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Borough of



Cheltenham

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health of Cheltenham

Vital Statistics, Sanitary Work, &c.,

FOR THE YEAR

1933

BY

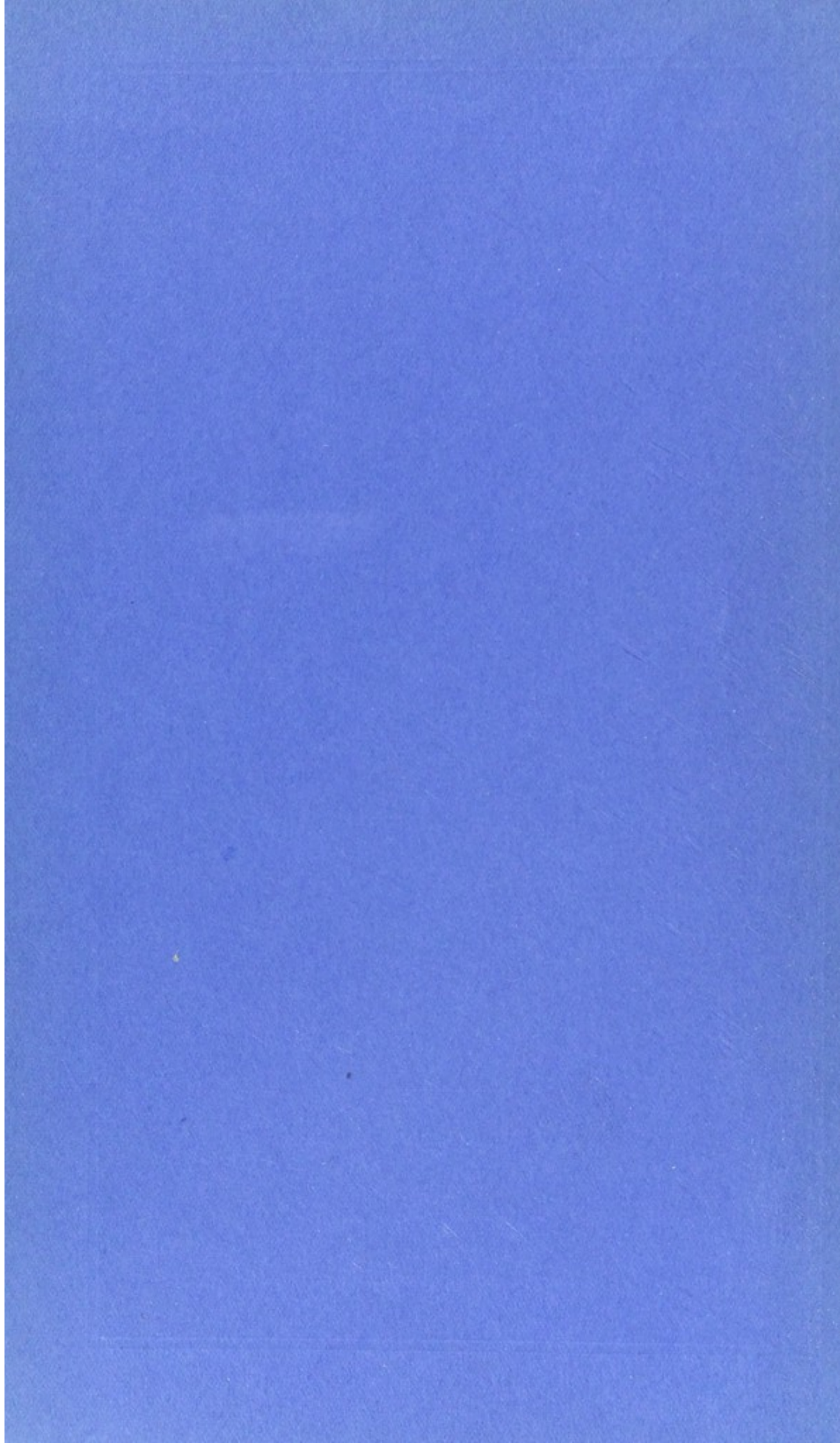
DONALD E. MORLEY, M.D. (Lond.), D.P.H.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Together with the Report of
F. R. JEFFORD, M.R.San.I.,
CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

"Salus Populi Suprema Lex."

CHELTENHAM :

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*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough
of Cheltenham.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the annual report on the health of the Borough of Cheltenham during the year 1933.

In so far as the general death-rate can be taken to be an index of health, the year was not a favourable one. This circumstance can be reasonably attributed to the influenza epidemic. The disease spread through the country with its usual rapidity and Cheltenham was involved early in January. Only those who could afford to live in strict seclusion had any chance of avoiding exposure to infection. Though many persons escaped entirely, this epidemic by causing a slightly larger number of deaths than occurred in the epidemics of 1927 and 29 definitely took its place as the most serious visitation the town has had since 1918. A comparison between the numbers of deaths in 1933 and 1918 (64 and 159 respectively) probably does not give quite a true picture of the severity of last year's epidemic. Special reference is made to this in a note on the vital statistics of the year.

Progress is being made in carrying into effect the Slum Clearance Programme, which was prepared during the year on the lines indicated in Circular 1331 of the Ministry of Health. The work entailed has been very considerable, particularly in relation to the action taken under Sec. 19 of the Housing Act.

The extension and modernisation of the Water works at Tewkesbury marks an important advance in a service which has been very closely bound up with the improved health of the community during the last 50 years. It is fortunate that the supply in the hill reservoirs was sufficient to enable the change over to the new engine to be made before the summer months. The town is thus secure from the dangers which are associated with a curtailed water supply.

In conclusion I should like to thank all the members of the staff for the efficient way in which the work of the department was carried out during the year.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

DONALD E. MORLEY,

Medical Officer of Health,

June, 1934,

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF,

December, 1933.

The following particulars are given in accordance with the request of the Ministry of Health.

Name.	Qualifications, etc.	Nature of Appointment.
Dr. D. E. Morley	W * a b	M. O. H.
Dr. I. J. McDonough	W * b c	Deputy M. O. H.
Mr. F. R. Jefford	W * d e	Chief Sanitary Inspector.
Miss H. M. Jordan	W * i	Health Visitor.
Miss D. J. Goddard	W * f g h i j	" "
Mr. C. W. Clifford	W * d	District Sanitary Inspector.
Mr. F. Keene	W * d e	" " "
Mr. A. C. Arnold	W * d e	" " "
Mr. A. C. F. Gisborne	W d e	Temporary Asst. "
Mr. W. Townsend	W	Disinfecting Inspector.
Miss B. A. Richards	W	Clerk.
Miss D. Hyett	P	Maternity & Child Welfare Clerk.
Mr. A. J. Stroud	W	Pupil.

W Whole Time.

P Part Time.

* Contribution to Salary (50% Basis) made by Exchequer Grants.

a M.D., B.S.Lond., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

b D.P.H.

c L.R.C.P. & S.

d Certified as Sanitary Inspector.

e Certified as Meat Inspector.

f Fully Trained Nurse.

g Registered Midwife.

h Ex. Queen's Nurse.

i Health Visitor's Certificate Lond.

j " " " Scotland.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS, 1933.

Area (in acres)—4,726.

Population { Census 1931—49,418 (corrected) (Mid Year) 1933—50,720.
 Registrar General's Estimate of (Mid Year) 1932—51,160.
 Resident Population Schools (Mid Year) 1931—50,900.
 included. (Mid Year) 1930—50,620.

Number of inhabited houses (structurally separate)
 (Census 1921)—10,928. (Census 1931)—12,272.

Number of inhabited houses (end 1933) according to Rate Books—12,800.

Number of families or separate occupiers (Census 1921)—11,862.
 (Census 1931)—13,211.

Rateable value £402,032. Sum represented by a penny rate £1,583.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	M	F	Totals	Rates
LIVE BIRTHS—Legitimate	301	284	585	Birth Rate per 1000 population. 12'3
Illegitimate	20	18	38	
Totals	221	302	623	
STILL BIRTHS—Legitimate	15	16	31	Still Birth Rate per 1000 population. 0'63
Illegitimate	1	—	1	
Totals	16	16	32	
DEATHS	348	501	849	Death Rate per 1000 population. 16'74

CORRECTED DEATH RATE.

The application of the Registrar General's Factor (755 for Cheltenham) to correct for age and sex distribution gives a corrected death rate of 12'6.

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth :—

2 from Sepsis } Rate per 1,000 Births 4'6
 1 other Causes } (live and still).

Number of deaths of infants under one year of age—32.

Death rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births :—

Legitimate 53'0. Illegitimate 26'3. Total 51'3.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)—0.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)—2.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)—0.

Comparative Birth-rates, Death-rates, and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1933.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1933, but those for the towns, except Cheltenham, have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1932. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London, Cheltenham and the groups of towns).

	RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.										RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.				
	Live Births	Still-Births	All Causes.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).	Total Deaths under 1 year.	Certified by Registered Medical Practitioners.	Inquest Cases.	Certified by Coroner after P.M.	No Inquest.	Uncertified Causes of Death.	
England and Wales ...	14.4	0.62	12.3	0.01	0.00	0.05	0.02	0.05	0.06	0.57	0.54	7.1	64	90.9	6.3	1.9	—	0.9	
118 CountyBoroughs and Great Towns, including London.	14.4	0.67	12.2	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.02	0.06	0.08	0.55	0.49	9.4	67	91.0	6.0	2.5	—	0.5	
132 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931).	14.5	0.63	11.0	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.02	0.04	0.04	0.53	0.44	4.9	56	91.7	5.8	1.5	—	1.0	
London ...	13.2	0.45	12.2	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.08	0.08	0.51	0.58	11.6	59	88.3	6.3	5.4	—	0.0	
CHELTHENHAM ...	12.3	0.63	12.6*	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	1.26	0.61	0.00	51	94.5	3.2	2.1	—	0.2	

*Corrected.

The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows:—

	per 1,000 Live Births	Others.	Total.
{	...	1.79	4.42
{	per 1,000 Total Births	1.71	4.23
{	per 1,000 Live Births	3.21	4.81
{	per 1,000 Total Births	3.06	4.59

CHELTHENHAM

**Causes of Death in Borough of Cheltenham in 1933 as given
by the Registrar General (Total Deaths).**

CAUSES OF DEATH.							M.	F.
All Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	348	501
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2 Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
5 Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
6 Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	29	35
7 Encephalitis lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
8 Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
9 Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	14
10 Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	4
11 Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	—
13 Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	53	67
14 Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	7
15 Cerebral hæmorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	22
16 Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	79	142
17 Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
18 Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	31
19 Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	12
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	30
21 Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
22 Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
23 Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
24 Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
25 Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
26 Other diseases of liver, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3
27 Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	15
28 Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	24
29 Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
30 Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
31 Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	12
32 Senility	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	18
33 Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	2
34 Other violence	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	11
35 Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	37	41
36 Causes ill-defined or un-known	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above).								
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	{	Total	...	...	...	...	13	18
		Legitimate	...	...	...	...	12	18
		Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	0
Live Births	{	Total	...	...	...	...	321	302
		Legitimate	...	...	...	...	301	284
		Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	20	18
Still-births	{	Total	...	...	...	...	16	16
		Legitimate	...	...	...	...	15	16
		Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	—
Population ...							50,720.	

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS OF 1933.

Population.

It will be noted that the Registrar General's estimate of the population for the middle of the year 1933 shows a decline of 440 persons. The excess of deaths over births accounts for only 226 of this and it is difficult to see why there should be a further decrease of 214. Normally, the excess of deaths over births is about 100, yet the population figures for two previous years showed very definite increases which were presumably due to the allowance made for the normal influx of new residents.

Birth Rate.

The number of births was somewhat below the average for recent years, giving a rate of 12·3 per thousand of population.

Death Rate.

The number of deaths during 1933 was unusually large. The figure of 849 has indeed not been exceeded since 1885 when it was 850. The death rate however, that is the number of deaths per thousand of the population was very definitely exceeded in 1918, the great influenza year, though there were that year only 780 deaths. This was because the population was then estimated for death rate purposes as low as 42,595 owing to war time displacements of population.

There is no doubt that the influenza epidemic was largely responsible for the heavy death rate last year, though to quite a large extent its effect was seen only indirectly as a final cause of death in heart disease. In such cases a terminal bronchitis must have frequently been precipitated by an attack of influenza so mild that it did not appear on the death certificate as a cause of death. The following figures strongly suggest that this was the case. They are in sharp contrast in this particular with those of 1918. In that influenza epidemic the incidence of mortality was remarkable in that it included an unusually high number of young adults.

There has however been a very definite increase in the number of deaths from heart disease during recent years quite apart from Influenza epidemics.

	(Influenza epidemic years).			
	1918	1927	1929	1933
No. of Deaths from Influenza	159	56	61	64
" " " Heart Disease	93	141	164	221

The Corrected Death Rate.

The death rate for 1933 was 16·74 but when corrected for age and sex distribution, it is reduced to 12·6. The correcting or standardizing factor is '755. It has been used for several years and is based on the figures of 1921 census. The question of providing new standardizing factors based on the 1931 census is under consideration by the Registrar General at the present time.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

This subject was dealt with as a whole in the 1930 report and, with the exception mentioned last year in connection with the Delancey Fever Hospital, there has been no change of any importance.

In cases where there have been numerical changes relating to specific services controlled by or liable to inspection by the Authority, such as the number of midwives in practice, the necessary information will be found included in the reports on the special services concerned.

THE SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The reports on Drainage, Sewerage, Meat Inspection, etc., will be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply of Cheltenham was considered in some detail in the 1930 report, which was the last survey report. The fact that water enters into supply from five distinct main sources and two or three small but also distinct subsidiary sources, does not simplify the matter of taking specimens for analysis or the duty of keeping an eye on its purity generally.

The necessity for these precautions is however emphasised from time to time by disasters in different parts of the country. There is much truth in the apparently paradoxical statement that a water supply from a source of known impurity, such as a river, is in reality safer than one which is considered to be initially pure. The latter type of water often passes into circulation without any safeguard against possible contamination, while safeguards are naturally in continual operation in the case of a water known to be contaminated.

Tewkesbury Works.

The new system of purification has now been in operation at these works for some time and the results of analyses from the first have shown that the finally purified water reaches the highest standards of purity.

The first specimen taken from the pure water tank showed complete absence of *Bacillus Coli*, and no organisms at all grew at blood heat.

The policy, adopted by the late Borough Surveyor of adding Alum to the raw water as it enters the new large reservoir has been amply justified. A large amount of sedimentation appears to take place in the first section, which can be mechanically cleaned, and by the time the water pours over the end of the final section its physical condition is improved to a remarkable extent. This allows a much increased period between the cleaning of the filters. On an average only one

wash is necessary in place of four and as 50 to 60 thousand gallons of water are used to wash the complete set of filters it is obvious that the saving in power and water is quite considerable.

At the present time double chlorination is being carried out. Chlorine to an amount varying between .5 and 1 part per million is added to the crude water as it enters the large reservoir. This gives at least 15 hours' contact under ideal conditions before the rapid filters come into action.

Final sterilization is completed as water passes into the clean tank by the ammonia chlorine (chloramine) sequence, .1 parts per million of ammonia gas is followed after thoroughly mixing by the addition of about .25 parts per million of chlorine.

It is true that under the circumstances, primary chlorination might be dispensed with as chloramine treatment is known to be extremely reliable. On the other hand American experience is that with prechlorination the bacterial loading on the filters is reduced, thereby giving an increased margin of safety. Enslow considers "that prechlorination reduces the importance of very careful supervision of the chlorination process as a whole."

Dowdeswell.

Bacteriological results of analyses of the water after filtration have been excellent.

There has also been an improvement in the quality of the crude water since the removal of the habitations from the banks of the Chelt.

Sandford Mead.

Bacteriological results have always placed this water as one of a high degree of purity. Unfortunately it gives a very high hardness figure which is quite a serious objection to its use.

Hewletts, Leckhampton, etc.

These reservoirs are fed from springs in the inferior oolite of the Cotswolds. It is necessary to keep a careful watch on these sources of supply and as there are five main spring heads with several subsidiary branches it is a matter of some difficulty. One branch was permanently cut out of supply recently as it was clearly shown that there was a risk of contamination.

HOUSING.

Swindon Place and Swindon Passage Clearance Areas.

An enquiry into the circumstances of these areas was held by order of the Minister of Health on May 2nd, 1933 and in due course the clearance order made earlier in the year received confirmation. Re-housing has been completed and it is gratifying to note that most of the displaced inhabitants who are now occupying council houses are paying as low a rent or lower than they payed in the condemned area.

In cases where the precaution seemed necessary the bedding, etc., was subjected to **steam** disinfection before being taken to the new quarters in order to minimise the chance of infestation of the new houses with vermin.

Five Years' Slum Clearance Programme.

The main activity of importance during 1933 resulted from the requirement by the Minister of Health for a five years slum clearance programme of such a comprehensive nature as would result in the complete removal of all slums by the end of the period.

When the work on the Swindon Passage area was complete it was necessary to consider the best way of dealing with the remaining, numerous, but comparatively small and scattered groups of defective houses.

Two methods of dealing with these are available :

- (1) By giving notice under Section 19 of the 1930 Housing Act.

A house "not repairable at reasonable cost" may be made the subject of a demolition order unless the Authority is willing to accept an undertaking by the owner to render it in all respects fit for human habitation.

- (2) By making a Clearance Order under Section 1 of the Housing Act.

In order to expedite matters action under Section 19 was taken in a very large number of cases during 1933. This did not stop short at single houses only, but included a number of small blocks of houses. In one case a row of 8 houses was carried through for demolition under Section 19.

In some towns where only scattered groups of houses remain for clearance the required demolitions are being obtained solely by the first method.

In Cheltenham it has been considered wise to use the greater powers given by the Clearance Section of the act in the majority of cases where demolition is definitely required and the houses can be satisfactorily grouped into areas. This has been done in some cases where the area comprises only two houses.

During the summer of 1933 an extensive survey was made by the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Sanitary Inspector of all areas which could reasonably be considered ripe for clearance.

Those properties which it was decided to include in the programme for clearance were classified as urgent and less urgent, and it seemed reasonable to divide these into two distinct groups which might be dealt with separately. At the same time it was recognised that the Council might find it more satisfactory to deal with all the areas as a single group in order to facilitate rehousing. After careful consideration, however, the final decision has been to deal with the areas as two groups.

The first group (see below) comprising 16 areas was therefore made the subject of an official representation by the Medical Officer of Health. The Council has now made a Clearance Order which is awaiting the confirmation of the Minister of Health.

DESCRIPTION OF AREA.	HOUSES AND PREMISES COMPRISED IN AREA.
News Cottages Clearance Area	Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, News Cottages, Alstone Lane.
Carlton Place West Clearance Area	Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 Carlton Place West, Swindon Road.
Vauxhall Place Clearance Area	Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, Vauxhall Place, Elm St.
Bryant's Court Clearance Area	Nos. 1, 2 and 3, Bryant's Court, Cleaveland St.
Hereford Passage Clearance Area	Nos. 1, 2 and 3, Hereford Passage, High St.
Roebuck Cottages Clearance Area	Nos. 1, 2, 6, 7 and 8, Roebuck Cottages, Hereford Place.
Orchard Place Clearance Area	Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5, Orchard Place, Swindon Road.
Burton Street Clearance Area	Nos. 30a and 31a, Burton Street.
Cumberland Cottages Clearance Area	Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 Cumberland Cottages, Grove Street.
Grosvenor Cottages Clearance Area	Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, Grosvenor Cottages, Sherborne Place.
Fairview Retreat and Britannia Square Clearance Area ..	Nos. 1, 2 and 3, Fairview Retreat and Nos. 1, 2 and 3, Britannia Square, Fairview Street.
Exmouth Court and Exmouth Terrace Clearance Area ...	Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, Exmouth Court and Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, Exmouth Terrace, Exmouth Street and 1 and 2, Brockworth Cottages.
Birdlip Cottages Clearance Area	Nos. 1 and 2, Birdlip Cottages, Commercial St.
Bath Terrace Clearance Area	Nos. 35, 37 and 39, Bath Terrace.
High Street Clearance Area ...	Nos. 212, 213 and 214, High Street and W.C. and Washhouse of 6 and 7, Roebuck Cottages.
Rutland Street Clearance Area	Nos. 1, 2 and 3, Rutland Street.

A new site on which to house the displaced tenants has been acquired on the Tewkesbury road adjoining the, now disused, Electricity Works.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Further statistical and other information and all matters relating to meat inspection will be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

MILK.

Bacteriological Examinations of Graded Milks.

The Ministry of Health is the authority responsible for granting licences to producers of Certified and Grade A Tuberculin Tested milk. The Cheltenham Council is however instructed to take a specified number of samples of such milk if it is sold in the district, the cost being met by the Ministry.

For the last two or three years the number of samples has, for the sake of economy, been cut down considerably.

During 1933, 20 samples were taken. Sampling has however, according to instruction, been limited to the summer months instead of

being spread over the whole year. The result of this has been that the normal numbers of samples were taken during the months when the difficulties of keeping up to the standard are greatest. Four samples fell short of the standard. There is perhaps some excuse for this on account of the abnormal number of periods during 1933 when the term 'heat wave' was applicable. Under such favourable conditions organisms multiply with great rapidity. Nevertheless it is not satisfactory that 20% of the samples should have fallen short of the standard.

Bacteriological Examinations. Milk Cleanliness.

Facilities are provided through the County Medical Officer of Health for the bacteriological examinations of samples of milk at the Department of Agriculture, Bristol.

The examinations are made for educational purposes only, and the conditions are that no individual report must be put before a committee, nor under any circumstances must official action be taken against a producer on the results of any of these examinations.

Nine samples were taken during 1933 at farms situated in the borough. In each case a letter was written to the farmer commenting on the result. In only one case was the analysis very unsatisfactory.

MILK AND TUBERCULOSIS (PASTEURISATION.)

Milk and Tuberculosis has been and will continue to be the subject of innumerable letters in the press expressing every shade of opinion.

It is known that an appreciable number of samples of milk taken at random can be shown to contain Tubercle Bacilli. Appreciable can be taken to mean anything from 2% to 10%.

It has been argued, that as bovine tuberculosis is usually comparatively mild in man it is just as well that the growing generation should be provided with a few doses of these germs in order to become immunised to the more serious human infection.

The general public is not likely to favour gratuitous immunisation given in such a happy-go-lucky spirit of carelessness. Nor is the method likely to meet with the approval of those who are in a position to appraise its value. The best that can be said of it is, that such milk usually does not result in the death of more than a few thousand children a year and the maiming of a few thousand more.

Methods of immunisation with living organisms which are able to produce serious diseases, if used at all, need to be most carefully controlled as to virulence of organism and dosage. It should be our aim to give children clean milk as a food, and not unclean milk as a medicine. For this reason most Medical Officers of Health welcome pasteurisation as a means of providing safe milk at a cost which is not above the means of the majority. Everything points to the fact that in the process of pasteurisation by modern apparatus the nutritive value of the milk is not materially affected. The slight and partial loss which may occur, of vitamin C content can be easily and cheaply made up by other foods.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS' ACTS.

*Return of Articles submitted to the Public Analyst during the year 1933,
and the result of such analyses.*

I am indebted to the Superintendent of Police (A. J. Wayman) for the information concerning the operation of the Acts during 1933.

Sixty-one samples of the materials named below were collected for analysis.

Food or Drug.	Number of Samples.	Food or Drug.	Number of Samples.
Milk	42	Brought Forward	52
Butter	1	Cheese	1
Margarine	1	Tinned Pilchards	1
Skimmed Milk	1	Castor Oil	1
Cream	1	Milk of Sulphur	1
Flour	1	White Precip. Ointment	1
Cornflour	1	Coffee	1
Lard	1	Coffee Extract	1
Sugar	1	Port Wine	1
Jam	1	Raisin Wine	1
Sweets	1		
Carried Forward	52	Total	61

There was no prosecution during 1933. Two samples of milk showed a slight deficiency in fat and one in non-fatty solids but insufficient to warrant legal proceedings.

Artificial Cream Act, 1929.

There are no premises in Cheltenham registered for the manufacture or sale of artificial cream.

**THE PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES, 1933.**

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Submitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	189	175	Nil
Diphtheria	27	27	Nil
(Typhoid) Fever	2	1	Nil
(Paratyphoid) Fever	3	2	Nil
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	12	6	2
Pneumonia	44	—	48
Erysipelas	20	4	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Encephalitis lethargica	2	—	1
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	1	1	1

Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 1933.

Notified	Cases.		Vision un- impaired.	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
	Treated.					
	At Home.	In Hospital				
Nil	—	—	—	—	—	—

Influenza.

The year 1933 will undoubtedly be remembered as an Influenza year.

How heavily the dice are loaded against towns such as Cheltenham which have an unusually high proportion of elderly people in their populations, can be seen by a perusal of the quarterly return of the Registrar General for the quarter ended 31st March, 1933. Of the six towns grouped together as having the heaviest death rate from influenza that quarter, three, including Cheltenham, are well known health resorts. There is of course a factor for reducing death rates by allowing for unusual age and sex distributions, but this cannot be satisfactorily applied in the case of individual diseases such as influenza which are so particularly serious in elderly people.

The disease started in the Midlands and the North in mid-December, 1932 and involved Cheltenham during the 2nd week of January.

The deaths from influenza recorded for the week ending 7th January and the six subsequent weeks were 1, 4, 12, 18, 14, 11, 1. Similar figures for the 1929 epidemic commencing the 2nd March of that year were 2, 11, 9, 5, 8, 2. The total numbers of influenza deaths in the two years were however almost identical because in 1933 almost the whole of the mortality was included in the six weeks given above, while in 1929 there were also several deaths later in the year.

Diphtheria.

There were 27 cases, all of which were treated in the Delancey Fever Hospital.

The opinion has been advanced recently that cases of diphtheria arise as a result of infection caused by one of two clear cut types of organisms which have been named *gravis* and *mitis* according to the severity of the disease they produce, i.e., severe and mild.

Without expressing agreement that there is sufficient clinical evidence for belief in the possibility of such a sharp division into merely two groups of causative organisms, it can be said that the nature of all cases in this Borough during 1933 suggested the presence of an organism with a low toxin producing power. There was no death.

On the other hand one of the districts sharing the facilities provided by the Delancey Fever Hospital provided a series of cases which suggested the presence of an organism of very high toxin producing powers and great infectivity.

Of the town cases included among the 27 notified, very naturally a few proved to be throat infections of a less dangerous nature than diphtheria. Owing, however, to the serious consequences of delaying treatment while waiting for bacteriological results the wisest course was certainly followed in making a diagnosis of diphtheria.

Scarlet Fever.

Cheltenham shared in the general increase in the number of cases of scarlet fever which was so marked a feature of the epidemiology of the country as a whole during 1933.

The disease was fortunately of a mild type. Of the 189 cases notified 175 were treated in hospital. There was no death, indeed no case caused any very serious anxiety. Anti-scarlet fever serum, used in all but the mildest cases, appeared not only to cut short the initial severity of the symptoms but also to reduce the number of complications.

Enteric Fever.

TYPHOID. There were notified during the year two cases of typhoid fever. One was a case from a neighbouring district which was in a Cheltenham Nursing Home when the diagnosis was made. The other was a Cheltenham case and though the source of infection was not discovered there is a possibility that the disease was contracted elsewhere. Both cases recovered.

PARATYPHOID B. Three cases occurred. Two were notified in June, within four days of each other. There was no apparent association between the cases but careful enquiry elicited the fact that both had visited the same café during the same week. The management of the establishment was exceptionally good and it was considered that a warning of the occurrence and advice as to absolute cleanliness was all that was warranted on the somewhat circumstantial evidence.

A further case occurred in October, it was in no way associated with the other two and the most exhaustive enquiries failed to indicate the source of infection. All three cases made good recoveries.

Encephalitis Lethargica.

Two cases were notified and both died. One occurred in October and the other in December, and there was no association between them.

Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia.

Twelve cases were notified, all under the heading of puerperal fever.

Of these 6 were removed to hospital for treatment and in 3 cases the Council provided a special nurse to visit the home of the patient.

There were 2 deaths of Cheltenham residents from this condition.

Shick and Dick Tests and Artificial immunisation against Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever.

No use has as yet been made of these measures by this department as far as the general population is concerned. The nursing staff of the Delancey Fever Hospital however is tested. All new probationers are subjected to both tests and positive reactors are given immunising doses. For diphtheria immunisation, a preparation of Toxoid is used, preceded in each case by a Moloney Skin test.

DELANCEY FEVER HOSPITAL.

This hospital at present serves the following areas :—

The Borough of Cheltenham.

The Urban Districts of Charlton Kings and Stow-on-the-Wold.

A provisional agreement has been made for the admission of cases from the Rural District of Chipping Campden.

The total number of cases admitted during 1933 was 271, compared with 163 for 1932. This is the largest number since 1915. The increase was largely due to the general prevalence of scarlet fever.

The following is a resumé of the number of different diseases admitted :

Scarlet Fever	...	195	Paratyphoid	...	2
Diphtheria	...	50	Cerebro Spinal		
Measles	...	3	Meningitis	...	1
Erysipelas	...	4	Puerperal Fever	...	2
Mixed Infections, Observation Cases, etc.			...		14

As already noted the experience of serum treatment in cases of scarlet fever was very favourable and there has been no reason to regret the reduction of the period of stay in hospital from the time-honoured 6 weeks to 4 weeks. Serum is given in all but the mildest cases.

There were a few return cases but certainly not more than usual, indeed the reduction in the time of isolation has enabled even more care to be given to cases of nasal discharge which are very real sources of infection. Unfortunately children quite frequently develop colds when they return home and in a few cases, as a result of this, they immediately become renewed sources of infection.

Disinfection.

On the receipt of a notification of the occurrence of a case of scarlet fever, diphtheria, or certain other notifiable diseases, the house is at once visited and an enquiry is made into the source of infection.

In cases where a patient is removed to hospital, the room occupied by the patient is fumigated, bedding, etc., is removed in a special van for disinfection in the steam disinfector at the destructor works, and returned in a different van. In cases where school children are involved notices are sent to head teachers and the parents in order that quarantine periods may be observed. Contacts are only readmitted to school on a certificate of freedom from infection given, after examination of the children, by the School Medical Officer.

Where cases are nursed at home disinfection is carried out when the case is considered by the patient's doctor to be free from infection.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1933.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
1—5 years	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 „	2	—	5	3	—	1	1	—
10—15 „	2	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
15—20 „	2	3	—	—	—	2	—	—
20—25 „	7	4	1	3	—	6	—	—
25—35 „	8	6	3	—	4	2	—	1
35—45 „	5	6	—	—	3	2	—	—
45—55 „	3	1	1	—	5	—	—	1
55—65 „	2	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	33	22	14	7	15	14	2	3
(Official) Registrar General's Figures					17	14	0	4

The slight difference in the figures given for deaths from tuberculosis in the above table and those given in the table 'Causes of death in Cheltenham 1933' (page 7) is accounted for by the fact that the above table is compiled locally from the weekly death returns, while the earlier table is provided by the Registrar General. In gathering the figures from the weekly return of the local registrar it is necessary to exclude the deaths of all persons dying from tuberculosis in the borough whose real residences were situated elsewhere. At the same time it is necessary to include all the deaths from tuberculosis of those whose homes were in the borough but who die outside the boundary.

Discrepancies may arise also from different readings of the certified causes of death and moreover the Registrar General is in a position to gain fuller information by special enquiry in cases where he considers this course advisable.

The above table, in age groups, is required by the Ministry of Health and also by the County Medical Officer of Health and it is impossible to compile it from the Registrar General's figures, because these as given are divided only according to sex and not according to age group.

Treatment of and isolation of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

The provision of treatment, both residential and domiciliary, of persons suffering from tuberculosis is a duty of Counties and County Boroughs.

Certain primary duties devolve upon the local sanitary authority in connection with spread of infection. As a result of each notification, unless specifically requested not to do so, the County Tuberculosis Nurse visits the home and makes a report. A copy of this report is sent to the Medical Officer of Health of the district concerned. This report gives details of the housing conditions and it is sometimes possible to take action where these are bad. The question of the limitation of the spread of infection bristles with difficulties, but it is customary to provide sputum bottles, disinfectant and paper handkerchiefs free on request.

The tuberculosis death rates for 1933 were as follows :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0'61	} Per 1,000 of
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0'08		Population.

The rate for the non-pulmonary class is the same as last year. On only two previous occasions has the rate been less than double this figure. Non-pulmonary tuberculosis is more common among children and the cause of death from this condition, has, in past years frequently been tubercular meningitis. It is gratifying that this dreadful condition is becoming comparatively rare in Cheltenham.

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, nor under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Work of the Victoria Home.

Maternity Service.

(1) WARD CASES.

Cheltenham Cases 110 } of these { 121 were attended as Midwifery
County Cases 45 } { cases and
 155 } { 34 " " as Maternity cases

The average duration of stay in hospital of the Cases admitted to the wards for confinement was 14 days.

The number of calls for medical aid arising from the 121 Midwifery cases attended in the ward was 46.

(2) DISTRICT CASES.

Midwifery Cases in 1933	...	...	340
Maternity Cases in 1933	...	...	80
			420
		Total	420

Ante-Natal Clinic (Victoria Home).

Attendances by expectant Mothers during 1933 :—

(a) Number of Attendances	...	...	...	319
(b) Number of individual Mothers attending	...	...	...	263
(c) Percentage of Total Notified Births (Live and Still) represented by the number in (b)	...	...	...	38.1

INSPECTION OF MIDWIVES.

The number of midwives who gave notice of their intention to practise in the borough during the year was 16, and there remained practising at the end of the year 15.

The following is an analysis of the cases attended by all midwives registered for practise in the borough during 1933 :—

	Capacity in which cases were attended.	
	(1) Midwife.	(2) Maternity Nurse.
Victoria Home Midwives	... 461	114
Other Midwives	... 27	25
	488	139

Inspection.

The work of inspection is simplified by the fact that the Victoria Home is responsible for 95% of the midwives' cases, that is, cases for which a doctor is not booked. The number of midwives employed at the end of 1933 was 3 for ward work and 3 for district work. The majority of other midwives giving notice of intention to practice, more frequently act in the capacity of maternity nurses under a doctor, than independently as midwives.

Notices received from Midwives.

The following is a summary of the special notices received from midwives during 1933.

Notification of Still Births	...	...	...	...	20
"	Death of Infant	...	...	...	6
"	Death of Mother	...	...	...	—
"	Artificial Feeding	...	...	...	4
"	Liability to be a Source of Infection				1
					—
					Total number of Notices received 31

Medical assistance was called for on 185 separate occasions, which is 39·6% of the midwifery cases attended. The conditions necessitating this are summarised as follows :—

(a) Conditions arising before Labour	{	Albuminuria	...	...	4
		General Ailments	...	...	9
(b) Miscarriage and Premature Labour		...	...	...	1
(c) Conditions arising during Labour	{	Perineal Injuries	...	...	44
		Delayed Labour	...	...	43
		Abnormal Presentations	...	...	11
		Abnormal Hæmorrhage	...	...	10
		Retained Products of Conception	...	...	6
		Other conditions	...	...	6
(d) Conditions arising after Labour	{	Rise of Temperature	...	...	16
		Other conditions	...	...	0
(e) Condition of the Infant	{	Feebleness	...	...	16
		Inflamed Eyes	...	...	9
		Deformities	...	...	2
		Other conditions	...	...	8
					—
					Total 185

MATERNAL DEATHS.

The number of deaths, referable to puerperal causes, occurring in the district was four. Two of the deaths were from sepsis. On reference to the official figures given on page five concerning the vital statistics it will be seen that only three maternal deaths are included, one from sepsis and one from other causes. The reason for this discrepancy is that one of the four cases, though dying in Cheltenham, was a resident in a district outside the borough and it is the rule to refer deaths to the districts of normal residence.

For 1933 the maternal mortality rate for Cheltenham was 4·59 per 1,000 births.

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION ACT, 1927.

Number of Nursing Homes on the Register at the end of 1933 :—

Maternity	...	...	...	...	9
Medical	...	...	...	...	7
Maternity and Medical	...	...	...	...	3
					—
				Total	19

Number of applications for registration during 1933 :—

Maternity	...	...	...	...	1
Medical	...	...	...	...	1
					—
				Total	2

One of these registrations was merely in respect of a transfer to a new house, the previous nursing home being discontinued. The use of one house as a nursing home was discontinued during the year.

Registration was granted in all cases. No orders were made refusing or cancelling registration.

Exemption was granted in one case i.e., The Cheltenham General and Eye Hospitals.

INFANT WELFARE.

Annual Report of Health Visitors January 1st—December 31st, 1933.

No. of Children on Register	...	...	...	...	3,093
" " Visited (a) 1 year and under	...	...	...	...	1,031
" " " (b) over 1 year	...	...	...	...	2,099
" Un-notified Births discovered	...	...	...	...	15
" Un-notified Still-Births discovered	...	...	...	...	3
" Home Visits paid by Health Visitors	...	...	...	...	7,352
" First Visits	...	...	...	...	574
" Attendances of Health Visitors at Centres	...	...	...	...	247
" Children remitted to Hospital	...	...	...	...	35
" Ante-natal cases visited	...	...	...	...	109
" Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	7
" Measles	...	...	...	...	4
" Mumps cases visited	...	...	...	...	3
" Whooping-cough cases visited	...	...	...	...	121
" Ophthalmia Neonatorum cases visited	...	...	...	...	1
" Cases reported to N.S.P.C.C.	...	...	...	...	4

GRANTS OF MILK :	1933	1932	1931
Average number of cases receiving assistance daily during the year	94	85	51
Cost of milk during the year	£290/0/0	£313/0/0	£250
Cost of Ostermilk during the year	£6/15/0	—	—

A comparison of the amount of milk supplied free to nursing mothers and children in this and other towns.

This comparison resulted from a suggestion made by a member of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee that possibly in Cheltenham insufficient use was being made of the power to provide nursing and

expectant mothers with milk free or at a reduced price. A memorandum was submitted by the Medical Officer of Health reviewing the regulations laid down in the Ministry of Health Circular No. 185 of March, 1921 and the further conditions which were applied by the Ministry in April, 1928. At the same time figures were taken from the annual reports of certain other towns for the purpose of comparison. In order to arrive at a comparative figure a calculation was made of the number of pints of free milk distributed during the year for each live birth in the town under consideration.

The following interesting results were arrived at :—

				No. of free Pints of Milk distributed per live birth.
A Non-County Borough	...	...	...	5
Cheltenham	...	...	...	57
<hr/>				
4 County Boroughs.	A	...	...	176
	B	...	...	140
	C	...	...	41
	D	...	...	5
<hr/>				
				428 = Average 71

In the County Borough A the figure of 176 would equal a supply to nearly half the children born, of a free pint a day for a year.

The decision of the Committee was that in Cheltenham the powers are being exercised in a satisfactory manner. It must be remembered however that at the moment free milk is not supplied to school children as it is in many towns.

A contract for the supply of milk to cover the period March, 1934—February, 1935 inclusive has again been arranged. There has been a marked increase in the price. This increase is due to the regulations governing the milk marketing scheme and to a lesser extent to the policy of providing pasteurised milk. The supply is very carefully regulated through the Health Visitors and is discontinued at the end of each month unless the applicant is seen personally with reference to the renewal.

The amount of milk supplied has doubled during the last five years. This increase and duties in connection with the supervision of foster children under the Children Act have added considerably to the work of the Health Visitors which has again been carried out in an entirely satisfactory and efficient manner.

Cheltenham Infant Welfare Annual Report. April 1st, 1933— March 31st, 1934.

Thanks are due to Mrs. Lock Mellersh, President of the Association for permission to include this report with the Cheltenham Health Report as has been customary for many years.

Attendances at Highbury (45 meetings), 1,678 Infants, 1,966 Toddlers—
3,644.

Attendances at Baker Street (46 meetings), 1,380 Infants, 1,340 Toddlers
—2,720.

Attendances at Clare Street (46 meetings), 763 Infants, 616 Toddlers—
1,379.

Attendances at St. Mark's (47 meetings), 1,310 Infants, 986 Toddlers—
2,296.

Total, 10,039.

Number of individual Children attending the four Centres :—

Highbury—412,	Clare St.—184,	Baker St.—362,	St. Marks—222	1,180
Visits paid by Club Visitor (since April 1st, 1933)	...	...	...	1,354

Annual Report, 1933—1934.

The large attendances at the Highbury Centre have continued during the past year, and the numbers to see the Doctor have been increasingly high. It was felt in January that it was essential to have a second Doctor, so with the sanction of the Municipal Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, the necessary arrangements were made and Dr. Beatrice Joly was appointed. The area served by the Centre has been divided into two districts, each Doctor being responsible for the Mothers and Children residing in his (or her) allotted district. The new arrangement has worked most satisfactorily and much time is saved and fatigue lessened for both Mothers and Workers. Miss Cardew, a trained Nurse, has been engaged temporarily to take the place of the Health Nurses in the weighing room to help and advise the Mothers and watch for any deviation from the normal in the infants' health. This is a most important part of the afternoon's work, and it is hoped that it will be found possible to make a permanent appointment. This Centre is still feeling the loss of Miss Gibbins whose retirement a year ago owing to ill-health was followed by her death. She had attended regularly since the Centre started and always supplied the milk, tea and sugar for the Mothers at the Tuesday afternoon session.

Clare Street continues much as usual, the attendances varying between 30 and 35. The South Ward has never been an easy one to work, nor have the efforts made met with the same response as in other parts of the Town.

Now in its 6th year, St. Mark's Centre is fully justifying its existence and is working to capacity. The Mothers attend here very regularly and are keen and interested to learn all they can about Mothercraft.

Baker Street has suffered a very great loss in the death of Mrs. Jackson, who has been in constant touch with the work of the Infant Welfare Centres since they started in 1909, and has taken the register at the Baker Street Centre since its opening. She is very much missed, as her cheerful presence and kindly words were a help and encouragement to all. There have been a large number of children of Toddler age attending this Centre, whose progress was very far from satisfactory, and whose parents being on the Means Test, were quite unable to afford the prescribed virol and emulsion. Through the generosity of various helpers however, it has been found possible to allow a certain amount free of charge to very urgent cases, and the doctor is extremely satisfied with the results.

Over 100 Mothers from the Cheltenham Centres spent a very happy afternoon at Boddington Manor in June, at the invitation of Mr. J. S. Gibbins and Mrs. V. Seeley, they were joined by about 20 Mothers from

Shurdington. The early part of the afternoon was spent in doing various competitions, this was followed by tea in the garden and later by a play produced by Mrs. Seeley. There was great excitement also over a Treasure Hunt, and finally the afternoon's proceedings were brought to a close by Community Singing led by Colonel Cockshott.

The arrangements made by the Committee last year to give to Mothers to whom further child-bearing was definitely detrimental to health, the opportunity to receive instruction in Birth Control methods have up to the present been satisfactory, and 10 Mothers have received instruction with gratitude for the opportunity accorded them.

There was a larger attendance than ever this year at the Christmas party for the Mothers which was held in St. Paul's Mission Room; over 250 Mothers sat down to tea which was given by the numerous friends of the Association. The Laughter Makers provided an excellent programme which was much enjoyed.

The Committee are most grateful for the splendid help given by all their regular helpers, and to those who allow themselves to be called upon at the last moment to help in emergencies caused by absence or illness. They also wish to thank all those friends and also those not actually connected with the work of the Centres who gave cakes, etc., for the tea, and they wish it were possible for them to have seen how very much their generosity was appreciated by the Mothers.

Over 110 cases of Umbilical Hernia have been strapped during the year, and a number of children have been sent to the Battledown Children's Hospital for treatment, and also to the Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital.

SUPERANNUATION EXAMINATIONS.

Medical Examinations of New Employees of the Corporation.

For the purpose of the Superannuation Act new employees of the Corporation, when appointed to designated posts, are medically examined by the Medical Officer of Health before appointment and a certificate is passed to the Borough Treasurer for the information of the Finance Committee.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Lectures given or arranged in conjunction with the Health or Maternity and Child Welfare Committee during 1933 :

24th November—In the Art Gallery (by kind permission of the Committee). Lecture by Miss M. Liddiard of Cromwell House, London.

Subject: "Infant Feeding."

Lectures given by the Medical Officer of Health :

27th July—To the Midwives at the Victoria Home.

Subject: "The Rules of the Central Midwives Board."

26th October—To the Students of St. Mary's College.

Subject: "The relation of the teacher to the School Medical Service."

SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA
for the Year 1933.

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH SANITARY INSPECTOR.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough
of Cheltenham.*

Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my seventh annual report as Sanitary Inspector and Housing Officer for the Borough of Cheltenham.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health and the Home Office, tables giving full particulars of the inspections made, together with notes and local information will be found in the report.

The usual visitation of work in progress, drainage and sanitary work at institutions, schools, houses and business premises has been maintained.

The year under review has shown marked progress in dealing with unfit houses under the Housing Act, and includes one clearance area of 38 houses and the demolition of 44 individual houses. There are a considerable number of houses requiring reconditioning in Cheltenham, and a number of undertakings to effect repairs have been signed by the owners, but owing to the delay in finding accommodation for the occupiers, the rate of progress is slow.

The steady progress of sanitation generally is clearly set out in the report for the year, but this however does not adequately represent the varied duties of the Sanitary Inspector's office. Cheltenham has established a reputation as a healthy town which implies that every effort has been directed towards a high standard of efficiency, with the minimum of friction and absence of legal proceedings.

The staff changes include the appointment of Mr. A. J. Stroud as a pupil in training and the promotion of Mr. A. C. F. Gisborne from pupil to temporary assistant inspector.

My thanks are due to the Chairmen and Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee for their help and consideration which are so essential to the proper performance of his duties by the sanitary officer.

I desire to express my appreciation of the loyal support of the staff during a strenuous period.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. R. JEFFORD,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

June, 1934.

The following Table shows the amount of Routine Inspection Work performed by the Sanitary Inspectors.

Details of Inspection—TABLE NO. I.

TOTAL NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS	...	...	...	...	12,685
WORK IN PROGRESS.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	3,454
INTERVIEWS.					
Number of interviews with Builders, Contractors, Owners, etc.	...	...	...	...	431
DWELLING HOUSES.					
Number inspected and particulars recorded (Housing Acts, 1930)	...	...	...	...	146
Number found to be totally unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	49
" " " not in all respects fit for habitation	...	...	...	...	188
" inspected (special enquiries, etc.)	...	...	...	...	1,026
" " (ordinary inspections)	...	...	...	...	265
" " re infectious disease	...	...	...	...	210
" " after service of notice (re inspections)	...	...	...	...	612
" " re water supply	...	...	...	...	6
" " on complaint of Rent Restriction Act	...	...	...	...	1
" " re Underground Sleeping Rooms (Sec. 20 H.A., 1930)	...	...	...	...	46
SCHOOLS.					
Number of visits	...	...	...	...	20
FACTORIES.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	9
WORKSHOPS.					
Ordinary inspections	...	...	...	...	101
Domestic " "	...	...	...	...	7
Workplaces " "	...	...	...	...	11
Laundries " "	...	...	...	...	13
Outworkers' " "	...	...	...	...	34
BAKEHOUSES.					
Factory inspections	...	...	...	...	34
Ordinary " "	...	...	...	...	33
COWSHEDS AND FARMS.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	14
DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	131
ICE CREAM PREMISES.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	43
MILK SAMPLES.					
Number taken for Bacteriological Examinations	...	...	...	...	22

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	1,756
PUBLIC ABATTOIR.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	687
BUTCHERS' AND GROCERS' SHOPS, COLD STORES, ETC.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	756
OFFENSIVE TRADES.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	224
FRIED FISH SHOPS.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	23
COMMON LODGING HOUSES.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	228
HOUSES-LET-IN-LODGINGS.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	23
FOOD SHOPS (TOTAL).					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	955
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.					
Number of visits and inspections	...	...	...	...	1,246
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CONVENIENCES.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	80
PLACES LICENSED FOR PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	12
PLACES WHERE ANIMALS ARE KEPT.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	96
SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	4
TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	3
MARKET STALLS AND FAIRS.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	355
RAT INFESTATION.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	143
MINOR SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	10
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE REFUSE TIPS.					
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	6

Sanitary Improvements made and Defects remedied under
the Supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

TABLE NO. II.

HOUSES.

Dwelling houses improved	172
Provided with sufficient w.c. and sanitary accommodation	—
" " " water supply	—
Roofs overhauled and repaired	95
New floors laid or repaired	144
Yards and areas paved	36
Eaves gutters and rainwater down pipes renewed or repaired	170
Rainwater down pipes disconnected from drain	—
Rooms cleansed	300
Rooms repaired	320
Overcrowding abated	6
Disinfected after infectious disease	213

SCHOOLS.

Sanitary conveniences improved and cleansed	4
---	---

BAKEHOUSES.

Cleansed and limewashed	34
Found in an insanitary condition	—

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

Cleansed and limewashed	6
Nuisances found and abated	12

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

Sanitary condition improved	1
Cleansed and limewashed	—
New Registrations	17

ICE CREAM MANUFACTURERS' PREMISES.

Cleansed	10
Sanitary condition improved	1

OFFENSIVE TRADES' PREMISES.

Cleansed and limewashed	25
Sanitary condition improved	1

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Cleansed and limewashed	8
Sanitary condition improved	1

DRAINS.

Opened and examined (Sec. 41 P.H. Act, 1875)	...	...	...	...	45
Water tests applied to drains	...	...	...	...	339
Smoke " " " and soil pipes	...	...	...	...	124
New drains laid	...	...	...	...	175
Length in yards of stoneware pipe drains laid	...	...	...	...	1,643
" " of heavy cast iron drains "	...	...	...	...	1,188
Manholes and inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	...	132
Intercepting traps fixed	...	...	...	...	95
Iron and stoneware gully traps fixed	...	...	...	...	848
Drains flushed	...	...	...	...	45

SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES.

Provision of septic tanks, filter beds and effluent drains	1
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

SUBSOIL DRAINS.

Subsoil drains laid	2
---------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

WATER CLOSETS.

New water closets built	...	...	...	...	154
New w.c. pans of the washdown type fixed	...	...	...	...	236
Flushing boxes fixed to w.c.'s	...	...	...	...	145
" " repaired	...	...	...	...	61
Water closets and drains unstopped	...	...	...	...	76
Defective and dirty w.c. pans	...	...	...	...	12

SOIL AND VENTILATING SHAFTS.

New soil and ventilating shafts fixed	131
---------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

WASTE PIPES.

New waste pipes fixed and repaired	...	...	...	...	376
Trapped and disconnected	...	...	...	...	379
Siphonage or vent pipes fixed	...	...	...	...	104

SINKS.

New sinks and lavatory basins fixed	335
-------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

HOUSES-LET-IN-LODGINGS.

Sanitary condition improved	...	...	...	...	1
Cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	4

ASH RECEPTACLES.

New moveable galvanised with covers provided	19
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notices sent to Masters and Mistresses of schools with regard to infectious disease	...	...	...	...	109
Notices sent to Parents with regard to infectious disease	...	...	...	...	109
" " " Public Library with regard to infectious disease	...	...	...	...	11
Articles of clothing disinfected after infectious disease	...	...	...	...	3,503
" " " etc., disinfected for outside Sanitary Authorities, etc.	...	...	...	...	2,197

NOTICES, ETC.

The total number of inspections made during the year was 12,685. In 398 houses and premises dealt with, nuisances to the number of 1,443 were discovered, and 1,800 abated, and in dealing with the sanitary defects from which they arose, 129 preliminary or informal and 69 statutory or formal notices were served.

The number of letters received and despatched with reference to the department was 652. In order to supervise efficiently sanitary work in progress 3,154 visits were made. The number of complaints received in the Health Department numbered 451 as against 529 in the previous year. All these were duly investigated and dealt with as found expedient.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The number of complaints received during 1933 were comparatively few. The boiler of the Corporation public bath was fitted with a smoke consuming apparatus by the appropriate Committee arising out of a report by the Sanitary Inspector.

The exhaust dust from an asphalt-making plant has given rise to numerous complaints, but as a result of representations to the company, important alterations to the plant are taking place which it is hoped will abolish the nuisance.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

1. Common Lodging-houses.

The number on the register is 6, and of this number 4 are old premises. These premises have always received particular attention which according to our records show 228 inspections including night visitations.

2. Houses let in Lodgings.

The number of registered premises is 14 and 23 visits were made to these. There appears to be a reduction in the number of persons using houses let in lodgings, the bulk of whom are migrants. So far as residents are concerned there is little, if any difference in their conduct as compared with that of the artizan or working-class population. The inspections made therefore concentrate mainly on the first mentioned class.

3. Cellar Dwellings.

During the year cellar dwellings and basements of houses required 46 inspections, as the result of which 11 were officially closed and 2 amended so as to comply with the regulations.

4. Tents, Vans and Sheds.

A travelling show occupied a cleared slum clearance site for six months, and inspections were made from time to time. Ample W.C. accommodation was available together with water supply.

A new problem facing authorities is the occupation of the cleared sites of single houses by caravans. Where sanitary accommodation and a piped water supply is available, this class of moveable dwelling conforms generally with public health requirements, but it does interfere with the improvement of small areas suitable for rebuilding or development.

5. Offensive Trades.

The following offensive trades are carried on in the borough and 224 inspections were made in regard to limewashing and general conduct under the respective bye-laws. Offensive trades carried on in the borough are : (a) 1 Fat Melter, (b) 1 Fellmonger, (c) 1 Tripe Boiler, (d) 3 Dealers in Raw Hides and Skins, (e) 19 Fried Fish Shops.

6. Slaughter Houses (Private).

The number of inspections made of these premises of which 8 are in general use, was 1,756. The only comment to make is that there is a complete absence of complaints, and a general conduct of the premises which is exemplary.

7. Slaughter Houses (Public):

The Public Abattoir is of great advantage to the town, the meat trade and the small breeder. Mr. J. C. Dawes, O.B.E., of the Ministry of Health expressed his satisfaction with the conduct and condition of the buildings and equipment when inspecting the premises. I desire to pay a personal tribute to the Superintendent—Mr. Agg—for the manner in which he performs his duties and his assistance to me as supervisor.

Public Abattoir Trading Account, year ending 31st March, 1933.

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.	INCOME.	£	s.	d.
Rates, Taxes, Insurance	44	1	7	Slaughtering Fees ...	385	2	4
Superintendent's Wages	201	13	0				
Labour and Hauling, collecting offal ...	71	3	0				
Sundry painting, white- washing, repairs, etc.	55	4	1				
Electricity and Power	14	4	6				
Coal and wood ...	20	7	6				
Sundry fittings and materials ...	54	2	0				
Printing, etc. ...	8	17	8				
Water supply ...	6	5	8	Deficit ...	90	16	8
Total	475	19	0	Total	475	19	0

8. Stables and other places where animals are kept.

These premises have not received the usual visitation owing to pressure of other duties, but the number of complaints received is negligible, and reflect the attention paid by inspectors in previous years in maintaining a satisfactory condition.

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION.

1. House Drainage.

The large number of houses owned by the Corporation are, with the exception of those on the St. Mark's Estate, for sanitary purposes under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector. Periodical visits are made by his staff for flushing and cleansing, and frequent visits have to be made when drain stoppages occur. There is a distinct improvement on the part of the tenants on the housing estates who are now responding to the advice given by the sanitary staff. It is hoped that by co-operation with the Surveyor's Department the Sanitary Inspector will obtain a full knowledge of new drainage systems during the progress of the work.

Each year, I am able to report that through investigations instituted for the extermination of rats, as reported elsewhere, a number of private dwellings and business premises are found where rats have worked up to the surface of the ground by way of defective drains.

In consequence of written complaints by the Sanitary Inspector alleging a nuisance from defective drainage the Public Health Committee ordered the opening and examination of 45 houses and premises, and reports together with specifications were submitted. These reports were dealt with under the provisions of S.41 of the Public Health Act, 1875, notices being served upon the owners to renew the drains where necessary. The department has supervised the laying of 1,643 yards of stoneware pipes and 1,188 yards of heavy cast-iron coated pipes, also the fixing of 95 intercepting traps, 844 gully traps and 132 inspection chambers or manholes. In connection with the work 329 water tests and 124 smoke tests were applied to drains and ventilating shafts.

The number of existing buildings, where the plans of proposed alterations and additions were approved by the Town Planning Committee, subject to the sanitary work being carried out to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Inspector, totalled 36. New flats were supervised as to sanitary fittings and the work incidental thereto.

An important feature in connection with this work generally is the recording and planning of all new drainage work carried out in the Borough. This system was commenced in 1901, and there are now 2,000 plans filed and indexed, thus forming a valuable record.

2. Corporation Sanitary Certificates.

Corporation Sanitary Certificates were granted during the year in respect of the undermentioned houses making a total number of 1,451 certificates issued since these were inaugurated in the Borough of

Cheltenham. There is a marked drop in the number of applications made. This fall can be attributed to the building of new residential houses, and the number of existing houses for which certificates have been issued.

Premises.				Rateable Value.		
				£	s.	d.
Montpellier Post Office	...	...	...	Government Property.		
The Beauthorns, Hatherley Road	...	...	...	147	0	0
Park Lea, Tivoli Road	...	...	...	26	0	0
24, Windsor Street	...	...	...	15	0	0
Oak Villa, 289, Gloucester Road	...	...	...	35	0	0
Ravensworth, Thirlestaine Road	...	...	...	172	0	0
Gadshill, Vittoria Walk	...	...	...	48	0	0

3. Schools.

The reorganisation of the schools and the consequent alterations and extensions made, which include the modernizing of sanitary conveniences, is gradually bringing the schools up to the desired standard of sanitation. The chief criticism to be made is that there is lack of protection of pipes and fittings against frosty weather which results in a temporary check to the proper flushing of the conveniences. There are schools still provided with the obsolete method of flushing by means of large automatic flushing tanks, instead of the independent cistern.

4. Minor Sewage Disposal.

The experience of working over the last seven years has definitely proved that the filter bed gives rise to offensive odours during the summer months, and experiments have been successfully tried which dispense entirely with the gravitating filter. The superior method of treatment is by sub-irrigation drains laid on screened furnace clinker with inlet and outlet ventilation provided to the land drain pipes. The results are satisfactory in light soil and heavy clay ground, and no complaint of smell has been made in regard to any system laid down as described.

HOUSING.

The work performed in the Borough of Cheltenham is set out in the usual tables, and other details have been included which more fully describe the action taken in dealing with houses unfit for human habitation and the improvements carried out as the result of formal and informal notices. 203 houses were dealt with by formal and informal notices; the repairs and improvements are set out in table No. 4. The average estimated cost of repairs demanded in the case of the 24 houses where formal notices were served was £27, and an average weekly rateable value and (inclusive of rates) was £9, and 7/10, respectively.

The Council decided early in the year 1933 to put in hand the clearance of individual houses, consequently the worst houses were dealt with. The number of demolition orders made was 45, and 16 closing orders were made in respect of basements, cellar dwellings and parts of houses; no appeal was made to the County Court against the decision of the Council.

Undertakings under S. 19 H.A. 1930, to effect repairs, reconditioning and reconstruction were signed by owners in respect of 11 houses and 2 basement dwellings. Altogether 78 houses were dealt with as unfit and other premises will be dealt with within the ordinary procedure during the present year. The number of persons displaced by reason of houses demolished and basements closed was 94.

The Swindon Passage and Swindon Place Clearance Order which was the subject of an enquiry has since been confirmed and affects the displacement of 134 persons. The re-housing of the persons displaced from clearance areas and individual unfit houses has been provided for by the erection of 78 houses in Pates' Avenue (the naming of which is a compliment to Alderman J. P. Pates, Chairman of the Housing Committee). During the year the Council erected 32 non-subsidy houses on the St. Mark's Housing Estate.

In the case of owners who are unable for financial reasons to execute the works necessary to make the premises fit for human habitation, every encouragement is given for the sale of the property for someone else to do so, and as a result the properties often change hands. Where however, the existing owner cannot dispose of the house, the Housing Committee sometimes purchase it and themselves execute the necessary work by private builders under contract, under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. The Council have acquired nearly 40 houses, which form a useful adjunct to the re-housing of slum persons.

It is imperative that authorities should receive recognition in the form of subsidy for displaced persons in all cases where the premises must be vacated for the purpose of reconstruction and reconditioning.

Housing Accommodation.

The number of houses erected together with the revised inclusive rents, and of houses acquired by the Council and made habitable by reconstruction and reconditioning are duly set out. It should be recorded that, as against the number of houses erected for the working classes, no less than 350 houses have been demolished or converted into other premises during the last 15 years.

NEW COUNCIL HOUSES.

The following houses have been erected by the Housing Committee of the Cheltenham Town Council, under Slum Clearance and Housing Schemes. The houses that have been acquired from private owners and reconditioned are also included.

TABLE NO. 3

List of Houses.	Bedrooms.	Class.	Rent Inclusive.	Number.	Housing Scheme.	
Hope Street ...	2	A2	6/9	36	} Slum Clearance H.W.C.A. 1890 and H.A. 1925.	
Swindon Road ...	3	A	8/6, 9/6	11		
Malvern Street ...	3	A	8/6, 9/6	5		
Cobham Road ...	2	A2	5/9	15		
Elm Street ...	2	A2	5/9	11		
Malvern Street ...	3	A	7/11, 8/11	7		
Manser Street ...	2	A2	6/1	31		
" " ...	3	A	8/1	37		
Hudson Street ...	2	A2	6/1	13		
" " ...	3	A	8/-	38		
" " ...	3	A1	8/6	12		
Hanover Parade ...	3	A1	8/6	7		
Crabtree Place ...	2	A2	6/1	7		
" " ...	2	A2	8/6	17		} Slum Clearance H.A. 1930
" " ...	3	A	7/-	19		
Folly Lane ...	3	A	7/-	7		
" " ...	2	A2	6/1	11		
" " ...	3	A	8/-	33		
Margaret Road ...	2	A2	6/1	14		
" " ...	3	A	8/-	29		
St. Paul's Road ...	3	A	8/-	8		
Whaddon Road ...	2	A2	6/10	20		
Whaddon Avenue ...	3	A	8/11	69		
Old Bath Road ...	3	A	9/5	2	(1 sold)	
Pilley Crescent ...	2	A2	6/10	28		
" " ...	3	A	8/11	71	(1 sold)	
Alstone Lane ...	3	A	7/-, 7/6	5	} Slum Clearance H.A. 1930.	
" " ...	2	A2	5/6, 9/-	6		
Pates' Avenue ...	3	A	6/6, 7/-, 7/6	32		
" " ...	2	A2	5/-, 5/6	35		
Reconditioned Houses.				634		
Hope Street ...	2		5/-	9	} Recently acquired	
Elm Street ...	2		6/3	6		
" " ...	3		8/6	1		
Rutland Street ...	2		5/-, 6/6, 8/6	8		
" " ...	2			6		
Portman Terrace ...	2		7/6	1		
" " ...	1		3/6	1		
Cleveland Street ...	2		8/-	1		
Burton Street ...	4		6/-	1		
" " ...	3		8/6	1		
Russell Place ...	3		7/3	1		
Duke Street ...	3		10/-	1		
" " ...	2		7/-	1		
Total				672		

St. Mark's Housing Estate.

Sold.	Let.	Rent Inclusive.	No.	
21	139	12/10	160	} H.A. 1919.
		10/6	164	
153	11	12/10	164	H.A. 1923.
48	138	10/9, 11/8, 13/7	186	H.A. 1924.
5	11	14/11	16	Without Subsidy.
	32	15/9	16	" "
	331			
Total Number Let				... 331
Grand Total				... 1,003

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year:—

- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 339
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 1,016
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... 174
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 522
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 76
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 336

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... 78

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

A.—Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 20

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	26
(b) By local authority in default of owners...	3

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	40
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	19
(b) By local authority in default of owners...	22

*C.—Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	44
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	9

*Note—"Undertakings" executed by owners in respect of 4 houses, and signed in regard to 8 houses.

D.—Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	17
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

E.—Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	Nil

F.—Proceedings under sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	Nil

(3)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	Nil
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	Nil

Number of New Houses erected during 1933 :—

(a)	Total	...	...	...	...	230
	(1) By local authority	...	...	...	...	110
	(2) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	120
(b)	Without State Assistance under the Housing Acts					
	(1) By the local authority	...	...	...	...	32
(c)	With State Assistance under the Housing Acts					
	(1) By the local authority	...	...	...	...	78

Details of Improvements effected (under the Housing Acts, 1925 and 1930. etc.) during the year, 1932.

TABLE NO. 4.

Dwelling-houses (General Improvements).

Lighting and ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	50
Provided with Corporation Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	—
Rendered free from dampness	...	...	...	...	...	72
Provided with food larders	...	...	...	...	...	37
Roofs overhauled or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	95
Walls (external) pointed, cemented or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	206
Doors, and locks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	90
Chimneys rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	40
Washhouse furnaces repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	15
Washhouse floors relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	20
Provided with separate and sufficient w.c. accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	—
Provided with galvanised iron ash receptacles	...	...	...	...	...	19
Provided with new sinks	...	...	...	...	...	16
Provided with paved yards	...	...	...	...	...	36
Repaired or renewed eaves, gutters and rainwater down pipes	...	...	...	...	...	170

Living rooms.

Cleansed and colourwashed or papered	...	...	...	...	...	92
Light and ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	...	12
New windows provided or repairs to window frames	...	...	...	...	...	80
Walls and ceilings repaired or replastered	...	...	...	...	...	85
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	37
New fireplaces or cooking ovens provided	...	...	...	...	...	32

Sleeping rooms.

Cleansed, colourwashed or papered	...	...	...	...	...	121
Light and ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	...	28
New windows provided, or repairs to window frames	...	...	...	...	...	100
Walls and ceilings repaired or replastered	...	...	...	...	...	154
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	43
New fireplaces provided	...	...	...	...	...	15
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	49

Basement rooms.

Cleansed, colourwashed or papered	...	...	...	...	7
Light and ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	5
Dampness in walls prevented	...	...	...	...	4
Walls and ceilings repaired or replastered	...	...	...	...	8
Floors repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	3
Closed as underground sleeping rooms	...	...	...	...	10
Representations	...	...	...	...	12

HOUSES UNFIT FOR HUMAN HABITATION.**Action taken under Housing Acts, 1925 and 1930.****1. Closing Orders. Sec. 20 Parts of Buildings or Underground Rooms**

113, Fairview Road.

119½, 207, 310, High Street.

1, Great Norwood Street.

Haddonhurst, Grosvenor Street.

24, 56, Grosvenor Street.

Engineers Arms, St. Paul's Road.

93-5, Promenade.

21, Marle Hill Parade.

2, Oriel Terrace.

1, Suffolk Parade.

Farnah, Berkeley Street.

38, Montpellier Terrace.

34a, St. Philips Street.

1a. Representations.

16, Priory Terrace.

Premises amended to Regulations.

Repton, Hewlett Street.

do.

do.

2. Demolition Orders. S. 19 H.A. 1930.

15 and 16, Upper Bath Street.

45, Russell Street.

Trent Cottage, Gloucester Place.

8a, Commercial Street.

2, Brookbank Cottages, Market Street.

35, Tewkesbury Road.

1, 2, 3, Cottage Place, 6, 28, 29, Rutland Street.

2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Ambrose Place.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, Knapp Place.

Hollie Cottage, 27, 28, 29, New Street.

2, Woods Court, Sherborne Street.

21, Bath Road.

5, 6, 7, Worcester Street.

2, 3, Freemans Cottages, Portland Square.

23a, 57a, Duke Street.

3, Higgs Cottages, Alstone.

23a, Burton Street.

33, Waterloo Street.

288, Swindon Road.

2a. Representations S. 19.

352, 354, 356, 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, 368, 370, Gloucester Road,	adjourned consideration.
2a, 3a, 4, 7a, Rutland Street	Acquired by L.A. for reconditioning.
25, 25a, 27, 29, Jersey Street	Undertaking signed by owner.
1, Angel Row, 26, Fairview Road	Adjourned consideration.
27, Russell Street	Undertaking signed by owner.
27, Sherborne Street	" "
Studio, rear 19, Bath Road	" not to be used for habitation.
3, 4, Albert Street, St. Peter's	Undertaking signed by owner.
15, Elm Street	Acquired by L.A. for reconditioning.
44, Burton Street	" "
Buckingham Villa, Wellington St.	Adjourned consideration. "
26a, York Street	" "
9, Columbia Street	" "
5, Barnes Yard, Cumberland Bldgs., Grove St.	Adjourned consideration.
Mill House, Duncott, 2, Arle Mill Cott.	Undertaking signed by owner.

2b. Work executed by owner through an undertaking S. 19.

2, Upper Bath Street.
 27, Sherborne Street.
 27, 29, Jersey Street.

2c. Reconstruction and Reconditioning by L.A.

5 and 6, Portman Terrace, Upper Bath Street.
 77 and 79, Duke Street.

3. Houses Demolished S. 19 H.A. 1930.

Rhodville, Moorend Street.
 2, Brookbank Cottages, Market Street.
 35, Tewkesbury Road.
 28, Rutland Street.
 1, 2, 3, Cottage Place, Rutland Street.
 2, 3, Princes Place, Duke Street.
 7, Portman Terrace, Upper Bath Street.

4. Slum Clearance S. 1. H.A. 1930.

Swindon Place, Swindon Passage, Bubbs Cottages Clearance Area.
 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, Swindon Place.
 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, Swindon Place.
 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, Swindon Passage.
 1, 2, 3, Bubbs Cottages, High Street.

Confirmation of Order.

Areas for Inclusion under Programme No. 1 (Five Years Plan).

4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, News Cottages, Alstone Lane.
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Carlton Place West.
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, Vauxhall Place, Elm Street.
 1, 2, 3, Bryants Court, Cleaveland Street.
 1, 2, 3, Hereford Passage, High Street.
 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, Roebuck Cottages, Hereford Place.

30a, 31a, Burton Street.
 1, 2, 3, 4, Cumberland Cottages, Grove Street.
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Grosvenor Cottages, Sherborne Place.
 1, 2, 3, Fairview Retreat, 1, 2, 3, Britannia Square, Fairview Street.
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Exmouth Court, Exmouth Street.
 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, Exmouth Terrace, Exmouth Street.
 1, 2, Brockworth Cottages, Exmouth Street.
 1, 2, Birdlip Cottages, Exmouth Street.
 35, 37, 39, Bath Terrace.
 212, 213, 214, High Street.
 1, 2, 3, Rutland Street.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There are 15 farms or dairy farms, and 65 dairies and retail purveyors on the register for the borough. The new registrations totalled 17. Twelve wholesale traders and retail purveyors residing outside the district were duly registered.

The Milk Marketing Scheme has been responsible for applications to register, but it cannot yet be stated that every person purveying in the borough from outside the district has been accounted for.

All retail premises and dairy farms have been inspected and 145 visits were made, including visits to farms where milk samples were taken for bacteriological examination. The extraordinary amount of time devoted to housing during the year under review has prevented me from devoting the usual amount of time to the visitation of farms.

Meat Inspection.

The usual tabular statements are submitted which fully illustrate the careful attention given to this important section of food supply. There is a slight decrease in the total number of animals slaughtered. This principally applies to pigs which is accounted for by the demands of the Marketing Scheme.

Applications were received for permission to sell meat at the Cheltenham open market, and the Committee decided that this would be granted if the animals were slaughtered at the public abattoir, which adjoins the market, and if the stalls complied with the provisions of the Public Health Meat Regulations, 1924. The sale of meat by means of stalls had been discontinued for a number of years, but vendors from outside the district desired to take advantage of the low price of home killed meat.

I am pleased to record that the conditions laid down were not acceptable to the applicants and this bad practice of exposing meat for consumption failed to eventuate. The enquiry into some of the applicants' experience of the meat trade disclosed the fact that it was negligible. In my opinion registration is essential where meat foods are to be sold. The provision of cheap and wholesome food for the poorer section of the community must not be discouraged, but at the period in question, farmers were sending into the Abattoir direct, and meat was being retailed cheaply by the ordinary method of retail distribution in

shops. There was however, retailing by house to house sales by persons living outside the district without inspection by qualified meat or sanitary inspectors taking place.

Legislation is urgently required to put an end to the sale of meat without any protection or safeguard to the public, and to compel local authorities to employ qualified meat inspectors.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The number of licenses issued to slaughtermen as required by the provisions of the Act is 49, including the Superintendent of the Abattoir and his assistant.

Electricity is available in all parts of the public abattoir for pig stunning, and the electrical apparatus in use is the British improved "Anestygun." A stunning apparatus for sheep is available for use if required. The Act is being complied with in all the registered slaughter houses in the district.

Number of Animals slaughtered during 1933.

TABLE NO. 6.

Species.	Private Slaughterhouses.	Abattoir.	Total.
Bullocks	23	30	53
Heifers	460	390	850
Cows	5	12	17
Calves	648	1384	2032
Sheep	5385	5754	11,139
Pigs	1683	3987	5670
Total	8204	11,557	19,761

Number of Animals affected with Tuberculosis.

TABLE NO. 7.

Species.	No. Slaughtered.	Found Tuberculous	Percentage.
Bullocks	53	—	Nil
Heifers	850	12	1'41
Cows	17	2	11'76
Calves	2032	1	0'04
Pigs	5670	194	3'42
Total	8622	209	2'42

Carcases Condemned as Totally Unfit for Human Food.

TABLE NO. 8.

Species.	T.B.	Inflammatory Diseases.	Bacterial Disease.	Moribund.	Abnormal Pathological Conditions.	Total Number of Animals
Cows ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heifers ...	1	—	—	—	—	1
Pigs ...	9	1	4	1	6	21
Sheep ...	—	1	—	—	7	8
Calves ...	1	—	—	—	1	2
Total ...	11	2	4	1	14	32

TABLE NO. 9.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Beef in carcase ...		5	1	6
Pork " ...		12	1	2
Veal " ...		1	1	0
Mutton " ...		4	0	15
Meat not in carcase ...	1	2	2	12
Organs ...	2	14	0	14
Total ...	4	19	2	21

Various Organs condemned as Unfit for Human Food.

TABLE NO. 10.

		Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Kidneys	Spleens	Mesenteries	Intestines
Tuberculosis	Cows	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Heifers	6	7	1	2	2	1	1	3	1
	Pigs	90	40	34	33	39	33	29	137	40
	Calves	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	-
Inflammatory conditions	Bovine	-	1	3	-	1	2	2	-	2
	Sheep	1	5	3	1	1	2	1	1	1
	Calves	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Pigs	2	130	80	22	24	18	23	23	45
Bacterial diseases	Bovine	-	1	-	11	-	-	-	-	-
	Sheep	-	3	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
	Pigs	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	2
Parasitic diseases	Bovine	-	2	-	309	-	-	1	1	-
	Sheep	2	4	1	301	1	1	6	1	1
	Pigs	-	1	2	-	-	7	-	1	-
Abnormal Pathological conditions	Bovine	-	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-
	Sheep	10	10	10	11	10	20	10	10	10
	Pigs	5	5	5	20	5	10	7	5	5
	Calves	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
Actinomycosis	Bovine	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total		123	215	146	726	87	102	85	186	108

Tinned Goods, Fish, Poultry, etc., condemned as Unfit for Human Food.

TABLE NO. 11.

	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
MEATS.			
1 Tin Beef			6
MISCELLANEOUS TINNED FOODS.			
Fruit, Fish, etc.--31 Tins		1	3
EGGS.			
4 Tins	1	2	24
POULTRY.			
Fowls 49 Carcases	1	1	26
RABBITS.			
2 Carcases			5
FISH.			
Herrings, Kippers	3	0	4
Total ...	6	2	12

Report on the Administration of Factory and Workshops' Acts, 1901 and 1917, in connection with Factories, Workplaces and Home Work.

TABLE NO. 12.

1. INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written and Verbal notices (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	43	4	Nil
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	163	7	Nil
Workplaces (Other than Out-workers premises)	11	—	Nil
Total ...	217	11	Nil

2. DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :				
Want of Cleanliness	10	10	Nil	Nil
Want of Ventilation	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Want of Drainage of Floors ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Accommodation } Insufficient Unsuitable or defective Not separate for sexes	1	1	Nil	Nil
	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
Offences under the Factory and Workshops' Acts :				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101)	1	1	1	Nil
Other offences : (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers Order, 1921)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	12	13	1	Nil

3. HOME WORK.

Lists received from Employers.

Nature of Work.	Once in the Year.		Twice in the Year.	
	Lists.	Outworkers.	Lists.	Outworkers.
Wearing Apparel (making) Notified from other Authorities	2 Nil	5 Nil	4 2	26 2
Number of Outworkers on Register				58
Outworkers' Premises inspected during 1933				40

4. REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.						Number.
Dressmakers	...	...	...	...	...	37
Tailors	...	...	...	...	...	41
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	27
Bootmakers	...	...	...	...	...	48
Milliners	...	...	...	...	...	10
Builders, Woodworkers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	35
Metal Workers	...	...	...	...	...	15
Motor and Cycle Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	36
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	55
Total						304

5. OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories ...	1
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 101) ...	Nil
Notified by H.M. Inspector of Factories ...	3
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	4
*Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) ...	1
Certificates granted during the year ...	Nil
In use at the end of the year ...	2

*Notice served and bakehouse removed.

Work carried out by Chief Sanitary Inspector by order of
Local Authority—either in default or at request of owners.

	£	s.	d.
REPAIRS AND SANITARY WORK TO HOUSES.			
1, Elmdale Cottages, Fairfield Parade	7	9	6
22, Glenfall Street and 63, Fairview Street	4	18	6
55, Worcester Street	9	13	9
	<hr/>		
	£22	1	9
DRAINAGE WORK EXECUTED.			
96 and 100, Promenade	7	2	0
1 to 14, Station Street, Belle Ewart and 1 and 2, Leckhampton View, New Street	195	13	7
54 and 55, Upper Norwood Street	33	1	10
	<hr/>		
	£235	17	5
DEMOLITION WORK.			
35, Tewkesbury Road	10	0	0
28, Rutland Street	7	0	0
Rhodville, Moorend Street	4	0	0
	<hr/>		
	21	0	0
	<hr/>		
Total ...	£278	19	2

RAT REPRESSION AND DESTRUCTION.

National Rat Week was carried out in Cheltenham and the results of the campaign were the subject of a special report which was forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The long drought, together with a hot summer, resulted in a marked increase in the rat population, and there was clear evidence so far as Cheltenham was concerned that rats were driven into the town at an earlier date on account of the shortage of water in the countryside. By reason of the wide publicity given to this subject locally and the system of voluntary notification it has been discovered that the visit of the migrant rat from the countryside into the built up areas usually takes place in October.

In Cheltenham, the town rat has undoubtedly been mastered by dint of persistence in dealing with sewers and drain repairs, together with the sewer baiting. The rat staff concentrated on the few farms which lie near the borough boundary, and in my opinion it is the sheer neglect of the farming community generally that is responsible for the presence of rats around houses. It must be realised that with action on the part of some authorities and a complete absence of action in the case of others, the value of the work done by a single authority is largely wasted. Unless uniform action is taken throughout the whole country the RAT MENACE will remain.

