RURAL DISTRICT

of

CALNE and CHIPPENHAM

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR ENDING 31st. DECEMBER

- 1952 -

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

(a) MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

C.L. Broomhead, M.D.,B.Ch.,D.P.H.

also Medical Officer of Health for the Boroughs of Calne, Chippenham and Malmesbury, and the Rural District of Malmesbury.

(b) SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

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

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTORS.

S.H. Murray, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A.

J.N. Cope, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A. to 31st. July, 1952.

M.A. Gregory A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A. from 1st. Sep. 1952.

TO:- The Chairman and members,
of the Calne & Chippenham R.D.C.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st. December, 1952.

Apart ffom a small outbreak of Measles towards the end of the year and a number of cases of dysentery in a Children's Home, little infectious disease occurred. Diphtheria was again conspicious by its absence; a satisfactory state which can only be maintained by a high level of immunisation in the child population. Although the risk of Smallpox recurs from time to time, an insufficient number of infants are now vaccinated.

The care of the aged constitutes an economic and social problem which will make more urgent demands in the future as the average age of the population increases. The inability or disinclination of relatives to care for and house the elderly and infirm adds to the difficulties of the situation.

Increase in health education, and knowledge of bacteriology, the continued introduction of more potent drugs and anti-biotics, all contribute to a reduced incidence of infectious disease which should, in course of time, become a minor problem. The provision of a pure water supply, good housing, adequate sewage disposal and refuse collection, the supervision of the handling and distribution of food are accepted nowadays as the normal activities of a District Council, and play their part in maintaining health.

A study of the causes of death will show that infectious disease is not usually a contributory factor. Cancer, coronary disease, heart disease, generally all figure prominently and warrant investigation as to their cause and prevention; to these may be added rheumatism, diabetes, blood diseases in childhood and mental diseases.

Investigation into the causes of the increased demand for General Practitioners Services since the introduction of the National Health Service Act; with enquiry into the increasing consumption of medicants would constitute a real contribution to health.

I am grateful to Mr. Taylor and the staff of the Public Health Department for their help and cooperation.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

C.L. BROOMHEAD,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres) 85,388

Population 35,650

No. of inhabited houses (end of 1952 according to Rate Book) 7,096

Rateable Value £198,745

Sum represented by Penny Rate £777

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS

BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	263	242	505
Illegitimate	12	8	20
Total Live Births	275	250	525

Crude Birth Rate for the District .. .. 14.7 per 1000 of the population.

Adjusted Birth Rate for the District .. .. .. 17.6 per 1000 of the population.

Birth Rate for England & Wales .. .. .. 15.3 per 1000 of the population.

The population figures includes members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area and the Birth Rate is based on this population. To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England & Wales as a whole, the Crude Birth Rate for the area is multiplied by the Area Comparability Factor, (i.e. 1.20). The Crude Birth Rate for the district during 1952 shows an increase over the corresponding rate for 1951 which was 12.9 per 1000 of the population

STILL BIRTHS

BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	-	5	5
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Total Still Births	1	5	6

Rate per 1000 of the population 0.16

Comparative Rate per 1000 of the population for England & Wales 0.35

The above table indicates a decrease of still births as compared with the 1951 statistics when 18 still births were recorded, giving a rate per 1000 of the population of 0.46.

DEATHS

Male	Female	Total
149	132	281

Crude Death Rate for the District . . . . . 7.8 per 1000 of the population.

Adjusted Death Rate for the District . . . . . 9.9 per 1000 of the population.

Death Rate for England & Wales . . . . . 11.3 per 1000 of the population.

The population figures includes members of the Armed Forces stationed in the area and the Death Rate is based on this population. To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the sex and age distribution of the local population differs from that for England & Wales as a whole, the Crude Death Rate for the area is multiplied by the Area Comparability Factor (i.e. 1.27). The Crude Death Rate during 1952 shows a minimal increase over the 1951 rate of 7.0 per 1000 of the population.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Male	Female	Total.
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	1	3	4
Tuberculosis (other)	1	1	2
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective & parasitic dis.	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	4	1	5
Malignant Neoplasm,Lung,Bronchus	6	-	6
Malignant Neoplasm breast	-	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm uterus	-	2	2
Other Malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	12	15	27
Leukaemia,aleukaemia	1	-	1
Diabetes	-	3	3
Vascular lesions of nervous sys.	25	22	47
Coronary disease angina	22	19	41
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	5	5
Other Heart Disease	20	21	41
Other circulatory disease	14	12	26
Influenza	1	-	1
Pneumonia	4	4	8
Bronchitis	5	1	6
Other diseases of respiratory dys.	1	-	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	-	2
Gastritis,enteritis & diarrhoea	-	1	1
Nephritis & nephrosis	1	3	4
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
Pregnancy,childbirth abortion	-	2	2
Congenital malformations	-	3	3
Other defined & ill-defined dis.	17	9	26
Motor Vehicle Accidents	8	1	9
All other accidents	2	1	3
Suicide	1	-	1
Homicide & Operations of War	-	-	-
TOTAL:-	149	132	281

It will be seen from the above table that Heart Disease and Coronary Disease contribute largely to the causes of death.

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:-

TABLE "A"

BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	7	5	12
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total:-	7	5	12

Infant Mortality Rate:-

Number of deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births. 22.8

Rate for England & Wales 27.6

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age:

TABLE "B"

BIRTHS	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Legitimate	6	5	11
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total:-	6	5	11

The figures given in Table "B" are included in Table "A"

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The following table shows the Infectious Diseases notified during 1952 as compared with the years 1949,1950 and 1951.

DISEASE	1949		1950		1951		1952	
	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
Scarlet Fever	62	62	155	155	145	145	49	49
Whooping Cough	46	46	216	216	149	149	31	31
Diphtheria	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	230	230	370	370	570	570	102	102
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	6	6	5	4	1	1
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	10	7	3	-	10	7	2	1
Dysentery	-	-	8	5	29	29	42	42
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	3	3	7	6
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Para Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	2	-	-	-	3	3	-	-
Erysipelas	2	2	5	5	2	2	2	2
Pneumonia	20	20	20	20	12	12	9	9
Cerebro Spinal Fever	,2	-	2	1	1	-	1	-
Ac. Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
TOTALS:-	377	368	788	779	930	925	247	243

The incidence of Scarlet Fever, Measles and Whooping Cough was the lowest recorded since 1949. Two confirmed cases of Poliomyelitis recorded in the above table were removed to Isolation Hospital.

During September an outbreak of sonne dysentery occurred at a Children's Nursery involving a total of thirty one children and eleven adults. All cases were removed to Isolation Hospital, and a detailed investigation was carried out. It was considered that infection was introduced into the Nursery by a temporary cook, who was later found to be a bacteriological relapse. All cases recovered after treatment and no secondary outbreak was reported.

It is satisfactory that no case of Diphtheria occurred during 1952.

Table 5

REVALIDATION AND DECLINE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following table shows the Infectious Diseases notified during 1949 as compared with the years 1948,1950 and 1951.

	1949		1950		1951		1952	
	a	b	a	b	a	b	a	b
DISEASES								
Enteric Fever	65	62	195	156	116	105	46	40
Whooping-Cough	98	16	316	215	149	149	43	32
Diphtheria	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	230	230	370	370	370	370	202	202
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	5	5	2	4	2	1
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-paralytic)	10	7	3	-	10	7	2	2
Dysentery	-	-	6	5	29	27	42	42
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	3	3	7	6
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	2	-	-	-	3	3	-	-
Erysipelas	2	2	7	5	2	2	2	2
Tuberculosis	26	20	30	20	12	12	9	7
Leprosy Stages	-	-	2	1	1	-	1	-
Rabies	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
Ac. Anterior Polio								
TOTALS:-	377	358	768	778	330	309	314	293

The epidemics of Enteric Fever, Measles and Whooping-Cough and the Lowest recorded since 1948. The annual rates of Poliomyelitis recorded in the above table were removed to Isolation Hospital.

Dental Surgeons on Contract of Leave Department carried out a clinical dental survey involving a total of nine hundred and eleven children. All cases were referred to Isolation Hospital, and a dental treatment program carried out. It was considered that Infection was introduced into the Country by a temporary cook, who was later found to be a bacteriological Carrier. All cases recovered after treatment and no secondary outbreak was reported.

It is satisfactory that no case of Diphtheria occurred during 1952.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Distribution according to age
Notifications received during 1952 - Corrected Figures.

DISEASE	Under 1 year.	1 - 5	5 - 15	15-25	25-45	45-65	65 +	Age not known	TOTAL.
Scarlet Fever	-	6	24	15	2	-	-	2	49
Whooping Cough	6	15	8	2	-	-	-	-	31
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	5	63	30	2	-	-	-	2	102
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	-	27	-	13	-	-	-	2	42
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	1	6
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
Pneumonia	-	-	1	7	-	-	1	-	9
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ac. Encephalitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS:-	11	112	63	43	4	1	2	7	243

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases of tuberculosis notified and confirmed by the County Chest Physician during the year show a slight decrease as compared with the numbers notified during 1951.

YEAR	NEW CASES NOTIFIED DURING.		TOTAL
	PULMONARY	NON-PULMONARY	
1948	14	7	21
1949	11	10	21
1950	30	2	32
1951	26	7	33
1952	23	5	28

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY
DURING 1952 ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES				DEATHS.			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
15	3	5	1	1	-	1	-	-
25	3	-	-	1	2	1	-	-
35	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
55	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 upwards.	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
TOTALS:-	12	11	2	3	4	3	-	-

It will be appreciated that the above figures do not represent the total number of individuals suffering from tuberculosis in the Rural District. In addition to the new cases notified each year, a certain proportion of tuberculous individuals either move into the Rural District or move out. Resident in the Rural District at the end of 1952, were, according to the Register of Tuberculous Persons, the following notified cases.

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
PULMONARY	74	55	129
NON-PULMONARY	24	30	54
TOTAL:-	98	85	183

A Mobile X-Ray Unit operated in the Rural District during May. Of a total of 990 examinations, 7 persons were found to be suffering from tuberculous conditions, and a further 12 individuals were shown to be suffering from conditions other than tuberculosis. It is hoped to arrange for a further visit of the Unit to the district during 1953.

A suitable environment of the tuberculous patient is of paramount importance, and the need for adequate housing to diminish the spread of infection is emphasised.

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases of tuberculosis notified and confirmed by the County Chief Hygienist during the year show a slight decrease as compared with the numbers notified during 1951.

YEAR	NEW CASES NOTIFIED DURING.		TOTAL
	PULMONARY	NON-PULMONARY	
1948	14	7	21
1949	11	10	21
1950	50	2	52
1951	50	7	57
1952	29	5	34

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY
DURING 1952 ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES				DEATHS.			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	3	4	1	1	-	-	-	-
10	3	3	4	4	-	1	-	-
15	1	1	-	1	2	1	-	-
20	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
25	3	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
30	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-
35 upwards.								
TOTALS:-	12	11	2	3	4	3	-	-

It will be appreciated that the above figures do not represent the total number of individuals suffering from tuberculosis in the Rural District. In addition to the new cases notified each year, a certain proportion of tuberculous individuals either move into the Rural District or move out. Residents in the Rural District at the end of 1952, were, according to the Registrar of Tuberculous Persons, the following notified cases.

	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
PULMONARY	74	55	129
NON-PULMONARY	24	10	34
TOTALS:-	98	65	163

A Mobile X-Ray Unit operated in the Rural District during May. Of a total of 990 examinations, 7 persons were found to be suffering from tuberculous conditions, and a further 12 individuals were shown to be suffering from conditions other than tuberculosis. It is hoped to arrange for a further visit of the Unit to the district during 1953.

A suitable environment of the tuberculous patient is of paramount importance, and the need for adequate housing to diminish the spread of infection is emphasised.

The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952.

These Regulations came into force on the 1st. May, 1952. They replace and revoke The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regns. 1930.

The principal effect of this new legislation is that certain duties hitherto performed by Borough and District Councils in connection with the prevention of Tuberculosis, now become the responsibility of the County Council. The District Council, however, retains its statutory powers under the Public Health Acts, or as Housing Authority, in preventing the spread of tuberculous infection. The requirement concerning notification by the General Practitioner to the District Medical Officer of Health remains, in effect, unaltered.

The County Council, the District Council and the Regional Hospital Board are collectively responsible for the treatment and after-care of the tuberculous patient. The prevention of tuberculosis also rests with this "tripartite" body; the main function of the District Council being to ensure that the tuberculous patient and his family are adequately housed.

The National Assistance Act, 1948.
Sec. 47. Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

In February, 1952 it was necessary to arrange for the removal of an elderly woman to St. James Hospital, Devizes under the provisions of The National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

This old lady was suffering from anaemia and living alone in a condition of neglect and disorder and she was unable to look after herself. She had refused the advise of her doctor to enter hospital for treatment.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The following children received primary immunisations during 1952.

Under 1 yr. 263; Ages 1 - 4 yrs. 222;

Ages 5 - 14 yrs. 92.

TOTAL:- 577

Total immunised child population as at 31.12.52

Ages 0 - 4 yrs. 1275 Ages 5 - 14 yrs. 3448

TOTAL:- 4723

Vaccination

The following children were vaccinated during 1952.

Under 1 yr. 189; Ages 1 - 4 yrs. 59; Ages 5 - 14 12

15 or over 34.

TOTAL:- 294

There were 525 live births notified during the year.

The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952.

These Regulations came into force on the 1st. May, 1952. They replace and revoke The Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regs. 1930.

The principal effect of this new legislation is that certain duties already performed by Borough and District Councils in connection with the prevention of tuberculosis, now become the responsibility of the County Council. The District Council, however, retains statutory powers under the Public Health Acts, or the Housing Authority, in preventing the spread of tuberculous infection. The requirements concerning notification by the General Practitioner to the District Medical Officer of Health remains, in effect, unaltered.

The County Council, the District Council and the Regional Hospital Board are collectively responsible for the treatment and after-care of the tuberculous patient. The prevention of tuberculosis also rests with this "triumvirate" body; the main function of the District Council being to ensure that the tuberculous patient and his family are adequately housed.

The National Assistance Act, 1948.
Sec. 47. - Power to authorise removal of persons in need of care and attention.

In February, 1952 it was necessary to arrange for the removal of an elderly woman to St. Ursan Hospital, Devizes under the provisions of the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

This old lady was suffering from anaemia and living alone in a condition of poverty and dirtiness and she was unable to look after herself. She had refused the advice of her doctor to enter hospital for treatment.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The following children received primary immunisations during 1952.

Under 1 yr. - 205; Ages 1 - 4 yrs. 822;

Ages 5 - 14 yrs. 32.

TOTAL:- 1,059

Total immunised until population on 31.12.52

Ages 0 - 4 yrs. 1,275 Ages 5 - 14 yrs. 3,948

TOTAL:- 5,223

Vaccination

The following children were vaccinated during 1952.

Under 1 yr. 1,031; Ages 1 - 4 yrs. 391; Ages 5 - 14 yrs.

15 or over 3.

TOTAL:- 1,424

There were 325 live births notified during the year.

I am indebted to Mr. Witham, the Council's Engineer for the following information concerning water supplies.

During the year progress has been made in the extension of mains and in the connection of more consumers to existing mains. No major developments have taken place, but the coming year should show a start being made on the Council's Eastern Area Scheme.

Capital Works.
Western Area Water Scheme.

This scheme is now nearing completion. At the 31st. March last about 85% of the work was completed, the sections remaining to be done being West Kington Wick and Allington. These it is hoped will be finished by about June.

Six Water Main Extensions.

Approval to this scheme for extending mains to Long Dean, Slaughterford, Avon, Goatacre Lane, Broomfield and Ashley was obtained during the year and a contract for £8,030 placed with Messrs. Smith & Lacy Ltd. of Corsham. The main at Ashley has been laid and a start made at Avon. As a result of local representations the Council have decided to defer the extension to Slaughterford and this section has been deleted from the Contract. The small extension to Broomfield will also be deleted as the local estate owners have themselves extended the supply to the property concerned. A financial grant under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Acts has been approved in respect of this scheme.

Stockley Water Main.

Owing to the demand for water in this area the Council decided to lay about two miles of main at Stockley and obtain a temporary bulk supply of water from Calne Borough. The main will eventually form part of the Eastern Area Water Scheme. A contract for £4,400 was placed with the North Wilts. Sanitary & Heating Co. Ltd. of Swindon and the work has now been completed, and a temporary booster station provided. A financial grant under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Acts has been approved for this scheme.

Housing Sites.

Council house construction has necessitated small water main extensions at Castle Combe, Compton Bassett, Potley Lane and Bences Lane.

Eastern Area Water Scheme.

Ministry approval to this scheme, estimated at £120,000 in 1950, has now been obtained. Some pipes and materials have already been obtained and it is expected that an early start will be made on the reservoir and mains.
In connection with this scheme, the Chippenham Corporation have placed a contract for sinking a borehole at Patterdown, and work has commenced on a pilot bore.

Goodshill Pumping Station.

Orders for two new electrically driven borehole pumps have been placed for this station. The existing diesel engined ram pumps are to be scrapped. Delivery of the new plant is expected in about July.

Mile Elm - Calne Without.

A main has been extended to this area by Calne Borough under a financial guarantee by this Council.

SOURCES.

No changes have been made in the sources of water except that a bulk supply is now obtained from Calne Borough for Stockley, and from Cricklade and Wootton Bassett R.D.C. for Goatacre and New Zealand. Both these supplies will be redundant when the Eastern Area Scheme is completed, but the connecting mains will remain for emergency use.

At Widdenham some repairs have been carried out to the collecting works and the auxilliary supply from the Hartham Estate at Weavern has been metered.

The adequacy of the supply of water at Widdenham is a matter of growing concern. The increasing demand of the Air Ministry at Colerne Aerodrome and in the Rural District generally makes it doubtful whether a full supply of water could be maintained to all consumers in the event of a very dry summer.

A scheme is being prepared to augment the yield,of the springs at Widdenham with water obtained from Chippenham Borough at Fiveways Reservoir. The Air Ministry have accepted this scheme in principle and have agreed to contribute to the capital cost.

With the exception of the small gravitational supplies at Slaughterford and Wick Hill and the Borehole supplies at Goodshill, all supplies are chlorinated. The Wick hill supply will be abandoned when the Eastern Area Scheme is completed and a chlorinating plant will be installed at Goodshill during the coming year.

DISTRIBUTION.

The inadequate storage capacity at Rudloe has at times resulted in a failure of the supply in the Box Area. A scheme for increasing the high level storage at Rudloe is being prepared and will be submitted to the Committee in the near future.

Concern is also felt regarding the storage capacity at Colerne. The present water tower holds a bare days supply, and with the extension of the distribution system to North Wraxall and the construction of new houses at Colerne Village, this is being inadequate. A scheme to provide additional storage is being prepared.

Corrosion of cast iron mains continues to give trouble. Of the 31 bursts repaired during the year, 20 have been due to this cause.

BOROUGH EXTENSION.

Although the extension of Chippenham Borough has resulted in houses being transferred from this Authority, it has not materially affected the water supply position as most of the property was already supplied with water by the Borough.

STATISTICS FOR YEAR 1952-3 AND CORRESPONDING FIGURES FOR 1951-2

Population etc.

Population (1952 Estimated)	35,650
Number of dwelling houses	7,096

Consumers.

	Dwellings. 1952-3
Supplied direct by R.D.C.	4,117
Supplied by other Authorities	773
	4,890
New connections made, excluding Council houses 1952-3	125
Corresponding figure	302

Water Distributed.

Details of distribution to Parishes is given in the report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Source		1951-2	1952-3
Chippenham Borough:	Yewstock	81,345,000	89,990,000
	Monks Lane	55,728,000	53,843,000
	Copenacre	38,229,000	26,786,000
	Other Places	4,786,000	5,181,000
		180,088,000	175,800,000
Widdenham		79,557,000	102,090,000
Nettleton		17,338,000	14,556,000
Goodshill		3,178,000	7,034,000
Washwells		5,427,000	10,000,000
Hilmarton		1,270,000	1,270,000
Foxham		3,650,000	2,390,000
Slaughterford		70,000	70,000
East Tytherton (Wick Hill)		50,000	50,000
Compton Bassett R.A.F.		1,420,000	2,684,600
Yatesbury R.A.F.		899,000	1,170,000
Goatacre		-	82,000
		292,947,000	317,196,000

WATER MAINS

Mileage of mains at end of last year	114.6
Laid during 1952-3	11.2
	125.8 miles.

RAINFALL

	1951-2	1952-3
April	4.03	2.09
May	2.45	4.53
June	1.12	2.21
July	1.13	1.40
August	3.91	6.32
September	4.46	3.05
October	0.64	4.17
November	7.03	3.24
December	2.51	4.97
January	2.40	0.77
February	1.14	2.37
March	2.75	0.81
	33.57 ins.	35.93 ins.

DISTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC SUPPLIES.

Parish.	Mileage of Mains.	Sources.
Biddestone	4.9	Chippenham Boro. Slaughterford.
Box	12.3	Widdenham Washwells.
Bremhill	5.2	Chippenham Boro. Wick Hill Foxham.
Calne Without	1.9	Calne Boro.
Castle Combe	4.6	Chippenham Boro.
Chippenham Without	0.5	-
Chippenham Without	0.6	Chippenham Boro.
Christian Malford	4.6	Chippenham Boro.
Colerne	6.5	Widdenham
Compton Bassett	1.4	Air Ministry
Corsham	21.7	Chippenham Boro Widdenham Goodshill.

Grittleton	9.1	Chippenham Boro.
Heddington	-	-
Hilmarton	5.6	Hilmarton Cricklade & Wootton Bassett
Kington Langley	4.3	Chippenham Boro.
Kington St. Michael	6.8	Chippenham Boro.
Lacock	6.5	Chippenham Boro Goodshill.
Langley Burrell Without	4.5	Chippenham Boro.
Nettleton	4.6	Nettleton
North Wraxall	3.9	Widdenham Chippenham Boro.
Pewsham	4.5	Chippenham Boro.
Stanton St. Quinton	2.8	Chippenham Boro.
Sutton Benger	4.4	Chippenham Boro.
Yatton Keynell	4.6	Chippenham Boro.
	Total: 125.8 miles	

NOTE:

The West Gloucestershire Water Company supply the village of Burton in the Parish of Nettleton and Calne Borough supply Mile Elm in the Parish of Calne Without.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

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. The sewer receives crude slop water drainage and the overflow 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.

BOX

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 accepted standards for discharge into streams.

Only the village proper is sewered, except for two local sewage disposal installations. These are situated at the Bassetts and Middle Hill, where groups of houses drain into covered settlement tanks, with effluents discharging over filter beds of slag media. The Middle Hill Works deal with a weak sewage as compared with other works, owing to the large volumn of storm water conveyed by the sewer.

A new sewerage scheme for this Parish is in course of preparation.

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,

Combined sewers and surface water drains 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 twice weekly emptying of pail closets is undertaken by the Council for the village.

COLERNE.

The whole of the village is sewered and a modern disposal works serves both the village and the local aerodrome.

CORSHAM.

There is a modern disposal works for the parish.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL (CONTINUED).

CORSHAM

These continueto function satisfactorily and no special difficulties have been experienced during the year. The parish is generally well serviced with sewers.

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 at Littleton Drew, which act as sewers and receive the drainage from those properties connected to them. In each case the outfall 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. Also a scheme for the sewerage of the village of Grittleton has been prepared.

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.

There are only one or two ditches into which overflows from drains and cesspools discharge, and these are cleansed periodically by the Council. A new sewerage scheme is required and preliminary work on its preparation has commenced.

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. Some preliminary work on a sewerage scheme for the village has been carried out.

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 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. QUINTON, 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 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.

CESSPOOL EMPTIER.

The Council's cesspool emptying vehicle undertakes the emptying of septic tanks on the Council's housing sites and also undertakes similar work for private owners. A charge is made for this service.

The vehicle is also used for collecting the contents of pail closets at Castle Combe.

REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present a report on the activities of the Public Health Department during 1952.

Perusual of the summary of Sanitary Inspectors' visits will show that the many aspects of public health work continued to receive the attention of the department. Unfortunately the resignation as from 31st. July of Mr. J.N, Cope, Additional Sanitary Inspector, interrupted the activities of the department, for it was not until 1st. September that Mr. M.A. Gregory was appointed to succeed him.

Improvement in the sanitary circumstances of the district has been effected by the installation of a piped water supply to numerous properties, by the modernisation of the sanitary arrangements to many houses, by the construction of new drainage systems and by the provision of water closets and bathrooms.

I am glad to report that the survey of licensed premises made in 1951 has led to some major improvements to the means of drainage, sanitary accommodation and cleansing facilities at these premises.

During the year I have directed more attention to housing conditions, with a view to representing sub-standard property to the Council for demolition procedure under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936. The conclusions of such representations will be included in my report for 1953 as decisions thereon will not be made during 1952.

Details of the other work carried out by the department is referred to in greater detail in the body of this report.

Close liaison has been maintained with Dr. Broomhead, Medical Officer of Health, and I would like to express to him the thanks of the Public Health Staff for his guidance and co-operation.

I also wish to acknowledge the loyal support given to me by the other officers and staff of the department.

Yours faithfully,

H.J. TAYLOR.

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTORS' VISITS IN 1952.

		(1951)
General Sanitation.		
Water Supply	142	156
Drainage	322	270
Stables & Piggeries	13	8
Fried Fish Shops	8	6
Licensed Premises	29	117
Tents, Vans, Sheds	192	143
Factories, Power	34	82
Factories. No. Power	10	-
Workplaces	3	1
Outworkers	16	12
Workshops	-	1
Bakehouses	50	40
Public Conveniences	44	33
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	2	21
Refuse Collection	173	430
Refuse Disposal	161	155
Rats & Mice	23	23
Smoke Observations	4	14
Schools	7	28
Shops	21	110
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	125	124
Nuisances	360	276
Water Samples	242	199
Sanitary Survey	43	170
Housing.		
Under Public Health Acts		
No. of houses Inspected	54	64
Visits paid to above houses	153	72
Under Housing Acts		
No. of houses inspected	240	98
Visits paid to above premises	208	123
Overcrowding		
No. of houses inspected	10	5
Visits paid to above premises	9	8
Filthy or Verminous Premises		
No. of houses inspected	14	15
Visits paid to above houses	37	18
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	106	49
Infectious Diseases		
Inquiries in cases of Infectious Disease	50	107
Visits re Disinfection	27	26
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	53	37
Food Poisoning Inquiries	-	50
Meat & Food Inspection.		
Inspection of Meat.		
Visits to Slaughterhouses	8	4
Visits to Shops & Stalls	2	1
Visits to other premises	1	1
Visits to		
Butchers	21	19
Fishmongers & Poulterers	6	1
Grocers	20	20
Greengrocers & Fruiterers	4	-
Cowsheds	-	-
Dairies & Milk Distributors	42	46
Ice-Cream Premises	42	56
Food Preparing Premises	49	55
Restaurants	2	13
Canteens	1	2
Visits in connection with Sampling -		
Milk	55	37
Ice Cream	123	121
Food & Drug Samples	-	1
Miscellaneous Food Visits	3	10
	3364	3478

DRAINAGE

Nuisances

A large number of drainage nuisances were inspected and with the co-operation of owners and occupiers, some were abated. Unfortunately, many of these were of such a nature that temporary abatement only could be effected and until suchtime as a public sewer is available, these nuisances are liable to recur.

Connections to Sewer.

Colerne. 5 properties at Colerne were connected to the public sewer by the Council because of non-compliance with Statutory Notices served under Section 39(1)(a), Public Health Act, 1936.

3 other properties were connected as a result of informal action.

Every house in Colerne within a reasonable distance of the sewer is now connected to same.

Corsham, Neston, Westwells, Moor Green and Elly Green.

Action has been taken during the year to ensure that every property in the above areas is connected to the public sewer. As a result of negotiations with owners, 7 further houses were connected.

The original survey indicated that 73 properties were not connected.

The position at the present time is:-

Properties connected 1951	19
" " 1952	7
War department properties not connected.	15
Houses more than 100 feet from sewer . .	2
Properties at Baker's corner which cannot be connected until sewer extension	11
Houses at Elley Green awaiting sewer extension	8
Negotiations proceeding with owners . .	11
	73

A request has been made to the War Department to connect their property at Westwells to the Public Sewer and I have received an assurance that this matter will be given due consideration during 1953.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Council has Public Conveniences at Box (1) and Corsham (2). Negotiations are proceeding for a site for a public convenience in Colerne and it is hoped to commence the construction of the building during 1953.

Improvements have been effected to the gentlemen's convenience at Box by tiling the walls of the closets. This has prevented the walls from being defaced by drawings and writings.

I am sorry to have to report that wilful damage is still occasioned to the slot machines.

Two part-time attendants are employed to supervise and maintain the conveniences.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Each year the Council's commitments respecting the collection and disposal of refuse increase owing to the erection of new houses and the demands of government service departments.

By re-arranging certain areas of collection it was possible to give the undermentioned parishes and districtd fortnightly collections instead of monthly, with little increased cost to the Council:-

Bremhill, Christian Malford, Grittleton, Kington Langley, Kington St. Michael, Stanton St. Quinton Sutton Benger, Yatton Keynell, Gastard, Neston and Corshamside.

Two 10 cubic yard and one 7-cubic yard Bedford refuse vehicles are used for the collection of refuse and by ensuring that they have been regularly serviced they have proved very reliable vehicles.

The labour employed on this service includes 1 working foreman, 3 loader/drivers, 3 loaders and 2 tip attendants. No increased labour has been employed during the year although your commitments have increased.

9 Refuse Tips have been used, situated at Biddestone, Chequers, Gastard, Nettleton, North Wraxall, Nethermore, Reybridge, Sutton Benger and Spirthill.

After some 20 years' continuous use as a Refuse Tip, the old Quarries at Chequers became completely full towards the end of the year and after employing a bull-doser to level the site generally, I recommend the Council to terminate the agreement with the Corsham Estate Company.

A smaller tip in a disused quarry at North Wraxall and the old sand pit at Nethermore became full during the year and after the refuse had been levelled and covered with soil, the reclaimed land was handed back to the respective owners.

Many of the Council's other tips are filling rapidly and it will be vitally necessary for them to find other suitable tipping space in 1953.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL (CONTINUED)

Refuse Costs.

Total Cost	£5,069	(£4,211)
Collection	£3,896	(£2,961)
Disposal	£1,173	(£1,250)

Population - Census, 1952 35,650

Per thousand population . . . . . .

Collection	£109. 15. 0	(£78. 19. 3)
Disposal	£ 33. 0.10.	(£33. 6. 8)
Total:-	£142. 15.10.	£112. 5.11.

Per thousand houses collected

Estimated collection from 201,000 houses	Collection	£19. 7. 7.9d	(£16. 7. 11)
	Disposal	£ 5. 16. 8.6d	(7. 0. 0)
	Total:-	£25. 4. 4½	(23. 7. 11)

Per ton of refuse.

1335 loads approximately.	3 tons 9 cwts.	-	4,605
323½ " "	2 tons 4 cwts.	-	711
			5,316 tons

= 19/0.8d. per ton (18/3.3d).

Note:- 1951 figures given in brackets.

Per Head of Population.

Collection	2/2.228	(1/6.94d)
Disposal	7.789	(6.01d)
	2/10.017	2/2.95d.

Mileage for Vehicles.

The refuse vehicles covered a total mileage of 23,402 at an average of approximately 8 miles per gallon. (2,846 gallons - 207 pts. oil).

SUPPLY OF DUSTBINS

A stock of standard dustbins is still maintained by the Council for sale to householders at cost price plus a small delivery charge. The increased cost of purchasing these bins has necessitated raising the charges for same to 30/- for standard bins and 25/- for medium bins.

42 informal notices to supply dustbins were served on householders and by the end of the year, 33 such notices had been complied with.

91 dustbins were sold from stock during 1952.

Very slowly the percentage of standard dustbins used for the storage of household refuse is increasing, but it will be many years before a 100% use of such receptacles will be achieved.

Litter Baskets.

The litter baskets fixed by the Council in Box, Calne Without, Castle Combe, Corsham, Colerne and Lacock have been maintained and have been instrumental in helping to keep the streets reasonably free from litter.

SALVAGE.

The Council continued to collect waste paper throughout the whole of the district. The services of a private contractor were dispensed with in collecting waste paper from Box and Corsham and this collection was carried out by direct labour. An additional 12 cwt. salvage trailer was purchased for attachment to the third refuse vehicle.

A weekly salvage service is provided for the built-up areas of Corsham and Box, but in all other areas, waste paper is collected at the same time as the household refuse.

The quantity of paper salvaged has remained fairly constant at an average of 11 tons per month, but the revenue from its sale has dropped considerably. This has been due to the fluctuating prices offered for waste paper by the Paper Mills. These prices have varied from £13 per ton for mixed baled paper and £20 per ton for baled newspapers to £4.10.0 for mixed baled paper and £5.10.0 for baled newspapers.

It is hoped that the Mills will be able to offer more favourable terms for the purchase of waste paper during 1953, particularly if the demand for same increases, and the present heavy stocks built up by the mills can be absorbed.

All waste paper is sold to the Berkshire Waste Paper Co. Ltd., Reading.

The following amounts of paper were collected:-

1952	Amount	Value.
Jan.	234 cwts.	£179. 8. 6.
Feb.	208 "	£157.19. 0.
Mar.	195 "	£151. 2. 6.
Apr.	194 "	£126. 9. 0.
May.	253 "	£116.13. 7
June	236 "	£106.14. 7.
July	226 "	£ 84. 2.10.
Aug.	303 "	£ 94.18. 9
Sep.	258 "	£ 61. 2. 2.
Oct.	219 "	£ 50.19.10.
Nov.	162 "	£ 37.15. 2.
Dec.	215 "	£ 48.15. 1.
	2703 "	£1216. 1. 0.

Salvage of Scrap Metal.

With the Council's approval I recommended the collection of scrap metal from the various refuse tips and some 55 tons of metal were salvaged in 1952. This is sold to a scrap merchant who re-imburses the Council with the actual cost of salvaging the metal plus a bonus of 10/- per ton.

Kitchen Waste.

This is collected privately in parts of the Council's district, including Box, Corsham and Lacock.

Covered galvanised storage bins are provided by the collectors and no complaints of nuisances have been received from the method of storage and collection.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

Public Health Act, 1936 Section 107

There are no Offensive Trade Establishments as defined by Section 107 of the P.H.A. 1936 within the area of the Council.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

This new legislation, consolidating previous enactments dealing with the control of rag flock, came into force on the 1st. November, 1951.

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

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

One fish shop situated in Langley Burrell Without parish was transferred to the Borough of Chippenham when the Chippenham Boundary Extension Order became effective.

The four remaining shops have been reasonably maintained, although at one shop I am hoping to secure improvement in the general hygiene of the premises.

Situation of Fish Shops.

Box 2
Colerne 1
Corsham 1

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 SECTION 269

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Licences authorising persons to erect or station and use Moveable Dwellings.

The actual number of caravans stationed in the rural district has fluctuated, but 52 licences were issued and one licence refused. This is an increase of 4 licences as compared with 1951.

With three exceptions the moveable dwellings licensed were of the trailer type and these were of good construction. The exceptions were three converted bus bodies, two situated at Goatacre and one at Bradford Road, Corsham. The latter is showing signs of deterioration and will soon become unsuitable for human occupation.

Most of the caravans are situated on single sites in various parishes and the main difficulty experienced on such sites is the adequate disposal of waste water. The occupiers make every endeavour to dispose of such matter adequately and no nuisance was discovered on any site, but the methods of disposal leave much to be desired.

No licences have been issued by the Council, authorising persons to allow land occupied by them to be used as sites for moveable dwellings.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 SECTION 269 (Continued)

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Parishes in which moveable dwellings are stationed.

Box	7
Bremhill	1
Calne Without	2
Chippenham Without	8
Cherhill	4
Christian Malford	1
Compton Bassett	1
Colerne	4
Corsham	9
Hilmarton	5
Kington Langley	1
Kington St. Michael	2
Lacock	1
Langley Burrell WT	4
Stanton St.Quinton	1
Sutton Banger	1
	52

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936 SECTIONS 83 - 85

Infestations.

Filthy & Verminous Premises or Articles and Verminous Persons.

From time to time verminous premises come to the notice of the department, and such places receive appropriate treatment.

In co-operation with the Medical Officer of Health, arrangements are made for verminous persons to receive attention at St. Andrews Hospital, Chippenham.

All the refuse tips of the Council are sprayed regularly with suitable insecticides and the tip surfaces covered with soil or other suitable covering to minimise the risk of infestation.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1938 SECTIONS 13, 14 and 15.

Byelaws re handling, wrapping and delivery of food, and sale of food in the open air
(Made under Section 15 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938)

106 inspections of food premises were made during the year and in a number of cases informal letters were served requiring work to be done to bring the properties up to byelaw standard.

Registration of Premises used in connection with the manufacture or sale of preserved foods, etc.

6 premises are registered under Section 14 of the Food & Drugs Act, 1938 for the preparation, manufacture and sale of sausages and cooked meat, No. 15 East Street, Lacock, being a new registration.

All these premises are well maintained and facilities for the preparation of these products are good.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938

Schedule of Condemned Foods, 1952.

The undermentioned Foodstuffs were condemned during the year for the reasons stated in the third column.

Food.	Quantity.	Condition.
Bovine Head	32 lbs.	Putrefaction
Bacon	18½ "	Bone Taint.
Cheese	11b. 14 oz.	Putrefaction.
Tinned Goods.		
Luncheon Meat	4 lbs. 8 oz.	Blown.
Boneless Ham	66 lbs.	Blown & Punctured.
Corned Beef	6 lbs	Punctured.
Minced Beef	12 oz.	"
Calves tongues	12 "	Blown
Stewed Steak	9 lbs. 8 oz.	Punctured.
Beans	1 lb.	"
Peas	4 lb	Blown
Tomatoes	61 lb. 4 oz.	"
Plums	24 lb.12 oz.	"
Greengages	17 lb. 3 oz.	"
Milk	14 oz.	Punctured.

Registration of Premises used in connection with the Manufacture or Sale of Ice-Cream.

Premises registered for the Manufacture, storage or sale of Ice-Cream.

(a)	Cold Mix method	2
(b)	Hot " "	Nil

Ice-cream is no longer manufactured at the Post Office, Box.

Premises registered for the storage or sale of Ice-Cream.

11 additional premises were registered for the sale or storage of ice-cream.

The total number of registered premises is now 56.

Some 42 inspections have been made of ice-cream premises in addition to the 123 visits in connection with ice-cream sampling.

Most ice-cream now sold is wrapped and there is little chance of contamination of the product at the place of sale. All ice-cream is stored in electric conservators.

Ice-Cream Sampling.

125 ice-cream samples were taken and submitted to Salisbury Laboratory for subjection to the Methylene Blue Test. The results were as follows:-

Provisional Grade.

1	11	111	1V	TOTAL
121	4	Nil	Nil	125

FOOD & DRUGS (Continued)

Ice-Cream

The Public Health Laboratory Service suggests that 50% of a vendor's samples should fall into category 1, 80% into Grades 1 or 11, no more than 20% into Grade 111 and none in Grade 1V.

The results of the above samples may be regarded as excellent as more than 96% fall into Grade 1 and 100% into Grades 1 & 11.

CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS.

The number of catering establishments licensed by the Ministry of Food has increased from 136 in 1950 to 141 in 1952.

Not all these premises are selling food to the general public as many licences are issued to private Clubs and the like.

The Ministry of Food will not issue licences until the Public Health Authority is satisfied that such premises are suitable for the preparation of food.

Licensed Premises - Sanitary Condition.

I reported in my 1951 report that a survey of licensed premises had been made and that during the year, efforts would be made to obtain improvements to these premises where this was considered necessary.

Thanks to the co-operation of the Brewery Companies, the following sanitary improvements have been achieved or are in process of completion:-

Public House at Christian Malford.

New drainage system, cleansing facilities for glasses etc., urinal and W.C. for men, W.C. for women.

Public House at Pickwick, Corsham.

Improved cleansing facilities and new W.C. for men.

Work in hand and nearing completion.

Two Public Houses at Kington Langley.

Improved drainage disposal systems, cleansing facilities, urinal and W.C. for men W.C. for women.

The general standard of hygiene in licensed premises is good and when modern sanitation and cleansing facilities are provided to those premises without such amenities, even better conditions will prevail.

BAKEHOUSES.

50 visits have been made to the 14 bake-houses in the following parishes:-

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

The bake-houses have been reasonably maintained but at certain premises improved washing facilities have been requested and additional refuse storage accommodation asked for.

FOOD & DRUGS ACT, 1938 SECTION 57.

Licensing of Slaughterhouses & Knackers' Yards.

The Licence in respect of the Knackers Yard at Heddington was renewed for a further period of 12 months. The owner of the premises was asked to improve the drainage arrangements to the slaughtering place and he complied with this request.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 Section 3.

One slaughterman's licence was issued to a slaughterman employed at a local bacon factory, who occasionally carried out the slaughter of cottagers' pigs.

MILK

MILK & DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949 SECTION 8

Registration of Dairies, Other than Dairy Farms, and of Distributors.

No. of registered Dairies	...	10
" " " Distributors	...	24

Note:- The undermentioned premises ceased to be used as dairies and have been removed from the Register:

Chippenham Co-Op. Soy., Westwells, Neston, Corsham.
Parker, C.G. , The Laurels, Kington Langley.
The Co-op Soy. West Wells have also been removed from the Register of Distributors.

The Milk (Special Designation)(Pasteurised & Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

No. of dealer's licences to use special designation "Pasteurised"	..	8
" " " Supplementary licences "	..	6

MILK (Continued)

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.

No. of dealer's licences to use special designation "Tuberculin Tested". 8

" " " supplementary licences 8

Inspections.

42 inspections of dairies have been made.

Milk Samples.

Milk samples were submitted for examination as follows:-

Methylene Blue Test (for keeping quality)

Passed.	Failed.	Total.
42 (8)	8 (3)	50 (11)

Phosphatase Test (for efficient pasteurisation)

Passed	Failed	Total
29 (3)	1 (2)	30 (5)

Biological (for presence of tuberculosis)

Passed	Failed	Total.
27 (27)	Nil (1)	27 (28)

Figures in brackets are for 1951.

Note:- More samples of milk were taken during 1952 than in 1951 as can be seen from the record table.

I regret to see that such a high proportion of milk samples (16%) failed to comply with the Methylene Blue Test for keeping quality. In every case where a sample of milk fails to pass the appropriate test, special investigations are made in an endeavour to trace to cause of such failure. The Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries are kept fully informed.

HOUSING.

Many complaints have been received from householders concerning the general condition of the cottages they occupy. Inspections are made of such property and where necessary informal notices are sent to the owners asking for essential work to be carried out.

It has been found possible to represent a number of cottages to the Council for formal action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.

29 sub-standard cottages situated at Box, Christian Malford, Colerne, Heddington and Yatesbury have been reported to the Council for formal action.

HOUSING (Continued)

In two cases the Council accepted undertakings under Section 11(3) of the Housing Act, 1936 not to allow the property to be used for human habitation until they were satisfied that it had been rendered fit for the purpose. In another case the owner gave an undertaking to render the property fit for human habitation.

Time and Place notices have been served on the owners of the other cottages represented for formal action, but the consequences of the service of such notices will not be known until 1953.

Housing Act, 1949 - Improvements Grants.

Four applications for Improvement Grants were received by the Council, of which two were approved and two rejected. The two approved applications were forwarded to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and subsequent approval was given to one of these.

Housing Act, 1936 Part IV Overcrowding.

No up-to-date information is available of the extent of overcrowding in the area.

Investigations were made into 10 alleged cases of overcrowding and 6 dwellings were confirmed to be overcrowded. Abatement of overcrowding was secured in four of these.

Rural Housing Survey.

Work on this survey was discontinued in 1949.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY

PROGRESS REPORT UP TO 31.12.52

R.D. CLassifications:-

1. Satisfactory.
2. Minor Defects.
3. Repairs or Structural Alterations.
4. Appropriate for reconditioning.
5. Unfit.

Total No. of Houses.	R.V. limit of houses to be surveyed.	State of Survey in Rural District			Total No. of houses surveyed to 31.12.52.	Classification - No. & Percentages.						Std. of Survey.	Method of inspection.
		Completed	In progress	Not yet commenced.		1	2	3	4	5	Total Classified 100%		
6,641 To be surveyed 5,395	All under £16 R.V.	Abandoned since June, 1949			3,404	221 6.5%	858 25.2%	1774 2.1%	146 4.3%	405 11.9	63% of total to be surveyed. (percentages of total surveyed).	County Std.	Detailed.

Condemned houses still occupied under Licence.	Over-Crowded.	Houses owned by L.A. Temporary	Houses owned by L.A. Permanent	Applications for Council Houses.
NIL	NO up-to-date records available	86	465	681

Improvement Grants - Housing Act, 1949

Applications dealt with by R.D.C.				Applications submitted to Ministry Regional Office.			
Received	Approved	Rejected	Under Consideration	No. sent.	No. Approved.	No. rejected.	Under Consideration.
4	2	2	-	2	1 (1 withdrawn)	-	-

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR 1952.

1. Number of New Houses and Flats completed during year.

(a) By Local Authority	87
(b) Private Enterprise	23

2. Inspection of Dwellings during the year.

1. Inspected for Housing Defects under P.H. Acts.	54
2. " " " " " Hsg. Acts.	240
3. Number of dwellings found to be so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation.	29
4. Number of dwellings found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for habitation.	77

3. Remedy of defects by Informal Action.

Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of Informal Action (not "fit in all respects")	16
Number of dwellings demolished in consequence of informal action	2

4. Action under Statutory Powers (Public Health & Housing Acts).

(A) Proceedings under Section 9, 10 & 16 of Housing Act, 1936.

1. Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	2
2. Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices.	
a. By owners.	1
b. By Local Authority in default of owners	-

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

1. Number of dwellings in respect of which formal notices were served.	Nil.
2. Number of dwellings rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
a. By Owners	Nil
b. By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

(C) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 Housing Act,'36

1. Number of demolition Orders made	Nil
2. Number of houses demolished as result of Demolition Orders.	-
3. Number of Undertakings accepted	3[x]
4. Number of Undertakings completed	-

x 2 not to relet.
1 to repair.

HOUSING STATISTICS (Continued)

(D) Proceedings under Sections 25 & 26 Housing Act '36.

1. Number of houses uuder which Demolition Orders were made. Nil.

2. Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. Nil

(E) Proceedings under Section 12 Housing Act, 1936

1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made. Nil

2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were cancelled, as result of premises having been made fit. Nil.

5. Housing Act, 1936 Part lv Overcrowding.

1.	Number of cases of overcrowded dwellings at end of year	Not known
2.	Number of cases discovered during year	6
3.	Number of cases abated during year	4
4.	Number of cases investigated	10
5.	Number of visits made	9

SHOPS ACT, 1950 SECTION 38

Arrangements for Health & Comfort of Shop Workers.

The number of inspections of shops for 1952 shows a marked decrease from that of 1951 but this has been due to concentration of work on housing, particularly during the latter half of the year. 21 inspections were made, however, and few infringements were noticed.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

The survey sheet which accompanies these comments sets out in concise form the extent of the Rodent Officer's work during 1952. The other table contains information required annually by the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries.

The refuse tips, sewage works and other properties of the Council, have received quite a lot of attention and it has been necessary to give these places and works several treatments to keep rodent infestation in check. Experience has shown that regular inspections and treatments are vitally necessary to control the rat menace, as these vermin are continually on the move, and property considered clear of infestation can, in a short space of time, become heavily infested.

Maintenance treatments were given to the sewers at Box, Colerne and Corsham during March. The Box sewers were found to be free from infestation but "takes" during the pre-baiting period indicated that rats were present in the Corsham and Colerne sewers, particularly in the High Street area of Corsham and Tutten Hill area of Colerne. Poison baits were subsequently "taken" from these sewers and the Rodent Officer was satisfied that the treatment was successful.

These sewers were again "test-baited" in October and at that time they were considered free from infestation.

I am sure that the daily work of the Rodent Officer is materially helping to keep the rat menace in check and his work is appreciated by the general public; this is reflected in the increased number of notifications of infestation received. Such notifications are welcomed as it assists the Rodent Officer in detecting places of infestation, which otherwise might not come to his notice.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT,1949
REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31st. DECEMBER, 1952.

Name of Local Authority: Calne & Chippenham R.D.C.(County) Wilts.

	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agri-cultural	All other (incl Business and Industrial	TOTAL.
1. Total number of properties in L.A. District.	40	7860	507	274	8681
2. Number of properties inspected by L.A. in 1952 as result of (a) notification (b) survey or otherwise. (a)	-	32	2	10	44
(b)	15	1069	13	296	1393
3. Number of properties inspected (see Sec. 11) which were found to be infested with rats Major	3	20	-	4	27
Minor	6	32	-	9	47
4. Number of properties inspected (see Sec. 11) which were found to be seriously infested by mice.	2	-	1	1	4
5. Number of infested properties (see secs. 3 and 4) treated by Local Authority.	9	64	1	16	90
6. Number of notices served under Sec. 4 (1) Treatment	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
(2) Structural Works (ie.proofing)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by L.A. FOLLOWING THE ISSUE of a notice under Section 4	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
8. Legal Proceedings	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
9. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out.	NIL				

PARISH	Private premises inspected	Treatments carr. out.	Business prems. Inspected.	T'mnts. carr. out.	C'cl Hse. Insns.	T'mnt carr. out.
Biddestone	51	3	11	-	-	-
Box	114	21	36	9	31	-
Bromhill	30	-	6	-	-	-
Calne Wt.	26	4	2	-	-	-
Cherhill	44	-	8	-	18	2
Castle Combe	15	-	10	-	-	-
Chippenham Wt.	25	5	-	-	-	-
Christian Malford	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colerne	38	3	13	-	5	-
Compton Bassett	47	3	8	-	4	-
Corsham	277	24	123	12	76	16
Grittleton	15	-	2	-	-	-
Heddington	53	3	8	-	12	-
Hilmarton	16	-	7	-	22	7
Kington Langley	10	3	1	1	-	-
Kington St. Michael	10	-	4	-	-	-
Lacock	47	5	13	1	28	-
Langley Burrell Wt.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nettleton	41	-	-	-	-	-
North Wraxall	39	-	4	-	-	-
Pewsham	5	-	4	-	-	-
Stanton St. Quinton	20	-	4	-	-	-
Sutton Benger	32	3	15	-	0	-
Yatton Keynell	11	-	-	0	-	-
TOTAL:-	966	77	279	23	196	25

Refuse Tips etc.

	Inspns.	T'mnts.
Biddestone	20	8
Chequers	14	5
Gastard	23	11
Sutton Benger	9	-
North Wraxall	18	7
Burton	19	8
Spirthill	13	6
Nethermore	7	3
Box Sewer Beds	21	8
Colerne Sewage Wks.	4	-
Corsham Sewage Wks.	7	1
Rudloe Paper Depot	14	6
Woodlands Paper Depot.	7	1
	176	64

Banks, Hedgerows, Ditches

Inspns.	T'mnts.
37	11

Agricultural Properties

Inspns.	T'mnts.
23	6

WATER SUPPLY

Public Health Act, 1936 Section 138 (as amended by Water Act, 1945) Section 30.

Three properties at Church Lane, Box, were afforded a piped supply of water because of the failure of the owners to comply with Statutory Notices, the cost of such work to be recovered from the owners.

Public Health Act, 1936 Section 137 (2) (as amended by Water Act, 1945) Section 29.

A Statutory Notice was served on the owner of a new house precluding him from occupying same until the Council was satisfied that a satisfactory supply of water had been provided to the property.

Details of Public Water Supplies.

The table showing details of the availability of water in each parish has been revised to include new connections and additional houses built during the year.

Parish	Total Houses.	Estimated +Population +	Direct to Houses	By Stand-pipe.
Biddestone	164	656	74	45
Box	1061	4244	514	285
Bremhill	264	1056	88	15
Calne Wt.	440	1760	48	15
Castle Combe	134	536	43	76
Cherhill	169	676	11	28
Chippenham Wt.	76	304	18	14
Christian Malford	146	584	40	66
Colerne	374	1496	152	188
Compton Bassett	109	436	32	1
Corsham	2271	9084	1942	-
Grittleton	145	580	64	33
Heddington	93	372	12	-
Hilmarton	212	848	66	-
Kington Langley	188	752	146	-
Kington St. Michael	143	572	60	62
Lacock	390	1560	179	106
Langley Burrell Wt.	128	512	79	-
Nettleton	172	688	60	56
North Wraxall	113	452	-	22
Pewsham	175	700	52	-
Stanton St.Quinton	65	260	29	3
Sutton Benger	219	876	50	95
Yatton Keynell	142	568	31	69

+ This column excludes Service Personnel.

Water Samples

Regular samples of water are taken from the Council's various water undertakings and other sources and submitted to the Salisbury Pathological Laboratory for bacteriological examination.

WATER SUPPLIES - Analysis of Results.

Source of water.	Fit.	Suspect.	Unfit	Total
Widdenham	32	3+ 3	2± 2	42
Regional Supply (Chippenham Boro)	16	11	-	27
Compton Bassett (R.A.F. Source)	11	-	-	11
Washwells, Box.	14	1+ 1	-	16
Hilmarton	12	3	-	15
Nettleton	14	1	-	15
Goodshill	1	2+ 1	1	5
West Glos. Water Co.	4	-	-	4
Foxham	1	3	1	5
Wick Hill (Unchlor. springs)	-	2+	2+	4
Calne Borough	4	-	-	4
Slaughterford springs.	1	3+ 2	1+	7
Samples from private supplies.	3	7 9+	11 8+	38
Compton Bassett Water Co.	12	1	1	14
Wootton Bassett	1	-	-	1
Yatesbury (R.A.F. Source).	13	1	-	14
	139	54	29	222

+ Samples marked thus were taken before chlorination.

In addition 26 samples were submitted for chemical analysis. None of these samples showed any abnormality.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 and 1948
Part 1 of the Act

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

Premises	No. on Register	Number of Inspections.	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted.
1. Factories in which secs.1,2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by L.A.'s.	14	10	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Sec.7 is enforced by the Local Authority	74	34	1	-
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:-	88	44	1	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were Instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to HM Inspr.	Referred By HM Inspr.	
Sanitary Conveniences Unsuitable or Defective.	1	1	-	1	-

OUTWORKERS
Factories Act, 1937 Section 110

There are now 95 Outworkers registered with the Council and residing in the following parishes:-

Parish	No. of Outworkers.
Corsham	76
Box	12
Biddestone	2
Yatton Keynell	2
Castle Combe	1
Kington St. Michael	1
Lacock	1

16 visits have been made to Outworkers' living accommodation and conditions at each home have been considered satisfactory.

PROCEEDINGS FOR 1937 and 1938

Part I of the act

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

Premises	No. on Register.	Number of Inspections.	Number of Written Notices	Defaults found and processed.
1. Premises in which been. 1,2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be covered by Art. 7a.	14	10	-	-
2. Premises not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	74	34	1	-
3. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (including out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	88	44	1	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found.				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred to HM Inspr.	By HM Inspr.	
Sanitary Conditions generally	1	1	-	1	-

Act of 1937 Section 112

There are now 23 Outworkers registered with the Council and residing in the following parishes:-

Parish	No. of Outworkers.
Cheddar	16
Axbridge	12
Blagdon	2
Yatton Keynell	2
Castle Combe	2
Kilmersdon	1
Chew Magna	1
Lacock	1

15 visits have been made to Outworkers' living accommodation and conditions at such have been satisfactory.