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Borough of



Cheltenham

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health of Cheltenham

Vital Statistics, Sanitary Work, &c.,

FOR THE YEAR

1934

BY

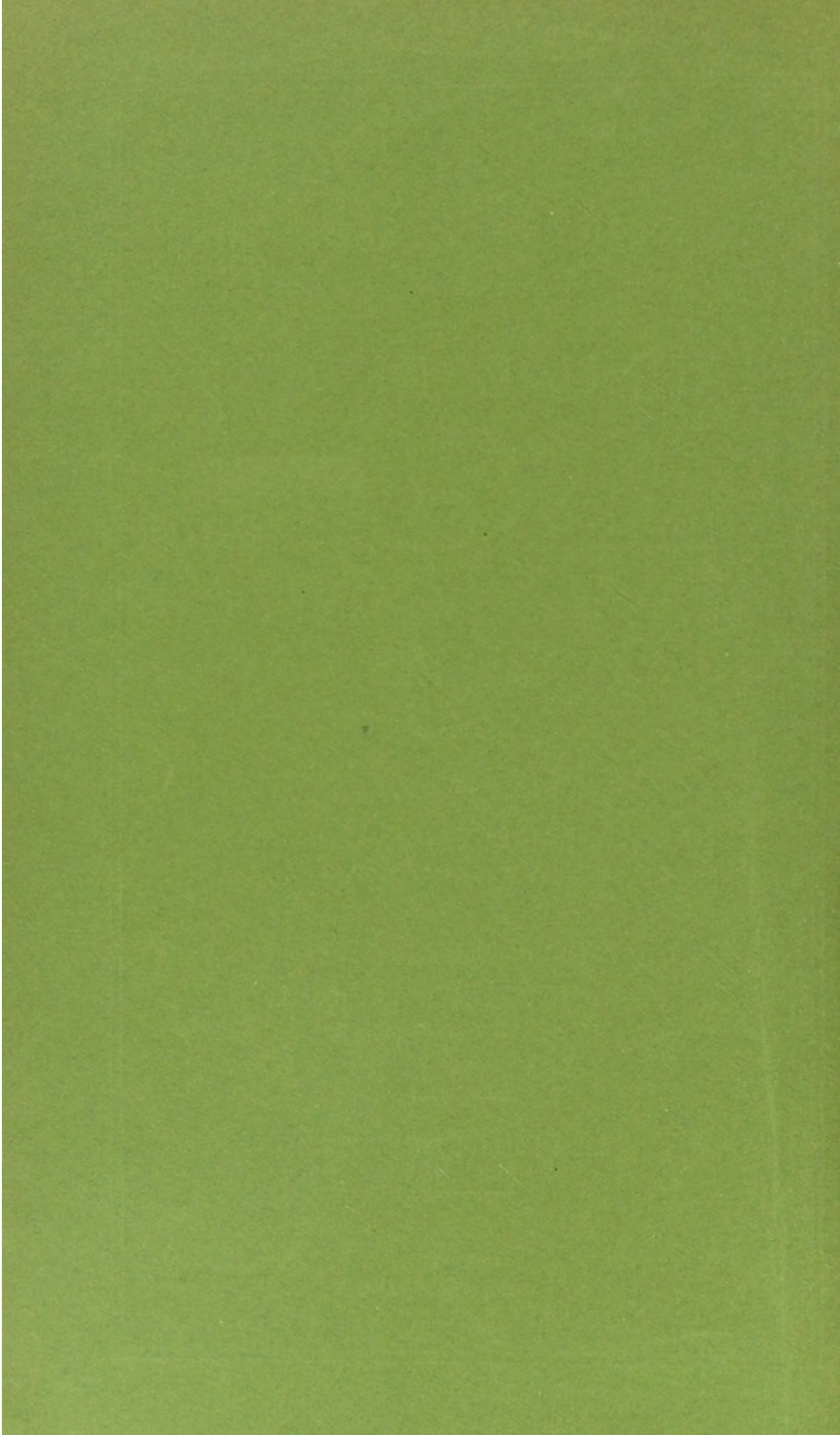
DONALD E. MORLEY, M.D. (Lond.), D.P.H.,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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

"Salus Populi Suprema Lex."

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CONTENTS.

	Page
Preface-Address	3
Staff	4
General Statistics—1934	5
Birth and Death Rates for all England and Wales and for Cheltenham	6
Causes of Death in 1934—Registrar General's List	7
Notes on Vital Statistics—1934	8
General Provision of Health Services	9
Water Supply	10
Housing	11
Inspection and Supervision of Food—1934	12
Pasteurised Milk	13
Sale of Food and Drugs Acts—1934	15
Infectious Diseases—1934	16
Delancey Fever Hospital	18
Tuberculosis	19
Maternity and Child Welfare	20
Annual Report of Cheltenham Infant Welfare Association ...	26

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S SUMMARY OF WORK OF DEPARTMENT.

Sanitary Inspector's Summary of Work of Department ...	30
Summaries of General Work done	31
Premises and Occupations controlled under Bye-laws, etc. ...	35
Abattoir	36
Drainage and Sanitation	37
Housing	39
Inspection of Food	46
Factories and Workshops Inspection, etc.	49
Rats and Mice Destruction Act	52

*To the Mayor, Alderman 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 1934.

The general health of the Borough throughout the year was good. The incidence of notifiable infectious diseases was low and influenza was almost entirely absent.

The corrected Death Rate was 10.46 compared with 11.8 for the whole of England and Wales, and the Infant Mortality figure was 49 compared with 59.

Important extensions of the Infant Welfare Services are referred to on page 20 of the report. These and other recent increases in the work have necessitated the appointment of a third Health Visitor.

An expansion in the services provided by the Cheltenham Infant Welfare Association also took place during 1934 with the appointment of a 2nd Doctor at the Highbury Welfare Centre. The cost of this has so far fallen on the Association, but the Council has agreed to provide for it in future years by an addition to the existing grant.

The attention of the Members of the Council is also directed to the increasing cost of providing milk in necessitous cases. Part of this is due to an increased supply, but the activities of the Milk Marketing Board are responsible for an appreciable share of it. The provision of this milk is a very important health service and it is hoped that special arrangements will shortly enable the contract price to be reduced to a figure approximating to that of recent years.

The calculation of a comparative figure, such as the number of pints of milk distributed free per live birth, which was specially considered in last year's report has been commented on as a useful procedure by the statistical department of the Milk Marketing Board.

I should like to take the opportunity afforded by this report of thanking the Members of the Council for kindness and consideration shown in the conduct of the work, and to the Staff for the loyal and efficient way in which the increasingly varied requirements of the work are carried out.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

DONALD E. MORLEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

May, 1935.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

December, 1934.

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. F. Gisborne	W * d e	„ „ „
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 London.

j „ „ „ Scotland.

**SUMMARY OF GENERAL AND VITAL
STATISTICS, 1934.**

Area (in acres)—4,726.

Population	{	Census 1931—49,418 Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population Schools included	{	(Mid Year) 1934—50,350. (Mid Year) 1933—50,720. (Mid Year) 1932—51,160. (Mid Year) 1931—50,900. (Mid Year) 1930—50,620.
------------	---	--	---	---

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

Number of inhabited houses (end 1934) according to Rate Books—13,700.

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

Rateable value £415,238. Sum represented by a penny rate £1,646.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	M.	F.	Totals	Rate
LIVE BIRTHS—Legitimate	257	277	534	Birth Rate per 1000 population. 11.26
Illegitimate	13	20	33	
Totals	270	297	567	
STILL BIRTHS—Legitimate	17	6	23	Still Birth Rate per 1000 population. .48
Illegitimate	—	1	1	
Totals	17	7	24	
DEATHS	324	400	724	Death Rate per 1000 population. 14.38

CORRECTED DEATH RATE.

The application of the Registrar General's Factor (.74 for Cheltenham) to correct for age and sex distribution gives a corrected death rate of 10.64

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

2 from Sepsis	}	Rate per 1,000 Births 3.38 (live and still).
0 other Causes		

Number of deaths of infants under one year of age—
Legitimate, 27 ; Illegitimate, 0.

Death rate of infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births :—
Legitimate, 50.6 ; Illegitimate, 0.0 ; Total, 48.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)—2.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)—0.

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

Comparative Birth-rates, Death-rates, and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1934

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales and Cheltenham have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1934, but those for London and the groups of towns, have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1933.)

	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	14.8	0.62	11.8	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.02	0.05	0.10	0.14	0.54	5.5	59	90.4	6.5	2.1	1.0
121 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ...	14.7	0.66	11.8	0.00	0.00	0.12	0.02	0.06	0.11	0.12	0.47	7.4	63	90.5	6.1	2.9	0.5	0.5
135 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931)	15.0	0.67	11.3	0.00	—	0.07	0.02	0.04	0.09	0.14	0.42	3.6	53	91.2	6.1	1.6	1.1	1.1
London	13.2	0.50	11.9	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.02	0.07	0.11	0.12	0.56	12.6	67	87.7	6.3	6.0	0.0	0.0
CHELTHENHAM	11.26	0.48	10.46*	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.16	0.64	0.00	48	93.1	4.4	1.6	0.9	0.9

* Corrected

The maternal mortality rates for England and Wales are as follows

{	per 1,000 Live Births ...	Puerperal Sepsis.	Others.	Total
	2.03	2.57	4.60	
{	“ “ Total Births...	1.95	2.46	4.41
	Per 1,000 Live Births ...	3.53	0.00	3.53
{	“ “ Total Births...	3.38	0.00	3.38
	Cheltenham	3.38	0.00	3.38

**Causes of Death in Borough of Cheltenham in 1934 as given
by the Registrar General. (Total Deaths 724).**

CAUSES OF DEATH.							M.	F.
All Causes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	324	400
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2 Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
3 Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5 Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
6 Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	6
7 Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
9 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	12
10 Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	2
11 Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
13 Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	39	54
14 Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4
15 Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	31
16 Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	93	120
17 Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	—
18 Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	18	17
19 Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	8
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	26
21 Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
22 Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
23 Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
24 Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
25 Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
26 Other diseases of liver, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
27 Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	14
28 Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	22
29 Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
30 Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
31 Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	10
32 Senility	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	18
33 Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	2
34 Other violence	...	...	...	...	...	...	13	11
35 Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	37	30
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above).								
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	}	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	12	15
		Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—
		Total	...	...	...	...	12	15
Live Births	}	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	257	277
		Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	13	20
		Total	...	...	...	...	270	297
Stillbirths	}	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	17	6
		Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	1
		Total	...	...	...	...	17	7
Population ...							50,350.	

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS OF 1934.

Population.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population for the middle of the year 1934 shows a further decline of 370 persons. The excess of deaths over births was 157, but this loss is probably made up for by the influx of retired persons who come to Cheltenham to take up residence. It is difficult to believe that the population is actually declining. It would appear that the addition to the census figure, to allow for the residents in schools and colleges who were on holiday at the time of the census, is being slowly discounted.

The Extension of the Borough.

No official estimate of the increase of population due to the inclusion of new areas in the Borough on the 1st April, 1935, has yet been made.

The increase in the yield of a penny rate ascribed to the addition of these areas is estimated at £32. The natural increase during the year 1934 was £63.

Birth Rate.

Births numbered 567, the lowest but one number on record, giving a Birth Rate of 11.26 per thousand inhabitants, which is the lowest rate ever recorded. The explanation of this is that in 1918 there were only 560 births, but the estimated population for the calculation of the Birth Rate was reduced to 47,726 owing to war time displacements of the population.

The number of illegitimate births was 33, this is 5.8% of the total births. In 1917 the figure was 76 or 13%, which was an abnormally high figure. Before the war the average was 7%.

Death Rate.

The number of deaths during 1934 was 724, which is an average figure.

The main causes of death were cancer and heart disease, though the number of deaths from the former complaint was not quite so high as usual.

The number of deaths actually taking place in a town in any year per 1,000 inhabitants is sometimes called the crude Death Rate.

A very important correction in this figure is however made by the Registrar General, who subtracts the number of deaths of non-residents and adds the number of deaths of residents who die in other areas. In practice an adjustment is made each quarter and the local authority is informed in detail of the changes under the headings of "inward" and "outward" transfers. Sometimes corrections have to be made even to these figures, particularly where the residence of a person who has died lies near the boundary and the death has been included by mistake in the wrong area.

The figure of 724 for 1934 is given after these adjustments have been made. This gives a rate of 14.4 deaths per 1,000 of the population. The Registrar General calls this the Crude Death Rate, but the term "Recorded Death Rate" is used by those who prefer to reserve the former name for the rate calculated from the actual returns of the local registrar before even transfer corrections have been made.

New Adjusting Factor.

The Recorded Death Rate figure for a town is not one which is comparable with similar figures of other towns for the reason that populations vary so much in age and sex constitution.

In the case of Cheltenham the comparatively elderly nature of the population provides what the Registrar aptly calls a "Population Handicap."

As a result of the analysis of the 1931 Census Statistics the Registrar General has now provided a new adjusting factor. The recorded death rate multiplied by this factor is reduced in the case of elderly populations, or increased in the case of youthful populations, to figures which are comparable with those of other areas.

The average mortality rates for England and Wales during the three years 1930-32, have been used as the standard in calculating these correcting factors.

The factor applicable to Cheltenham for the last decenium was .755, while the new one is .74. These two factors are themselves not comparable because the former was based on the 1901 death rates of the various age groups used in the calculation, while the latter is calculated on the much more contemporaneous rates of 1930-1932. The Registrar General explains that the present factor of .74 would itself have to be reduced by multiplying it by .820 to produce a factor comparable with the one previously provided. This indicates an increasing average age of the population as a whole which if continued must in due course lead to a rising death rate.

The application of the new Cheltenham factor .74, it will be seen, reduces the recorded death rate of 14.38 for 1934 to a corrected death rate of 10.64 compared with 11.8 for England and Wales as a whole.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

These were described in detail in the survey report on the year 1930.

A change of some importance relating to the working of the Delancey Fever Hospital was described in the report on 1933.

PUBLIC HEALTH LEGISLATION, 1934 (Additional Powers).

Offensive Trades.

An order under Section 112 of the Public Health Act, 1875, as amended by Section 51 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment Act), 1907, was made in November, 1934, and confirmed in January, 1935, declaring each of the following trades:—bone burner, dealer in blood, dealer in animal fats and butchers' waste, manufacturer of manure from fish, fish offal, blood or other putrescible animal matter, manufacturer of poultry meal from fish, fish offal, blood or other putrescible matter and tallow refiner, to be an offensive trade.

During 1934, an agreement to close a Tallow Factory, which had been established in the town for a great many years was arrived at by payment of compensation. At the same time permission on certain conditions, was given to the company to erect a modern factory on a prescribed and suitable site on the outskirts of the borough.

Other Additions and Alterations.

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 described somewhat fully in the 1930 report, and in view of the fact that it is the custom of the Minister to ask for a survey report every five years, the purpose of this report would appear to be served by a short reference to the main sources of supply, reserving a more detailed description for the report on the present year.

Tewkesbury Works.

Owing to the continued dry period, these works have been in use most of the time since completion of the extensions.

The results of analysis show that the purity of the water can be controlled with a wide margin of safety. The initial dose of chlorine has regularly produced a water reasonably safe for drinking, even before filtration. After filtration and treatment with chloramine, a water of the highest degree of purity is pumped into supply.

Some trouble has been caused by a rusty deposit in particular areas, but it is considered that this physical defect is now largely, if not entirely, overcome.

Dowdeswell.

The collecting area of this reservoir is carefully guarded. The supply consists of spring water and the surface waters of the upper reaches of the Chelt. Before passing into supply it is clarified by the use of alum and subjected to double filtration. The results of analysis have been excellent.

Owing to the dry summer, this source of supply was used very little till late in the Autumn, in order to reserve a supply for emergencies.

Springs in the Cotswold Hills.

A very careful watch is kept on these sources of supply, and during the last 5 years it has been considered advisable to cut out certain small sections.

The water is somewhat hard, but at certain points of the system particularly when the Tewkesbury pumps are not in action, the supply is necessary for maintenance of sufficient pressure during the day time when the amount drawn is heavy.

Sandford Mead Well.

This Well for many years has provided a supplementary supply in times of drought.

During the excavations required for new Swimming Pool on land adjoining the well, it has been necessary to cease pumping. The water is excessively hard, and for this reason alone, it is not really satisfactory for a public supply.

Other Local Supplies.

Well Water supply to 5 houses condemned.

During the year, the water supply of two houses came under suspicion. The Bacteriological condition was found to be very bad and this led to the investigation of the source of supply which was a well supplying in all, 5 houses.

The well water itself was found to be less seriously polluted and it was therefore clear that most contamination was taking place between the well and the houses primarily concerned. The owner of the houses decided, under threat of legal proceedings, to close the well and to provide town water for all five houses.

HOUSING.

Clearance Areas, 1934.

The Slum Clearance programme was carried a stage further during 1934.

It will be remembered that in the 5 years' programme, prepared under the instructions of the Minister of Health in 1932, there were included groups or rows of houses so unsatisfactory in condition and position as to render their demolition advisable.

These groups were divided into two, the worst houses being included in the first group to be dealt with in 1934, while it was intended to deal with the remainder in 1936.

An enquiry was held by an Inspector representing the Minister of Health, on the 5th June, 1934. Objections to the making of the demolition orders were heard, and afterwards the Inspector visited the premises. The areas concerned were set out in full in the last annual report. The orders were confirmed in respect of all the houses except two. These two were comparatively satisfactory houses, but were back to back. It had been indicated at the enquiry on behalf of the Council with regard to these two houses that an undertaking to recondition and extend them after demolition of the obstructing houses at the rear would be acceptable should the Minister of Health agree to sanction an amendment excluding these houses from the order.

In October, 1934, a memorandum was received from the Minister of Health urging authorities to proceed as rapidly as possible with the 5 years' slum clearance programmes. As a result of this it was decided to bring the 2nd group of clearances into the 1935 programme instead of leaving it till 1936.

The final representation included a number of additional areas which were specially inspected and approved for inclusion by the Public Health Committee.

The list of areas is set out below and steps are at present being taken to provide accommodation for displaced tenants in anticipation of orders being made relative to the properties concerned:—

Nos. 1 to 5, Butts Cottages, Malvern Street; 2—5 Crowther's Passage, Malvern Street; 127—135, Tewkesbury Road; 1 and 2, Phoenix Cottages, Phoenix Passage; 8, 8a, 9—13 and 17, Grove Street; 1—9, St. George's Avenue, High Street; 33, 34 and 35, Rose and Crown Passage, High Street; 4, 5 and 6, Berkeley Avenue, Winchcombe Street; 2—12, Warwick Buildings, Winchcombe Street; 1—9, Cakebridge Terrace, Prestbury Road; 3—7, Field View Cottages, Whaddon Road; 1—4, Angel Row, and 26, Fairview Road; 1—4, Jersey Cottages, Sherborne Street; 1 and 2, Dovedale Court, York Street; 4, 6 and 8, Jersey Street; 23, 25 and 27, Columbia Street; 1 and 2, Llewellyn Cottages, Trinity School Lane; 1—4, Fairview Terrace, Fairview Street; 2, 3 and 4, Hartley Place, Witcombe Place; 1 and 2, Zara Cottages, St. Anne's Terrace; 39a and 41a, Duke Street; 1—4, Cirencester Cottages, Duke Street; 1—9, Montpellier Retreat and 42, 43 and 44, Montpellier Villas; 1—5, Providence Cottages, Great Norwood Street, and 1 and 2, Wakefield Cottages, Upper Bath Road; 1—5, Kew Place, Bath Road, and 1—5, Reform Place, Exmouth Street.

Cyanide Fumigation.

In all cases where infestation with bugs is proved or suspected, the furniture of families removed from clearance areas is now subjected to cyanide fumigation by a specialist firm.

The system adopted is one which has proved successful in other towns. The furniture is removed from two or three houses to the disinfecting station in a van specially adapted for the purpose of cyanide fumigation. The bedding, however, is not subjected to fumigation, but is disinfected in the Corporation high pressure steam disinfector. Recent events have proved that this precaution is a wise one.

In the case of the fumigation of bug infested houses where cyanide fumigation of bedding is also to be carried out it has been decided to keep the houses empty for 48 hours to ensure complete safety.

Two Council houses have been set aside as hostels for families temporarily displaced.

Overcrowding.

Though overcrowding is not so common in Cheltenham as it is in industrial areas, serious cases are quite frequently brought to the notice of the department. Evidence is being collected regarding particular cases so that early advantage may be taken of the provisions to be included in the new Housing Act.

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.

Graded Milks.

The number of firms retailing Certified or Grade "A" Tuberculin Tested milk in the town is now four, this is an increase of two during the year. One of these firms retails both Certified milk and Grade "A" Tuberculin Tested milk.

The Ministry of Health is responsible for the licensing of producers of "Certified" and "Grade 'A' Tuberculin Tested" milk. The Cheltenham Council is instructed to arrange for the transmission of samples for bacteriological examination at stated intervals, and the cost of this is met by the Ministry.

During 1934, 24 samples from the two farms producing certified milk were sent to Mr. R. H. Ellis, County Analyst, Gloucester.

The Bacteriological Standard for certified milk is as follows:—
"The milk must not contain more than 30,000 organisms per cc. and must not contain the coliform bacillus in 1/10 cc."

Of the samples examined, only one failed to keep within the standard, in this case the coliform bacillus was present in 1/10 cc.

In another case the number of organisms was only just short of the 30,000 limit.

Pasteurised Milk.

Licences for the sale of Pasteurised Milk are given by local authorities. This Authority grants one licence which is renewable annually.

Samples submitted for analysis have conformed with the standard which requires not more than 100,000 organisms per cc. There is no coliform bacillus standard.

During recent years there has been much controversy on the subject of Pasteurised Milk. It is significant, however, that when the "milk in schools" scheme of the Milk Marketing Board was put into operation during 1934, the Board of Education advised that where a pasteurised supply was available this class of milk should be provided.

Although all those qualified to express an opinion would much prefer that everyone should be provided with fresh safe milk, this desire does not appear at present to be attainable. On the other hand, pasteurisation, properly carried out, is capable of rendering milk free from disease germs.

The essential condition governing the sale of milk as "Pasteurised" is that the milk must be **held** at a temperature between 145 degrees and 150 degrees for a period of at least half-an-hour, and it is desirable that every pasteurising plant should be provided with an automatic recording apparatus.

There is no doubt that many of the older pasteurising plants were very inefficient and they were not all discarded when the new regulations came into force in 1923.

Even the best apparatus will give bad results either if the time of holding or the temperature is reduced appreciably, but these are not good reasons for condemning pasteurisation.

On the other hand it must be emphasized that pasteurisation is not a panacea for all the troubles resulting from uncleanliness. Although disease organisms should not escape the process, recent experiments appear to have proved that bad methods, and in particular imperfect sterilization of receptacles will produce milk which after pasteurisation may give even worse bacteriological results than before.

The explanation of this is held to be that some organisms thrive at a temperature of 145 degrees—150 degrees.

Bacteriological Examinations of Ordinary Milk.

These examinations are provided by the Gloucestershire County Authority for educational purposes. A few years ago a number of samples were taken of milk in the course of delivery. Most of the results were extremely bad. As it was quite impossible to apportion the blame between the producer and the retail purveyor, it was thought that more good would result if action was limited to the taking of specimens at the farms in the Borough, of which there are 11 registered for milk production.

A fair standard of clean milk can be attained by very elementary attention to cleanliness of hands, the part of the cow touched by the hands and the sterilisation of receptacles used. One has often been surprised at the excellent results obtained in cow sheds about the general plan and structure of which complaint was well justified.

Lack of time limited the samples taken during 1934 to five.

As samples are now examined in the bacteriological department of the Cheltenham General Hospital, there is no difficulty about transport and there can be no complaint that bad results are due to bad conditions of carriage.

Tuberculous Milk.

The milk from one farm in the Borough came under suspicion, owing to the wide spread infection by tuberculosis of a number of young pigs.

The County Medical Officer of Health on receiving information of the occurrence, authorised the sending of bulk samples of milk for biological examination. The results were however, negative.

No other examinations for the presence of tubercle bacilli in milk have been made.

The experience of most authorities in this matter is that the time involved in getting results is so considerable that it is very rarely possible to trace the animal responsible before it has ceased to supply milk.

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS' ACTS.

*Return of Articles submitted to the Public Analyst during the year 1934,
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 1934.

One-hundred and nineteen samples of the materials named below were collected for analysis.

Food or Drug.	Number of Samples.	Food or Drug.	Number of Samples.
Milk	69	Brought forward	89
Butter	2	Dried Fruit	2
Skimmed Milk	2	Crystalized Fruit	2
Cream	2	Dried Mint	2
Ice Cream	1	Tea	3
Dried Milk	1	Vinegar	2
Unsweetened Condensed Milk	1	Mustard	2
Sweetened Condensed Milk	1	Gelatine	1
Sugar	1	Polonies	1
Syrup	1	Beef Sausages	1
Honey	2	Castor Oil	3
Glucose, Solid	1	Liquid Paraffin	1
Glucose, Powdered	1	Ammoniated Tincture of Quinine	3
Jam	3	Wine, Non-alcoholic	1
Jellies	1	Cider	3
		Beer	2
		Gin	1
Carried forward	89	Total	119

There was one prosecution during 1934. This was a case in which milk was found to be 20·3% deficient in fat. The vendor was fined £3 and £6 9s. 0d. costs.

Two samples were "slightly deficient in non-fatty solids," and one "slightly deficient in fat." The Vendors are being kept under observation.

In three cases there was evidence of the presence of "Extraneous water," but insufficient to warrant proceedings being taken.

Artificial Cream Act, 1929.

The County Council as the Food and Drugs' Authority is responsible for the registration of premises under this Act.

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, 1934.**

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	69	63	—
Diphtheria	27	27	—
(Typhoid) Fever	—	—	—
(Paratyphoid) Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	3	2	} 5 (2 local)
Puerperal Pyrexia	10	5	
Pneumonia	33	—	47
Erysipelas	22	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis	1	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	2	2	—
Dysentery	1	—	—

Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 1934.

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

**NOTES ON THE INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
DURING 1934.**

Influenza.

There was no epidemic during 1934, and the number of deaths ascribed to this disease was only 8.

Diphtheria.

The number of cases notified during 1934 was 27, the same as for 1933. All the patients were admitted to the Delancey Fever Hospital for treatment and none proved fatal. With the exception of one case, the type of disease remained mild, and as usual several mild throat cases were admitted rather as the result of a swab giving a positive result than on clinical signs.

The one severe case which was admitted at the end of the year, made a slow recovery. There was some reason for believing that the disease in this case was introduced from another area in the county.

Scarlet Fever.

There was a rapid diminution in the number of notifications received after the middle of the year, and by the end of the year the disease had practically died out in the town. Of the 69 cases notified, compared with 189 in 1933, 63 were treated in hospital.

Anti-Scarlet Fever Serum was used for all, except the mildest cases, though none was of a malignant type.

So mild has this disease been in recent years that no Cheltenham Borough case has died of scarlet fever since 1926, in which year there was one death. Only a very secondary place can be claimed for treatment as a factor in producing this excellent record.

In contrast with the present state of affairs it must be remembered that in 1876 there were 99 deaths from scarlet fever in the Borough.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis.

There were two cases. Both were notified from the General Hospital. One patient was a resident from an outlying district.

Pneumonia.

The regulations governing notification require the notification of acute primary and acute influenzal pneumonia.

Pneumonia is a common cause of death in old age, and 47 deaths, the figure for 1934, is quite a low average figure for a population so constituted as is that of Cheltenham.

It will be noticed that as usual this figure exceeds the number of notifications, but it must be remembered that it includes deaths from forms of pneumonia which are not subject to notification.

Puerperal Pyrexia and Puerperal Fever.

Most cases are now notified as puerperal pyrexia because the 1926 Regulations require the notification of a case as such if within 21 days of confinement a temperature of 100·4 degrees or more has been sustained or has recurred during a period of 24 hours.

Presumably the term Puerperal Fever means fever resulting from infection definitely associated with parturition while the term Puerperal Pyrexia leaves open the question of such association. For example, a concurrent attack of some other infection such as influenza renders a notification of puerperal pyrexia necessary.

In the early stages when notification becomes an obligation as a result of thermometer readings, a distinction is seldom possible and therefore the puerperal fever notification form is less and less used, nor is there any tendency to re-notify at a later date when the diagnosis becomes clear.

During 1934, three cases were notified as puerperal fever, ten as puerperal pyrexia. There were five deaths, but only two of them were of Cheltenham residents.

When desired, hospital accommodation is available either at the General Hospital or the Fever Hospital, and a payment for maintenance is made by the Council. A better arrangement would be the provision of a small special ward at the General Hospital. Such an arrangement might be possible in conjunction with the County Authorities.

Other facilities provided free by the Council in necessitous cases include specialist opinions, pathological examinations, and special nursing in the home.

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 re-admitted to school on a certificate of freedom from infection, given, after examination of the children, by the School Medical Officer.

ARTIFICIAL IMMUNISATION.

Delancey Fever Hospital.

All new probationers are subjected to Schick and Dick tests and positive reactors are immunised. For diphtheria immunisation a preparation of Toxoid is used, preceded in each case by a Malony Skin test.

Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic.

Arrangements are now being made to provide for parents desiring it, the immunisation against diphtheria of children of school age and younger children over the age of 12 months. The school clinic premises will be used for the purpose.

DELANCEY FEVER HOSPITAL.

This hospital at present serves the following areas :—

The Borough of Cheltenham.

The Rural Districts of Cheltenham and Winchcombe.

The Urban District 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 1934 was 173, compared with 271 for 1933.

The following is a resumé of the numbers of different diseases from which those admitted were suffering :—

Scarlet Fever	...	95	German Measles	...	2
Diphtheria	...	45	Dysentery	...	1
Measles	...	7	Puerperal Fever	...	1
Erysipelas	...	2			
Mixed Infections, Observation Cases, etc.					20

The normal bed accommodation of the hospital is 74, including a block which belongs to Cheltenham College, providing 14 beds (calculated on the standard of 144 square feet of floor space per Bed.

There is also a Smallpox Hospital of 12 beds, under the same management, situated at Longhill, 4 miles distant from Cheltenham. The capital cost and running expenses are shared in agreed proportions with the County authorities, who have a call on the accommodation, should cases of small pox occur in the districts which the hospital was built to serve.

The Delancey Hospital is under the direction of a Board of Trustees, constituted by a Deed of Endowment dated in 1871. In 1915, owing to growing financial difficulties, a scheme was drawn up by the Charity Commissioners under which the Trust was remodelled. Instead of making fixed annual grants it was agreed that the three authorities concerned, that is the Borough and Rural District of Cheltenham and the Charlton Kings Urban District, should be responsible for making up the annual deficit in proportion to their respective populations and at the same time proportionate representation on the Board of Trustees was granted to these authorities.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1934.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	1
5—10 „	—	1	8	1	—	—	1	—
10—15 „	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
15—20 „	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
20—25 „	3	4	2	1	2	3	—	1
25—35 „	3	5	2	—	3	5	—	—
35—45 „	6	4	1	1	1	2	1	—
45—55 „	3	3	—	—	2	2	1	—
55—65 „	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	18	21	18	5	10	12	3	2
(Official) Registrar General's Figures					10	12	3	2

Treatment and isolation of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis is a disease notifiable under special regulations. In the case of a chronic disease of this nature there is a tendency for some cases to remain unnotified. One reason for this is the very natural assumption, not always justified, that the case has already been notified.

Neglect to notify is commonly discovered when the registration of a death from tuberculosis necessitates a search for the purpose of removing the name from the Register. The usual explanation of failure to notify, if not the one given above is usually that the diagnosis only became apparent shortly before death or even only as a result of Post Mortem examination.

Failure to notify tuberculosis in Cheltenham is not common. Unless the reason was obvious, a letter is written to the doctor certifying the death, asking for an explanation.

A confidential register of cases is kept in the department, and each week a list of new notifications and details as to the movement of cases in and out of hospital is sent to the County Medical Officer of Health. Also, every quarter, the County Medical Officer of Health is provided with details of cases removed from the register.

The tuberculosis death rates for 1934 were as follows :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.43	} Per 1,000 of Population.
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.1	

No action was taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

The Work of the Victoria Home.

The Victoria Home provides for Cheltenham important maternity services, and in this way exercises powers and undertakes duties which would otherwise be the responsibility of the Corporation. It is for this reason important to consider from time to time the relationship which has of necessity grown up between the two bodies concerned.

The History of the Victoria Home is very well described in the Jubilee Report on the work of the home for 1930-31. The work started in 1880 with the appointment of two nurses to attend to the sick poor in their own homes. In 1886 there was commenced an important service with which this Council is now closely associated, that is the provision of qualified Midwives to attend poor women at their confinements.

The start was made by the appointment of one midwife, and in 1892 a move to the present site enabled the Committee to open a lying-in Ward for two patients, with a staff of two midwives and one pupil for training in midwifery work. Further extensions have been made from time to time and there are now 8 maternity beds, exclusive of isolation and labour beds.

The maternity work is divided into two closely associated sections, the work of the in-patient Ward and the attendance on patients in their own homes.

The Association between the Victoria Home and this Council commenced in July, 1916, when it was agreed that the midwives should fill in details on the Health Visitors' cards of all babies born in the Victoria Home or attended by them in the district, and this practice is still maintained. At the end of the same year the District Nursing Association offered to allocate a bed in the lying-in Ward for cases "requiring Ante Natal or Post Natal treatment" sent by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee.

A grant of £18 18s. 0d. a year was made to cover this service, which 6 months later was increased by 25% to £33 12s. 6d. at the request of the Home, to cover medical attendance if required.

In 1923, the holding of an Ante Natal Clinic at the Home commenced and this was subsidised by the Council by a special annual payment of £15 12s. 0d.

In January, 1928, the general grant was increased to £45. In 1929, a further payment was made to cover work among children under 5 years of age, which raised the total grant to £80.

Shortly after the working of the Midwives Act was transferred to the Council under the Local Government Act of 1929 the grant was increased, for various reasons, to £105 and a special grant of £160 was made to assist in the provision of the Midwifery Services.

One hundred and sixty pounds is not a large grant, but it took the place of the County grant of £60.

Other payments made to the Home include payments for the provision of special nurses in cases of Puerperal Sepsis and the payment of Home Helps in necessitous cases.

The Victoria Home has for many years received cases into the maternity ward from County areas. These cases are paid for by the County Authority, at the rate of £3 13s. 6d. a week, a charge which covers the fee of a doctor should one be required.

The ordinary fee for Cheltenham and Leckhampton residents is £2 12s. 6d. a week, but such patients agree to pay an extra fee themselves to a doctor should one be required.

A variable number of very poor patients are admitted free of all charges or at a reduced charge. These admissions have in the past been limited to complicated cases and the charges are considered to be covered by the Borough grant. No fee is charged by the doctors for their services in these cases.

During 1934, the committee of the Home, at the request of the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee agreed in future to admit suitable cases on account of unsatisfactory housing conditions alone, if accommodation is available.

STATISTICS FOR 1934.

Maternity Service.

(1) Ward Cases.

		Midwifery Cases	Maternity Cases
Borough Cases	83 comprising	74	9
County Cases	64 „	42	22
Totals	147 comprising	116	31

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 147 midwifery cases attended in the ward was 42.

(2) District Cases.

Midwifery	...	...	...	319
Maternity	...	...	...	61
Total	...	...	...	380

Ante Natal Clinic (held at the Victoria Home).

Attendances by expectant Mothers during 1933 :—

(a)	Number of Attendances	...	...	...	...	1479
(b)	Number of individual Mothers attending	...	...	...	...	471
(c)	Percentage of total notified births (live and still) represented by the number in (b)	...	...	...	...	69

INSPECTION OF MIDWIVES.

The number of Midwives giving notice of their intention to practice in the Borough during the year was 27, and there remained practising at the end of the year 20.

The following is a summary of cases attended by midwives who had given notice of intention to practice :—

Capacity in which Cases were attended.

	As Midwives	As Maternity Nurses
Victoria Home Midwives	435	92
Midwives attached to the Maternity Ward of Cheltenham Guardians Institution	17	0
Midwives in Private Nursing Homes	0	10
Midwives in Private Practice	19	8
	<hr/> 471	<hr/> 110

Note.—A midwife acts as a Maternity Nurse when a doctor has been engaged to deliver the patient. Under these circumstances the Midwife must, according to the rules, send for the Doctor at the onset of labour and she must not leave the house before he arrives. The Doctor remains responsible for the case throughout the lying-in period.

Inspection.

Apart from the work of the Victoria Home there is very little scope for midwifery in Cheltenham. Of the 4 midwives practising privately, one attended 14 midwifery cases and 5 maternity cases, the remaining 3 midwives attended together only 5 midwifery and 3 maternity cases.

The Maternity Ward of the Infirmary provided accommodation for only 17 cases during the year though the staff includes as many as 4 qualified midwives.

Notices received from Midwives.

The following is a summary of the special notices received from midwives during 1934 :—

Notification of Still Births	...	...	...	...	10
„ Death of Infant	...	...	...	...	10
„ Death of Mother	...	...	...	...	—
„ Artificial Feeding	...	...	...	...	10
„ Liability to be a Source of Infection	...	...	...	...	2
„ Having laid out a dead body	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 33
	Total number of Notices received				33

Medical assistance was called for on 162 separate occasions, which is 34.1% of the midwifery cases attended. The conditions necessitating this are summarised as follows:—

(a) Conditions arising before Labour	{	Albuminuria	10
	{	General Ailments	3
(b) Miscarriage and Premature Labour		... ..	1
	{	Perineal Injuries	48
	{	Delayed Labour	35
	{	Abnormal Presentations	8
(c) Conditions arising during Labour	{	Abnormal Haemorrhage	13
	{	Retained Products of	
	{	Conception	2
	{	Other conditions	5
	{	Rise of Temperature	9
(d) Conditions arising after Labour	{	Other conditions	0
	{	Feebleness	13
(e) Condition of the Infant	{	Inflamed Eyes	3
	{	Deformities	4
	{	Other conditions	8
		Total	162

Investigation of a charge of misconduct on the part of a Midwife.

During the year a report on the conduct of a midwife was considered by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee acting as supervising authority. A very complete report was laid before a special meeting, called for the purpose. The Midwife who was represented by a solicitor, was present. Several witnesses attended. The finding was as follows: "That in the opinion of the Committee, there has been an error of judgement on the part of the midwife, but a *prima facie* case has not been established to justify the Committee reporting the matter to the Central Midwives Board."

New Rules, Section E.

During 1934, Section E. of the Rules of the Central Midwives Board was issued in a revised form. This Section is the one mainly affecting the practice of midwives and a copy was sent to each midwife in the district.

MATERNAL DEATHS.

There were 5 maternal deaths in Cheltenham during 1934. Only two of these, however, were those of residents in the Borough. Both were cases of puerperal sepsis. The causes of death in the County cases were (1) Retained Placenta and Shock, (2) Eclampsia, (3) Sepsis.

Maternal Mortality has been the subject of several reports during recent years both in this country and in America. In 1930, the New York Academy of Medicine formed a committee to study maternal mortality in New York. After three years' work a full report was issued.

One aspect of the subject which has recently been very much discussed is the use of Anaesthesia during labour and delivery. In America, it is stated that the use of Anaesthesia has grown steadily since its introduction in 1846, a statement which no doubt also applies to England. This has come about largely through pressure from the lay public and the conclusion expressed by the Committee on this subject is in my opinion worthy of particular note.

Public opinion is not always well-informed, and in pressing for the extended use of Anaesthesia it is perhaps not realised by those who do so that the important question of maternal mortality is also involved.

The conclusion of the American Committee was as follows :—“ The wide effects of the increased use of anaesthesia can only be guessed at, but the direct effect of the administration of the anaesthetic in its tendency to lessen and enfeeble the expulsive powers of the uterine musculature must be reflected in an increased necessity for artificial assistance at delivery. The frequent use of instrumentation is based upon the easy accessibility of anaesthesia. It is the opinion of many observers that the increase in the use of anaesthesia is a factor in keeping the maternal mortality rate stationary.”

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION ACT, 1927.

The Nursing Homes on the Register at the end of 1934, were as follows :—

Nursing Homes only	...	...	...	6
Maternity Homes only	...	...	...	3
Combined Nursing and Maternity	...	...	...	7

The Maternity Ward at the Swindon Road Institution is visited, but is not included in the list given above.

The Register has been revised and brought up to date, only homes actively engaged in taking patients being included. One of the homes now included under the heading combined Nursing and Maternity Homes, has never been used for maternity cases, and the Matron has no intention of taking such cases, but she holds a Certificate of the Central Midwives Board, and the terms of registration would allow her to do so if she so desired. At another home only maternity cases are taken, but the Matron as well as possessing her C.M.B., is a general trained nurse and the home is also registered for medical cases.

Two Maternity Homes were closed during 1934, and one new home was registered for Medical or Maternity cases.

In the case of another home the Committee decided to grant registration on condition that the staff should include at least one fully trained nurse. The Home has, however, been closed for a private reason quite unconnected with the stipulation made by the Committee.

INFANT WELFARE.

Work of Health Visitors, January 1st—December 31st, 1934.

No. of	Children on Register	...	...	...	...	3013
„	Children Visited (a) 1 year and under	...	...	...	...	1010
„	Children Visited (b) over 1 year	...	...	...	...	2099
„	Un-notified Births discovered	...	...	...	...	15
„	Un-notified Still-Births discovered	...	...	...	...	1
„	Home Visits paid by Health Visitors	...	...	...	...	7431
„	First Visits paid by Health Visitors	...	...	...	...	556
„	Attendances of Health Visitors at Centres	...	...	...	...	265
„	Children remitted to Hospital	...	...	...	...	24
„	Ante-natal cases visited	...	...	...	...	140
„	Chicken-pox cases visited	...	...	...	...	11
„	Measles cases visited	...	...	...	...	58
„	Whooping-cough cases visited	...	...	...	...	69
„	Cases reported to N.S.P.C.C.	...	...	...	...	6

Children Acts.

The requirements of the Children Acts are carried out by the Health Visitors and School Nurses. Visits are also made in special cases by the Medical Officer of Health, and during 1934, several irregularities were reported to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, and suitable action was taken.

The following figures show the extent of the years' work.

Number of visits by Health Visitors	...	...	...	...	200
Number of visits by School Nurses	...	...	...	...	54
Number of individual children on the register during the year	...	...	...	...	70
Number of individual children on the register at the end of year	...	...	...	...	40
Number of children who died during the year	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Foster Mothers on the register at the end of the year...	...	...	...	...	40

Grants of Milk.

Number of pints of Milk provided free during the year	...	...	...	...	45625
Number of cases receiving assistance daily	...	...	...	...	125
Number of Pints per Live Birth	...	...	...	...	80
					(1933—57)

		1934	1933	1932	1931
Cost of Milk	...	£461 6s. 9d.	£296	£313	£250

Dental Treatment of Nursing Mothers and Children under 5 years of Age.

By arrangement with the Education Authority the services of the School Dentist, Mr. A. S. Akehurst and Dr. McDonough, as Anaesthetist, have been available since 1931. The amount of work involved has increased and now occupies the whole of the Saturday morning session. For the year ending the 31st March, 1934, the cost to the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee was £50.

For the year that has just ended the cost has risen to £127 10s. 6d., or approximately one-sixth of the whole cost of the dental service of the Education Committee.

Extension of Services, 1934.

During 1934, a report was made by the Medical Officer of Health on the Maternity Services provided by the Council indicating a number of additional facilities which might be provided to render the service more complete. As a result of this it was decided:—

(1) To extend the existing provision of Consultants in cases of Puerperal Pyrexia and Fever, so as to cover also cases presenting any complication during pregnancy or at or after confinement.

(2) To provide Sterilized Maternity Outfits in suitable cases.

(3) To provide in conjunction with the Victoria Home further lying-in accommodation for mothers whose home conditions are unsuitable for confinement.

These extensions of services are provided with the direct object of assisting in the reduction of Maternal Mortality and Morbidity.

Other extensions decided on, relate to the welfare of children between the ages of 12 months and 5 years and are a direct outcome of the recommendations of the Minister of Health, following a visit of one of his inspectors. The most important recommendation, that more visits should be paid to these children, has necessitated the appointment of a third Health Visitor. Other provisions include arrangements for Specialist treatment of the following conditions:—Diseased Tonsils and Adenoids—Discharging Ears—and Eye defects.

Cheltenham Infant Welfare Annual Report. April 1st, 1934— March 31st, 1935.

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.

MEETINGS OF MOTHERS' CLUBS

For Babies and Children up to Five Years.

At Highbury, every Tuesday	...	...	...	at 2.30
At Clare Street Hall, every Wednesday	...	...	...	at 2.30
At Baker Street Institute, every Thursday	...	...	...	at 2.30
At St. Mark's, every Wednesday	...	...	...	at 2.30
(Wesleyan Sunday Schools, Gloucester Road)				

Attendances at Highbury	(46 meetings)	1520 Infants	2055 Toddlers	3575
Attendances at Baker Street	(47 meetings)	1344 Infants	1520 Toddlers	2864
Attendances at Clare Street	(46 meetings)	860 Infants	823 Toddlers	1683
Attendances at St. Mark's	(46 meetings)	1182 Infants	1109 Toddlers	2291
Total				10413

Number of individual Children attending the four Centres:—

Highbury—385	Clare Street—223	Baker Street—351	St. Mark's—226	1185
Visits paid by Club Visitor (since April 1st, 1934)			...	1473

ANNUAL REPORT, 1934-35.

In presenting their 26th Annual Report the Committee are pleased to record that the average attendance at the Centres is slightly higher than that reached last year.

Highbury continues to run smoothly with its two Medical Officers, but the Committee very much regret the pending resignation of Dr. Wingate, who after only 2 years is compelled to retire owing to pressure of work. He will be very much missed by all, his successor has not yet been appointed. The Committee were delighted to welcome Dr. Christie on the Medical Staff, she succeeded Dr. Joly, who left in the autumn to take up an appointment in India.

Clare Street shows a very definite increase in attendances, and during the last quarter of the year had a higher average than had been attained for a considerable time. The building has been redecorated throughout, which has improved its appearance and should help to attract the Mothers, it was beginning to be felt that its condition before was proving definitely detrimental to the progress of the Centre.

St. Mark's continues much as usual, the very regular attendance of the Mothers, especially those with babies under one year of age, is a most noticeable feature.

There is nothing special to record about the Baker Street Centre, the attendances continue to fluctuate enormously. During the past year occasional parcels of baby clothes and Jumble have been sold for a few pence to the Mothers attending the Centre, and the amount realized in this way totals £6 4s. 7½d.

The Committee are always most grateful to the voluntary Helpers. They fully realize that without this help so graciously given it would be impossible to carry on the work efficiently.

Dr. Billings continues to give instructions in Birth Control methods to those Mothers sent by the Medical Officers of the Centres.

The Secretary attended the English Speaking Conference on Maternity and Child Welfare at Birmingham, in July, when the chief subjects under discussion were "The Reduction of Neo Natal Mortality" and "The Importance of Orthopaedic Work for the Child under Five Years of Age."

In September, the Highbury Centre was visited by an Inspector from the Ministry of Health, who also inspected the premises of the three other Centres. She very strongly advocated the giving of more free Cod Liver Oil and Emulsion to the children of unemployed parents, and on her recommendation the Town Council made a grant of £5 to be used entirely for this purpose. A further supply of Virol and Tonics to necessitous cases was made possible by donations from friends.

It is satisfactory to note that the number of cases of Umbilical Hernia strapped during the year is slightly less than last year, 99 cases being recorded.

CHELTENHAM INFANT WELFARE ASSOCIATION

Cash Account April 1st, 1934—March 31st, 1935.

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURE.	
	£	s.	d.
Balance in hand, April 1st, 1934	118	12	1
Cash in hand	...	...	...
Subscriptions	...	...	...
Donation from Glos. Co-operative Society	8	18	0
Grants—	1	1	0
Cheltenham Town Council	...	...	...
Charity Commissioners	350	0	0
Cheltenham Town Council for Cod Liver Oil	19	6	10
Cheltenham Town Council for Nurse's Salary	...	...	...
Income from Nova Scotia	7	6	6
Income from Building Society	4	0	0
Club Fees	...	...	...
Donations from Mothers	37	13	1
Donations from Mothers	...	...	...
Cash in Building Society Current Account from Sale of Needlework	...	...	...
Cash in Post Office Savings Bank from Sale of Clothes	22	12	2
	<u>£617</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>7</u>
	<u>30</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>9½</u>
By Rent	...	...	...
By Doctors' Fees	...	...	...
By Birth Control Clinic	...	...	...
By Salaries and Wages	...	...	...
Health, Unemployment & Accident Insurance	...	...	...
General Expenses—	...	...	...
Stationery	8	8	6
Postage and Telephone	3	1	2½
Cheque Books	1	0	0
Sub. to Infant Welfare Association	2	0	0
Affiliation Fee to County Association	2	2	6
Affiliation Fee to N.C.W.	1	0	0
Teas and Sweets	5	7	0½
Sub. to Magazine	...	...	...
Club Requisites	3	14	4½
Printing Reports	2	5	6
Advert. for Doctor	1	7	0
Secretary's Conference Expenses	2	4	2
Tips at Christmas	1	0	0
Cost of Foods and Drugs	113	7	10
Less Sale of same	111	0	7
	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>
Cash in hand	...	...	...
Cash in Bank	...	...	...
Cash in Building Society Current Account from Sale of Needlework	...	...	...
Cash in Post Office Savings Bank from Sale of Clothes	30	5	8
	<u>£617</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>7</u>

A. HANSON, Hon. Treasurer.

We have examined the above Account with the Books, Vouchers and Counterfoil-receipts of the Association and certify that it is in accordance therewith.

London, April 18th, 1935.

WENHAM EDGE & Co., Chartered Accountants.

SUPERANNUATION EXAMINATIONS.

Medical Examinations of New Employees of the Corporation, etc.

For the purpose of the Superannuation Act, new employees of the Corporation, before final appointment to designated posts, are medically examined by the Medical Officer of Health. Occasionally also medical examinations are made by courtesy for other authorities under which Cheltenham candidates have received appointments provisionally, but have been prevented from presenting themselves for examination locally.

The number of examinations made for these purposes during 1934 was 34. In the case of candidates showing defects, special reports are provided for the information of the Finance Committee.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

The film entitled "Damaged Lives" was exhibited, under the auspices of the Social Hygienic Council, to selected audiences during the year. The object of the foundation of this Council was to spread knowledge with regard to Venereal Disease.

Lectures given by the Medical Officer of Health were :—

24th February—

To Cheltenham Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers.

Subject: "Nutrition and Diet in relation to Physical Fitness."

26th March and 21st September.

To Maternity Pupils Victoria Home.

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

23rd October.

To the "Inner Wheel" branch of the Rotary Club.

Subject: "The School Medical Service and Seaside holidays for poor children."

12th November.

To the Gloucester Rotary Club. Subject: "Food."

SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA FOR THE YEAR 1934.

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH SANITARY INSPECTOR.

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my eighth 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, business premises and workshops has been maintained.

The year under review will reveal by way of tables and statistics that Cheltenham can rightly claim its full share of general progress in dealing with unfit houses under the Housing Acts. The work carried out includes 77 houses in 16 clearance areas, the demolition of 38 houses in preceding clearance areas and also other individual houses. The outstanding feature is the undoubtedly large number of houses which have been dealt with by statutory undertakings signed on behalf of the owners for reconditioning, together with the continuance of the scheme of the local authority of acquiring houses, and the reconditioning and re-development of same.

Under the heading of sanitation the usual work has been performed, and the standard of plumbing work carried out (in many cases by suggestion) is gratifying, particularly when the present tendency is for economy and the minimum observance of the bye-laws.

The spirit of co-operation exhibited by the citizens of Cheltenham calls for special comment, as it is they who contribute in a large measure to the success of overcoming the inevitable obstacles and difficulties which are met with in carrying out the proper execution of the law.

The staff changes include the promotion of Mr. A. C. F. Gisborne from temporary assistant to district sanitary inspector, vide the resignation of Mr. A. C. Arnold to take up a similar appointment under the County Borough of Southend-on-Sea.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee for their help and consideration in carrying out my duties as a sanitary officer.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. R. JEFFORD,

M.R. San. I.

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	...	13,292
WORK IN PROGRESS.		
Number of inspections	... ..	4,008
INTERVIEWS.		
Number of interviews with Builders, Contractors, Owners, etc.	... ..	689
DWELLING HOUSES.		
Number inspected and particulars recorded (Housing Acts, 1930)	... ..	253
Number found to be totally unfit for human habitation	...	85
" " " not in all respects fit for habitation	...	245
" inspected (special enquiries, etc.)	... ..	619
" " (ordinary inspections)	... ..	196
" " re infectious disease	... ..	133
" " after service of notice (re inspections)	...	461
" " re water supply	... ..	3
" " on complaint of Rent Restriction Act	...	1
" " re Underground Sleeping Rooms (Sec. 20 H.A., 1930)	... ..	36
SCHOOLS.		
Number of visits	... ..	18
FACTORIES.		
Number of inspections	... ..	5
WORKSHOPS.		
Ordinary inspections	... ..	92
Domestic	... ..	2
Workplaces	... ..	6
Laundries	... ..	11
Outworkers'	... ..	37
BAKEHOUSES.		
Factory inspections	... ..	46
Ordinary	... ..	20
COWSHEDS AND FARMS.		
Number of inspections	... ..	16
DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.		
Number of inspections	... ..	130
ICE CREAM PREMISES.		
Number of inspections	... ..	24
MILK SAMPLES.		
Number taken for Bacteriological Examinations	... ..	34

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	1,786
PUBLIC ABATTOIR.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	816
BUTCHERS' AND GROCERS' SHOPS, COLD STORES, ETC.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	830
OFFENSIVE TRADES.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	141
FRIED FISH SHOPS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	24
COMMON LODGING HOUSES.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	258
HOUSES-LET-IN-LODGINGS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	30
FOOD SHOPS (TOTAL).						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	1,014
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.						
Number of visits and inspections	...	...	...	...	...	1,053
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CONVENIENCES.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	106
PLACES LICENSED FOR PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	5
PLACES WHERE ANIMALS ARE KEPT.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	26
SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	30
TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	16
MARKET STALLS AND FAIRS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	299
RAT INFESTATION.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	152
MINOR SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	6
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE REFUSE TIPS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	40

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

TABLE No. II.

HOUSES.

Dwelling houses improved	103
Provided with sufficient w.c. and sanitary accommodation	4
" " " water supply	3
" " Internal or separate water supply	23
Roofs overhauled and repaired	153
New floors laid or repaired	261
Yards and areas paved... ..	107
Eaves gutters and rainwater down pipes renewed or repaired	320
Rainwater down pipes disconnected from drain	—
Rooms cleansed	390
Rooms repaired	320
Overcrowding abated	14
Disinfected after infectious disease	98

SCHOOLS.

Sanitary conveniences improved and cleansed	3
--	---

BAKEHOUSES.

Cleansed and limewashed	33
Found in an insanitary condition	—

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

Cleansed and limewashed	6
Nuisances found and abated... ..	5

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

Sanitary condition improved... ..	3
Cleansed and limewashed	12
New Registrations	7

ICE CREAM MANUFACTURERS' PREMISES.

Cleansed	8
Sanitary condition improved... ..	—

OFFENSIVE TRADES' PREMISES.

Cleansed and limewashed	22
Sanitary condition improved... ..	4

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Cleansed and limewashed	9
Sanitary condition improved... ..	—

DRAINS.

Opened and examined (Sec. 41 P.H. Act, 1875)	40
Water tests applied to drains	455
Smoke " " " and soil pipes... ..	219
New drains laid... ..	233
Length in yards of stoneware pipe drains laid	1,400
" " of heavy cast iron drains "	1,413
Manholes and inspection chambers provided	160
Intercepting traps fixed	115
Iron and stoneware gully traps fixed... ..	363
Drains flushed	150

SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES.

Provision of septic tanks, filter beds and effluent drains ...	6
--	---

SUBSOIL DRAINS.

Subsoil drains laid	3
----------------------------	---

WATER CLOSETS.

New water closets built	21
New w.c. pans of the washdown type fixed	392
Flushing boxes fixed to w.c.'s	232
" " repaired	92
Water closets and drains unstopped	65
Defective and dirty w.c. pans... ..	392

SOIL AND VENTILATING SHAFTS.

New soil and ventilating shafts fixed... ..	200
---	-----

WASTE PIPES.

New waste pipes fixed and repaired	519
Trapped and disconnected	516
Siphonage or vent pipes fixed... ..	143

SINKS.

New sinks and lavatory basins fixed... ..	505
---	-----

HOUSES-LET-IN-LODGINGS.

Sanitary condition improved	1
Cleansed and limewashed	6

ASH RECEPTACLES.

New moveable galvanised with covers provided	49
---	----

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notices sent to Masters and Mistresses of schools with regard to infectious disease	59
Notices sent to Parents with regard to infectious disease	60
" " " Public Library with regard to infectious disease	5
Articles of clothing disinfected after infectious disease ...	2,381
" " " etc., disinfected for outside Sanitary Authorities, etc.	1,493

NOTICES, ETC.

The total number of inspections made during the year was 13,292. In 412 houses and premises dealt with, nuisances to the number of 7141 were discovered, and 3213 abated, and in dealing with the sanitary defects from which they arose, 113 preliminary or informal and 136 statutory or formal notices were served.

The number of letters received and despatched with reference to the department was 896. In order to supervise efficiently sanitary work in progress 4008 visits were made. The number of complaints received in the Health Department numbered 432 as against 451 in the previous year. All these were duly investigated and dealt with as found expedient.

SMOKE ABATEMENT, ETC.

There were 5 cases of complaint in regard to smoke nuisance received during the year, and new smoke consuming apparatus was fitted to a factory boiler. In the case of two asphalt-making plants, complaints were made respecting the exhaust dust; one of these factories, after extensive experiment has reduced the exhaust to a satisfactory level, and action is pending in regard to the other plant.

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

1. Common Lodging Houses.

The number on the register remains at 6, viz. one erected on the "Rowton House" system, one converted and disused public-house (both satisfactory); and the remaining 4 are houses at least 100 years old. The number of inspections made was 258, including one night inspection.

2. Houses let-in-lodgings.

The number of registered premises is 16 and 30 visits were made. There is every reason to believe that other houses exist which should be registered. In my opinion this is the most difficult phase of housing coming under the control of local authorities, and it is very essential that proper control should be exercised. Too often the residents are migrant families who earn a precarious livelihood, possess little or no furniture, and pay a rent far in excess of the value of the accommodation provided.

3. Cellar dwellings.

Included in this category are the basement dwellings, of which 14 were closed under the Housing Acts, and 3 amended in accordance with the regulations, 36 inspections were made in this connection. There is considerably more work to be carried out in Cheltenham, but this must necessarily be delayed until there is new accommodation for rehousing. The position of the occupants in the basements of several storied houses is made worse by the fact that the houses themselves generally contain a number of families not classified as working-class.

With the waste pipes from all the fittings, such as sinks, baths, etc., discharging into a drain gully situated in the area, the occupants of the basements very often live in a constant nauseating odour. Quite frequently the area is the only free air-space and is the sole playground for the occupants' children.

4. Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Cases have occurred in an outlying rural part of the Borough where people have deposited furniture or container vans, or erected wooden huts which they have converted into temporary dwellings. Immediate action was taken in the matter, which resulted in the removal of the vans and demolition orders being made in respect of the huts. Constant supervision of undeveloped areas is required to prevent the setting up of these undesirable residences.

5. Offensive Trades.

The following offensive trades are carried on in the Borough and inspections were made in regard to limewashing and general conduct under the respective bye-laws (a) 1 Fat Melter; (b) 1 Fellmonger; (c) 1 Tripe Boiler; (d) 2 Dealers in Raw Hides and Skins; (e) 20 Fried Fish Shops; (f) 18 Dealers in Iron, Metal, Bones and Rabbit Skins.

Application has been made with regard to the following offensive trades—2 Fried Fish Shops and 1 Dealer in Iron, Metal, Bones and Rabbit Skins.

Compensation for an Offensive Trade. The local authority came to terms (at a cost of £1,500) with a firm carrying on the business of fat melters, and its removal will confer a considerable benefit upon the residents of a congested area. Ultimately the local authority will dispose of the land after clearance of the site, for the benefit of adjoining houses and the extension of a school playground.

6. Slaughterhouses (Private).

The number of inspections made of these premises which are registered and now number 8, was 1,786, and there is a general observance of the bye-laws and compliance with the Public Health (Meat) Regulations.

The local authority removed from the register one slaughterhouse which had been disused for several years and which was found to be used for the purposes of another trade; the owners raised no objection to its removal.

7. Slaughterhouse (Public Abattoir).

The Public Abattoir is undoubtedly an important asset to the public health of the town, and it deals with more than half the meat consumed in the district. Every convenience is supplied to meet modern requirements, which is appreciated by the meat traders, and contributes to the smooth and efficient working of the establishment. The handling of meat and the question of efficient meat inspection are important considerations. The Abattoir is under direct control of the Sanitary Inspector, and a Superintendent, who is an experienced slaughterman.

Public Abattoir Trading Account, year ending 31st March, 1934.

<i>Expenditure.</i>			<i>Income.</i>		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Rates, Taxes, Insurance	42	3 7	Slaughtering		
Superintendent's Wages	149	11 8	Fees ...	361	10 1
Labour, Hauling and collection of offal ...	77	9 10	Licences ...	2	5 0
Sundry painting, white- washing, repairs, etc.	94	6 2		<u>363</u>	<u>15 1</u>
Electricity and Power...	16	17 9			
Coal and Wood ...	35	16 0			
Sundry fittings and materials ...	19	4 1			
Printing, etc. ...	11	2 0			
Water Supply ...	7	1 5			
Electric Fittings and Apparatus (Electric Stunning) ...	58	15 6			
Wall Equipment (Electric Stunning) ...	49	5 2	Deficit ...	281	2 7
	<u>561</u>	<u>14 2</u>			
Loan Charges— Contributions to Sinking Fund Interest (including Tax) ...	83	3 6			
Total ...	<u>£644</u>	<u>17 8</u>	Total ...	<u>£644</u>	<u>17 8</u>

8. Stables and other places where Animals are kept.

These premises continue to be kept in a satisfactory condition.

DRAINAGE AND SANITATION.

1. House Drainage.

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 the drains of 40 houses and premises, and reports together with specifications were submitted. The action taken was under Sec. 41 of the Public Health Act, 1875. During the year the department has supervised the laying of 1,400 yards of stoneware pipes and 1,413 yards of heavy cast iron coated pipes, also the fixing of 115 intercepting traps, 363 gully traps and 160 inspection chambers and manholes. In connection with the work 455 water tests and 219 smoke tests were applied to drains, and soil and ventilating shafts.

The number of existing buildings where plans of proposed alterations and additions were approved by the Town Planning Committee was 38. In each case the sanitary work was carried out to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Inspector. New flats or conversions of premises were supervised as to sanitary fittings and the work incidental thereto.

2. Corporation Sanitary Certificate.

Corporation Sanitary Certificates were granted during the year in respect of the undermentioned houses, making a total number of 1,458 certificates issued since these were inaugurated in the Borough of Cheltenham.

2, York Terrace, St. George's Road,
Belgrave Lodge, Montpellier Terrace,
Brabourne, Montpellier Drive,
13, Lypiatt Street,
Langton Hotel, Bath Road,
4, Priory Parade,
Parabola House, Parabola Road.

The standard of work demanded has from time to time been the subject of criticism, but as the certificate is issued by the local authority it must necessarily signify principles of permanent worth. To illustrate this point more fully, where the soil consists of clay, the whole drainage is required to be composed of heavy cast iron pipes with caulked lead joints, and it can be stated that in no case has a leak ever been found on subsequent test, even with drains 40 years old.

3. Schools.

The whole of the sanitary conveniences at the elementary and council schools have been inspected, some minor and small defects were found in the sanitary fittings and in the proper cleansing, etc., at most of them. During the year sanitary additions or improvements were carried out at four schools, i.e., Christ Church and Alstone, St. Paul's Girls' and the Parish Church. Nearly the whole of the drainage at St. Paul's was relaid and modern fittings installed. The bad type of trough closets with single flushing tank are still in use at Holy Trinity Boys' School, and there are bad arrangements of w.c. accommodation at St. Gregory's. In the case of the former the matter is under consideration and in the latter new schools are contemplated.

4. Minor Sewage Disposal.

Attempts to properly dispose of sullage water and drainage from house sinks by means of the ordinary septic tank principle have proved failures, but where the drainage incorporates human soil, proper disintegration and septicization automatically occur, so that by the ordinary method of laying unjointed pipes laid on a clinker bed a clean effluent is obtained. The efficient ventilation of the irrigation drain is of the utmost importance, and by means of periodic inspection and observation the value of aeration in overcoming secondary decomposition has been successfully accomplished. The most effective septic tank is that which has a minimum depth of water not less than 6 to 7 feet, provided with an intervening wall, containing screening bars near the bottom of the division.

HOUSING.

The work performed in the Borough of Cheltenham is set out in the usual tables and other tables have been included which describe more fully the action taken in dealing with houses unfit for human habitation, and the improvements carried out as the result of formal and informal notices. A full list of houses erected by the local authority, with particular note in regard to rehousing displaced persons from slum areas, during the years 1927, 1930, 1933 and 1934, is duly set out.

It can be stated that the present period represents the peak of progress in furtherance of the Government's Five Year Plan, instituted in 1933, but actually Cheltenham commenced the work of slum clearance in 1925. The total number of houses demolished under slum areas, by action in regard to individual houses ; by the closing of cellars, basement dwellings and parts of buildings ; and by the inclusion of areas already under clearance orders is approximately 400.

With No. 2 Scheme awaiting Inquiry there are 131 houses to be dealt with during the coming year.

There were 249 houses for which formal and informal notices were served, and the table 4 on page 44 fully describes the improvements carried out, including the important work executed under the departmental specifications of statutory undertakings. The department has had a difficult task in supplying the detailed specifications both in drafting and in typing, being hampered by lack of clerical assistance. The value of these specifications cannot be overestimated, certainly local experience goes to prove that they form a fundamental basis of negotiation, clarity in execution, and a resulting standard comparable with the Manual of the Ministry of Health ; generally admitted as the finest guide ever issued by the department of the Ministry in dealing with unfit houses. The average estimated cost of repairs amended in the case of 8 houses where formal notices were served was £22 : the average rateable value and weekly inclusive rent was £9 and 7s. 8d. respectively. The work entailed by Sec. 19 in regard to houses subject to undertakings has limited the scope for dealing with repairs to houses under the visitation of house-to-house surveys.

Reconditioning and Reconstruction.

Statutory undertakings in accordance with specification of works were accepted by the local authority in respect of 30 houses, and a point to be included under this heading is—that quite a number of houses changed hands from owners, unwilling to incur the outlay, to other persons willing to undertake the liability. An important feature of the work is the insistence upon reconstruction of the roof, too often it is found that the roof timbers are defective and a covering clause requires the stripping by the builder for the purposes of examination. Inspection of the work during its progress is an essential feature, as defects are revealed in the construction and other details which must be remedied in order that a certificate can be given at the completion.

Houses acquired by Local Authority for reconditioning and reconstruction.

The Cheltenham Corporation have during the past five years carried out pioneer work in acquiring unfit houses suitable for rehabilitation and which is soon to form a definite part of housing legislation, and the scheme provides for the sale of houses when completed. Between 40 and 50 have been purchased, and the work proceeds immediately accommodation has been provided for the occupiers. It has been of practical assistance to owners of small means and the scheme has actually been an incentive to private persons to undertake this class of work, thus making a contribution to solving the housing problem, and resulting in considerable saving to the tax and rate-payer when the subsidy required for new houses is taken into account.

Housing Accommodation.

The number of houses erected together with the revised inclusive rents is duly set out, with special reference to rehousing of displaced persons from slum areas. A special difficulty has arisen in finding accommodation for persons displaced by reason of the owner's undertakings under Sec. 19 of the Housing Act, 1930, and some attempt has been made to affect exchange of tenants from a list of occupants on the Council's register. The absence of a subsidy for this class of housing definitely handicaps the work, unless extra provision for building is made, and the pooling of the subsidy results in a relative increase of rent for displaced slum persons.

COUNCIL HOUSES.

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 1924 Act
Swindon Road ...	3	A	8/6	11	
Malvern Street ...	3	A	8/6	5	
Cobham Road ...	2	A2	5/9	15	
Elm Street ...	2	A2	5/9	11	
Malvern Street ...	3	A	7/11	7	
Manser Street ...	2	A2	6/1	31	
" " ...	3	A	8/-	37	
Hudson Street ...	2	A2	6/1	13	
" " ...	3	A	8/-	38	
" " ...	3	A1	8/6	12	} Slum Clearance H.A. 1930 1924 Act
Hanover Parade ...	3	A1	8/6	7	
Crabtree Place ...	2	A2	6/1	7	
" " ...	2	A2	5/6	17	
" " ...	3	A	7/-	19	
Folly Lane ...	3	A	7/-	7	
" " ...	2	A2	6/1	11	
" " ...	3	A	8/-	33	
Margrett Road ...	2	A2	6/1	14	
" " ...	3	A	8/-	29	
St. Paul's Road ...	3	A	8/-	8	(2 Sold) (1 Sold) (1 Sold)
Whaddon Road ...	2	A2	6/10	20	
Whaddon Avenue ...	3	A	8/11	69	
Old Bath Road ...	3	A	9/5	2	
Pilley Crescent ...	2	A2	6/10	28	
" " ...	3	A	8/11	71	
Alstone Lane ...	3	A	7/6, 7/-	5	
" " ...	2	A2	5/6	6	
Pates' Avenue ...	3	A	7/-, 6/6	32	
" " ...	2	A2	5/6, 5/-	35	
Moor's Estate ...	4	A3	7/5	7	} Under Construction.
" " ...	3	A	7/1, 6/7, 6/1	44	
" " ...	2	A2	6/-, 5/6, 5/-	65	
" " ...	1	A4	4/-	16	
" "	24	Proposed.

St. Mark's Housing Estate.

Sold	Let	Rent Inclusive (Present)	No.	Rent Inclusive (Revised)	
28	132	12/10 10/6	160		H.A. 1919.
153	11	12/10	164		H.A. 1923.
49	137	10/9, 11/8, 13/7	186		H.A. 1924.
	32	15/9	32		Without Subsidy.
	16	£45 Yearly plus rates	16		" "

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)	364
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1,080
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	253
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	760
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	85
(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	245

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	8
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
	(a) By owners	9
	(b) By local authority in default of owners...	1

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	26
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	26
(b) By local authority in default of owners...	2

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	31
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	10

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 ...	13
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	3

E.—Statutory Undertakings under section 19 of the Housing Act, 1930 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal undertakings were signed by owners	31
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were completed under formal undertaking given by owners ...	12
(3) Number of dwelling-houses subject to representation but acquired by L.A. and reconditioned or reconstructed	9

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	1

4. Number of New Houses erected during 1934 :—

(a) Total	160
(1) By local authority	18
(2) By other bodies or persons	142
(b) Without State Assistance under the Housing Acts	
(1) By the local authority	Nil
(c) With State Assistance under the Housing Acts	
(1) By the local authority	18

HOUSES UNFIT FOR HABITATION.

Action taken under Housing Acts, 1925 and 1930.

1. Closing Orders S. 20 Parts of Buildings, Basements or Underground Rooms.

100, Bath Road ; Hatherley Lawn Stables ; 21, Henrietta Street ; 4, Lansdown Place ; 6, Lansdown Terrace, rear ; 36, Montpellier Villas ; 2, Oriel Terrace ; 3, Priory Street ; 17, Rotunda Terrace ; Six Chimney Farm, Alstone ; 4 and 6, St. Georges Terrace ; 1, Suffolk Parade.

1a. Premises amended to Regulations, etc.

17, Montpellier Villas ; 2, Oriel Terrace ; 12, Suffolk Square.

2. Demolition Orders S. 19.

5, Barnes Yard and Cumberland Buildings, Grove Street ; Beechhurst Cottages, Hales Road ; 4, Brighton Cottages, Millbrook Street ; Dee Cottage, Hatherley Road ; Flesk Cottage, Wellesley Road ; 1 and 2, Forge Cottages, Milsom Street ; 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, Gloucester Road ; 8a and 9a, Hewlett Place ; 3 Huts, Hesters Way ; 6, 10, 27, 64, Rutland Street ; 100, 121, Tewkesbury Road ; 26a, York Street.

2a. Undertakings signed by owners. Conversion of premises S. 19.

352, 354, 356, Gloucester Road ; 21, Bath Road ; 15, 16, Upper Bath Street.

3a. Representations S. 19, adjourned consideration.

2, 52, 62, Burton Street ; 15, 15a, 16, Casino Place ; 2, 4, Fairview Street ; 10, Grosvenor Street ; 27, Queen Street ; 40, 51, Rutland Street ; 9, Sherborne Place ; 104, Tewkesbury Road all adjourned consideration.

4. Work executed by owner, through an Undertaking S. 19.

Mill House, Dunscoth, 2, Arle Mill Cottages, Arle ; 20, Grosvenor Terrace, Determination of Closing Order H.A. 1925 ; 9, Columbia Street ; 49, 59, 43, 37, Rutland Street ; 25, Jersey Street, Back to back houses converted to single house ; 5 and 5a, Hermitage Street ; 53, Worcester Street.

5. Undertakings signed by owners S. 19.

Buckingham Villa, Wellington Street ; 6, 10, 12, Columbia Street ; 2, 3, Clare Garden Cottages, Clare Street ; 368, 370, Gloucester Road ; 16, 22, 24, 25, 31, 37, 38, 39, 42, 43, 46, 49, 59, 62, 63, Rutland Street ; 47, 49, 51, Sherborne Street ; 36a, York Street, Back to back houses, Conversion into single house ; 17 and 17a, Burton Street, Back to back houses, Conversion into single house ; 1 and 2, Greens Cottages, Rutland Street, Back to back houses, Conversion into single house.

- 6. Acquisition for Reconditioning and Reconstruction by L.A.**
17, 18, 56, 57, 58, 60, 61, 65, Rutland Street ; 16, Rutland Street, negotiations pending.
- 6a, Works Completed on Acquired Houses by L.A.**
2a, 3a, 4a, 7a, 14, Rutland Street ; 15, Elm Street ; 44, Burton Street—sold.
- 7. Houses Demolished S. 19.**
5, Barnes Yard, Grove Street ; 358, 360, 362, 364, 366, Gloucester Road ; Beechhurst Cottage, Hales Road ; 1, 2, Forge Cottages, Milsom Street ; 4, Brighton Cottages, Millbrook Street ; 26a, York Street.
- 8. Slum Clearance S. 1. Houses Demolished.**
4-24, Swindon Place ; 25-35, Swindon Passage ; 1-3, Bubbs Cottages, High Street.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There are 13 farms or dairy farms, and 71 dairies and retail purveyors on the register for the borough. The registrations totalled 6 wholesale traders, producers and retail purveyors, residing outside the district who were duly registered, one application was refused on the adverse report of the local authority in whose area the applicant resided, due to absence of water supply for the farm. The Milk Marketing Scheme has been responsible for the majority of outside applicants being placed on the register.

All retail premises have been inspected and 146 visits were made including visits to farms where milk samples were taken for bacteriological examination. With increase in staff of the department more attention will be paid to farms and, under the County Council Scheme, the number of samples to be taken will require at least four visits per year. The samples of milk under the graded milk standard are taken and forwarded to the Analyst.

Meat Inspection.

The usual tabular statements are submitted which fully illustrate the careful attention given to the meat supply of the district.

There is a drop of 1,305 animals in the number slaughtered in the borough, chiefly in sheep and pigs, of which the Meat Marketing Scheme is responsible in the case of pigs.

There were no formal seizures made of diseased or unsound foods during the year, and in cases of doubt the local meat purveyors readily notify the Sanitary Inspector and accept his decision without question.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The number of licenses issued to slaughtermen, as required by the provision of this Act, is 52, including the Superintendent of the Abattoir and assistant. The Public Abattoir is well equipped with electric stunning apparatus for pigs, calves and sheep, in addition to the usual humane killers and stunners. One local butcher has installed electric stunning for pigs. The Council decided not to enforce the compulsory stunning of sheep.

Number of Animals slaughtered during 1934.

TABLE No. 6.

Species	Private Slaughterhouses	Abattoir	Total
Bullocks	14	19	33
Heifers	474	408	882
Cows	—	1	1
Calves	635	1,768	2,403
Sheep	4,926	5,196	10,122
Pigs	1,656	3,359	5,015
Total	7,705	10,751	18,456

Number of Animals affected with Tuberculosis.

TABLE No. 7.

Species	No. Slaughtered	Found Tuberculous	Percentage
Bullocks	33	2	6.06
Heifers	882	23	2.61
Cows	1	1	100.00
Calves	2,403	1	0.04
Pigs	5,015	190	3.79
Total	8,334	217	2.60

Carcases Condemned as Totally Unfit for Human Food.

TABLE No. 8.

Species	T.B.	Inflam- matory Diseases	Bacter- ial Disease	Mori- bund	Abnormal Pathologi- cal Conditions	Total Number of Animals
Cows	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heifers	3	—	—	—	—	3
Pigs	6	1	1	1	1	10
Sheep	—	2	1	—	2	5
Calves	1	2	—	—	—	3
Total	10	5	2	1	3	21

TABLE No. 9.

					Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Beef in carcase	...	...	...	...		19	0	11
Pork	„	...	...	...		8	2	1
Veal	„	...	...	...		1	2	19
Mutton	„	...	...	...		1	0	27
Meat not in carcase	...	...	...	...	1	11	2	16
Organs	...	...	...	...	1	17	1	15
Total					4	19	2	5

Various Organs condemned as Unfit for Human Food.

TABLE No. 10.

		Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Kidneys	Spleens	Mesenteries	Intestines
Tuberculosis	Cows	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Heifers	11	12	3	4	4	4	4	7	5
	Pigs	130	89	29	47	22	32	24	96	27
	Calves	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
Inflammatory conditions	Bovine	-	4	-	1	1	-	1	-	-
	Sheep	2	3	2	4	3	4	2	2	2
	Calves	1	2	1	3	1	2	1	1	1
	Pigs	5	208	121	62	61	16	33	35	79
Bacterial diseases	Bovine	-	2	-	5	-	-	-	-	-
	Sheep	1	3	1	3	1	2	1	1	1
	Pigs	4	2	2	2	2	4	2	2	2
	Calves	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
Parasitic diseases	Bovine	-	-	-	157	-	-	-	-	-
	Sheep	-	1	-	69	-	-	-	-	-
	Pigs	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Abnormal Pathological conditions	Bovine	1	-	-	13	-	-	-	-	-
	Sheep	3	6	3	8	3	3	3	3	3
	Pigs	-	1	-	18	-	10	-	-	-
	Calves	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
Actinomycosis	Bovine	3	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Total		164	339	165	401	100	82	73	150	122

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

TABLE No. 11.

	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
MEATS.			
3 Tin Beef			18
MISCELLANEOUS TINNED FOODS.			
Fruit, Fish, etc.—35 Tins	1	1	2
POULTRY.			
111 Fowls, 11 Turkeys, 1 Goose	4	1	8
RABBITS.			
70 Carcases	1	1	16
FISH.			
Herrings, Kippers	1	3	16
Fruit, Vegetables, etc.	2	1	6
Total ...	11	1	10

**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)	51	3	Nil
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	173	12	Nil
Workplaces (Other than Out- workers premises)	6	2	Nil
Total ...	194	17	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	7	13	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 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil
	Unsuitable or defective ...	7	3	Nil
	Not separate for sexes ...	1	Nil	Nil
Offences under the Factory and Workshops' Acts :				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101)	Nil	Nil	Nil	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 ...	15	16	Nil	Nil

3. Home Work.

Lists received from Employers.

Nature of Work	Once in the Year		Twice in the Year	
	Lists	Out-workers	Lists	Out-workers
Wearing Apparel (making) ...	2	13	3	24
Notified from other Authorities ...	Nil	Nil	1	2

Number of Outworkers on Register 47

Outworkers' Premises inspected during 1934 ... 37

4. Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year								Number
Dressmakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Tailors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Bootmakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Milliners	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Builders, Woodworkers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Metal Workers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Motor and Cycle Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	81
Total								337

5. Other Matters.

Class	Number
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories	Nil
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	5
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101)	Nil
Certificates granted during the year	Nil
In use at the end of the year	2

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

It was only necessary in one instance to institute legal proceedings and this related to a contravention of the bye-laws at the Public Abattoir, viz.: pigs remaining on the premises without food or water for more than 24 hours. The offending butcher and owner of the animals pleaded "guilty," and no penalties were exacted by the Magistrates.

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

Repairs and Sanitary work to Houses.

8, Northfield Terrace, North Place...	20	0	0
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Drainage Work.

1, Priory Buildings, Priory Street	46	7	0
63, Upper Park Street	2	0	0

Demolition Work.

29, Rutland Street	10	0	0
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Total					...	£78	7	0
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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. During the week 30 notifications were received of additional premises that were rat infested or where rats had been seen, and in addition to these applications for advice, assistance was asked for in cases outside the borough and jurisdiction of this authority.

The following observations are extracted from the report :—

“ Year by year it becomes more evident that National Rat Week is appreciated in the built up areas, particularly is this so in the Borough of Cheltenham. In view of the applications made to me each year from outside districts up to a radius of nearly 20 miles (in consequence of the circulation of the local newspaper) I am convinced that the real trouble lies in the large rural areas.”

The system of local notification shows conclusive proof that the complaints on investigation, prove to be due, in the majority of cases to migratory rats ; in other words the migration takes place annually about the third week in October from the surrounding areas, followed by a second migration when the severe weather prevails during the winter.

The Cheltenham Town Council, not only endorsed this report but a letter was sent by them to the Gloucester County Council pointing out the adverse position of the district and the absence of any action or effort under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919.

Since the presentation of my report and overtures to the County Council the matter is receiving the attention of this authority, who see that my surmise in regard to the cause of infestation has been unfortunately proved to be correct.

Executive Officers in various parts of the country are unanimous in their request for uniform action, and there can be no better example in this respect than the Government action in dealing with the Musk Rat problem. The Musk Rat is after all, only responsible for damage to land on the banks of the rivers and streams, whereas the ordinary rat has obtained a foothold not only in the agricultural areas, but he is attacking premises and dwellings with serious results. The financial loss to the community is generally admitted, but when food shops are infested and food for consumption is contaminated, it becomes a serious matter for public health action. One case occurred in Cheltenham where I was obliged to close the shop with only a few hours notice, call upon the shop keeper to surrender a cart load of bacon, cheese, etc., and not allow any further business until the whole premises had been rendered rat proof from floor to ceiling.



