of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

No serious major infestations were discovered and generally speaking, the Council's own property is relatively clear of rats, although seasonal infestations do take place particularly at refuse tips.

## Summary of Inspections for Year, 1948.

Visits to houses in connection with Systematic Housing						
Inspections ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	10
Visits to houses under P.H. Acts	...	...	...	...	...	333
Tents, vans, sheds, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	27
Overcrowding Survey Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	8
Council Houses Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	924
Building Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	587
Inspections of new Drainage Systems	...	...	...	...	...	95
New Drainage Systems provided to Old Premises...	...	...	...	...	...	44
Inspection of Sewage Works and Sewage extensions	...	...	...	...	...	11
Waterworks, Main Extension, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	65
Inspections and Water and Sanitary Survey Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	
Water samples secured for Analysis	...	...	...	...	...	122
Inspection of Farms and Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	298
Inspection of Refuse Tips, and Scavenging	...	...	...	...	...	243
Slaughter-house Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	2
Factory and Workshops Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	6
Bakehouse Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	9
Houses inspected for Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	66
Houses Disinfected after Infectious or other Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	18
Nuisance Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	208
Inspections under the Petroleum Act, 1926	...	...	...	...	...	38
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	61
Building Licences	...	...	...	...	...	13
Food Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	67
Ice-Cream	...	...	...	...	...	45
Housing Sites	...	...	...	...	...	77
Rodent Work	...	...	...	...	...	6
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	76
						<hr/>
					Total	3469
						<hr/>



# Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

## Part I of the Act.

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

Premises (1)	M/c. line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspec- tions (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	1	13	6	2	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ... ..	2	24	9	—	—	2
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority † (excluding out-workers' premises)	3	—	—	—	—	3
TOTAL ...		37	15	2	—	

## 2.—Cases in which defects were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars (1)	M/c. line No. (2)	No. of cases in which defects were f'd.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Re- medied (4)	To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... ..	4	2	2	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable tem- perature (S.3) ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventila- tion (S.4) ... ..	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conven- iences (S.7):—							
(a) insufficient ...	9	—	—	—	—	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective ... ..	10	—	—	—	—	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes ... ..	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out- Work) ... ..	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
TOTAL	60	2	2	—	—	—	60









