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Borough of  Cheltenham

ANNUAL REPORT
ON THE
Health of Cheltenham

Vital Statistics, Sanitary Work, &c.

FOR THE YEAR

1937

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the health of the Borough during 1937.

The report is a statutory duty placed on the Medical Officer and is prepared on the lines indicated by the Ministry of Health.

Among the matters of more particular interest your attention is directed to the notes on vital statistics. Under the heading of Maternal Mortality mention is made of a new drug. The introduction of comments on drugs into public health reports is neither usual nor orthodox. The only excuse is that in this instance a Public Health matter, which has received much publicity and prolonged attention, is involved. It is therefore perhaps not out of place to mention an event which appears to have modified preconceived ideas with regard to the possibility of preventing the development of or even killing virulent organisms circulating in the blood stream by means of a drug. Experience has shown that it is not wise to make unqualified statements as to the value of new drugs, but the success already achieved in this case makes it probable that the discovery of this remedy marks the greatest advance in treatment, by the use of synthetic inorganic compounds, since Ehrlich announced his discovery of Salvarsan in 1910.

The scheme for the provision of a domiciliary service of Midwives in accordance with the requirements of the Midwives Act was approved by the Minister of Health during 1937 (see page 25).

The formation of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board and the work involved in providing the new supply have given particular prominence to the subject of water supplies. Chlorination has received special attention and for this reason a detailed statement as to present practice and policy in this matter is made in the report (see page 13).

An important service which came into operation last year was the further provision for orthopaedic cases. The Maternity and Child Welfare Committee is responsible for the working of this scheme in so far as it relates to children under five and not attending school. After this age the Education Committee assumes responsibility for them (see page 33).

In conclusion I should like to express my thanks to members of the Council for their consideration in the conduct of the work and to the staff for the zeal and loyalty with which they have carried out their duties.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

DONALD E. MORLEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

May, 1938.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

December, 1937.

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	„ „
Miss C. M. Powell	W * f g i k	„ „
Mr. C. W. Clifford	W * d	District Sanitary Inspector.
Mr. F. Keene	W * d e	„ „ „
Mr. J. F. Ursell	W * d e	„ „ „
Mr. E. Jackson	W * d e	„ „ „
Mr. W. Townsend	W	Disinfecting Inspector.
Miss B. A. Richards	W	Chief Clerk.
Miss L. Ellis	W	Clerk, M. & C. W. & Public Health.
Miss E. A. Stroud	P	Clerk, Public Health and School Medical.
Mr. H. E. Clapp	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.

k Mothercraft Training Society Certificate.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS, 1937.

Area of borough (in acres)—5,146*

Population { Census 1931, Corrected Figure—49,418
 { Registrar General's Estimates of Resident Population { (Mid Year) 1937—51,420.
 { (Mid Year) 1936—51,390.
 { (Mid Year) 1935—51,140.*
 { (Mid Year) 1934—50,350.
 { (Mid Year) 1933—50,720.

Number of inhabited houses (structurally separate)

(Census 1921)—10,928. (Census 1931)—12,272.

Number of inhabited houses (end 1937) according to Rate Books—14,928.

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

(Census 1931)—13,211.

Rateable value £440,914. Sum represented by a penny rate £1,750.

*Change of Boundary 1935.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1937.

	M.	F.	Totals	Rate
LIVE BIRTHS—Legitimate	325	311	636	Birth Rate per 1000 population. 13.2
Illegitimate	23	22	45	
Totals	348	333	681	
STILL BIRTHS—Legitimate	12	13	25	Still Birth Rate per 1000 (Live and Still) Births. 36.8
Illegitimate	—	1	1	
Totals	12	14	26	
DEATHS	371	461	832	Death Rate per 1000 population. 16.2

Cheltenham deaths from Puerperal Causes.		Per 1000 Total Live and Still Births.		Per 1000 Live Births	
		Cheltenham	<i>England and Wales</i>	Cheltenham	<i>England and Wales</i>
Puerperal Sepsis ...	0	—	<i>0.94</i>	—	<i>0.97</i>
Other Puerperal Causes	2	2.83	<i>2.17</i>	2.94	<i>2.26</i>
Totals	2	2.83	<i>3.11</i>	2.94	<i>3.23</i>

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.				Rate per 1000 Live Births.	
	M	F	Totals	Cheltenham	England and Wales
Legitimate	18	17	35	55.8	58
Illegitimate	1	2	3		
Totals	19	19	38		

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)—106.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)—3.

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)—2.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)—4.

Corrected General 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 12

Comparative Birth-rates, Death-rates, and Analysis of Mortality and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1937.

The rates for England and Wales and Cheltenham have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1937, but those for London and the groups of towns, have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1936.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns).

	England and Wales	125 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County	CHELTEMHAM
Rates per 1,000 Population					
Births :—					
Live	14.9	14.9	15.3	13.3	13.2
Still	0.60	0.67	0.64	0.54	36.8
Deaths :—					
All Causes	12.4	12.5	11.9	12.3	16.2
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.06
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	—
Whooping Cough	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06	0.04
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05	0.02
Influenza... ..	0.45	0.39	0.42	0.38	0.41
Violence	0.54	0.45	0.42	0.51	0.54
Notifications :—					
Smallpox... ..	0.00	—	0.00	—	—
Scarlet Fever	2.33	2.56	2.42	2.09	1.44
Diphtheria	1.49	1.81	1.38	1.93	0.35
Enteric Fever	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.05	0.02
Erysipelas	0.37	0.43	0.34	0.44	0.19
Pneumonia	1.36	1.58	1.20	1.18	0.47
Rates per 1,000 Live Births					
Deaths under 1 year of age	58	62	55	60	55.8
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.8	7.9	3.2	12.0	5.9

**Causes of Death in Borough of Cheltenham in 1937 as given
by the Registrar General. (Total Deaths 832).**

CAUSES OF DEATH.							M.	F.
All Causes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	371	461
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2 Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
3 Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
5 Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
6 Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	10	11
7 Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
9 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	17	14
10 Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	6
11 Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
13 Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	38	68
14 Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	12
15 Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	23
16 Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	109	115
17 Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
18 Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	25
19 Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	13
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	24
21 Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
22 Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	7
23 Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2
24 Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
25 Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
26 Other diseases of liver, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5
27 Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	8
28 Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	14	21
29 Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
30 Other puerperal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2
31 Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	14
32 Senility	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	38
33 Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	2
34 Other violence	...	...	...	...	...	...	9	12
35 Other defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	34	29
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above).								
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	18	17
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
	Totals	...	...	...	...	...	19	19
Live Births	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	325	311
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	23	22
	Totals	...	...	...	...	...	348	333
Stillbirths	Legitimate	...	...	...	...	...	12	13
	Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
	Totals	...	...	...	...	...	12	14
Population ...							51,420.	

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS OF 1937.

Population.

The Registrar General has estimated the population as 51,420 for the middle of 1937. This shows an increase of only 30 over the 1936 estimate. The previous increase was 250.

Birth Rate and Infant Mortality.

The number of live births was 681 compared with 694 for 1936. This gives a rate of 13·2, which although slightly lower than that for 1936, is again above the average for the last ten or twelve years.

The figures for the country as a whole similarly show a check in the decline in the birth rate which reached the record low level of 14·4 in 1933. The rate for last year was 14·9 which followed rates of 14·8 and 14·7 in the two previous years. This suggests that the improvement in the Cheltenham birth rate is not merely of local significance but may be an index of the general improvement in economic conditions.

Death Rate.

The death rate was above the average although the corrected figure was slightly better than that for England and Wales. Apart from the higher infant mortality, factors contributing to this were, a minor influenza outbreak, an increase in the number of deaths ascribed to senility, and a higher death rate from heart disease in males.

Maternal Mortality.

There were no deaths of Cheltenham mothers from Puerperal Infection last year.

In this connection it is interesting to note that the Puerperal Mortality Rate for the country as a whole last year was 15% lower than the lowest figure since 1911 when the present classification of maternal deaths was introduced. The figure is made up of two components of which the rate for deaths from infection was 23%, and for other cases 6%, lower than any previous rate during the same period. It is tempting to associate this improvement with the introduction of the Midwives Act 1936, but while it is likely that the improved conditions introduced by this Act and the recent attention given to the subject of maternal deaths are factors associated with the reduction in the mortality, it is only fair to point out that the remarkable reduction in the death rate from infection is probably also associated with the recent introduction of a new drug, the full effects of which have not yet been seen.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

The Cheltenham District Nursing Association provides qualified nurses to attend to the sick in their own homes, at a graded charge, or free if necessary.

The annual grant made by the Corporation to the Association includes an amount to cover the nursing of children under five suffering from measles, whooping-cough, ophthalmia neonatorum and epidemic diarrhoea.

MATERNITY SERVICES.

Ward.

The District Nursing Association has received assistance from the Corporation towards the provision of a maternity ward since 1917, in the form of grants which have increased during that period from £18 18s. 0d. to £110 a year at the present time. In addition a payment is now made by the Council for each necessitous Borough patient received for special reasons.

Domiciliary.

Under the 1936 Midwives Act, a staff of midwives is provided by the District Nursing Association working in conjunction with the Council, for attendance either as Midwives or Maternity Nurses, on patients in their own homes.

Details of these services are given in the body of the report (pp. 25-30).

HOSPITALS.

Infectious Disease.

Name	Situation	Purpose	Beds		Nominal allocation of beds to the Borough
			M	F	
" Delancey "	In Borough	General infectious diseases	37	37	About 5/9ths total
" Longhill "	4 miles	Smallpox	10	10	About 2/5ths total

The Delancey Hospital is governed by a body of Trustees representative of the areas served by the Hospital. (For accommodation etc., see page 21).

" Longhill " Smallpox Hospital, under the management of the Delancey Trustees, was built in 1923 with the assistance of the County, now the Smallpox Hospital Authority. It serves the following areas:—

Cheltenham Borough and Rural District.

Charlton, Cirencester and Tewkesbury Urban Districts.

North Cotswold, Northleach and Tetbury Rural Districts.

Other Hospitals.**1. The Cheltenham General and Eye Hospitals.**

The Board of Management of this hospital is composed of 36 members including the Mayor (ex officio) and two other representatives of the Borough Council.

The accommodation is as follows:—

Total Number of Beds **176**.

	Medical	Surgical	Venereal Disease	Surgical Tuberculosis	Ear, Nose and Throat	Eye	Private (8) and Isolation (2)
Male	15	29	2	10	4	4	10
Female	23	34			4	4	
Children	28 (including 5 orthopaedic beds)				9		

During 1937 the new Eye, Ear and Throat section of the Hospital was opened by the Duchess of Gloucester. This has increased the special accommodation from 17 to 28 beds.

2. The Cheltenham Hospital for Children.

Total Number of Beds 48. (For children under 13).

Boys 12 ; Girls 12 ; Toddlers 12 ; Babies 12.

DISINFECTION.

1. Infectious Disease.

(a) Premises.—Disinfection of premises in cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and certain other infectious disease is carried out immediately after removal of the patient to the Fever Hospital, or in cases nursed at home, after recovery.

The method used is fumigation by Formaldehyde Gas.

(b) Clothes and Other Goods.—Such goods as are not injured by steam are removed in a special van to the Corporation Disinfecting Station which adjoins the Destructor and Electricity Works, where they are disinfected by high pressure steam. They are then returned in another van.

2. Other Cases.

Disinfection of goods not associated with cases of notifiable infectious disease nor with verminous conditions is carried out under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health at fixed rates of charge.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For Infectious Cases.

A motor ambulance is maintained by the Delancey Hospital Trustees, at the Fever Hospital. This serves Cheltenham and all contributing areas. It would be available for cases of smallpox should they occur.

For General Work and Accidents.

The general ambulance service is carried out for the town by the St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society. Four motor ambulances are available, one of which is the property of the Racecourse Committee, but it can be used for general work in emergencies.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Borough Clinics.

1. Under the Education Authority.

Medical and Minor Ailment.—Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 2 to 4.30 p.m. Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

School Dental.—*Daily during term time, 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon, and 2 to 4.30 p.m. Special cases, Saturday morning.

* Except when Dentist is carrying out inspections at Schools.

2. Maternity and Child Welfare.

Infant Welfare.—(See page 31).

Ante-Natal.—Thursday, 11 a.m., at the Victoria Home.

3. Diphtheria Immunisation.—Thursday, 2.30 p.m., at the School Clinic, Municipal Offices. By appointment.

4. Gynaecological (Post-Natal and Birth Control).—1st and 3rd Thursday, 7 p.m. (Same premises as No. 3).
5. Child Guidance.

County Council Clinics.

1. Tuberculosis.
2. Venereal Disease.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Analysis of Water Samples.

This work is now carried out in the new laboratory at the Tewkesbury Waterworks under an arrangement made with the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board. Mr. J. Henderson, B.Sc., F.I.C., is the chemist in charge.

Analyses under the Food and Drugs Acts.

Samples taken under direction of Arthur W. Hopkins, Superintendent of the Gloucester Constabulary, are submitted for analysis by Mr. Rowland H. Ellis, F.I.C., F.C.S., Analytical and Consulting Chemist, Gloucester.

Bacteriological Examinations, etc.

The County Health Authority provides facilities for the examinations necessary in the diagnosis of Diphtheria, Tuberculosis, Typhoid and certain other diseases, at the Cheltenham General Hospital.

In addition, samples of pasteurised milk are submitted to the same laboratory for the Phosphatase and Methylene Blue tests and bacteriological examinations which are carried out by Dr. T. B. H. Haslett, M.R.C.P., B.Sc., D.P.H.

LEGISLATION.

Adoptive and Local.

1. The adoptive sections of Acts in force in Cheltenham were set out in the last survey report. (The Public Health Act 1936 includes some of these in the same or in a modified form. The corresponding adopted sections are in consequence repealed).

2. Special Acts and Regulations.

Cheltenham Improvement Acts 1852 and 1889.

Cheltenham Provisional Order 1889 Sanitary Sections.

Cheltenham Provisional Order 1896 Slaughterhouses & Buildings.

*Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board Act 1936.

*Request has now been made to the Minister to apply Section 269 of the Public Health Act 1936 to Cheltenham. This section gives wider powers of control over moveable dwellings than Section 120 of the special Act which will be automatically repealed when consent is obtained.

3. Additional Powers.

1. Under the Local Government Act, 1929.

- (a) Sec. 2a (Directly by transfer from the Poor Law Authority).
The functions relating to Child Life Protection.

(b) Sec. 62 (By an order of the Minister of Health, dated 5th March, 1930).

Supervising Authority under the Midwives Acts from 1st April, 1930.

2. (By delegation from the County Council).
Powers and duties relating to Nursing Homes.
3. (By the Borough of Cheltenham (Offensive Trade) Confirmation Order, 1930).
The trade of Fish Frier to be an "Offensive Trade" from 29th September, 1930.

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.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

Sandford.

Bacteriological examinations of the water from this pool showed that it was usually maintained at a drinking water standard of purity.

The small swimming pool for children now in course of construction will form an attraction which is likely to put an additional burden on the existing filters. Every effort will be made however to maintain an equally high standard of purification during 1938.

The system of purification (Messrs. Bells) allows of a turnover period of about six hours. The water is kept in continuous circulation; and is subjected to sand filtration after the addition of alum and is then purified by chlorination and aeration. The reaction is kept at a suitable level by the addition of an alkali.

Alstone Baths.

A similar process of purification (Messrs. Pattersons) was installed at these baths two years ago. The shortest period of turnover is about four hours. There is a separate plant of the same type for the small bath reserved for school children.

Tewkesbury Road Swimming Pool.

The water in this pool is subject to a process of aeration and chlorination after filtration, on similar lines to the Sandford Pool.

Montpellier Baths.

The water in this bath is not treated on modern lines. Cleanliness is maintained by emptying and refilling.

WATER SUPPLY.

The water supply for Cheltenham and district is obtained in five different localities and the supplies may be classified as being of four types.

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) Springs from the Cotswold Hills ... | Hewletts. |
| " " " ... | Leckhampton. |
| (2) Well in the Sand Bed ... | Sandford Mead. |
| (3) Surface water at the source of the
Chelt (including water from
certain springs) ... | } Dowdeswell Reservoir. |
| (4) River water... .. | Water Works on the river
Severn at Tewkesbury. |

Chlorination.

The supplies derived from Hewletts and Leckhampton areas are now chlorinated. Sandford Mead Well water has been subject to this treatment for three years. The Tewkesbury supply has been chlorinated since 1911; it was indeed one of the first supplies in the country to be treated in this way. A small spring supply named California, owing to unsatisfactory bacteriological reports, was cut out of direct supply early last year. This water is now purified by passage through the Dowdeswell filtration plant.

Another spring of some importance is the Redwood spring. This rises on the hill side to the south of Dowdeswell reservoir, and is piped direct into the Charlton supply. When running full a surplus of water passes into the Hewletts reservoirs. This water has always given perfect bacteriological results. When the new supply from Churchdown is available however it is intended to pass this water through the Dowdeswell purification plant.

The Dowdeswell supply is doubly filtered, but owing to the proximity of the works to the main road, it has been decided to apply a dose of chlorine to guard against the possibility of any thoughtless contamination which might overtax the powers of the filtration process. When this is done all sources of supply will be subject to the process of chlorination by means of five separate chlorinating sets.

The process of purification at Tewkesbury has, since the beginning of 1937, been under the direct control of a full time analyst who is responsible for estimating the required dosage of chemicals.

The dosage of chlorine at other points is under the direct supervision of the Medical Officer of Health. Reports are sent to the Borough Surveyor at regular intervals showing the total amount of chlorine used. The actual dose of chlorine is regulated and measured by the mechanism of the apparatus but the amount present in the water is also checked at frequent intervals by the foreman in charge by means of a colourimetric testing set. When samples are taken for analysis, as a further check, the Medical Officer of Health also makes an estimate of the amount of free chlorine present in the water. This check is important as it provides a proof that the correct dose of chlorine has actually reached the water and is a guard against instrumental errors and the possibility of a leaking

connection between the measuring gauge and the point of application. Apart from this the final estimation of the remaining amount of free and active chlorine is an essential step in the assessment of correct dosage because a varying fraction of chlorine is liable to be neutralised as soon as it comes in contact with the water.

The amount of chlorine which it is necessary to add varies between 0·2 and 1·0 parts per 1,000,000 of water. The highest amount used is that which is added as a first dose to the raw river water at the Tewkesbury works.

(0·2 part per million=2 lbs. of chlorine in a million gallons of water).

The modern method of chlorination involves the use of a dose of ammonia well mixed with the water before the chlorine is added. With the small quantities used the chlorine forms with the ammonia a more stable sterilizing compound, which retains the characteristics of free chlorine in a slightly modified form. This compound, though not quite so rapid in action, by its relative persistence, is more effective than chlorine alone and is less liable to give rise to taste troubles.

Analyses.

Copies of the results of analysis are submitted to the Medical Officer of Health and these are personally presented at the meeting of the Cheltenham Water Committee each month.

During 1937, the results of 151 separate analyses were considered by the Committee.

Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board.

Rapid progress is now being made with the scheme to render additional water available for Cheltenham and Gloucester from the river Severn. The excavations for the reservoirs on the top of Churchdown Hill are nearly complete and considerable portions of the mains, connecting these with the Tewkesbury works and the Hewletts reservoirs, have been laid. It is hoped to commence the extensions and additions required at the works themselves at an early date. A further two years are likely to be required for the completion of the scheme.

The acquisition of this supply will enable Cheltenham to dispense with the excessively hard supply provided by the Sandford Well and the Leckhampton spring. It will also make it possible to consider the desirability of retaining the spring supply at the Hewletts.

HOUSING.

Clearance Areas.

During the period covered by the five years plan which was required under Sec. 25 (2) of the 1930 Act (now repealed), 105 areas were represented, including a total of 542 houses. During the same period about half the number were dealt with as single houses or small groups of houses, under another section of the Act.

The results of the last enquiry, held on January 21st, 1937, were set out in the last report except for areas Nos. 14 and 26. Clearance orders relating to these were confirmed by the Minister at a later date.

Re-Housing, Clearance and Overcrowding.

The Corporation Housing Estate at Whaddon is being pushed forward rapidly to provide for displacements from clearance areas and single unfit houses. A section of the estate is reserved for larger houses for the relief of overcrowding.

The two contracts entered into during 1937 for the houses in this Estate include 162 and 186 houses respectively required for the purposes indicated. The second contract provides for 50 non-subsidy houses in addition.

The Corporation is to be considered unfortunate in the matter of financial assistance from the Government in relation to the provision of houses for relief of overcrowding. As a result of the promptness of the action taken in carrying out the overcrowding survey and the early submission of proposals, required by the 1935 Act, for the provision of the new accommodation necessary to relieve the overcrowding found, contracts for the necessary houses were entered into in the autumn of 1937. The reward for this admirable effort has been to secure a subsidy of £5 a house for 20 years, payable only at the option of the minister, in the place of a fixed subsidy of £10 a year for 40 years payable on houses contracted for on or after February 3rd, 1938.

It is perhaps some consolation that the houses required in connection with the Clearance Areas are likely to be ready for occupation before the end of the year and these will therefore qualify for the more generous subsidy of the 1930 Act.

The tenants of all houses in condemned areas except those of the 1936-37 group have now been dealt with and the greater number of the condemned houses have been demolished.

Some eighty-three families from the last group have been re-housed and by the end of the year good progress should have been made with the demolition of these properties. In addition, over twenty families from individual houses have been found accommodation on the new estate.

Overcrowding.

During the autumn of 1937 the staff of the overcrowding section of the department was reduced to one. Much work is, however, still required to keep the records up to date owing to frequent family changes. In addition, surveys of new houses and of houses in which the accommodation is altered by division into flats or in which rooms are sub-let are frequently required.

The following special particulars relating to overcrowding are given in accordance with the requirements of the Sanitary Officers Regulations 1935.

(a)	1. Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	206
	2. Number of families dwelling therein	206
	3. Number of persons dwelling therein	1366
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	24
(c)	1. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	112
	2. Number of persons concerned in such cases	616

(For figures relating to action taken under the Housing Acts see report of Chief Sanitary Inspector).

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

1. (a) Number of Council Houses

(i) Found to be infested	9	(ii) Disinfested	9
--------------------------	---	------------------	---
- (b) Other Houses

(i) Found to be infested	0	(ii) Disinfested	0
		(Prior to Demolition)	

2. Methods Employed for freeing infested houses.

Fumigation with Hydro Cyanic Acid Gas is the form of treatment used. It has been decided to keep the houses empty for 48 hours to ensure complete dispersion of the gas before re-occupation.

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

3. Methods Employed for insuring that the belongings of tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council Houses.

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

The furniture is removed from two or three houses in a special van to a site 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 as it is felt that this renders the method entirely free from danger.

5. The work of disinfestation is carried out by a contracting firm, namely, "Associated Fumigators Ltd."

Summary of work done.

During 1937, 144 removals were undertaken in connection with condemned houses and in 137 of these cases the goods were subjected to fumigation and steam disinfection.

The costs were as follows :—

				£	s.	d.
Expenses of removal	...	...	...	117	3	10
Cost of Fumigation :						
(a) Houses	...	...	...	26	2	0
(b) Goods	...	...	...	193	10	0
				<hr/> £336 15 10* <hr/>		

*(Cost of steam disinfection and ordinary time of Corporation Officials not included).

SALE OF FOOD AND DRUGS' ACTS.

List of Articles submitted to the Public Analyst during the year 1937, and the result of such analyses.

I am indebted to the Superintendent of Police (Arthur Wm. Hopkins) for the information concerning the operation of the Acts during 1937.

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

Food or Drug	Number of Samples	Food or Drug	Number of Samples
Milk... ..	98	Brought forward	136
Cream	3	Flour	1
Butter	3	Ground Ginger	1
Margarine	3	Sultanas	2
Cream Cheese	3	Dried Fruit... ..	1
Condensed Milk	3	Unfermented Grape Fruit	1
Ice Cream	3	Malt Vinegar	2
Economy Cream	1	Coffee	2
Lard	2	Cocoa	2
Sugar	1	Castor Oil	2
Jam	5	Eucalyptus Oil	1
Honey	1	Tincture of Iodine... ..	2
Treacle	1	Mineral Water	2
Sweets	1	Unsweetened Grape Juice	1
Gelatine	1	Cider	2
Sausage	5	Beer... ..	3
Cornflour	1	Whisky	1
Ground Rice	1	Port Wine	1
Carried forward	136	Total	163

Two prosecutions resulted from the analyses of the specimens taken during 1937. One was a case in which new milk was found to contain 7% extraneous water. The offender was fined £4 and ordered to pay £5 5s. 0d. costs. The other was a similar case in which new milk was found to contain 5·8% of extraneous water and the offender was ordered to pay £2 2s. 0d. costs and was fined £2.

Artificial Cream Act, 1929.

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

A certificate of registration is held by one Cheltenham Firm.

MILK.

Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936.

This Order, which came into partial operation on the 1st June, 1936, has recently been amended in order to bring certain procedures into line with the changes introduced by Section 19 (1) of the Agriculture Act 1937. This Act provides for a transfer of the functions of the veterinary inspectors of local authorities to veterinary inspectors appointed by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Milk.

Licences for producing establishments, with or without a licence for bottling, are issued by the County Council. The full licence covers the retail sale of milk of these grades throughout the County and whole-sale disposal anywhere. For retail sale in districts of other counties a producer also requires a supplementary licence from the district authority concerned.

A dealer buying milk wholesale requires a Dealer's Licence from his own district authority to cover retail sales in his own district and a supplementary licence from the authority of any other district in which he proposes to retail the milk.

Pasteurised Milk.

The producer's licence in this case is issued by the local authority of the district in which the premises are situated. This licence also covers the sale of pasteurised milk from any other establishment under the same management in that district. Otherwise a dealer's licence is required.

A supplementary licence is required from all district authorities in whose areas retail sale is carried on by dealers whose premises are situated in other districts.

Licences issued by Cheltenham Borough Council.

				<i>Type of Licence Issued.</i>		
				<i>Producers</i>	<i>Dealers</i>	<i>Supplementary</i>
A.	Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	—	—	3	—
B.	Accredited	...	...	—	—	1
C.	Pasteurised	...	...	1	—	1

(A and B). The necessary tests and examinations in the case of A and B are carried out by the County Council.

(C). Samples of Pasteurised Milk from both sources are submitted quarterly to the Bacteriologist at the Cheltenham General Hospital for the Phosphatase Test, the Methylene Blue Reduction and a bacteriological examination. The Phosphatase test gives a very valuable indication as to the correctness of the temperature reached during pasteurisation or the presence of unpasteurised or insufficiently pasteurised milk in a sample.

In one case only during 1937 was a result not up to standard. A sample taken shortly afterwards showed that the defect had been remedied.

The Methylene Blue test depends on instability of this dye in the presence of certain organic compounds. The test is a valuable index of the cleanliness of production.

**THE PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES, 1937.**

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	74	62	—
Diphtheria	18	18	—
Paratyphoid	1	1	—
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	3	—
Pneumonia	24	—	—
Other diseases generally notifiable	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis	3	—	—
Erysipelas	10	1	—
Purulent Conjunctivitis	1	—	—
Other diseases notifiable locally	—	—	—

Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 1937.

Cases			Vision un- impaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At Home	In Hospital				
1	1	—	1	—	—	—

**NOTES ON THE INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
DURING 1937.**

Influenza.

There were twenty-one deaths from this complaint. These, and forty-seven deaths from pneumonia, a figure which tends to be higher during influenza periods, show that 1937 was for Cheltenham a year of more than normal incidence of this disease.

Diphtheria.

The number of cases of diphtheria notified during 1937 was 18, the lowest figure since and including 1890, the first complete year in which the Notification of Infectious Diseases Act was in operation. During the first half of the year only one case was notified. The previous lowest figure was 26, recorded in 1925.

The cases were mild in character except for three notified during the last days of the year which proved to be the forerunners of a small outbreak. All cases were admitted to Hospital.

One Cheltenham school child died of diphtheria while on holiday in a seaside town where she presumably contracted the disease.

During the last ten years only eight deaths have been ascribed to Diphtheria. For the two previous decades the figures were 33 and 51 respectively.

Scarlet Fever.

Compared with the record low figure, 21, for last year, the incidence of Scarlet Fever was high, as 74 cases were notified. This number is, however, about an average figure for recent years. The type of disease remained mild in character. Sixty-two of the cases were removed to hospital and all made complete recoveries.

Enteric Fever.

One case of Paratyphoid B occurred and was successfully treated at the Delancey Fever Hospital.

Thorough investigation failed to reveal the source of infection. Bacteriological examinations proved negative in the case of all the other members of the household. The patient had been in the habit of visiting a relative in a country district regularly and it is possible that the infection was picked up there.

One case notified as Typhoid at the end of September was admitted to the Delancey Fever Hospital for observation, though the symptoms were not really suggestive. The child made a rapid recovery and the blood test, taken as a precaution, was negative, proving that the case was not one of typhoid.

A curious feature in this case was that the child had been living in Croydon during the 14 days previous to the commencement of her illness, though quite a month before the outbreak of Typhoid in that town.

Poliomyelitis.

Three cases were notified, one in a small house in All Saints District and one each in the residential houses of two entirely distinct schools. The cases could scarcely have been more widely separated.

One case recovered completely, but in the other two, paralysis is only slowly improving.

Puerperal Pyrexia and Puerperal Fever.

During 1937 only seven cases were notified as Puerperal Pyrexia. Three of these were admitted to the General Hospital. All were mild cases and made excellent recoveries.

Alterations in Regulations.

(1) Ophthalmia Neonotorum.

Under the (Ophthalmia Neonotorum) Amendment Regulations of January, 1937, this disease is now notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health of the Maternity and Child Welfare Authority instead of to the District Medical Officer. This is of advantage because the former is responsible for providing assistance in these cases.

- (2) **Puerperal Fever.** (Discontinuance of use of term for purpose of Notification).

Under the Public Health Act 1936 this term was merged with the more generally applicable term of Puerperal Pyrexia from 1st October, 1936.

ARTIFICIAL IMMUNISATION.

Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic.

This clinic was instituted in July, 1935. The following is a summary of the work done during 1937 :—

No. of	New cases (immunisation commenced or completed)	22
„	Injections given	51
„	Cases in which treatment was completed during the year	14
„	Cases partially completed when attendance ceased	1
„	Cases Schick tested after immunisation (negative)	38
„	Non-immunised cases Schick tested (negative)	1

It will be seen that the number immunised during 1937 was negligible. The outbreak of diphtheria early in the year has resulted in a much improved response. A second invitation has already been issued to the schools affected and the parents of all children will have received an invitation before the summer holidays.

Fever Hospital.

All new probationers are subjected to Schick and Dick tests and positive reactors are immunised.

DELANCEY FEVER HOSPITAL.

Notes on the accommodation provided at this Hospital were given in the last report.

The total number of cases admitted during 1937 was 155 compared with 118 for the previous year. The daily average number of beds occupied was 11.6. There were no deaths during the year.

Scarlet Fever.

Ninety-four cases were admitted including 62 from the Borough of Cheltenham and all made satisfactory recoveries. The length of detention in hospital of normal cases is 28 days. A number were kept in for longer periods for various reasons.

Anti-Scarlet Fever Serum was given in all cases except very mild ones. There were few complications and no operations were required.

Diphtheria.

The number of admissions due to diphtheria or suspected diphtheria was only 30 of which 20 were from the Borough. The cases were mild in type with the exception of a few severe cases admitted at the end of the year which proved to be the first of a small outbreak. There were no deaths. One Cheltenham child died from diphtheria in another town, where, the evidence suggests, it was contracted.

Other Cases.

Twelve cases were admitted for observation of which six proved to be tonsillitis. The remaining 19 cases were admitted under 10 different headings.

Staff.

New members of the staff are tested for susceptibility to Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria on joining and reactors are given immunising doses of the corresponding prophylactics.

Nursing.

The improvement in ward heating has been much appreciated as an aid to the proper nursing of patients during the winter months, and the Matron is to be congratulated on the high level of efficiency which has been maintained.

Comparison of the 1937 Admissions with the yearly average for the years 1932-1936 inclusive.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	Poliomyelitis	Erysipelas	Other diseases combined	Observation	TOTALS
Cheltenham Borough 1937	62	20	1	—	1	3	7	6	100
average for five years 1932-1936 inclusive	63.6	30	.6	.2	.4	2	10	4.2	111
Private Wards & Staff 1937	1	1	—	—	—	—	6	—	8
average for five years 1932-1936 inclusive	3.2	.6	.2	—	—	.6	2	.4	7
Other areas combined 1937	32	8	—	1	—	1	4	—	46
average for five years 1932-1936 inclusive	23	16.4	.8	.2	3	.4	1.6	.6	46

Table showing cases admitted and Authorities concerned during
the Year ended the 31st December, 1937.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	Poliomyelitis	Erysipelas	Measles	Pneumonia	Tonsillitis	Whooping Cough	Chicken-Pox	Puerperal Fever	Infants (admitted with mothers).	Observation cases	TOTALS
Cheltenham Borough ...	62	20	1		1	3	1	1	2	1	2			6	100
Cheltenham { R.D.C. Old	1														1
{ R.D.C. New	3	3							4						10
Charlton Kings U.D.C. ...	1	2													3
North Cotswold R.D.C. ...	23	4		1		1									29
Cheltenham College ...					1										1
Private Wards ...	1	1					4					1	1		8
Tewkesbury Borough ...	2														2
R.A.F. Training School ...	1														1
TOTALS ...	94	30	1	1	2	4	5	1	6	1	2	1	1	6	155

The Delancey Hospital at present serves the following areas :—

The Borough of Cheltenham.

The Urban District of Charlton Kings.

The Rural District of Cheltenham.

An agreement has been made for the admission of cases from the North Cotswold Rural District.

An agreement made with the Winchcombe Rural District, which under the County of Gloucester Review Order 1935 is now partly included in the Cheltenham Rural District and partly in the North Cotswold Rural District, is still in force.

New agreements are pending.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1937.

Age Periods				New Cases				Deaths			
				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ...	...	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
1—5 years ...	...	...	...	—	—	2	3	—	—	2	1
5—10 „ ...	...	...	...	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
10—15 „ ...	...	...	...	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
15—20 „ ...	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	—	2	—	1
20—25 „ ...	...	...	...	5	7	—	—	1	1	—	—
25—35 „ ...	...	...	...	5	9	—	2	4	4	—	—
35—45 „ ...	...	...	...	7	3	1	—	4	3	1	—
45—55 „ ...	...	...	...	4	1	—	—	2	1	—	1
55—65 „ ...	...	...	...	1	—	—	1	4	—	—	—
65 and upwards ...	...	...	...	—	1	—	—	2	2	1	—
				24	23	6	9	17	13	4	6
Registrar General's Figures ...				...	...	...	...	17	14	3	6

Ratio of non-notified tuberculosis deaths
to total tuberculosis deaths = 37.5%

The preceding table shows the number and the age distribution of new cases and deaths from Tuberculosis during 1937. The Tuberculosis death-rates for 1937 were as follows :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.60	} Per 1,000 of Population.
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.17	

Treatment and isolation of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

Whilst schemes for the treatment and isolation of persons suffering from Tuberculosis are a responsibility of County Borough Councils and County Councils, certain duties devolve upon district authorities. These have regard largely to the keeping of a register of cases, the supply of articles for preventing the spread of infection and general supervision of the housing conditions of affected persons.

Reports on the social circumstances and residences of all new cases are sent by the County Tuberculosis Nurse to the Medical Officer of Health. Where accommodation is reported to be unsatisfactory the houses are visited personally and if necessary a special representation is made to the Housing Committee suggesting the advisability of re-housing.

On the recommendation of the Nurse, disinfectants, paper handkerchiefs and antiseptic soap are provided for the patients.

A weekly return of new cases is made to the County Medical Officer of Health and each quarter a statistical summary is transmitted showing the position of the register to date, including a list of names removed on account of death, cure, or removal from the town.

According to the Act a person shall be deemed to have recovered from Tuberculosis when neither symptoms, signs nor other evidence of existing Tuberculous disease have been present for a period of five years in the case of a person who has suffered from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, or for three years in the case of a person who has suffered from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

During 1937 fifteen unnotified cases were certified as having died from Tuberculosis. In these cases letters are written to the medical attendants asking for an explanation.

Care Committee.

A Care Committee has recently been established under the presidency of His Worship the Mayor.

The Committee will work in co-operation with the County organisation with the object of assisting in a practical manner, patients suffering from tuberculosis, and their families.

The workers will endeavour (1) to secure the best possible conditions for the patients by their influence on those authorised to provide extra nourishment and treatment, and (2) to provide material assistance for unprovided families by securing grants from a fund which is to be established.

MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES, 1937.

Number of Maternity Cases in the area of the Local Supervising Authority attended during the year by Midwives and the capacity in which they attended.

	No. of Midwives employed at end of 1937			CASES ATTENDED			
	Dom-iciliary	Institu-tion	Totals	Location and Number			
				Capacity in which Midwives Acted	In Own Home	In Institu-tion	Totals
(a) Employed by the Council direct	nil.	nil.	—	As Midwives As Maternity Nurses	nil. nil.	nil. nil.	— —
(b) Employed by other Welfare Councils							
(i) Under arrangements made in pursuance of Section 1 of the Midwives Act 1936	nil.	nil.	—	As Midwives As Maternity Nurses	nil. nil.	nil. nil.	— —
(ii) Others. (Gloucester County Council—Swindon Road Institution)	nil.	5	5	As Midwives As Maternity Nurses	— —	30 —	30 —
(c) Employed by Voluntary Associations (Victoria Home)							
(i) Under arrangements made in pursuance of Section 1 of the Midwives Act 1936	5	—	5	As Midwives As Maternity Nurses	322 64	— —	322 64
(ii) Others	—	3	3	As Midwives As Maternity Nurses	nil. nil.	104 77	104 77
(d) In private practice	11*	7*	18	As Midwives As Maternity Nurses	70 43	2 36	72 79
Totals	16	15	31	As Midwives As Maternity Nurses	392 107	136 113	528 220
				Combined Totals	499	249	748

Number of Domiciliary Births during the year in the area of the Local Supervising Authority (see over) ...

508

* Classified according to normal practice. Some of these Midwives attend cases under both headings.

Notes on Table.

The table given above provides the fullest information which is available. It is prepared in accordance with the request of the Ministry of Health. The information it contains is no doubt required for the purposes of Sub-Section (2) of Section 6 of the Midwives Act which empowers the Minister when he thinks fit, to forbid unqualified women to assist at, or to attend mothers for payment at the time of or during the ten days immediately following the confinement. When he is satisfied that the Authority has secured an adequate service of domiciliary midwives for the needs of the district he will be in a position to make the necessary restricting regulations.

Domiciliary Births, 1937.

The word domiciliary is used in reference to a midwife attending a birth in the home of the mother. It will be seen from the table that there were 508 such births during 1937, and that in 499 home confinements the nurse in attendance was known to have been a qualified midwife. These two figures are, however, not strictly comparable, because ten of the cases resulted in twin births. On the other hand some cases reported were attended at an early stage when neither notification nor registration is required. When these two factors have been taken into account and after allowing (1) for known cases where the nurse in attendance was a qualified nurse working under a Doctor, and (2) for the cases in which qualified midwife assistants had not given notice of intention to practise and therefore made no return, there can only be the very smallest margin of cases remaining where the person in attendance as assistant to the Doctor can have been an unqualified woman.

This conclusion is in accord with the impressions gathered from supervision of the maternity work in the Borough.

It would appear, therefore, that, from this point of view there is no need for the Minister to delay in applying Section 6 (2) of the Act to the Borough of Cheltenham.

Maternal Deaths.

There were four maternal deaths in the Borough during 1937. Two of these cases came into the Borough for treatment of the fatal complications, namely (1) Sepsis, (2) Eclampsia.

The causes of death in the Borough cases were (1) Haemorrhage, (2) Pulmonary Embolism.

Provision for a domiciliary service of Midwives in pursuance of the Midwives Act 1936.

In the report for 1936 it was shown from the figures for five years that there had been on an average 492 domiciliary maternity cases a year in the Borough at which in 451 cases the nurse in attendance was known to have been a qualified midwife. The remaining 41 cases were those

in which a Doctor was in charge and it is not known whether the assisting nurse was or was not a qualified midwife. From the table given this year it is seen that this number has become a negligible quantity. This confirms the opinion that most of the cases where the matter was previously in doubt were in fact attended by qualified midwives. The shrinking of this number is probably explained by the fact that the Midwives Act 1936 has resulted in notification of intention to practise by nearly all midwives engaged in any form of practice, because notification before a certain date is a requirement if compensation on retirement during the three years following the commencement of the Act is to be claimed. The result is that returns have now been obtained in relation to practically all maternity cases where the attendant has held a certificate of the Midwives Board.

From the commencement it was clear that the only reasonable way of carrying the Act into effect was to make an arrangement with the Cheltenham District Nursing Association for the employment of a sufficient number of Midwives for the domiciliary service of the Borough. Accordingly a scheme was drawn up which came into operation on the twenty-ninth day of September, 1937.

Main Provisions of the Scheme.

Number of Midwives to be employed.

The Association is to maintain five whole-time midwives, who shall also be fully trained nurses, available for attendance on women in their own homes during confinement and for a period of not less than 14 days thereafter.

Prescribed Fees to be charged for services.

	<i>To Subscribers to the Association</i>	<i>To Non-Subscribers</i>
When acting as a Midwife	30/-	40/-
When acting as a Maternity Nurse ...	25/-	35/-

The fees collected are to be retained by the Association but must be remitted in part or in whole according to the following scale.

Where the average weekly income (on the basis of the last 4 weeks) from all sources after deducting rent and 5/- for each child does not exceed 15/-, the whole of the fee shall be remitted.

Where it exceeds 15/- and does not exceed 25/-, three-quarters of the fees shall be remitted.

Where it exceeds 25/- and does not exceed 35/-, one-half of the fees shall be remitted.

Where it exceeds 35/- and does not exceed 45/-, one-quarter of the fees shall be remitted.

Salary of Midwives.

The Association is required to pay the Midwives a salary of £200 rising by four annual increments of £10 to £240 plus a uniform and cycle allowance of £14 subject to an approved deduction for board and lodging in the case of midwives maintained and resident at the Home.

Returns.

The Association is to make returns showing the allocation of the money received as grant and to give details as to the cases attended.

The estimated grant for provision of the five domiciliary midwives is £1043 which includes a grant of £160 already in existence.

INSPECTION OF MIDWIVES.

A perusal of the Table on page 25 will show that out of a total of 528 midwifery cases, as distinct from maternity cases, 426 were attended by midwives attached to the Victoria Home.

Of the remaining 102 cases, 30 were attended by Midwives attached to the Infirmary. Both these institutions are under the charge of experienced medical men and the work in each case is carried out under the direction and supervision of a fully qualified superintendent midwife.

Of the remaining 72 cases, one midwife attended 40 and another 11 of them. The remaining 21 cases were divided between six midwives.

It will be clear, therefore, from the above statement, that inspection of midwives in the Borough of Cheltenham is very much simplified by the extensive facilities afforded by the Victoria Home.

1. Notices received from Midwives.

The following is a summary of the special notices received from midwives during 1937 :—

Notification of Still Births	...	...	...	...	16
„ Death of Infant	...	...	...	...	11
„ Death of Mother	...	...	...	...	—
„ Artificial Feeding being adopted	...	...	...	...	9
„ Liability to be a Source of Infection	...	...	...	...	2
„ Having laid out of dead body...	...	...	...	...	—
Total number of Notices received					38

2. Number of Cases in which Medical Aid was summoned during the year under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act 1918, by a Midwife.

(i) Engaged in domiciliary practice	...	148	} Total	230
(ii) In Institutional practice	...	82		

The figure 230 represents 43·6 of the total of 528 cases which were attended in the capacity of midwife.

The following is an analysis of the reasons necessitating the calls for the assistance of a Doctor.

(a) Conditions arising before Labour	{ Albuminuria	9
	{ Other Conditions	21
(b) Miscarriage, Abortion and Premature Labour		3
	{ Perineal Injuries	67
	{ Delayed Labour	39
	{ Abnormal Presentations	13
(c) Conditions arising during Labour	{ Abnormal Haemorrhage	8
	{ Retained Products of Conception	5
	{ Other conditions	1
	{ Rise of Temperature	17
(d) Conditions arising after Labour	{ Other conditions	13
	{ Feebleness or Prematurity	6
	{ Inflamed Eyes	21
(e) Condition of the Infant	{ Deformities	2
	{ Other conditions	5
Total		230

The Maternity Work of the Victoria Home.

STATISTICS FOR 1937.

Maternity Service.

(1) <i>Ward Cases.</i>			Midwifery Cases	Maternity Cases
Borough Cases	126	comprising	82	44
County Cases	55	„	22	33
Totals	181	comprising	104	77

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 104 midwifery cases attended in the ward was 76. This represents a high percentage but it must be remembered that many of these cases are only admitted because they are abnormal.

(2) <i>District Cases.</i>				
Midwifery	...	...	...	322
Maternity	...	...	...	64
Total	...	...	...	386

Ante Natal Clinic (held at the Victoria Home).

Attendances by expectant Mothers during 1937 :—

				Ante-Natal
(a) Number of Attendances ... ..	...	...	...	2036
(b) Number of individual Mothers attending ... ..	...	...	...	595
(c) Percentage of total notified births (live and still) represented by the number in (b) ... ..	...	...	...	74%

The percentage given under reference C above is a figure required by the Minister of Health for the purpose of comparison of the Ante Natal Work of one town with another. It is an approximate index of the proportion of expectant mothers who attend the Ante Natal Clinic. It will be seen that the figure is based on the relationship between the number of notified births and the number of attendances at the clinic.

The births in the Victoria Home include quite a number of cases where the parents live in country districts, 55 in 1937, but these mothers are expected to, and usually do, attend the Ante Natal Clinic.

Home Helps.

The Borough Council has allocated a sum of £25 to be used in providing "Home Helps" during the confinement of the mother when suitable assistance is not otherwise available. This money is placed at the disposal of the Victoria Home because the district midwives are considered to be the most likely persons to know when assistance of this nature is required.

During 1937, Home Helps were provided in four cases, on three occasions through the agency of the Victoria Home and in the other case direct.

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION.

The Nursing Homes Registration Act is now replaced by corresponding sections of the Public Health Act of 1936 giving the same duties and powers.

At the commencement of 1937 there were 18 Nursing Homes on the register. During the year four new homes were registered and one came into use again after a period in which it had been closed. Registration in one of the four cases was given temporarily on account of special circumstances.

At the end of the year there were in all 24 Nursing Homes on the register. The additional home not accounted for in the above statement is the maternity ward of the Public Assistance Institution which was not included in the figures for 1936 owing to its somewhat anomalous position as a home in the Borough belonging to another welfare authority (Glos. C.C.)

One home was re-registered under new management and in another case the Matron of a home was re-registered in respect of new premises.

In one of the homes registered during the year no patients have as yet been received.

Classification of the types of cases provided for in the 24 homes.

General and Maternity	...	5	
Medical	...	6	
Maternity and Medical	...	8	
Maternity only...	...	5	
		—	
Total	...	24	
		—	

(Four homes have specially equipped operating theatres. Homes are included under the term "Medical" when it is a fixed policy to take medical cases only).

The above list includes the maternity ward of the Public Assistance Institution, which is also visited frequently.

INFANT WELFARE.

Work of Health Visitors, January 1st—December 31st, 1937.

No. of Children on Register	...	...	...	...	...	3,328
„ Un-notified Live Births discovered	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ Un-notified Still Births discovered	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Home Visits paid by Health Visitors (a) 1 year and under	...	...	...	...	...	4,430
„ „ „ „ (b) over 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	5,458
„ Special visits to Mothers (Ante-natal cases 312)	...	...	...	...	...	389
„ First Visits paid by Health Visitors	...	...	...	...	...	671
„ Chicken-pox cases visited	...	...	...	...	...	35
„ Measles cases visited	...	...	...	...	...	21
„ Whooping-cough cases visited...	...	...	...	...	...	90
„ Mumps cases visited	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Ophthalmia Neonatorum cases visited	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Attendances of Health Visitors at Centres	...	...	...	...	...	356
„ Cases reported to N.S.P.C.C.	...	...	...	...	...	3

Dental Treatment of Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Children under 5.

The time of the School Dentist is almost entirely occupied by this work on Saturday mornings and at the special session for mothers on Wednesday evenings.

Dentures were supplied in 69 cases. The cost price of these is usually met in full by the patients. In very necessitous cases the Charity Organisation Society have given valuable assistance and the Maternity Committee of the Council has now agreed to contribute 50% of the cost in cases investigated and recommended by the Society.

The following table shows the work done by the School Dentist for the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee during 1937.

				<i>Saturday Morning</i>		<i>Wednesday Evening</i>	
				<i>Mothers</i>	<i>Children under 5</i>	<i>Mothers</i>	<i>Children under 5</i>
Attendances	...	...	...	245	51	315	8
Extractions	...	...	...	36	7	172	4
Extractions (under gas)	...	...	...	642	63	—	—
Fillings	...	...	...	9	12	5	6
Attendances for other treatment, impressions, fitting dentures, etc.	...	...	...	73	3	251	—
No of sessions held during 1937				38		45	

Total number of dentures provided during 1937 ... 69.

Children Acts.

The following figures show the extent of the year's work under these acts.

Number of visits by Health Visitors	169
Number of visits by School Nurses	64
Number of individual children on the register at the end of the year	33
Number of children who died during the year	0
Number of Foster Mothers on the register at the end of the year	28

The home visits necessitated by these Acts are made by the Health Visitors in the case of children under 5 and by the School Nurses where children between the ages of 5 and 9 are concerned.

The duties imposed by the Act were carried out conscientiously. In one case where a child was received by a foster parent who had not given the required notice, it was indicated that proceedings would be taken if she committed a further offence.

No sanctions for reception of children were given under Section 3 of the 1908 Act to persons previously the subjects of complaint nor in respect of premises previously found unfit or dangerous. No order was obtained under Section 67 of the Act of 1932 for removal of a child to a place of safety.

Supply of Milk to Necessitous Mothers and Children.

							1937	(1936)
Number of pints of milk provided free during the year							126,304	(111,752)
Number of cases receiving 1 pint (or more) of milk daily (average)							278	(254)
Of these the average number of families receiving 2 pints daily was							71	(51)
Number of pints per Live Birth (R.G.)							185	(161)
		1933	1934	1935	1936		1937	
Cost of Milk	...	£296	£461	£638	£1252	2 0	£1421	18 0
			Dried Milk		£10	19 0	£7	17 6

It will be seen that there was a further increase in this supply during 1937. This is largely due to the adoption of an even more generous scale by the Committee as a result of the recommendations of the Minister in Circular 1519 issued last year.

The main alterations in the scale are included under the following headings.

- In cases where the mother is an expectant mother the expected child to be considered an addition to the family for the purposes of the scale.
- Where children over school age are living at home and are employed, only half their earnings to be included as family income for the purposes of the scale.
- Where milk is granted to an expectant mother the supply to be given at any stage of pregnancy and not only during the last three months, subject to certificate of need.

- (d) National Health and Unemployment Insurance contributions as well as rent to be deducted from income.

The scale now applied is as follows and milk is allowed if the income, after deduction of rent falls below the scale figure.

	s.	d.
Mother and one child	15	6
Father, Mother and one child ...	25	0
" " two children ...	30	0
" " three " ...	34	6
" " four " ...	39	0
" " five " ...	43	0
" " six " ...	47	0
" " seven " ...	51	0
" " eight " ...	55	0
" " nine " ...	59	0
" " ten " ...	63	0

If no Father deduct 7/6 from the figures.

Orthopaedic Clinic.

Formal adoption of the proposed scheme in its application to children under 5 and not attending school was given by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee at their meeting in July.

A full account of the provisions of this scheme is given in the School Medical Report so that it will suffice to give a resumé of the cases treated under this Section during the half year of working.

Number of special Clinics held	11	
	<i>Education Committee</i>	<i>Maternity and Child Welfare Committee</i>
Number of children on the Register at the end of the year	40	42
No. of Surgeon's consultations	52	39
No. of separate attendances for treatment	161	44
	—	—
Total attendances	213	83
	—	—

Summary of the main conditions necessitating attendance at the Clinic :—

Flat feet	18
Bow Legs	4
Congenital Talipes Equino Varus	4
Anterior Poliomyelitis (old)	1
Knock Knees	3
Congenital Deformity of Hand	1
Pain in Hip	1
Greenstick fracture of ulna	1
Limp	1
Deformity of Chest	1
Observation	2
	—
Total	37
	—

Emergency Unit.

The establishment of a unit for providing treatment in patients' homes in cases of sudden emergency where removal to hospital would be dangerous was agreed to during the year. A report on this will be given next year.

Pathological and X-ray Examinations.

During the year the Committee agreed to provide free pathological and X-ray facilities, in complicated maternity cases recommended by the staff of the Victoria Home.

CHELTENHAM INFANT WELFARE 29th ANNUAL REPORT.

April 1st, 1937—March 31st, 1938.

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

Meetings of Mothers' Clubs for Babies and Children up to Five Years.

At Grosvenor Street, every Tuesday	...	...	2.30
At Clare Street Hall, every Wednesday	...	...	2.30
At Baker Street Institute, every Thursday	...	...	2.30
At St. Mark's, every Wednesday	...	...	2.30
At Bennington Hall, every Thursday	...	...	2.30

Attendances at Grosvenor Street (46 meetings)	1718	Infants	2570	Toddlers	4288
Attendances at Clare Street (46 meetings)	1577	Infants	2201	Toddlers	3778
Attendances at St. Mark's (47 meetings)	1593	Infants	1626	Toddlers	3219
Attendances at Baker Street (48 meetings)	833	Infants	1550	Toddlers	2383
Attendances at Bennington Hall (47 meetings)	1202	Infants	1310	Toddlers	2512
Total					16180

QUARTERLY TODDLER INSPECTIONS.

Grosvenor Street (4 meetings)	...	45	attendances.
Clare Street (1 meeting)	...	13	„

Number of individual Children attending the four Centres :—

Grosvenor Street, 476 ; Clare Street, 301 ; Baker Street, 209 ; St. Mark's, 231 ;	
Bennington Hall, 279	1496
Visits paid by Club Visitor (since April 1st, 1937)	1131

CHELTENHAM INFANT WELFARE ASSOCIATION

Cash Account April 1st, 1937—March 31st, 1938.

RECEIPTS.			PAYMENTS.		
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance in hand, 1st April, 1937	...	2 12 9	By Rents...	...	128 18 9
Cash in hand, 1st April, 1937	...	1 2 10	Doctor's Fees	...	300 6 0
Subscriptions	...	8 15 6	Birth Control Clinic	...	15 13 6
<i>Grants—</i>			Salaries and Wages...	...	114 13 10
Cheltenham Town Council	...		Health and other Insurances	...	6 11 6
Cheltenham Town Council, Extra			<i>General Expenses—</i>		
Assistance	...		Stationery and Printing	...	9 1 0
Charity Commissioners	...		Postage, Telephone and Stamps	...	4 1 5
			Club Requisites	...	4 13 4
		554 6 10	Cheque Books	...	1 10 0
Income, Dividend on £270 3½ per cent			Teas and Sweets	...	7 17 2
Nova Scotia 1954 Stock	...		Affiliation Fees to Association	...	2 2 0
Interest from Building Society	...		Affiliation Fees to County Federation	...	10 0
		10 11 8	Christmas Gratuities	...	1 10 0
Club Fees and Mothers' Donations	...	56 19 9	Travelling & Conference Expenses	...	2 11 9
Sale of Drugs, etc.	...	186 15 5			
Less Cost of Same	...	180 19 7			
		5 15 10			33 16 8
Allowed for Bottles	...	14 9			
			<i>Note:—The Stock of Drugs in hand is valued at £30 10s. 10d.</i>		
			Cash in hand	...	16 1
			Balance in Bank	...	40 3 7
		£640 19 11			£640 19 11

E. W. GARLAND, Hon. Treasurer.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1937-1938.

The Committee are again in a position to present a satisfactory report on the progress of the work of the Association, and an increase in attendances at the Centres. The illness of Miss Jordan, who has been one of the Health Visitors for so many years, has been keenly felt at the St. Mark's and Baker Street Centres and has undoubtedly accounted for the drop in attendances at the latter Centre, and all are looking forward to her return.

The quarterly thorough inspection of "Toddlers" started last year has been continued at Grosvenor Street and there has been an average attendance of eleven, this number is considered most satisfactory and is quite sufficient for the one session. The scheme has now been extended to the Clare Street Centre and their first inspection was held at Grosvenor Street on Tuesday, March 1st, when thirteen children were brought. The Doctors consider these afternoons most valuable as they are able to give these children a more complete examination and various small defects have been noticed.

The Committee wish to record their thanks to the Medical Officer of Health for the excellent scheme he devised for the renewing of free milk whereby the mothers are divided into four groups, alphabetically, and the groups attend different weeks, thus doing away with the overwhelming attendances once a month. The scheme has worked smoothly from the start, and has been a benefit to all.

Miss Barratt has very kindly consented to fill the vacancy on the Committee, and they feel they are most fortunate in securing her services, they are also looking forward to Miss Tinson's return, as she has been very much missed during her holiday abroad.

During the summer an outing was held at Stanway, 124 Mothers and twelve Toddlers were present, games, competitions and a Treasure Hunt were arranged out of doors, but unfortunately the rain started as the mothers arrived and only stopped for a short time after tea. The Toc H League of Women Helpers provided an excellent tea, which included strawberries and cream, at a very low cost. Colonel Cockshott arranged a short entertainment and conducted some community singing.

The Christmas tea was as popular as ever this year, 292 tickets were given out and about 250 of these mothers came. Thanks to the very generous help from the numerous friends and workers of the Association it was possible to produce a most appetising tea. Mr. Ernest Williams once more came to our rescue and provided the entertainment which was very varied and amusing and was thoroughly appreciated by the Mothers.

For some years the exhibition of model garments at the Centres has been in abeyance, this has now been revived, thanks to the efforts of Miss Barratt, and there is now a complete set of garments for an Infant available for the Mothers to see at each Centre, together with the patterns for making the garments shown, it is also possible for the Mothers to buy vests at cost price.

Dr. Brown continued to give advice on Birth Control, to those Mothers sent by the Doctors at the Centres, until the end of 1937, this branch of the work, however, has now been taken out of the hands of

the Association and a gynaecological clinic established in the Municipal Offices under the Medical Officer of Health, open on the first and third Thursday in the month.

Owing to Dr. Grassie's appointment as Hon. Anaesthetist at the General Hospital he found it impossible to continue as Medical Officer at the Bennington Centre, so it was arranged for him to change with Mr. Harvey at Grosvenor Street.

A member of the Committee and the Secretary attended the National Maternity and Child Welfare Conference in London during June. Many interesting papers were heard, and discussions held, and a visit was paid to the Violet Melchett Voluntary Infant Welfare Centre.

In September the Health Exhibition visited Cheltenham, amongst the numerous interesting displays there was an excellent Infant Welfare Section which drew the attention of many of the mothers, and the Organizing Secretary, Miss Keating, gave two interesting and instructive talks, one to the Mothers and another to the Workers—these were both well attended.

During the summer, thanks to the very generous monetary help given by the Inner Wheel, four children from the Welfare Centres were sent to the Herbert Convalescent Home in Weston and benefited very considerably by their change. The Committee have decided to use money from the Social Activity fund to enable more children to go to this home.

Lastly, the Committee wish to place on record their very grateful thanks to all Workers for their loyal support and help and also their welcome to a large number of new Voluntary Workers this year.

SUPERANNUATION EXAMINATIONS.

Medical Examinations of New Employees of the Corporation, etc.

Candidates selected by Committees for posts under the Corporation are examined by the Medical Officer of Health for the purpose of the Superannuation scheme before final appointment to designated posts. This is a safeguard for the Corporation against the early retirement of an officer on superannuation or the interference with full service which might result from chronic ailments. It is important that candidates appointed from other authorities should be examined even though they are already contributors.

The new Superannuation Act will come into force on the 1st April, 1939. All officers of the Corporation, including temporary officers who are not in the Scheme under the 1922 Act but who have served for two years or over, will then become subject to the Act automatically without medical examination. Servants on the permanent staff who belong to classes or descriptions to which the Corporation decide to apply the provisions of the Act will also become contributory employees.

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Health Week.

A very successful Health Week was held in Cheltenham from 13th—18th September. The Exhibition which formed a central attraction was opened by the Duchess of Beaufort, and Sir Arthur McNalty, Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, gave a most interesting address. The Minister of Health himself sent a special message of encouragement.

Over 10,000 visitors attended the Exhibition, and including outside meetings and attendances at special health films which were shown to the senior scholars of the schools through the kindness of the directors of the Gaumont British Picture Theatre, a total of 12,879 attendances were made.

Better Health.

The official journal of the Central Council for Health Education is distributed monthly. It contains interesting and useful articles on health matters by well known Doctors and Medical Officers of Health.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

REPORT OF BOROUGH SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR 1937.

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my tenth 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 visitations of work in progress, drainage work at institutions, schools, houses, business premises and workshops, together with inspections under the Shops Act have been maintained.

The Cheltenham Health Week Exhibition, September 13th to 18th, was arranged by the Medical Officer of Health in conjunction with the Central Council for Health Education, and the department was responsible for the stand reserved for the Public Health Services. The Sanitary Inspectors and staff were in attendance during the week. Keen interest was displayed by the general public and the advanced scholars of the local schools, and their desire for knowledge was not only gratifying to the organisers, but proof that publicity is required in all matters of health and sanitation. Still more was it a demonstration to the staff themselves that their work, which is of national importance, is appreciated.

The only change in the staff during the year resulted from the appointment of Mr. A. J. Stroud as Sanitary Inspector to the Borough of Tewkesbury. He had served in the department as a pupil and assistant inspector.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Housing Committees for the help and consideration given to me in carrying out my duties as a Sanitary Officer. I am pleased to record the completion of 30 years service with your Authority.

I wish again to record my appreciation of the loyal and valued assistance rendered to me by the District Inspectors and staff during a year of strenuous activity.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. R. JEFFORD,

M.R. San. I.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

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	...	16,459
WORK IN PROGRESS.		
Number of inspections	... ..	5,317
INTERVIEWS.		
Number of interviews with Builders, Contractors, Owners, etc.	... ..	1040
DWELLING HOUSES.		
Number inspected and particulars recorded (Housing Acts, 1930)	... ..	268
Number found to be totally unfit for human habitation	...	112
„ „ „ not in all respects fit for habitation	...	400
„ inspected (special enquiries, etc.)	... ..	1,129
„ „ (ordinary inspections)	... ..	303
„ „ re infectious disease	... ..	97
„ „ after service of notice (re inspections)	...	1,820
„ „ re water supply	... ..	—
„ „ on complaint of Rent Restriction Act	...	—
„ „ re Underground Sleeping Rooms (Sec. 20 H.A., 1930)	... ..	36
„ visits Overcrowding Survey	... ..	1,648
SCHOOLS.		
Number of visits	... ..	8
FACTORIES.		
Number of inspections	... ..	53
WORKSHOPS.		
Ordinary inspections	... ..	185
Domestic „	... ..	12
Workplaces „	... ..	—
Laundries „	... ..	15
Outworkers' „	... ..	55
BAKEHOUSES.		
Factory inspections	... ..	46
Ordinary „	... ..	22
COWSHEDS AND FARMS.		
Number of inspections	... ..	56
DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.		
Number of inspections	... ..	134
ICE CREAM PREMISES.		
Number of inspections	... ..	36

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	1,792
PUBLIC ABATTOIR.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	769
BUTCHERS' AND GROCERS' SHOPS, COLD STORES, ETC.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	724
OFFENSIVE TRADES.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	138
FRIED FISH SHOPS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	32
COMMON LODGING HOUSES.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	62
HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	8
FOOD SHOPS (TOTAL).						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	981
SHOPS' ACT, 1934.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	222
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.						
Number of visits and inspections	...	...	...	...	...	1,181
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CONVENIENCES.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	50
PLACES LICENSED FOR PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	9
PLACES WHERE ANIMALS ARE KEPT.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	21
SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	59
TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	24
MARKET STALLS AND FAIRS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	231
RAT INFESTATION.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	186
MINOR SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	12
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE REFUSE TIPS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	6

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

TABLE No. II.

HOUSES.

Dwelling houses improved	...	...	...	...	...	142
Provided with sufficient w.c. and sanitary accommodation						2
" " " water supply	...	...	...			—
" " Internal or separate water supply	...	...				30
Roofs overhauled and repaired	...	...	...	...		211
New floors laid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	473
Yards and areas paved...	...	...	...	...	...	143
Eaves gutters and rainwater down pipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	425
Rainwater down pipes disconnected from drain	...	...				—
Rooms cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	611
Rooms repaired	...	...	...	...	...	594
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	45
Disinfected after infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	148

SCHOOLS.

Sanitary conveniences improved and cleansed				25
---	-----	-----	--	--	--	----

BAKEHOUSES.

Cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	34
Found in an insanitary condition	...	...	...	...	...	—

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

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

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

Sanitary condition improved...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	66
New Registrations	...	...	...	...	...	6

ICE CREAM MANUFACTURERS' PREMISES.

Cleansed ...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Sanitary condition improved...	...	...	...	...	...	3

OFFENSIVE TRADES' PREMISES.

Cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	25
Sanitary condition improved...	...	...	...	...	...	2

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

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

DRAINS.

Opened and examined	31
Water tests applied to drains	423
Smoke " " and soil pipes... ..	300
New drains laid... ..	295
Length in yards of stoneware pipe drains laid	3,731
" " of heavy cast iron drains "	2,104
Manholes and inspection chambers provided	443
Intercepting traps fixed	269
Iron and stoneware gully traps fixed... ..	640
Drains flushed	150

SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES.

Provision of septic tanks, filter beds and effluent drains ...	4
--	---

SUBSOIL DRAINS.

Subsoil drains laid	6
----------------------------	---

WATER CLOSETS.

New water closets built	275
New w.c. pans of the washdown type fixed	293
Flushing boxes fixed to w.c.'s	273
" " repaired	122
Water closets and drains unstopped	173
Defective and dirty w.c. pans... ..	120

SOIL AND VENTILATING SHAFTS.

New soil and ventilating shafts fixed... ..	267
---	-----

WASTE PIPES.

New waste pipes fixed and repaired	770
Trapped and disconnected	768
Siphonage or vent pipes fixed... ..	380

SINKS.

New sinks and lavatory basins fixed... ..	770
---	-----

ASH RECEPTACLES.

New moveable galvanised with covers provided	45
---	----

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notices sent to Masters and Mistresses of schools with regard to infectious disease	40
Notices sent to Parents with regard to infectious disease	37
" " " Public Library with regard to infectious disease	1
Articles of clothing disinfected	5,655
" " " etc., disinfected for outside Sanitary Authorities, etc.	932

NOTICES, ETC.

The total number of inspections made during the year was 16,459. In 740 houses and premises dealt with, nuisances to the number of 7,328 were discovered, of which 5,433 were abated, and in dealing with sanitary defects from which they arose, 226 preliminary or informal and 201 statutory or formal notices were served.

The number of letters received and dispatched by the Department was 1,937. In order to supervise sanitary and housing work in progress 5,217 visits were made. The number of complaints received in the Health Department numbered 675 as against 649 in the previous year.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Numerous complaints were received in regard to a factory laundry situated in the centre of the district and I reported it to the Committee, in March. Observations were taken and a notice was served under S. 94 of the Public Health Act, 1875, requiring abatement of the nuisance. The owner thereupon agreed to install a larger boiler of improved construction.

Subsequent reports were made to the Committee in July, September and October, during which time close observation was kept on the factory chimney. In November, the owner attended before the Committee and stated he had taken all reasonable steps to prevent a nuisance from smoke, and it was not found necessary to make any further report by the end of the year.

In November, another complaint of a factory laundry, situated in a built-up area, was received and the Company promised to install a different kind of apparatus, which it was hoped would abate the smoke nuisance.

The total number of observations taken of chimneys of which complaints had been received was 59, and it should be recorded that this work absorbs a considerable amount of valuable time of the staff.

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

1. Common Lodging Houses.

The usual report was made to the Council, and applications submitted for renewal of registrations, which were granted for one year in respect of the following premises:—Cumberland Villa, Rowton House and the Shamrock, Grove Street, and the Nelson, High Street. The two common lodging houses included in the Clearance Orders now confirmed by the Minister of Health, will shortly be vacated. The total number of inspections made of these premises was 62, including one night inspection, and again I am pleased to report a satisfactory compliance with the byelaws and also good management of these houses by the keepers.

2. Houses Let in Lodgings.

It has for many years been obvious that the byelaws in force were inadequate for satisfactorily controlling these premises in the light of modern requirements. Very definite improvement will be possible when the new byelaws, required under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, are put into operation. The total number of inspections made during the year was 8.

3. Cellar, Underground and Basement Dwellings.

It has been necessary for some years to concentrate upon the inspection of the cellars and underground rooms so frequently found in Terrace Houses, which are known locally as basement dwellings. This work being an essential of the departmental work in Housing is therefore found under this section of the Report.

4. Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Two caravans in the outlying rural part of the district were found to be unfit for human habitation by reason of the absence of sanitary conveniences, water supply, etc. The occupiers, however, removed to a house, so the necessity of making demolition orders was avoided.

A caravan was found to be occupied in a yard of licensed premises and notice was served of the intention to demolish. A family occupying two vans, duly vacated these and moved into a newly constructed dwelling. The occupied vans remaining in the district have all necessary conveniences, and their occupation is entirely satisfactory.

5. Offensive Trades.

New applications :—

Dealer in Rags S. 107 Public Health Act, 1936. Consent granted.

Fish Fryer, New Estate. Licence granted for one year, new fish frying apparatus.

The following offensive trades are carried on in the Borough :—

1 Fellmonger ; 1 Tripe Dresser ; 2 Dealers in Raw Hides and Skins ; 21 Fried Fish Shops ; 11 Dealers in Iron, Metal, Bones and Rabbit Skins.

New Offensive Trades Established with the Consent of the Authority during 1937 under S.107 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Dealers in Rags. Two.

Fish Frying.

One renewal of consent was given for a period of one year subject to the installation of a new range.

In another case, consent to establish a fish frying trade was promised subject to the erection of a residence and shop with a type of apparatus approved and installed to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of Health.

138 inspections were made under the respective byelaws with regard to limewashing and general conduct.

6. Slaughterhouses (Private).

The number of inspections of registered premises was 1,792, and there was found to be a general observance of the byelaws with regard to cleansing and maintenance of the buildings.

7. Slaughterhouse (Public Abattoir).

The returns of animals slaughtered show a drop of 1,482 compared with the previous year. In this figure are included 862 sheep. The Abattoir continues to be used by the majority of the butchers and meat traders in the district, but fluctuations are bound to take place in the numbers of animals slaughtered on account of market prices and the effect of foot and mouth disease.

The deficit of £443 3s. 6d. in the working of the Abattoir is above the normal amount and is accounted for by extra expenditure on repairs and by the relaying of the concrete roadway and the floor of Main Hall.

The control of this establishment is in the hands of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, with a Superintendent in charge, and all meat inspection is carried out by qualified meat inspectors.

Public Abattoir Trading Account, ending 31st March, 1937.

<i>Expenditure.</i>				<i>Income.</i>			
	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
Rates, Taxes, Insurance	42	16	3	Slaughtering Fees	379	10	0
Superintendent's Wages	197	6	3	Licences	2	14	0
Labour, Hauling and removal of offal	74	8	4				
Sundry painting, white-washing, repairs, etc.	278	10	9				
Electricity, lighting and power...	18	12	7				
Coal and wood	51	7	5				
Sundry fittings and materials	69	7	11				
Printing, books, etc.	9	0	8				
Water Supply	3	1	10				
Singeing Chamber	10	12	0				
Laundry Work	4	15	0				
<hr/>							
Loan Charges—							
Contributions to Sinking Fund	£32/0/0						
Interest (including Tax)	£34/8/6						
	66	8	6	Deficit...	444	3	6
Total	£826	7	6	Total	£826	7	6

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

DRAINAGE, SEWERS AND SANITATION.

1. House Drainage.

In consequence of written complaints by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, alleging a nuisance from defective drainage, the Public Health Committee ordered the opening and examination of the drains at 31 houses and premises, and reports and specifications of the work required were submitted. During the year the department has supervised the laying of 3731 stoneware pipes and 2,104 yards of heavy cast-iron coated pipes, also the fixing of 269 intercepting traps, 640 gully traps and 443 inspection chambers and manholes. In connection with the work, 423 water tests and 300 smoke tests were applied to drains, soil pipes and ventilating shafts.

The number of existing buildings where plans of proposed alterations and additions were approved by the Town Planning Committee was 55. In each case the sanitary work was carried out to the satisfaction of the Sanitary Inspector. New flats or conversion of premises were supervised as to sanitary fittings and the work incidental thereto.

It should be placed on record that there is complete co-ordination between the department of the Borough Surveyor and the Sanitary Inspector, whereby the plans of existing buildings sent in to the Council are examined as to drainage jointly by the Building Inspector and the Health Department.

2. Closet Accommodation.

The provision of separate and sufficient closet accommodation for houses and premises has occupied the attention of the department for a very long period, so that with the elimination of the houses included in clearance areas, there is little to report in regard to additional accommodation. It should be noted, however, that opportunity is taken in all cases of re-conditioning and re-construction to ensure that the closet accommodation is provided in close proximity to the dwelling. This point does require special mention having regard to the necessary use by young children and aged persons during night time and periods of inclement weather.

3. Sewers.

During the year it was found necessary to report to the Public Health Committee that owing to investigation of rat infestation, public sewers in the following districts, Pittville; Clarence Square; Pittville Lawn; Albert Road and Promenade were found to be defective. New sewers, costing £550 were laid in Christ Church Terrace and Windsor Street in the place of those which had previously been reported by the department to be defective, and from which rats had been infesting the district.

Flooding. The Committee instructed the Sanitary Inspector to fix special anti-flooding traps, alter rainwater pipes, etc., at several houses in Hewlett Road and Eldon Road, in order to prevent surcharging of the house drains during exceptional rainfall. The Council have under consideration extensive sewer replacements and enlargement as follows: Chelt main sewer, £66,250; Wymans Brook sewer, £5,000; High Street sewer, £850; and work is in progress in the Moorend Park District for re-sewering at a cost of £7,681.

4. Corporation Sanitary Certificate.

Corporation Sanitary Certificates were granted in respect of the undermentioned houses, making a total of 1,480 Certificates issued since these were instituted in the Borough. In addition to the certificates issued, applications are received for inspecting and testing private house drains, and the applicant receives a detailed report and specification.

Certificates granted:—The Park Nursing Home, The Park; The Ferns, Church Road, St. Mark's; De Mara, Douro Road; Beaufort House, Montpellier Terrace; Rodney Lodge; 16, Pittville Lawn; Hatherley Lodge, St. Stephen's Road; 15, Lypiatt Terrace.

5. Schools.

At the request of the School Authorities an annual inspection is carried out at a large boarding school for boys, and a full report is issued so that any necessary work can be carried out. Inspections are made at the elementary schools during the year, and again I must report that not enough attention is paid to the drainage manholes and conveniences.

HOUSING.

The action taken by the Council during the post-war period in regard to the clearance of slum areas and unfit houses has been both thorough and energetic. The total number of unfit houses that have been either demolished or are subject to orders under Clearance schemes, or as individual houses is 1,000. This represents one house in six of the working class houses erected more than 60 years ago. During the year under review the Minister of Health confirmed Orders affecting 214 houses in 56 Clearance areas, and the Council made 33 demolition orders and 13 closing orders affecting basement dwellings or parts of buildings.

The work of the department is being directed towards a gradual improvement of existing houses, and at least 400 to 500 houses will have to be dealt with by reconditioning, in addition to the houses which require repairs.

Reconditioning.

The desirability or otherwise of reconditioning the older type of working class dwellings must to a large extent depend upon the planning of the houses and general lay-out of the district. The town is fortunate in possessing few districts, which can be considered congested, the majority of the streets are up to a reasonable standard, whilst the houses possess

gardens. The present generation can rightly claim to have shouldered the responsibility of sweeping away slums and all the defects conducive to slum conditions at considerable cost. It will remain for those who come after to forward the ideal of redevelopment and modern town planning.

During the year the number of dwelling houses in respect of which formal undertakings to recondition were signed by owners was 49, and the number completed was 41, including those acquired by the Council.

The Local Authority acquired four houses and reconditioned two of these, namely 104, Tewkesbury Road (2 bedrooms), at a cost of £241 14s. 9d. ; and 56, Worcester Street (5 bedrooms), which was altered and enlarged at a cost of £480 16s. 9d., to accommodate an overcrowded family anxious to remain in the same locality. The capital amount involved in the local scheme since its inception is £8,750 7s. 11d., and the sum of £5,172 has been realised by the sale of houses. The Council have retained houses to the value of £3,578, and the average cost of purchase and work executed is £179 16s. 0d. per house.

The work entailed by the removal of families from houses which were either condemned or scheduled as overcrowded to the new Housing Estates has been carried out under the supervision of the Health Department. Families to the number of 137 received the advantage of free removal of furniture in special van containers, the contents of which were subjected to cyanide fumigation, at a total cost of £336 15s. 10d., or £2 4s. 9d. for each family. In addition 4,705 articles of bedding were removed separately by the staff for steam disinfection. In many cases the presence of vermin was not proved in the house concerned until after fumigation was carried out, but judging by the experience gained from these removals it has been clearly evident that the expenditure was justified.

Certificates as to the Condition of Houses.

Applications for Certificates under S. 51 of the Housing Act, 1936 were received in respect of 44 houses, and on the recommendation of Chief Sanitary Inspector Certificates were issued by the Local Authority for 12 houses for the maximum period of 10 years. The local procedure on application is for the premises to be inspected and the necessary specification to be supplied to the applicant, and though this procedure does not closely follow the wording of the Section, it does avoid delay and results in obtaining a satisfactorily high standard of reconditioning.

The Building Societies operating in this district having realised the value of the Certificate will not as a general rule sanction an advance on property of working class type unless the member can produce a Certificate for the maximum period. The introduction of these Certificates is a most effective means of protecting the public who invest in this class of property, as well as a means of securing voluntary improvement, which is advantageous to all concerned.

LIST OF COUNCIL HOUSES.

TABLE No. 3.

List of Houses	Bedrooms	Class	Rent Inclusive	Number	Housing Scheme
Hope Street ...	2	A2	6/-	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/-	5	
Cobham Road ...	2	A2	5/9	15	
Elm Street ...	2	A2	5/9	11	
Malvern Street ...	3	A	8/-, 8/11	7	} Slum Clearance H.A. 1930 1924 Act
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	
Hanover Parade ...	3	A1	8/6	7	
Crabtree Place ...	2	A2	6/1	7	
" " ...	2	A2	5/6	17	
" " ...	3	A	6/3	19	
Folly Lane ...	3	A	8/-	7	
" " ...	2	A2	6/1	11	
" " ...	3	A	8/-	33	
Margrett Road ...	2	A2	6/3	14	
" " ...	3	A	8/3	29	
St. Paul's Road ...	3	A	8/-	8	} (2 Sold) Slum Clearance H.A. 1930
Whaddon Road ...	2	A2	7/1	20	
Whaddon Avenue ...	3	A	9/2	69	
Thames Road ...	4	A4	8/-	8	
Wymans Road ...	3	A3	7/6, 7/-, 6/6	92	
and ...	2	A2	5/6	26	
Colne Avenue ...	1	A1	4/-	8	
Severn Road ...	4	A4	12/2	8	
" " ...	3	A3	11/6	56	
Churn Avenue ...	1	A1	4/-	24	
Mersey Road ...	3	A3	7/-	6	} Non-Subsidy Sch. "C" " "D" " " " " under Construc- tion " " " " under Construc- tion
" " ...	4	A4	8/-	26	
" " ...	5	A5	8/-	12	
Humber Road ...	3	A3	7/-	26	
" " ...	4	A4	8/-	25	
" " ...	5	A5	8/-	14	
Avon Road ...	3	A3	7/-	13	
" " ...	4	A4	8/-	12	
" " ...	5	A5	8/-	6	
Whaddon Road ...	3	A3	7/-	4	
" " ...	4	A4	8/-	12	
" " ...	6	A6	8/-	6	

LIST OF COUNCIL HOUSES—contd.

TABLE No. 3.

List of Houses	Bedrooms	Class	Rent Inclusive	Number	Housing Scheme
Whaddon Road ...	3	A3	7/-	22	"E" "E"
" " ...	3	A3	14/-	5	(Non-Suby.)
Evenlode Avenue ...	1	A1	4/-	24	"
" " ...	3	A3	14/-	6	(non-Suby.)
Windrush Road ...	3	A3	7/-	13	(non-Suby.)
" " ...	3	A3	14/-	1	(non-Suby.)
Isbourne Road ...	3	A3	7/-	6	"
Clyde Crescent ...	3	A3	7/-	59	"
" " ...	3	A3	14/-	34	(non-Suby.)
" " ...	4	A4	8/-	26	"
Tamar Road ...	3	A3	14/-	4	(non-Suby.)
" " ...	4	A4	8/-	4	"
Cam Road ...	3	A3	7/-	10	} under Construc- tion "
Dart Road ...	3	A3	7/-	16	
" " ...	4	A4	8/-	6	
54, Worcester St. ...	3		12/6	1	} Houses acquired L. A. (Reconditioned)
55 " " ...	2		8/6	1	
56, " " ...	5		10/-	1	
7, Queen Street ...	2		8/6	1	
13, Brunswick St. S. ...	2		8/6	1	
15, " " ...	2		8/6	1	
58, " " ...			8/-	1	
55, " " ...			6/8	1	
104 Tewkesbury Rd. ...	2		8/6	1	
Hope Street ...			5/-, 6/-	9	
Old Bath Road ...	3	A	9/5	2	
Pilley Crescent ...	2	A2	6/10	28	
" " ...	3	A	8/11	71	(1 Sold)
Alstone Lane ...	3	A	6/9	5	} Slum Clearance H.A. 1930.
" " ...	2	A2	5/6	6	
Pates' Avenue ...	3	A	6/3, 5/9	32	
" " ...	2	A2	5/6, 5/-	35	
Moor's Avenue ...	4	A4	7/-, 6/6	11	
" " ...	3	A3	6/9, 6/3, 5/9	59	
" " ...	2	A2	6/-, 5/6, 5/-	70	
" " ...	1	A1	3/4	16	

St. Mark's Housing Estate.

Sold	Let	Rent Inclusive (Present)	No.	Housing Scheme.
36	124	12/11	160	H.A. 1919.
		10/7		
154	10	12/11	164	H.A. 1923.
53	133	11/-		
		12/11	186	H.A. 1924.
		13/11		
1	31	15/10	32	Without Subsidy.
	16	£40 Yearly plus rates	16	H. Act 1923

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1937.

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) ... 400
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 1,200
- (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1935 ... 268
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 1080
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 112
- (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 288

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 ... 56

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—

A.— Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 16
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :
- (a) By owners ... 12
- (b) By local authority in default of owners... 4

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	14
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a)	By owners	13
(b)	By local authority in default of owners...	—

C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	33
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	29

D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(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	12

E.—Statutory Undertakings under section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal undertakings were signed by owners	49
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were completed under formal undertaking given by owners ...	39
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses subject to representation but acquired by L.A. and reconditioned or reconstructed. Housing Acts, 1925 and 1935 ...	4

4. Housing Act, 1936. Overcrowding. See page 13.

Number of New Houses erected during 1937 :—

(a)	Total	535
(1)	By local authority	255
(2)	By other bodies or persons	280
(b)	Without State Assistance under the Housing Acts	
(1)	By the local authority	68
(c)	With State Assistance under the Housing Acts	
(1)	By the local authority	187
(d)	Proposed under (1) Housing Act, 1930	2
	(2) Housing Act, 1931	—
	(3) Housing Act, 1935	209

**Details of Improvements effected (under the Housing Act, 1936)
during the year 1937.**

TABLE No. 4.

Dwelling-houses (General Improvements).

Lighting and Ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	...	338
Provided with Corporation Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
Rendered free from Dampness	...	...	...	...	...	...	96
Provided with Food Larders	...	...	...	...	...	...	86
Roofs overhauled or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	211
Walls (external) pointed, cemented or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	325
Doors, and locks repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	445
Chimneys rebuilt	...	...	...	...	...	...	116
Washhouse furnaces repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	60
Washhouse floors relaid or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Provided with separate and sufficient W.C. accommodation	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Provided with galvanised iron ash receptacles	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Provided with new sinks	...	...	...	...	...	...	770
Provided with paved yards	...	...	...	...	...	...	143
Repaired or renewed eaves gutters and rainwater down pipes	...	...	...	...	...	...	425

Living Rooms.

Cleansed and colourwashed or papered	...	...	...	...	...	...	161
Light and ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	163
New windows provided or repairs to window frames	...	...	...	...	...	...	141
Walls and ceilings repaired or replastered	...	...	...	...	...	...	289
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	131
New fireplaces or cooking ovens provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	118

Sleeping Rooms.

Cleansed, colourwashed or papered	...	...	...	...	...	...	210
Light and ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	157
New windows provided, or repairs to window frames	...	...	...	...	...	...	186
Walls and ceilings repaired or replastered	...	...	...	...	...	...	377
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	146
New fireplaces provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	99
Staircases repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	62

Basement Rooms.

Cleansed, colourwashed or papered	...	...	...	...	...	...	59
Light and ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Dampness in walls prevented	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
Walls and ceilings repaired or replastered	...	...	...	...	...	...	106
Floors repaired or relaid	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Closed as underground sleeping rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Representations...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13

HOUSES UNFIT FOR HABITATION, 1937.

1. Closing Orders S. 12. Parts of Buildings, Basements or Underground Rooms.

Phoenix Lodge, Montpellier ; 5, Pittville Lawn ; 26, Priory Street ; 407a, High Street, 1st floor ; 407a, High Street, 2nd floor ; 39, Lansdown Crescent ; 45, Promenade ; 2, Oxford Place, Old Bath Road ; Hillersley, Oxford Passage ; 30, Prestbury Road ; 3, Grosvenor Place ; N.W. wing, 3, Grosvenor Place.

1a. Premises amended to comply with Regulations, etc., S. 12.

10, Regent Street ; 2, Bayshill Lawn ; Halsey House, Pittville, 3, Pittville Lawn ; Heath Lodge, Pittville Circus Road ; 24, Grosvenor Street ; 11, Suffolk Square ; 19, Bath Parade ; 34, Montpellier Villas ; 292, High Street, 1st and 2nd floor.

2. Demolition Orders, S. 11.

4, Queen Street ; 6, Hereford Passage ; Caravan opposite The Moors ; Tewkesbury Road ; 12, Sidney Street ; 1, 2, Cakebridge Cottages ; 42, 43, Montpellier Villas ; 9, 10, 11, Northfield Passage ; 44, Sherborne Street ; Walcot Cottage, Sherborne Place ; 1, 2, 3, 4, Kingsditch Lane ; 11, York Street ; 1, 2, 3, 4, Williams Cottages, Alstone ; 3, Hughes Passage ; 1, 2, 3, Gothic Cottages ; 1, 2, Harp Hill Cottages ; 10, 12, Malvern Street ; 21, St. Philips' Street ; 5a, St. Anne's Terrace ; Boswell Cottage.

2a. Houses Demolished, S. 19 and 11.

Claremont Cottage, Back Montpellier Terrace ; 58, Union Street ; 12, Sidney Street ; 51, 60, Rutland Street ; 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, Ambrose Place ; Hillview Cottage, Hewlett Street ; 3, Corpus Street ; 6, Hereford Passage ; 20, Hereford Place ; Caravan opposite The Moors, Tewkesbury Road ; 2 Caravans, Hester's Way ; 1, 2, 3, Hatherley Cottages ; 7, Grove Street ; 4, Russell Place ; 45a, 47b, New Street ; 3, Trent Cottages, Gloucester Place ; Rear 23, Townsend Street ; 44, Townsend Street ; 229, High Street.

2b. Houses Demolished, Slum Clearance, S. 26.

127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, Tewkesbury Road ; 8, 8a, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, Grove Street ; 1, 2, 3, 4, Cumberland Cottages, Grove Street ; 6, 7, 8, 9, St. George's Avenue ; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, Cakebridge Terrace ; 18a, Fairview Street ; 44, Montpellier Villas ; 1, 2, 3, 4, Jersey Cottages, Sherborne Street ; Wenlock House and 5, Queen's Terrace, Wellington Passage (closed) ; 1, 2, Dovedale Court, York Street ; 4, 5, 6, Berkeley Avenue.

3. Representations, S. 11.

9, 10, 11, Northfield Passage ; 20, Columbia Street ; Two Caravans, Hester's Way ; 1, 2, 3, 4, Kingsditch Lane ; 30, Sandford Street ; 43, Post Office Lane ; 11, 38, 38a, York Street ; 12, Andover Street ; 26, 86, 87, 88, Albion Street ; 30, Portland Square ; 6, Portland Cottages ; 1, 2, Richmond Cottages, Sherborne Street ; 44, Sherborne Street ; 102, 104, Swindon Road ; 12, North Place ; 1, 2, St. Margaret's Cottages ; 45, Jersey Street ; 28, Union Street ; 18, Fairview Street ; 5, 6, Providence Square ; Stanley Cottage, Sidney Street ; 15, Sidney Street ; Eaton Cottage, Eaton Place ; 4, Eaton Place ; 9, Kew Place ; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Edward Terrace ; 1, 2, 3, Buckle's Cottages ; Wenlock House, Wellington Passage ; 5, Queen's Terrace, Wellington Passage ; 1, 2, 3, Coltham Fields ; 1, 2, 3, Clare Cottages ; 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, Hughes Passage ; 1, 2, 3, Gothic Cottages ; West Cottage, St. George's Avenue ; 5a, St. George's Avenue ; 10, 12, Malvern Street ; Walcot Cottage, Sherborne Place ; 10, Tivoli Street ; 10, Tivoli Lane ; Hilton Cottage, Commercial Street ; 21, St. Philip's Street ; 148, Bath Road ; 1, 2, Harp Hill Cottages ; 18, Prestbury Road ; Hungerford Cottage, St. Paul's ; 29, 30, 31, 31b, Hungerford Street ; 1, 2, 3, Hylton Place, New Street ; 1, 2, 3, 4, William's Cottages, Alstone ; 12, Glenfall Street ; 70, Duke Street ; 5a, St. Anne's Terrace ; 14, 15, 16, Clare Place ; Boswell Cottage ; Caravan, Shakespeare Hotel Yard ; 69, St. George's Place ; 2, Berkeley Avenue ; 27, Albert Place ; 12, Worcester Street ; 9, 11, St. James' Street ; 23, 24, 25, 26, Francis Street.

S. 12.

7, St. George's Terrace ; 26, Priory Street ; 407a, High Street, 1st and 2nd floor ; 26, 39, Lansdown Crescent ; 43, Promenade ; 34, Montpellier Villas ; 2, Oxford Place, Old Bath Road ; Hillersley, Oxford Passage ; 30, Prestbury Road ; Basement, 3, Grosvenor Place ; North West Wing, 3, Grosvenor Place ; 17, Imperial Square ; 20, Clarence Square ; 44, Tewkesbury Road, 1st floor and part of ground floor ; 22, St. Stephen's Road.

4. Undertakings signed by Owners, S. 11.

90, 102, 104, Swindon Road ; 1, Granville Street ; 6, Brandon Place ; 5, 6, Waterloo Street ; 32, 33, Worcester Street ; 170, St. Paul's Road ; 9, 9a, Hewlett Place ; 99, Leckhampton Road ; 30, Sandford Street ; 21, 21a, 38, 38a, York Street ; 43, Post Office Lane ; Hilton Cottage, Commercial Street ; 70, Duke Street ; 18, Fairview Street ; 5, 6, Providence Square ; 4, Eaton Place, Bath Road ; 1, 2, 3, Buckle's Cottages ; 1, 2, 3, Clare Cottages ; 1, 2, 4, 5, Hughes Passage ; Wenlock House, Wellington Passage ; 5, Queen's Terrace, Wellington Passage ; Hungerford Cottage ; 29, Hungerford Street ; 10, 10a, Commercial Street ; 12, Glenfall Street ; 26, Albion Street ; 28, Union Street ; 45, Jersey Street ; 10, Tivoli Street ; 10, Tivoli Lane ; 148, Bath Road ; Stanley Cottage, Sidney Street.

S. 12.

292, High Street, 1st floor ; 292, High Street, 2nd floor ; 19, Bath Parade.

5. Undertakings Cancelled, S. 11.

44, Duke Street ; 39, Cleveland Street ; 15, King Street ; 21, Upper Norwood Street ; Zion Cottage, Short Street ; 29, 30, 31, Queen Street ; 5, 6, Brandon Place ; 18, Jersey Street ; 45, 56, 60, Union Street ; 9, Sherborne Place ; 90, Swindon Road ; 1, Granville Street ; 19, Francis Street ; 62, Burton Street ; 1, Weston Cottages, Tewkesbury Road ; 21, Hermitage Street ; 45, New Street ; 34, Fairview Road ; 18, Fairview Street ; 68, 70, Brunswick Street ; 46, Brunswick Street S. ; 43, 45, St. James' Street ; Box Cottage, Pilley Lane ; 12, Andover Street ; 99, Leckhampton Road ; 4, Chester Walk ; 170, St. Paul's Road ; 42, Montpelier Villas ; 20, Columbia Street ; 22, King Street ; Hilton Cottage, Commercial Street ; 229, High Street.

5a. Reconditioning carried out without Legal Action.

44, Union Street.

6. Houses Acquired by Local Authority and Reconditioned.

7, Queen Street ; 56, Worcester Street ; Green's Cottages, Tewkesbury Road ; 104, Tewkesbury Road.

7. Certificates Issued under S. 51, Housing Act, 1936.

12, Townsend Street ; 23, 24, King Street ; 44, Duke Street ; 18, Jersey Street ; 20, 52, Burton Street ; 3, Victoria Street ; 12, Andover Street ; 60, Union Street ; 24, Sun Street ; 21, Upper Norwood Street.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There are 10 farms and dairy farms, and numerous dairies and retail purveyors on the register of the Borough. The new registrations totalled 6 wholesale traders, producers and retail purveyors including those residing outside the district. All the retail purveyors' premises have been inspected and 190 visits were made including dairy farm inspections. Extensive alterations have been carried out at two dairy farms and new cowsheds were constructed at one farm to replace sheds that were incapable of alteration. One Accredited Licence has so far been issued, but inspections of other farms have been made with the County Veterinary Officers to consider the question of a licence.

Meat Inspection.

The usual tabular statements are submitted which show that careful attention has been given to the meat supply of the district, including the constant inspection of the cold storage depots. There has been a decrease of 1,739 animals slaughtered compared with the previous year, due primarily to the outbreaks of Foot and Mouth disease and its effect upon the markets.

Tuberculosis in Meat.

The result of careful inspection is recorded in the several tables in connection with this disease, and a significant feature in regard to it is the percentage of pigs affected, which tends to increase rather than decrease.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

The number of licences issued to slaughtermen, as required by the provisions of this Act, including those issued to the Superintendent and his Assistant is 76. The licences of 11 slaughtermen lapsed during 1937 and one was cancelled. The Council in pursuance of Section 1 of the Act, resolved to apply the provisions as to stunning sheep, ewes, wethers, rams and lambs, as from August 1st. At the public abattoir electricity for stunning is installed and all slaughterhouses are provided with the necessary apparatus, so that the majority of sheep are electrically stunned. The slaughtermen pronounced in favour of the use of electricity in preference to the captive bolt-pistol, on account of the noise when using the pistol. This method of stunning has without doubt resulted in instantaneous and complete unconsciousness of all animals.

Number of Animals slaughtered during 1937.

TABLE No. 5.

Species	Private Slaughterhouses	Abattoir	Total
Bullocks	19	10	29
Heifers	529	435	964
Cows	1	2	3
Calves	574	1,370	1,944
Sheep	4,605	3,244	7,849
Pigs	1,695	4,066	5,761
Total	7,423	9,127	16,550

Number of Animals affected with Tuberculosis.

TABLE No. 6.

Species	No. Slaughtered	Found Tuberculous	Percentage
Bullocks	29	—	—
Heifers	964	39	4.04
Cows	3	—	—
Calves	1,944	—	—
Pigs	5,761	281	4.87
Total	8,701	320	3.67

Carcases Condemned as Totally Unfit for Human Food.

TABLE No. 7.

Species	T.B.	Imma- ture	Inflam- matory Conditions	Bacter- ial Disease Not T.B.	Mori- bund	Abnormal Pathologi- cal Conditions	Total Number of Animals
Cows	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heifers	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Pigs	3	—	1	4	—	2	10
Sheep	—	—	—	—	2	3	5
Calves	—	1	—	—	1	1	3
Total	5	1	1	4	3	6	20

TABLE No. 8.

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Beef in carcase	—	12	0	24
Pork „	—	7	0	2
Veal „	—	—	3	5
Mutton „	—	16	0	25
Meat not in carcase	—	17	0	12
Organs	3	14	0	10
Total	6	7	1	22

Various Organs condemned as Unfit for Human Food.

TABLE No. 9.

		Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Kidneys	Spleens	Mesenteries	Intestines
Tuberculosis ...	Heifers	23	21	6	11	5	4	5	13	13
	Pigs	148	15	12	18	5	6	5	142	161
Inflammatory conditions ...	Bovine	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—
	Sheep	2	4	3	3	3	4	3	3	3
	Calves	1	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
	Pigs	1	212	124	43	26	20	28	38	43
Bacterial diseases (not T.B.) ...	Pigs	14	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4
	Calves	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Parasitic diseases ...	Bovine	—	3	—	82	—	—	1	—	—
	Sheep	—	13	—	31	—	—	—	—	—
	Pigs	—	12	—	13	—	—	—	—	—
Abnormal Pathological conditions ...	Bovine	—	1	—	21	—	—	—	1	1
	Sheep	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	Pigs	3	3	3	15	2	9	2	2	2
Actinomycosis ...	Heifers	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Total	195	293	154	247	47	49	51	205	229

ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS.

		Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Whole Carcases						
Condemned ...	...	—	—	3	5	7
Carcases of which some part or organ was Condemned		107	2	4	37	240
Percentage of the Number Inspected ...	...	10.77	66.6	0.36	0.53	4.28

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

TABLE No. 10.

	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
MEATS.			
1 Tin Ham, Bacon		1	
MISCELLANEOUS TINNED FOODS.			
8 Tins, Fruit			8
POULTRY and GAME.			
110 Fowls, 5 Turkeys, 2 Pheasants	3	—	19
RABBITS.			
14 Carcases		1	4
EGGS. 60 Tins	1	—	8
FISH.			
Cod Fillets, Salmon, Shrimps, Sprats, Cod and Herring Roes	1	3	6
Total ...	6	2	17

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

TABLE No. 11.

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written and Verbal notices (3)	Prosecutions (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	47	2	Nil
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	240	42	Nil
Workplaces (Other than Out- workers premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	287	44	Nil

2. Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were insti- tuted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :				
Want of Cleanliness	40	43	Nil	Nil
Want of Ventilation	4	4	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Want of Drainage of Floors ...	1	1	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Accommodation { Insufficient ...	Nil	1	Nil	Nil
{ Unsuitable or defective ...	5	3	Nil	Nil
{ Not separate for sexes ...	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Offences under the Factory and Workshops' Acts :				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences :	4	6	Nil	Nil
(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 ...	54	57	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) ...	1	11	6	27
Notified from other Authorities ...	2	2	—	—

Number of Outworkers on Register 60

Outworkers' Premises inspected during 1937 ... 55

4. Registered Workshops.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year								Number
Dressmakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25
Tailors	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Bootmakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Milliners	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Builders, Woodworkers, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	35
Metal Workers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Motor and Cycle Engineers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Total								250

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	2
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	2
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101)	2
Certificates granted during the year	Nil
In use at the end of the year	1

THE SHOPS ACT, 1934.

The administration of this Act in regard to hours of closing is carried out by the Police, who are responsible to the General Purposes and Watch Committee. Section 10 of this Act, with regard to the health and comfort of shop workers is carried out by the Public Health Committee; the Medical Officer of Health and the Chief Sanitary Inspector are the appointed Officers for the purposes of the section. Inspections totalled 222, and a summary is appended of the defects found and of the number remedied. Five certificates of exemption under the Section were issued after careful consideration of each case by the Public Health Committee, who frequently require the shopkeeper to attend and state the circumstances of the application.

Number of Inspections made	...	...	222
Number of Notices served	...	...	20
Number of Certificates of Exemption issued			5
Number of Notices complied with	...	...	28

<i>Defects</i>				<i>Number Reported</i>	<i>No. of Defects Remedied</i>
W.C.'s.					
Insufficient accommodation...	...	...	...	7	9
Not separate for Sexes	...	...	...	7	8
Insufficiently screened	...	...	...	—	1
Dirty and defective pans	...	...	...	2	7
Defective structure of apartments	...	...	...	2	5
Defective seats	...	...	...	—	3
Defective flush boxes	...	...	...	—	2
Washing Facilities.					
None	...	...	...	1	4
Untrapped and defective waste pipes	...	...	...	—	2
General.					
No proper means of Heating	...	...	...	2	—
Insufficient light and ventilation	...	...	...	—	3
Dirty and defective walls and ceilings	...	...	...	5	18
Defective floors	...	...	...	1	7
				Total	27
					69

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

It was not found necessary for the local authority to issue a summons against any person during 1937, at the instigation of the Public Health Committee.

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

Demolition Work—				£ s. d.		
Nos. 127—135, Tewkesbury Road (S.C.)	...	...	...	}	114	10
Nos. 6—9, St. George's Avenue (S.C.)	...	...	...
Claremont Cottage (Sec. 11)	...	...	...
Nos. 7—13 Grove Street (S.C. & Sec. 11)	...	...	...
					17	10
					0	0
Under Housing Act, 1935—						
Nos. 55 and 56, Tewkesbury Road	...	...	...	32	17	9
No. 16, Naunton Park Road	...	...	...	11	16	0
No. 43, Naunton Lane	...	...	...	4	15	0
				Total	£181	8 9

RAT REPRESSION AND DESTRUCTION.

The local authority of Cheltenham have from the inception of the Act carried out a vigorous and systematic action in regard to rat destruction. Support was given again this year to the campaign of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries by observing National Rat Week. The publicity and propaganda carried out can be easily measured by the interest displayed by the public. The employment of the staff in the department working under the direction of the Inspectors is of material assistance, and whilst re-infestation by rats which cannot be traced to a source, does occur, we have by voluntary notification by the public been enabled to locate sources that were of the greatest importance, such as defective drains and sewers.

I am pleased to report that after some years of agitation and representation, the Gloucestershire County Council have appointed a County Rat Officer. The County Council co-operated with the Borough Council during National Rat Week in the advertising campaign, and Mr. J. C. Brocklebank, in his first report to his Authority, fully justified my claim of infestation in the rural and outlying districts which have in the past indirectly affected the Borough of Cheltenham.

THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

The history of the United States is a story of growth and development. It begins with the first settlers who came to the continent in search of a new home. They found a land of vast resources and opportunities, but also one of many challenges. The early years were marked by conflict and struggle, as the settlers fought to establish a new society. Over time, the United States grew from a small colony into a powerful nation. It became a land of freedom and opportunity, where people could live and prosper. The history of the United States is a testament to the power of the human spirit and the ability of a nation to overcome adversity.



