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Borough of



Cheltenham

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health of Cheltenham

Vital Statistics, Sanitary Work, &c.

FOR THE YEAR

1947

BY

DONALD E. MORLEY, M.D. (Lond.), D.P.H.

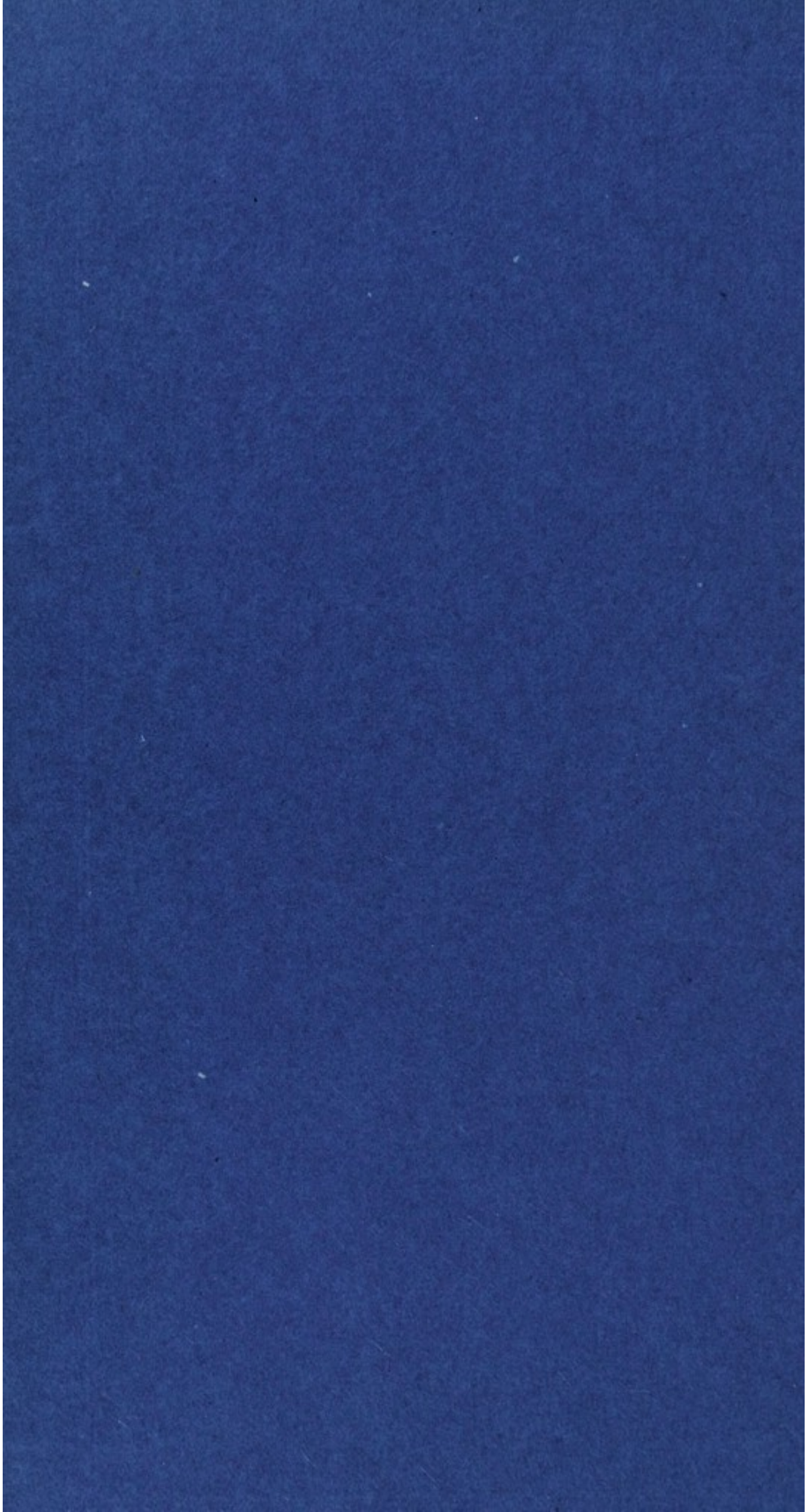
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Together with the Report of
F. R. JEFFORD, F.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

"Salus Populi Suprema Lex"

Cheltenham: Norman Brothers, Limited.



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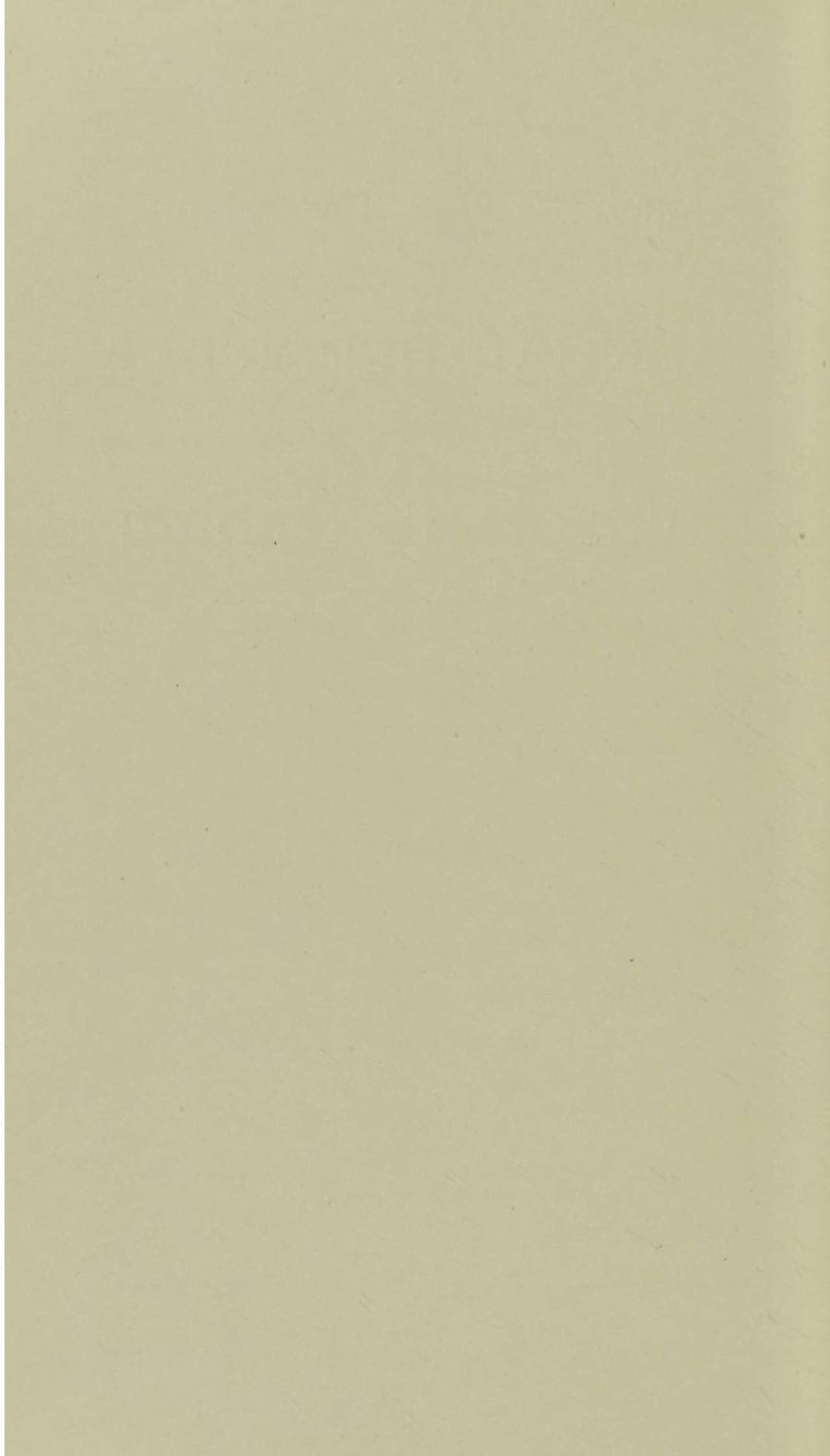
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Annual Report on the Health of the Borough of Cheltenham for the Year 1947

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Health of the Borough during the year 1947 was well maintained.

During the early summer the Registrar General's weekly summary of infectious disease showed an unusually rapid increase in the numbers of cases of Poliomyelitis reported from various parts of the country. The chance that a Borough with a population of over 60,000 would escape entirely was an unlikely one. Fortunately, however, the introduction of the disease did not occur until the more dangerous period of the year was nearing its close and Cheltenham escaped with three confirmed cases. In only one of these cases was the paralysis serious in extent and in this case considerable recovery has already taken place.

Diphtheria provided a new low record figure of 4 cases all mild ones.

The number of deaths from Tuberculosis was 27, which, with a larger population at risk, equalled the previous lowest figure, that for 1934.

The Infant Mortality rate of 42 compared favourably with the general average of 47 for large towns.

This is the last Annual Report on the Health of the Borough of Cheltenham, which will cover a whole year worked under conditions applicable to what may be called "The old Regime." For this reason it will not be out of place to record a special word of congratulation on the excellence of their work to the Health Visitors, School Nurses, Matrons and Staff of the Day and Residential Nurseries and the Clerical Staff of the Health Department.

The important duties relating to Environmental Hygiene of the Borough are not affected by the New Health Act and the Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector is included as usual. Cheltenham with the addition of certain neighbouring areas has already been recognised as a suitable centre for the administration of the Health Duties outlined by the Boundary Commission for New County Boroughs.

In conclusion I should like to express to the Members of the Council, the Infant Welfare Association and the Delancey Trustees a personal appreciation of the kindness which has been extended to me for many years in the direction of the Health Services of the Borough.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

DONALD E. MORLEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

Population	{	Census 1931, Corrected Figure ...	...	49,418
		Registrar General's Estimates : Population, Mid year, 1947 ...		61,810

Rateable value £505,016. Sum represented by a penny rate £2,050.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1947.

		M.	F.	Totals	Rate	
Live Births —Legitimate		617	601	1218	Birth Rate per 1000 Civilian population. 21.2	
Illegitimate		48	47	95		
(Birth Rate Engd. & Wales 20.5)						
Totals		665	648	1313	Still Birth Rate per 1000 Live and Still Births 25.2	
Still Births —Legitimate		12	18	30		
Illegitimate		3	1	4		
Totals		15	19	34		
(Death Rate Engd. & Wales 12.0)	DEATHS	398	528	926	Death Rate per 1000 population 15.0	
Cheltenham deaths from Puerperal Causes					Per 1000 Total Live and Still Births	
				Deaths	Cheltenham	England & Wales
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	1		0.76	0.16
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	1		0.76	0.85
Totals				2	1.52	1.01
Deaths of Infants under one year of age.					Rate per 1000 Live Births	
		M	F	Totals	Cheltenham	England & Wales
Legitimate		28	24	52	42.6	41
Illegitimate		3	1	4		
Totals		31	25	56		
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)—137.						
Deaths from Measles (all ages)—0.						
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)—3.						
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)—6.						

Causes of Death in the Borough of Cheltenham in 1947 as given by the Registrar General. (Total deaths, 926).

CAUSES OF DEATH						M.	F.
All Causes	...	...	...	...	...	398	528
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2 Cerebro spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
5 Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
6 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	10	11
7 Other forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	4	2
8 Syphilitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	5	1
9 Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	3	5
10 Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
11 Acute polio-myelitis and polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
12 Acute infantile encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	2	0
13 Cancer of buccal cavity and oesophagus(m) and uterus (f)	...	...	...	...	...	4	9
14 Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	10	12
15 Cancer of breast	...	...	...	...	...	—	16
16 Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	...	...	38	48
17 Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	4	4
18 Intracranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	...	28	61
19 Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	130	190
20 Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...	...	...	...	13	13
21 Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	31	27
22 Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	16	12
23 Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	5	1
24 Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	9	5
25 Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
26 Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	0	1
27 Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	9	15
28 Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	16	18
29 Puerperal and post abortion sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
30 Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
31 Premature birth	...	...	...	...	...	11	7
32 Congenital Malformations, birth injury, infant diseases	...	...	...	...	...	8	7
33 Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
34 Road Traffic accidents	...	...	...	...	...	2	5
35 Other violent causes	...	...	...	...	...	4	13
36 All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	27	36

Resident Population, 61,810.

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1947.

Population.

The population of the Borough as estimated by the Registrar General for Mid-year, 1947, was 61,810, compared with 60,540 and 59,030, for the years 1946 and 1945 respectively.

Births.

The total number of births in the Borough during 1947 was 2,458. This figure includes 74 still births.

The number of births ascribed to permanent residents was 1,347, including 34 still births. This gives a birth rate of 21.2 per 1,000 live births compared with 19.7, 19.0, 20.4, 18.6 and 17.6 for the previous five years. It was the highest rate since 1922 when the rate was 21.8.

Illegitimate Births.

The total number of illegitimate births was 99, giving a rate of 73 per 1,000 total births. This figure compares with rates of 114, 155, 122, 95 and 83 for the previous five years. Rates prior to the war were 50-60.

Death Rate.

Deaths during 1947 numbered 926 giving a mortality rate for 1,000 population of 14.98, compared with 14.6 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales was 12. The Cheltenham figure naturally requires correction to allow for the comparatively elderly nature of a section of the population. The registrar, however, is unable to give an up-to-date correction figure and he will not be able to do so until he has the information provided by another Census.

Infant Mortality.

Fifty-six infants under one year of age died during 1947. This gives an Infant Mortality rate of 42 compared with a rate of 47 for large towns and 41 for the country as a whole.

Maternal Mortality.

Deaths of Mothers associated with child birth were two. This gives a slightly higher rate than for the whole country.

WATER SUPPLY.

The purity of the water supplied by Cheltenham and the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board was maintained during 1947. An adequate supply was made available in all areas covered by water mains.

Isolated houses and a few small groups of houses on the western outskirts of the Borough are still outside the supply area and in some cases during the dry weather of 1947 wells dried up and the houses depending on them were without adequate supply for a time. In one case the well in question was filled at intervals by the fire service. In this case an extension of the town main to the house is nearing completion.

The Cheltenham Water Undertaking covers a wide area outside the Borough boundary in addition to the Urban District of Charlton Kings.

Schemes for extension of the mains will provide supplies to Leckhampton Hill and Birdlip and an area west of the Severn lying between Haw Bridge and Tewkesbury. These have already been approved by the Ministry. Schemes to cover Little Shurdington, Deerhurst, Walton and Twynning are awaiting approval.

The main water supply for the town and surrounding areas is derived from the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board Works on the Severn at Tewkesbury.

The chemical treatment is under the direction of a full time analyst who is responsible for the purity of the water.

Samples of water including occasional samples of raw water are taken daily at various stages of purification for bacteriological examinations

The main stages of purification consist of pre-chlorination, sedimentation, rapid filtration through the Candy or Patterson filters and final chlorination of the filtered water.

Samples of water from the other town supplies which include water from Dowdeswell Reservoir, Sandford Pump and Hewletts Reservoirs are taken by the Medical Officer of Health monthly.

All sources of supply are chlorinated. The samples are examined in the Tewkesbury Laboratory. In all, over 700 separate bacteriological and chemical analyses were made during 1947.

The Medical Officer makes a monthly report to the Cheltenham Water Committee on the results of all these analyses and the Borough Engineer is supplied with a copy of the results.

Difficulties arise from time to time in connection with the chemical treatment at Tewkesbury on account of the high ammonia contents of the River Severn and special precautions have to be taken.

SPA WATERS.

Samples of Pittville and Fieldholme were taken monthly and the bacteriological reports showed that a satisfactory standard was maintained. Chlorination of both supplies was continued under the direction of the Medical Officer of Health.

MILK (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936-1946.

The following licences were issued by Cheltenham Borough Council during 1947 :—

	<i>Pasteurisers</i>	<i>Type of Licence Issued.</i>		<i>Supplementary</i>
		<i>Dealers Bottling</i>	<i>Dealers</i>	
A. Tuberculin Tested Milk	—	3	—	1
B. Accredited	—	—	—	1
C. Pasteurised*	2*	—	1	—

*1. Holder Process.

1. High Temp. Short Time Process.

**THE PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES, 1947.**

The following statement shows the numbers of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year ; the corrections in diagnosis and the final numbers arrived at after deduction of these. Tuberculosis is dealt with separately.

The table includes Cheltenham Borough cases only.

Disease	Cases Notified	Diagnosis Corrections	Final Numbers
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	114	6	108
Diphtheria	8	4	4
Typhoid Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	18	—	18
Pneumonia	44	—	44
Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	5	2	3
Erysipelas	14	—	14
Meningococcal Meningitis ...	2	—	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	—	1
Measles	1046	—	1046
Whooping Cough	192	—	192

NOTE ON INFECTIOUS DISEASE DURING 1947.

Apart from the extensive outbreak of Measles, the incidence of infectious disease was once again very light.

Cheltenham was particularly fortunate in relation to the serious epidemic of the disease Poliomyelitis (including Polio-Encephalitis) commonly known as Infantile Paralysis, which affected the whole of England and Wales during 1947. There were only 5 notifications of this disease in Cheltenham. Only two of these cases suffered from paralysis and one has almost completely recovered. In two cases the diagnosis proved to be incorrect. Many other towns were not so fortunate and the serious nature of this disease is brought home by the fact that scattered throughout the country the 1947 epidemic left about 90 patients who were likely to require treatment in an "Iron Lung" for the rest of their lives, owing to permanent paralysis of the respiratory muscles.

Scarlet Fever cases numbered 108 after correction of notifications ; the disease was of a very mild type and many of the patients were nursed at home.

Diphtheria was almost non-existent. Cases notified numbered 8, a new low record. In 4 cases the diagnosis was not confirmed.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

The annual return of figures relating to Diphtheria Immunisation which is required by the Ministry of Health, is set out in a revised form giving the position at the end of 1947.

In order to assist Medical Officers in making this return, the Registrar General provides estimates of the number of children in the Borough in the under 5 group and the 5—14 group. The following is a copy of the Return.

Statement showing number of children under 15 years of age who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1947.

Age at 31/12/47 <i>i.e.</i> Born in year	Under 1 1947	1 1946	2 1945	3 1944	4 1943	5-9 1938-1942	10-14 1933-1937	Total under 15
Number Immunised	57	561	581	604	682	3092	2850	5942
Estimated mid- year population of children 1947	5220					8690		13910

From the figures given above the following percentages are arrived at :

Children under 5 immunised	...	...	47.6
Children ages 5 — 14 immunised	...	...	68.4
Total	...	...	60.6

Note on Diphtheria Immunisation.

The maximum percentage of immunisations attainable for children under the age of 5 is about 85%. This is because, for various and good reasons, immunisation is not offered for children under the age of eight months.

The figures for both groups are lower than the true figures because of immunisations carried out privately. These are not inconsiderable in number, but are not included because the numbers are not known.

Re-Immunisation by a single dose is now offered for infants on entry to school. This dose is given in order to increase resistance at a time when the chances of infection are much increased by close contact with other children.

The very satisfactory position shown above, in relation to the incidence of Diphtheria during 1947, is no doubt a reflexion of the satisfactory figures shown for Diphtheria Immunisation.

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE DELANCEY FEVER HOSPITAL DURING 1947.

During 1947, 184 cases were admitted compared with 152, 253, 349, 408, 383 and 350 during the previous six years.

The following table Shows the numbers and types of diseases admitted and the Responsible Authority.

	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Dysentery	Measles	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Meningococcal Meningitis	Tubercular Meningitis	Poliomyelitis	German Measles	Mumps	Chickenpox	Peripneumonia	Observation Tonsillitis etc.	TOTALS
Cheltenham Borough	58	3	4	17	8	3	2	2	4	3		3	3	13	123
Cheltenham R.D.C.	10	1												13	24
Charlton Kings U.D.C.	5	1							1					1	8
North Cotswold R.D.C.	8								5					4	17
Cirencester ...														1	1
H.M. Forces ...	2		1	3							1	1		3	11
TOTALS	83	5	5	20	8	3	2	2	10	3	1	4	3	35	184

Deaths.

The following deaths occurred in the Hospital during the year :—

A boy aged 15 years from *Tubercular Meningitis*.

A child aged 9 months from *Whooping Cough* complicated by *Pneumonia*.

A child aged 3 years from *Cerebral Haemorrhage*, associated with with the condition of *Haemophilia*.

Operations.

A case of *Scarlet Fever* complicated by *Appendicitis*, was admitted and Mr. Harvey removed the appendix ; the child made a good recovery.

General Notes.

The number of cases admitted during 1946 and 1947 were smaller than for many years.

This was partly due to considered limitation of admissions on account of staffing difficulties and to the exceptionally small number of *Diphtheria* Cases in the area served by the Hospital. It will be seen that there were only 4 *Diphtheria* patients during the whole year.

The extensive outbreak of Poliomyelitis in the country resulted in several admissions to the Delancey Hospital. Ten cases of this disease are included in the figures, but an equal number of cases is included among the observation cases.

Fortunately, most of the cases did not develop paralysis. Only three cases left Hospital with residual paralysis and in one of these cases the paralysis was limited to a small group of muscles controlling the foot.

One case of Tubercular Meningitis was transferred to the Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford, for Streptomycin treatment. A small percentage of recoveries in this previously hopeless condition have been reported as a result of the new treatment.

Staff.

At the end of the year, the staff position became so serious that it was necessary to close the wards on the ground floor.

The Matron and Staff must be congratulated on maintaining a limited but essential Fever Hospital Service. This has necessitated much unpaid overtime work.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1947.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year ...	1				1			
1—5 years ...			1	3			1	1
5—15 „ ...			2	4				1
15—25 „ ...	9	15	2	4	1	2		
25—35 „ ...	7	7	1	1	3	6	1	
35—45 „ ...	11	2	1		1	2		
45—55 „ ...	5	3			3			
55—65 „ ...	3	3	1		1	1		
65 and upwards ...	2	1				1		
	38	31	8	12	10	12	2	2
Registrar General's Figs.					10	11	4	2

The Tuberculosis death-rates for 1947 were as follows :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.34	} Per 1,000 of Population
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.097	

DEATHS.

It will be seen from the table given above that according to the Registrar General's figures there were 27 deaths from Tuberculosis during 1947. Figures compiled locally show 26 deaths. The lowest figure previously recorded was 27 for the year 1934. The present figure can certainly be regarded as the better because the population at risk in 1934 was only 50,350 compared with 61,810 in 1947.

In a comparatively small population there is naturally considerable variation from year to year but it does seem quite clear that the improvement which was so definitely halted during the war is again evident in spite of the continued restriction in food supplies.

A weekly return of new cases is made to the County Medical Officer of Health and each quarter a summary of cases remaining on the register is sent including details relating to names removed on account of death, cure or departure from the town.

Treatment.

Under the New Health Act the campaign against Tuberculosis passes out of the hands of the County and becomes a Regional function.

At the same time the provision of sanatoria becomes a responsibility of the Regional Hospital Boards.

Notification and Disinfection.

The duties of district authorities including non-County Boroughs, have regard largely to the keeping of a register of cases, the supply of articles for preventing the spread of infection and the general supervision of the housing of infected persons.

Housing has presented insuperable difficulties during recent years and the Medical Officer of Health has limited his recommendations for priority with but few exceptions, to families faced with the problem of a case of Tuberculosis. The Housing Committee has always given special consideration to these recommendations.

Disinfectants, paper handkerchiefs and antiseptic soap are provided free on the recommendation of the County Visitor.

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION.

At the commencement of 1947 there were 20 Nursing Homes on the register.

During the year one small home was closed and four new homes were opened, leaving 23 in operation at the commencement of 1948.

The number of beds provided at the commencement of the year 1948 was as follows :—

Maternity, 125. General, Surgical and Medical, 109. Total 234.

Of the maternity beds, Sunnyside provides 63, almost exactly half the total. Most of the "General" beds are occupied by medical cases and many of these are elderly people in more or less permanent residence, so that there is now a real shortage of surgical beds in the town.

Most Matrons have had great difficulties associated with staffing both nursing and domestic. Other major difficulties have arisen in connection with structural repairs and with equipment.

All nursing homes were inspected during the year, and where necessary several visits were made.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

During the year the Home Help Service expanded considerably. The service is becoming more widely known and appeals come in from every quarter.

A total of 257 cases were assisted during the year, comprised of 111 Maternity and Child Welfare, 21 Hospital, 29 Chronics, and 96 Domestic.

It is quite obvious that the aged, T.B., and chronics are rapidly coming into the picture, and with the aid of more Helpers much could be done to alleviate unnecessary suffering and worry for these unfortunate people.

During the year an average of 17 Home Helps were working on the service.

The Organiser, Miss M. Langford, and her Secretary who acts as Deputy in the absence of the Organiser, are to be congratulated on the extent and efficiency of the Service.

MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES, 1947.

Table showing the number of Maternity Cases attended in the Borough of Cheltenham by midwives or midwives acting as Maternity Nurses, during 1947.

	Capacity in in which Midwives acted	Domic- iliary	In Institution	Total
1. Cases attended by midwives employed by Glos. County Council (Sunnyside 1234, County Infirmary 32)	As Midwives As Maternity Nurses	— —	1264 —	1264 —
2. Cases attended by Midwives employed by the Cheltenham & District Nursing Association ...	As Midwives As Maternity Nurses	252 59	130 28	382 87
3. Cases attended by Midwives in private practice or private nursing homes	As Midwives As Maternity Nurses	69 7	29 507	98 514
Totals ...	As Midwives As Maternity Nurses	321 66 387	1423 535 1958	1744 601 2345

The total number of midwives who gave notice of intention to practice during 1947 was 59. Of this number 18 were in private practice, 15 of them worked in private nursing homes and 3 in private domiciliary practice. Of the remainder, 21 notifications came from Sunnyside Maternity Hospital, 14 from the Victoria Home and 6 from the County Infirmary.

The total number of Births in the Borough during 1947 was 2,458, including 74 still births. There were 52 pairs of twins.

After allowing for twin births and deducting the number of confinements known to have taken place in institutions, it is estimated that there were 446 "Domiciliary" confinements in the Borough. The majority of these 446 births which occurred in the mother's own home were naturally Cheltenham cases, and they represent approximately one-third of the total number of births ascribed to Cheltenham residents. To accommodate these cases in an institution, a further 20-25 beds would have been required.

NOTE ON MATERNITY ACCOMMODATION.

During 1947 Cheltenham continued to rely on the accommodation provided by the District Nursing Association's Maternity Ward at the Victoria Home and on the County Maternity Hospital, Sunnyside.

In addition, a few cases were admitted to the County Infirmary Maternity Section, usually because of a special request from the patient.

The accommodation at the Victoria Home consists of 8 beds, exclusive of isolation and labour beds. These beds accommodated 158 confinement and 26 Ante-Natal cases during the year so that very full use was made of them.

The County had to limit the use of Sunnyside to 30 Borough cases a month. Approximately 332 mothers were admitted during the year and as several required periods of ANTE-NATAL treatment before confinement, it would scarcely have been possible to accept more than this number without exceeding the allocation.

It is difficult to work to a fixed monthly quota without losing some places because the demand is a fluctuating one. Moreover, beds must be held in reserve for applicants faced with the difficulties of poor accommodation and those requiring admission for medical reasons or on account of a sudden emergency.

Where any doubt as to the claim for admission exists, the home is inspected by a Health Visitor who reports on the suitability of the accommodation and on other circumstances which may have a bearing on the request for admission.

When accommodation in Maternity Homes becomes entirely free of cost on the 5th July, 1948, the demand for institutional accommodation is likely to increase and the necessity for careful selection will become even more imperative. Refusal of applications will no doubt be the cause of much heart burning, because the cost of confinements at home will remain considerable.

Final figures are not to hand, but the estimated cost of the provision of Maternity Accommodation in the financial year 1947-48 was £6,210. Payments by patients during the same period are estimated at £2,875, which is 46% of the cost of the accommodation provided.

INSPECTION OF MIDWIVES

1. Notices received from Midwives.

The following is a summary of the special notices received from midwives during 1947—

Notification of Still Births	...	...	...	10
„ Death of Infant	...	...	...	6
„ Death of Mother	...	...	...	2
„ Artificial Feeding being adopted	...			13
„ Liability to be a Source of Infection				1
„ Having laid out of dead body	...			—
Total number of Notices received				32

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) In domiciliary practice	173	} Total 263
(ii) In Institutional practice	90	

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

(a) Conditions arising before Labour	{ Albuminuria	...	...	4
	{ Other Conditions	...	...	41
(b) Miscarriage, Abortion and Premature Labour	...	...	...	13
(c) Conditions arising during Labour	{ Perineal Injuries	...	...	82
	{ Delayed Labour	...	...	17
	{ Abnormal Presentations	...	...	7
	{ Abnormal Haemorrhage	...	...	1
	{ Retained Products of Conception	...	...	2
	{ Other conditions	...	...	15
(d) Conditions arising after Labour	{ Rise of Temperature	...	...	18
	{ Other conditions	...	...	24
(e) Condition of the Infant	{ Feebleness or Prematurity	...	...	7
	{ Inflamed Eyes	...	...	13
	{ Deformities	...	...	4
	{ Other conditions	...	...	15
Total				263

GYNAECOLOGICAL CLINIC

This Clinic, which was opened in 1938, is mainly intended for Birth Control work. Help is only given to Mothers whose health is such as to render further pregnancy undesirable.

Where patients are able to pay, a fee of 10/6 is charged for the first visit; the second visit within six months is free and subsequent visits are charged at 2/6.

During 1947, 26 clinics were held. New cases attending included 79 Borough and 42 County Patients.

Total attendances at the Clinic numbered 192.

THE MATERNITY WORK OF THE VICTORIA HOME.

STATISTICS FOR 1947.

1. Ward Cases.

		<i>Midwifery Cases</i>	<i>Maternity Cases</i>	<i>Ante-Natal Cases</i>
Borough Cases	184 comprising	130	28	26
County cases	— „	—	—	—
Totals	184	130	28	26

The number of calls for medical aid arising from the 130 midwifery cases attended in the ward was 127.

2. District Cases.

Midwifery	...	...	...	265
Maternity	...	...	...	59
Tota	...	...	...	324

These figures show the work of the "Domiciliary" Service provided under the Midwives' Act, 1936, by the Home, in conjunction with the Borough Council. Five midwives are engaged solely on this work, and they therefore had an average of 65 cases each, which is a satisfactory number. Medical assistance was called for on 84 occasions, that is in 26% of the cases.

INFANT WELFARE.

Work of Health Visitors, January 1st—December 31st, 1947.

No. of Children on Register	6303
„ Un-notified Live Births discovered	49
„ Un-notified Still Births discovered	—
„ Home Visits paid by Health Visitors (a) 1 year and under	8657
„ „ „ „ (b) over 1 year	9271
„ Special visits to Mothers (Ante natal cases 946)	899
„ First Visits paid by Health Visitors	1350
„ Chicken-pox cases visited	83
„ Measles cases visited	120
„ German Measles cases visited	12
„ Whooping-cough cases visited	140
„ Mumps cases visited	7
„ Scarlet Fever cases visited	3
„ Ophthalmia Neonatorum cases visited	1
„ Attendances of Health Visitors at Centres	283
„ Cases reported to N.S.P.C.C.	4

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

The following table shows the work done by the School Dentist for the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee during 1947.

				<i>Saturday Morning & Thursday Evening</i>		
				<i>Mothers</i>	<i>Infants</i>	<i>Nursery Probationers</i>
Attendances	915	74	6			
Extractions	243	—	—			
Extractions (under gas)	727	35	—			
Fillings	115	—	5			
Attendances for other treatment, impressions, fitting dentures, etc.	493	38	4			
No. of sessions held during 1947	71	17	1			
Total number of dentures provided during 1947						57
Number of cases receiving assistance in payment ...						2

Special Cases.

In order to meet the difficulty presented by younger children needing multiple extractions and requiring a period for recovery, one or two sessions are held each term at the Children's Hospital.

The following is a summary of this work:—

No. of sessions	7
No. of children treated	36
No. of teeth extracted	102
„ „ „ „ (nuder gas).	2

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

The following figures show the extent of the year's work under Sections 206-220 P.H. Act. 1936.

Number of visits by Health Visitors	...	...	...	178
Number of visits by School Nurses	...	...	...	28
Number of individual children on the register at the end of the year				90
Number of children who died during the year	...	...	...	—
Number of Foster Mothers on the register at the end of the year				24

The visits 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.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS

During 1947, out of 2,384 live births, 78 infants weighed $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less. Although by no means an accurate index of prematurity, this weight is taken as the dividing line and the 94 children were considered to be premature. Of these, 21 were born at home and 10 of them survived at the end of the month. Of the 73 born in hospital, 42 survived at the end of the month.

Certain special measures have been adopted and equipment has been provided to assist towards the extra care required by premature infants.

The Victoria Home Midwives notify the Health Visitors in these cases when an early visit is considered desirable.

CHELTENHAM INFANT WELFARE ASSOCIATION

Thirty-Ninth Annual Report.

April 1st, 1947 — March 31st, 1948.

Thanks are due to Mrs. Lock Mellersh, President of the Association, for permission to include this report.

MEETINGS OF INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

For Babies and Children up to Five Years.

At Highbury Congregational Church, every Tuesday	...	2.30
At Bethesda Sunday School, every Wednesday	... ..	2.30
(Great Norwood Street).		
At St. Mark's every Wednesday	... ..	2.30
Methodist Sunday School, Gloucester Road.		
At Baker Street Institute, every Thursday	... ..	2.30
At St. Michael's Hall, Whaddon, every Thursday	... ..	2.30

		Infants	Toddlers	
Attendances at Highbury	(46 meetings)	3057	1096	4153
Attendances at Bethesda	(46 meetings)	1957	808	2765
Attendances at St. Mark's	(45 meetings)	2530	1014	3544
Attendances at Baker Street	(45 meetings)	1933	549	2482
Attendances at St. Michael's Hall	(45 meetings)	1990	1078	3068

16012

Weekly Toddler Inspections.

40 meetings ; 222 attendances.

Number of individual Children attending the four centres :—

Highbury, 517 ; Bethesda, 359 ; Baker Street, 373 ; St. Marks, 378.

St. Michael's Hall, 383 2010

Visits paid by Visitor (since April 1st, 1947) 927

NOTE ON THE WORK.**April 1st, 1947, to March 31st, 1948.**

The Committee are pleased to be able to report that the work of the Centres continued normally during the past year. The Voluntary Helpers have all attended with regularity and this greatly helps to make the centres efficient ; the regular appearance of the same helpers is much valued by the Mothers.

Dr. Brown was greatly missed during her six months absence abroad and much welcomed on her return. The Committee appreciated the help given by Dr. Brenda King and Dr. Synge during her absence.

Early in the year Mr. L. C. Flood was appointed Hon. Treasurer in the place of Mr. E. W. Garland. The Committee are very grateful to him for his help and counsel.

Two Diphtheria immunisation clinics were held at Whaddon in the spring, when nearly 60 children completed their course of injections.

Miss Smith, a fully qualified state registered and Queen's Nurse, was appointed by the Municipal Maternity and Child Welfare Committee to take Miss Powell's place at Bethesda and Miss Tatlow's place at Whaddon, thus releasing these Health Visitors for more urgent visiting once a week. This arrangement has worked most satisfactorily.

Students of the Oakley Training College, while making their social survey of Cheltenham, visited the Highbury Centre on two occasions and showed keen interest in the work being carried on there. In addition members of the British Red Cross Society attended the Highbury Centre in connection with their Social Service course, and visits have also been paid by students from Thirlestaine Court Residential Nursery.

Baker Street received a very welcome gift, of two swan rocker boats, from Sir Eric Stuart Taylor, formerly Medical Officer to this Centre. These toys have been much appreciated by the children and are in constant demand.

Grants were made from the Social Activity Fund to enable eight Mothers and their children to go to the Church Army holiday home at Weston-super-Mare for a fortnight's holiday. In addition one Mother went to the Exeter Mission Convalescent Home at Exmouth, and another Mother was allowed her fare to Brighton, for a much needed holiday with her sister. All received real benefit.

The Committee have been greatly concerned over their position when the National Health Service Act comes into force in July. After considerable discussion an agreement has been reached with the local Health Committee of the Gloucestershire County Council whereby it would appear that for the time being the work will be carried on by the Cheltenham Welfare Association under the Divisional Area sub-committee for Cheltenham.

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

This Clinic provides for school children as well as children under school age.

The attendances are kept separate and the fees due to the Cheltenham General Hospital and to the Orthopaedic Surgeon and Nurse are paid in proportion to the attendances.

The figures given in this report refer to children under school age only, unless otherwise stated.

A quarterly report is made to each Committee.

Summary of Work done during the Year and Analysis of Cases Treated.

Number of Cases on the Register (under School Age).

	<i>No. of Cases</i>				
On the Register, 1st January, 1947	73
Removed (Non attendance, transfers to County, School Section, etc.)					70
New cases during the year	39
Remaining on the Register, 1st January, 1948	42

Summary of Conditions requiring Treatment in 42 Cases remaining on the Register at the end of 1947.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>On Register 1st Jan., 1948.</i>			
Flat Feet	21
Knock Knees	8
Bow Legs	6
Talipes Equino Varus	1
Torticollis	1
Miscellaneous	5
Total	42

DAY AND RESIDENTIAL NURSERIES.

Residential Nursery.

Thirlestaine Court continued to serve the Borough and neighbouring County Districts as a short and long stay Nursery.

During 1947, 92 children were admitted, mainly for periods of 2-3 weeks during the confinement of the mothers or in other domestic emergencies.

The staff was kept up to strength and the Matron is to be congratulated on the efficient way in which this important service was maintained.

Day Nurseries.

The three day Nurseries, Clarence Square, Swindon Road and Whaddon continued to provide a much appreciated service for mothers who for various reasons had to seek employment in the town and neighbourhood.

In the Autumn the Supervising Matron, Miss Parsbo, resigned her appointment on her marriage. She had been in charge of the Nurseries from the time they opened as a war-time measure and was responsible for the initial organisation during a most difficult period.

The success of the venture was mainly due to her administrative skill and tireless energy and the town owes her a real debt of gratitude.

Many members of the present staff were trained by Miss Parsbo and they are to be congratulated on the way in which they have upheld the reputation of the Nurseries.

Regular medical inspections were carried out during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1947.**

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my report of the administration of the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Department for the year 1947, of which I have been the executive officer for 20 years, half of my 40 years connection with this authority. Having regard to this length of service it will not be out of place in this report to give my impressions of the radical change in relationship between the members of the general public, the Council and their officials. Local government 40 years ago was looked upon with feelings of mistrust and suspicion, due in the main to the absence of any form of public relation, and such feeling found expression in the Press of those days.

To-day, through the many channels of public expression and scope of local government, together with a sympathetic press, the citizens know that there is an open door for all their complaints and enquiries, which will be courteously and sympathetically received by the Council and officials alike.

The harmony and understanding as between the members of the Council and the officials, in carrying out the difficult and intricate task of local government in Cheltenham, is made easier by the former ensuring that staffs are adequate and competent, together with satisfactory conditions of service and this is reflected by the results of loyal and conscientious service by all sections of the department.

The report for the year 1947 sets out clearly under the respective tables and statistics the work of the department, and in obtaining improvements in the standard of housing, food distribution and sanitation, due regard must be had to the government's instructions concerning the shortage of building materials and operatives. The results of work achieved, require in addition to the personal endeavours of the Sanitary Inspectors, the closest attention and persistence on the part of the clerical staff in order to obtain compliance with Notices, of which the Public Health Committee are made aware at each of their meetings.

During the year I was nominated by the Council and elected to serve on the Executive Committee of the National Smoke Abatement Society, who have decided to hold their Annual Conference in Cheltenham in 1948.

It has been noted with some concern that the number of outbreaks of food borne infection reported throughout the Country to Health Authorities rose from 47 in 1940 to 598 in 1946. This ten-fold increase can in part be attributed to greater communal feeding and the large quantities of manufactured commodities, from meat pies to trifles, now made available to the public.

The standard of washing equipment and supplies of hot water, have in many cases been found to be inadequate, and the personal hygiene of those employed in the preparation of food in some cases leaves much to be desired. It was therefore very timely that the food publicity, initiated by the British Tourist and Holidays Board Hygiene Scheme, in co-operation with the Ministry of Health and Food, resulted in the issue of posters, plaques and explanatory leaflets for prominent display in all the catering establishments throughout the country. The Sanitary Inspectors can by their visitation, not only encourage the display but it will be an aid for securing the improvement of personal hygiene.

I have realised for many years that the official designation of Sanitary Inspector is out-dated and fails by reason of its title to convey to the public the informative nomenclature, except perhaps as an adjunct to a variety artist. A simple but understandable title for this official of the public health service, would be "Hygiene Officer" as already applied in the armed Services.

Inspections of food shops have shown that many premises fall below the required standard. Food stores are often poor and refrigeration lacking. Statutory notices have been issued where necessary and where a catering licence is required, premises are only recommended when these and the equipment are satisfactory. In this way and by regular inspections progress has been made despite considerable difficulty in obtaining the execution of the works required.

Changes in the staff have meant the retirement of Miss B. A. Richards after long service in the Health Department who in her capacity as Chief Clerk had rendered valuable help to me and my staff, as did also Mr. J. F. Pearse, clerical assistant, who also retired. Mr. W. H. G. Meakins was appointed to the clerical staff from the County Borough of Dudley, and Mr. W. L. Booy, a former pupil, replaced Mr. H. E. Clapp, District Sanitary Inspector, who resigned to take up a special health appointment with The United African Company. Mr. G. J. C. Buck, pupil Sanitary Inspector, having been discharged from the R.A.F. was granted 12 months leave of absence to attend the Government's course of further education and training scheme in London.

Examination successes were recorded by Mr. J. F. Ursell, Deputy Chief Inspector, who passed the Intermediate Examination for the Diploma in Public Administration, and Mr. W. L. Booy, who successfully passed the examination of the R.S.I. & S.I. Exam. J.B., and becomes a qualified Inspector.

I would like to again take this opportunity of recording my thanks to the Public Health and other Committees of the Council, also to express appreciation to the other chief officers and their staffs for their co-operation.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

F. R. JEFFORD,

F.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

There has been considerable activity in drainage work due in some measure to faults developing in old systems but primarily due to flat conversions of large houses. Whilst it is desired to maintain a high standard of work and material, some modification has been essential with the limited material and fittings made available to the builders.

Several architects and builders made enquiries as to the possibility of installing a "one-pipe system" of drainage, thereby dispensing with separate waste stacks and fittings. It was not possible in any of these cases dealt with by this Department for them to guarantee the provision of L.C.C. standard pipes and fittings or the necessary deep seal traps for baths, these being an integral part of this type of plumbing scheme.

During the year 1,994 visits were made in connection with drainage work and alterations to plumbing systems. As stated above the majority of these visits were in connection with flat conversions where all new drains were water-tested and the soil and vent shafts together with the necessary anti-syphon connections subjected to the smoke tests.

There exist within the boundaries of the Borough many small sewage disposal schemes. These are periodically inspected, samples of the effluent taken and the owner notified when sludge clearance is required. Several new schemes for which plans and specifications were prepared were carried out during the year. These consist of a septic tank with honeycomb brickwork intervening, followed by secondary filtration in ventilated sub-soil drains. These are laid and covered with screened clinker and normally discharge into an adjacent stream.

In addition it has been necessary to deal with many of the outlying farms with the added difficulties in dealing with cow shed drainage. It can be stated with some confidence that this system has proved satisfactory, with removal of the sludge varying in cases from six months to two or three years, the system is economical in construction and simple in design.

Some pollution of the Hatherley Brook was found to be taking place due to the effluent from a factory utilising a chrome process. Samples of the effluent were taken and the fault was eventually traced to the absence of Alumina Ferric in the waste treatment plant. When this was restored in the proper ratio together with lime, a satisfactory effluent was obtained.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The following tables show the amount of Routine Inspection work performed by the Sanitary Inspectors. The total number of complaints received in the department during 1947 was 1,215.

Summary of Sanitary Inspector's Visits.

TABLE I.

General Sanitation

Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	116
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	1,994
Stables and Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	20
Offensive Trades	...	...	...	...	...	19
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	52
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	...	99
Houses Let in Lodgings	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	39
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	57
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	20
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	14
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	33
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	11
Theatres and places of entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	8
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	1,116
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	12
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	44
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	31
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	166
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...	...	...	...	...	280
Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	856
Total						4,989

TABLE II.

Housing.

Under Public Health Acts

No. of Houses inspected	...	...	...	696
Visits paid to above Houses	...	...	...	1,721

Under the Housing Act

No. of Houses inspected	...	...	...	190
Visits paid to above Houses	...	...	...	282

Overcrowding

No. of Houses inspected	...	...	...	57
Visits paid to above Houses	...	...	...	9

Verminous Premises

No. of Houses inspected	...	...	...	49
Visits paid to above Houses	17
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	33

Total	3,054
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TABLE III

Infectious Diseases

Inquiries in Cases of Infectious Disease	3
Visits re Disinfection	...	...	8
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	...	...	1
			—
Total	...	...	12
			—

TABLE IV

Food Inspections, etc.*Inspection of Meat*

Visits to Abattoir (in addition to full time meat inspection)	...	...	...	...	88
Visits to Shops and Stalls	...	...	...	...	21
Visits to other premises	...	...	...	...	17

Visits to :—

Butchers	...	...	...	...	125
Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	...	...	...	106
Grocers	...	...	...	...	359
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	...	...	48
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	16
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	30
Ice-cream premises	...	...	...	...	83
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	132
Market Stalls	...	...	...	...	40
Restaurants	...	...	...	...	106
Street Vendors and Hawkers' Carts	...	...	...	...	1

Visits in connection with Sampling :—

Milk—Bacteriological	...	...	...	...	19
Food and Drug Samples	...	...	...	...	161
Miscellaneous Food Visits	...	...	...	...	49

Total ... 1,401

Totals of Tables I, II, III, IV ... 9,456

NOTICES SERVED.

During the year the following notices were served :—

	<i>Informal Notice</i>		<i>Statutory Notice</i>	
	<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied</i>	<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied</i>
Public Health Act	680	703	82	73
Food and Drugs Act	26	19	—	—
Water Act	3	5	—	—
Rivers Pollution Act	1	—	—	—
Shops Act	2	3	—	—
Milk and Dairies Order	—	3	—	—
Factory Act	9	4	—	—
Cheltenham Borough Byelaws	1	1	—	—
Rats and Mice Destruction	1	1	—	—
	<hr/> 723	<hr/> 739	<hr/> 82	<hr/> 73

Some of these notices complied with were outstanding from the previous year.

DISINFESTATION.

Following the experiments carried out last year with residual insecticides the Department has concentrated on the use of 5% D.D.T. in powder or liquid form as required by the type of infestation and the premises to be dealt with or alternatively with Benzine-Hexachloride Powder. An improved form of the latter in the form of smoke generators has recently become available and is comparatively odourless, it is distributed as aerolsols and constitutes a great improvement on the former compound.

No. Premises treated for Bug Infestation	...	...	230
" " Flea "	...	...	48
" " Ant " ...	...	...	1
" " Cockroach "	...	...	7
" " Other " ...	...	...	5
No. of Articles treated	...	...	765
" persons deloused	...	...	3

Rehousing of displaced families.

No. visited	...	...	17
No. premises treated	...	...	13
No. articles treated	...	...	108

Common Lodging Houses.

No. articles treated (including beds)	...	...	1
No. of rooms treated	...	...	—

Removal of Articles for Destruction.

No. of visits	...	...	437
No. of re-visits	...	...	298
No. of special visits	...	...	575

Total

2508

DISINFECTION.**Infectious Diseases**

No. of Visits made	...	...	...	114
No. of articles steam disinfected	...	...	...	626
No. of Premises fumigated	...	...	...	53
No. of articles disinfected for Authorities outside Borough area	...	...	...	211
No. of articles disinfected for private requests (not infectious)	...	...	...	1033
Total				2037

FACTORY ACT, 1937.

The routine inspection of factories, workplaces and outworkers premises continued throughout the year. The establishment of new industries in residential and built-up areas often gave rise to complaints. Upon investigation many of these were found to be due to faults associated with the erection of the factory and the consequential noise and did not constitute an offence within the purview of this Department. This was most marked in a case where the manufacture of rubber goods was commenced in a residential area. As the factory was recently established, inspections were made in conjunction with the Town Planning Officer and several improvements were carried out in order to mitigate the complaints referred to, though they did not exist to a greater degree than can normally be anticipated from a factory of this type.

57 visits have been paid to factories, 20 visits made to workplaces and 9 notices to carry out necessary work were served.

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>No. of Defects found</i>	<i>No. of Defects remedied</i>
Want of Cleanliness	1	1
Insufficient sanitary conveniences and lack of washing facilities	6	2
Defective drainage	1	—
Unsatisfactory water supply	1	1
	9	4

Outworkers

(a) No. of lists received from employers	...	...	...	24
(b) No. of employers involved	...	...	...	16
(c) Outworkers involved	...	...	...	53
(d) No. of outworkers living outside Borough	...	...	...	8
(e) No. of lists received from outside authorities	...	...	...	4
(f) No. of employers involved	...	...	...	4
(g) No. of outworkers involved	...	...	...	6

Licensed Premises—Hotels and Public Houses.

The survey of the licensed houses in the Borough has continued, sinks with hot and cold water supply have been required and provided, and notices served for the provision of adequate and separate sanitary accommodation for both sexes using these premises. In some cases it has not been possible to carry out the requisite works without extensive structural alterations. Whilst the owners of the houses in all cases have been prepared to meet our requirements the licensing and materials restrictions have rendered these schemes impracticable for the time being.

Despite these difficulties a great improvement has been made in many premises and the licensees have co-operated in order to improve not only the facilities mentioned above but in the care and maintenance of cellars, storage rooms and thorough washing of glasses and utensils.

Housing.

There still exists a great legacy of housing dilapidations to be remedied. The inspection of many working class houses leaves in great doubt the wisdom of concentrating on new houses and premises said to contribute directly or indirectly to the export trade. Notices have been served on premises only for the most urgent of work following instructions issued by the respective Ministries. There has been little improvement in the supply of essential material and even such works as stated above cannot be executed within a reasonable period. The remedy of defects thus required under the Public Health Act does not include the type of work necessary to deal with 10 years of neglect and dilapidations. If the comprehensive measures required not only to preserve the structures, but to render such houses in all respects fit for human habitation are indefinitely postponed, many of them will have to be dealt with as unfit houses not being capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable cost.

The conditions in which families, many with several children, are living in cellar dwellings and basements is deplorable. The inspection of basements closed since 1935 has commenced and several contraventions have been discovered. The closures during the year of underground premises totalled 39, 15 of these were closed for all purposes other than for use as domestic offices and 24 for all purposes other than for use as stores. One undertaking, to render a basement fit for human habitation, was accepted and the work completed during the year. An application to open a closed basement for use as a Ladies' Hairdressing Salon was received and subject to essential works being carried out permission was granted. Two undertakings to render basements fit for human habitation were accepted during 1946, and the work completed in 1947.

Many basements have been scheduled for action but it was felt that no valuable purpose would be served until alternative accommodation is available for these families.

Common Lodging Houses.

During 1947 three Common Lodging Houses within the Borough were on the register, but on application in December 1947 to renew, one registration was refused on the grounds of extensive dilapidation, and that the premises were not suitably equipped as regards sanitation, washing accommodation and means of escape from fire.

It was only after much deliberation that this step was taken, in view of the present urgent need of such accommodation. The Lodging house is adjacent to a former Clearance Area, and owing to dilapidations, for a considerable period only 10 beds have been utilised out of a total registration of 30. It is interesting to note that the keeper of this house has been in occupation for over 50 years.

The two remaining lodging houses, having a total of 50 beds, are satisfactorily conducted. It is anticipated that considerable improvements will be made when building labour and supplies are available.

During June, cases of Smallpox occurred in Common Lodging Houses in Wakefield and Barnsley and several contacts left before coming under surveillance. The names of contacts were notified to this Department and daily visits and inspections of registers were consequently made, but no trace of the contacts found.

Refuse Collection.

It has been very pleasing to note that the authorities concerned have allowed the manufacture of refuse bins sufficient to satisfy the demand. 278 informal notices have been served requiring the provision of ash receptacles and 25 notifications were sent to the Housing Manager requiring the provision of same to Council property. Twenty-eight Statutory Notices were served and only 10 bins had to be supplied in default.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Formal and informal samples over a wide field of food substances were taken during the year. The extensive sampling of ice-cream has shown the very wide difference in quality of ingredients and bacteriological standard that exists. In the absence of any food value standard no action can be taken against the manufacturer whose products the Public Analyst reports as being of very poor quality. Even under present conditions it is felt that a standard of quality should be set that could be raised when warranted by the supply position. This would receive the support of the majority of ice-cream manufacturers. To lay down a bacteriological standard is more difficult and as yet there does not appear to be a routine method of determining in the laboratory whether samples are free from the risk of causing disease. Ice-cream, like milk, is subject to numerous potential sources of contamination. Freezing decreases the risk to the consumer but does not by any means remove it completely. Therefore reliance has continued to be placed in adequate heat treatment, apart from the cold mix manufacture, cleanliness of utensils, premises and personnel employed. There are 20 premises within the Borough registered for the manufacture and sale of ice-cream and 45 premises registered for sale of ice-cream only. Two premises are registered for the wholesale storage of margarine and 39 registered for the manufacture of preserved food.

INSPECTION OF FOOD.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Total Number of samples taken :

Formal	...	...	91
Informal	...	...	70

<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Commodity</i>	<i>Formal</i>	<i>Informal</i>
Milk ...	61	3	Baking Powder ...	1	1
Chieftan Savoury ...	—	1	Coffee ...	1	—
So-Taiste Extract ...	—	1	Peppermint Diges-		
Chocolate Malt			tive Tablets ...	1	—
Spread ...	—	1	Saccharin ...	2	—
Currie Powder ...	—	1	Golden Raising		
Cream of Tartar ...	—	1	Flour ...	—	1
Cooking Fat ...	1	—	Risetti (Vermicelli)	—	1
Tacta Baby Food ...	1	—	Frutella Table		
B.P.C. Chloradyne...	—	1	Dessert ...	—	1
Malt Vinegar ...	3	—	Ground Nutmeg ...	—	1
Vinegar ...	3	—	Brandy Flavouring	1	—
Chest & Lung Mixture	—	1	Russian Salad ...	1	—
Ice-cream ...	—	26	Sausages ...	1	—
Ice-cream & Sauce...	—	1	Crestona Ginger		
Glycerine ...	—	1	Wine Essence	1	—
Lard ...	1	—	Violet Colour ...	—	1
Marshalls Malt Cup	—	1	K.C. Flavouring ...	—	1
Ginger ...	—	1	Beer ...	1	—
Curry ...	—	1	Liquorice Root ...	1	—
Nutmeg ...	—	1	Syrup Minadex ...	—	1
Cinnamon ...	—	1	Gin ...	3	—
"N" Iron Nerve			Whiskey ...	1	—
Blood Tablets	—	1	Fruit Drops ...	—	2
Mineral Spring Salt	—	1	Choc. Turkish Delight	—	1
Gelatine ...	2	1	Vanilla Fudge ...	—	1
Magors Phosphor			Cocoanut Fudge ...	—	1
Nerve Tonic ...	—	1	Chocolate Pepper-		
Parrishes Chemical			mints ...	—	1
Food ...	—	1	Aniseed Drops ...	—	1
Caraway Seeds ...	1	—	Toffee ...	—	1
Cloves ...	1	—	Sherbet ...	—	1
Pineapple Flavouring			Marshalls Malted Milk	—	1
Essence ...	1	—	Marshalls Maltets	—	1
Lemonade ...	1	—	Malted Milk Tablets.	—	1
Trifle ...	—	1	Condensed Milk ...	—	1

THIRTY-ONE SAMPLES WERE ADVERSELY REPORTED UPON BY THE PUBLIC ANALYST DURING THE YEAR, viz.:

Sample No.	Description	Formal/ Informal	Result of Analysis	Remarks
854	Milk	F.	Slight fat deficiency	Vendor kept under observation
855	Milk	F.	Contains extraneous water	Vendor kept under observation
856	Milk	F.	Slight non-fatty solids deficiency	Vendor kept under observation
876	Chlorodyne	I.	Specific Gravity — 1.199; Hydrocyanic Acid — 0.012%; Total Solids — 37.01%; Morphine — 0.11%.	All figures on the low side, but not sufficient to justify proceedings.
879	Ice-cream	I.	Genuine ice-cream of very poor quality.	Warning letter sent to Vendor.
897	"N" Iron Nerve Blood Tablets	I.	Active ingredients on the high side	Not sufficient to justify proceedings
904	Milk	F.	Slight fat deficiency	Vendor kept under observation
913	Ice-cream	I.	Bacteriological condition very unsatisfactory.	
914	Ice-cream	I.	Bacteriological condition not entirely satisfactory and does not satisfy the requirements of the M.B. Test.	
916	Ice-cream	I.	Bacteriological condition very unsatisfactory.	
917	Ice-cream	I.	Does not satisfy M.B. Test	Letters sent to Vendors and arranged for District Sanitary Inspectors to visit premises to discuss methods of manufacture, storage, etc., with view to improvements.
919	Ice-cream	I.	Bacteriological condition very unsatisfactory.	
921	Ice-cream	I.	Methylene Blue Test — Grade 4	
922	Ice-cream	I.	Methylene Blue Test — Grade 4	

Sample No.	Description	Formal/ Informal	Result of Analysis	Remarks
924	Ice-cream	I.	Methylene Blue Test — Grade 4	Letters sent to Vendors and arranged for District Sanitary Inspectors to visit premises to discuss methods of manufacture, storage, etc., with view to improvements.
926	Ice-cream	I.	Very poor quality	
929	Trifle	I.	Bacteriological condition very unsatisfactory.	
930	Ice-cream & Sauce	I.	do.	do.
931	Ice-cream	I.	do.	do.
1301	Ice-cream	I.	do.	do.
1302	Ice-cream	I.	do.	do.
1303	Ice-cream	I.	do.	do.
1304	Ice-cream	I.	do.	do.
1305	Ice-cream	I.	do.	do.
1306	Ice-cream	I.	do.	do.
1307	Ice-cream	I.	do.	do.
1308	Ice-cream	I.	Bacteriological condition not entirely satisfactory.	do.
1309	Ice-cream	I.	do.	do.
950	Peppermint Digestive Tablets	F.	Contained calcium carbonate and sodium bicarbonate included in base. Not given on label.	Not sufficient to justify proceedings.
958	Milk	F.	Slight fat deficiency	Vendor kept under observation

**PARTICULARS OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODSTUFFS EXAMINED
AND REJECTED AS UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.**

		Tons	Cwts.	Qtrs.	lbs.
Miscellaneous Tinned Foods					
Meat	...		18	2	7
Fish	...		4	2	11
Vegetables	...		13	0	27
Milk	...		9	0	2
Sauce	...			1	17
Fruit	...		4	0	8
Jam	...		2	3	24
Soup	...		1	2	15
Cheese	...				1
Chocolate	...				2
Coffee	...				1
Bacon	...				1
Beans	...				10
Syrup	...				3
Grapefruit marmalade	...				6
Total	...	2	14	2	23
Flour and Cereals					
Wheat and Barley Flakes	...				3
Bread	...			1	2
Macaroni	...				14
Biscuits	...				6
Bun Flour	...			3	26
Pearl Barley, Oatmeal & Rolled Oats	...		2	1	10
Vermicilli	...			1	
Custard Tarts	...				6
Fruit Cake	...				4
Total	...		4	0	15
Dried Fruits					
Peaches	...		4	0	3
Dates	...			1	5
Prunes	...		2	2	0
Sultanas	...		1	0	0
Total	...		7	3	8

					Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
General								
Imported Meat	...	...	...	...	2	3	3	17
English Meat	...	...	...	...		5	2	21
Bacon	...	...	...	...		1	0	16
Fish, fresh	...	...	...	...	3	5	2	20
Fish, preserved	...	...	...	...		18	3	20
Eggs	...	...	...	...		4	2	2
Cheese	...	...	...	...		2	0	25
Butter	...	...	...	...		3	2	11
Sugar	...	...	...	...				6
Margarine	...	...	...	...				8
Sausages	...	...	...	...			3	13
Pickles	...	...	...	...				7
Fish Cakes	...	...	...	...			2	7
Tea	...	...	...	...				22
Cooking Fats	...	...	...	...			1	24
Sauce	...	...	...	...				3
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...		1	2	24
Chickens	...	...	...	...			1	22
Salad Cream	...	...	...	...				1
Tripe	...	...	...	...				20
Potatoes	...	...	...	...		2	2	0
Coffee	...	...	...	...				4
Marmite and Bovril	...	...	...	...				2
Pea Soup (Powder)	...	...	...	...				1
Puddings	...	...	...	...				6
Vironita	...	...	...	...				2
Chocolate and Sweets	...	...	...	...				20
Game	...	...	...	...			2	8
Whalemeat Savoury	...	...	...	...				19
Dried Egg	...	...	...	...				3
Maltose Syrup	...	...	...	...			2	0
Chestnuts	...	...	...	...		3	0	0
Prawns	...	...	...	...		1	3	4
Fruit	...	...	...	...			1	2
Fresh Peas	...	...	...	...		2	0	12
Jam	...	...	...	...				23
Total					8	1	3	3
GRAND TOTAL					11	8	1	21

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1923-1943.

During the year legal proceedings were instituted against two purveyors of milk for filling bottles in the street, contrary to Section 31(2) of the Milk and Dairies Order 1926. Fines of £2 and £15 were imposed. The Vendor fined £15 had had a previous conviction for the same offence.

Slaughter of Animals.

Two new licences were issued to men engaged in the slaughter of animals at the Public Abattoir during the year and 23 applications for renewal were granted.

Licensed Slaughterhouses.

Three licences in respect of Slaughterhouses were issued during 1947, though no slaughtering is carried on at these premises.

Offensive Trades.

There has been further progress towards the installation of a Tripe Dresser in a separate building within the curtilage of the Public Abattoir and the Council have now approved the conversion of a stable into a Tripe Dressing Factory.

Nineteen visits have been paid to fell mongers and tripe dressing premises during the year.

Public Abattoir.

The quantity of meat killed at the Public Abattoir has decreased steadily during the past seven years. In 1940 41,823 animals were slaughtered. This had dropped in 1947 to 24,303. This has meant a steady increasing loss in the receipts such as tolls, etc., reaching £774 in 1946-1947, compared with a surplus of £365 for 1940-1941. The cost of equipment, wages, fuel, and expendible stores has, in many cases trebled. In response to enquiries, the department has been informed that the Ministry do not view with favour any increase in charges per head of animals killed. The only alternative remaining appears to be to appeal for a grant to cover the loss incurred.

At present the Cheltenham Abattoir has killed regularly for places such as Tewkesbury, Northleach, Andoversford, Bourton-on-the-Water, and Stow-on-the-Wold, and on occasions for London and Gloucester.

The loss during the next year will probably far exceed any yet experienced. It is hoped that the Ministry will agree to this Authority making charges at least in line with current expenditure. The existing charges have not been increased since 1925, and it is a great injustice that Cheltenham has to bear the burden of such a loss, a considerable proportion of which is incurred in serving areas other than the Borough.

Total Weights of Meat and Organs condemned, 1947.

Public Abattoir.

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.	Total			
Beef in Carcase	11	11	3	5	13	1	3	2
Beef not in Carcase	1	9	3	25				
Veal in Carcase	—	13	0	13				
Veal not in Carcase	—	0	0	14				
Mutton in Carcase	—	16	0	6	17	2	8	4
Mutton not in Carcase	—	1	2	2				
Pork in Carcase	—	1	2	1				
Pork not in Carcase	—	—	2	3				
Total Meat					14	14	2	13
Total Organs					22	19	0	1
Total Meat and Organs					37	13	2	14

Carcases Condemned as Totally unfit for Human Food, 1947.

Species	T.B.	Septi- caemia	Pyæmia	Inflam- mation	Mori- buno	Immature	Dropsy & Emancia- tion	Injury	Totals
Cows	29	7	—	1	—	—	6	—	43
Heifers	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Bulls	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Steer	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Calves	2	—	17	—	7	11	—	—	37
Sheep	—	1	—	2	13	—	29	—	45
Pigs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	39	8	17	3	20	11	35	—	133

Percentages of Animals Slaughtered during 1940-1947 found to be affected with T.B. (Cheltenham Abattoir).

Year	Cattle exclud. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
1940	6.98%	30.24%	0.08%	—	6.73%
1941	10.15%	24.05%	0.11%	0.003%	8.56%
1942	7.05%	29.38%	0.07%	—	10.62%
1943	9.4%	35.98%	0.079%	0.004%	7.64%
1944	6.05%	34.91%	0.09%	—	6.77%
1945	7.26%	32.49%	0.09%	—	5.75%
1946	7.46%	33.81%	0.04%	—	6.45%
1947	5.20%	30.84%	0.06%	—	8.72%
Over whole period	7.71%	31.94%	0.07%	0.001%	7.42%
No. of Animals	26,107	10,251	43,047	166,385	16,530
GRAND TOTAL ...					262,320

Carcases inspected and General Report thereon, 1947.
Cheltenham Abattoir 3542.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Totals
No. Killed ...	2500	1073	5815	14622	275	24285
No. Inspected ...	2500	1073	5815	14622	275	24285
All Diseases except Tuberculosis ...						
Whole Carcases ...	—	14	35	45	—	94
Some part or Organ condemned	337	643	29	1195	69	2273
Percentage affected ...	13.48	61.23	1.10	8.48	25.09	9.75
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses ...	8	29	2	—	—	39
Some part or Organ condemned	122	302	2	—	24	450
Percentage affected ...	5.20	30.84	0.06	—	8.72	2.01
Totals ...	467	988	68	1240	93	2856
Percentage on Totals ...	18.68	92.07	1.16	8.48	33.81	11.76

RODENT AND PEST CONTROL.

The Cheltenham Public Health Committee have in past years realised that rat destruction was an important phase of public administration and when the Ministry of Food took control gave this work every encouragement. Statistics may not in themselves appear interesting, but these notes are appended to be read in connection with Pages 44 and 45.

Complaints.—Under this heading it will be noticed that the suspension of the free service, did not appreciably affect the number of complaints. The drop in the complaints received in February, March and April, was probably due to the extreme cold and snow. The increase in May and September marks the period of migration to and from the countryside.

Inspections.—These have been set out in tabular form to show the number of inspections under the respective headings, the first two are self explanatory, but the other items call for further comment.

The agreements signed by owners for the years 1945/6/7 show a steady increase and these are set out hereunder. Many of these agreements have been renewed year by year, which I believe is some testimony of the satisfactory service that has been given. Experience has shown that these agreements enable premises to be cleared and kept clear by periodical inspections, with treatment as and when required, at irregular periods. The costs have been carefully prepared and naturally more than cover the expenses, thereby enabling the authority to maintain throughout the year a permanent expert staff, which would not be the case, if Rodent Control depended entirely on the Ministry of Agriculture's programme.

The 714 departmental inspections give some indication of the amount of work necessary to keep all Local authority property reasonably clear of infestation. It is work which calls for continuous vigilance, and frequent treatments to prevent infestations getting out of hand. The general position at the Public Abattoir, refuse disposal tips and the disused destructor works, is satisfactory but there can be no "let up" if such conditions are to be maintained. A word of praise must be extended to the foreman and staff at the refuse disposal tips for their keenness and zeal in maintenance generally in the day-to-day work.

Sewer Maintenance Treatment.

Cheltenham is embarrassed by a legacy of old brick sewers and culverts constructed in the days when this town was developed in the early part of the eighteenth century. The Local Authority are fully aware of these conditions and the renewal of these sewers and culverts must, of necessity await an opportune time. Meanwhile a persistent active warfare must be maintained to keep in check the rat population which, despite the treatments carried out on the lines indicated by the Ministry, can only be termed a palliative. The council and the citizens must be prepared therefore to face up to the financial burden that is over and above the government grants.

Two sewer treatments were carried out in 1947 and the results indicate that over the whole system there is a satisfactory reduction in the rat population. Unfortunately certain areas still remain heavily infested, and require more frequent re-treatment than laid down by the Ministry to keep the infestation under control. This matter will have attention in 1948, when it is proposed to increase the number of maintenance treatments in the areas. The final results are as follows :—

Total estimated kill, 8,384 rats.

M/Hs. Baited, 465 ; Complete Takes, 171 ; Partial Takes, 27 ; No Takes, 267.

The staff of the Infestation Section have carried out their duties in a satisfactory manner. During the year the Pests Officer was absent on sick leave for some months and extra work fell on the Assistant Pests Officer, who successfully maintained the high standard of efficiency associated with the work of this Section. The operators loyally co-operated with him and have done excellent work throughout the year.

The Staff has recently been reduced to the following :—Pests Officer, Assistant Pests Officer and two operators, at the time of writing this report.

SUMMARY 1947 RODENT CONTROL COMPLAINTS

Month	Rats	Mice	Beetles	Other Pests	Total	Remarks
January	42	13	3	—	58	Migration
February	26	2	—	—	28	
March	23	—	1	—	24	
April	21	7	1	—	29	
May	41	8	4	4	57	
June	16	15	2	2	35	
July	30	5	3	3	41	
August	37	16	1	8	62	Migration Free service suspended.
September	42	24	1	14	81	
October	43	16	4	6	69	
November	40	10	1	1	52	" "
December	22	20	1	—	43	" "
TOTAL	383	136	22	38	579	

INSPECTIONS

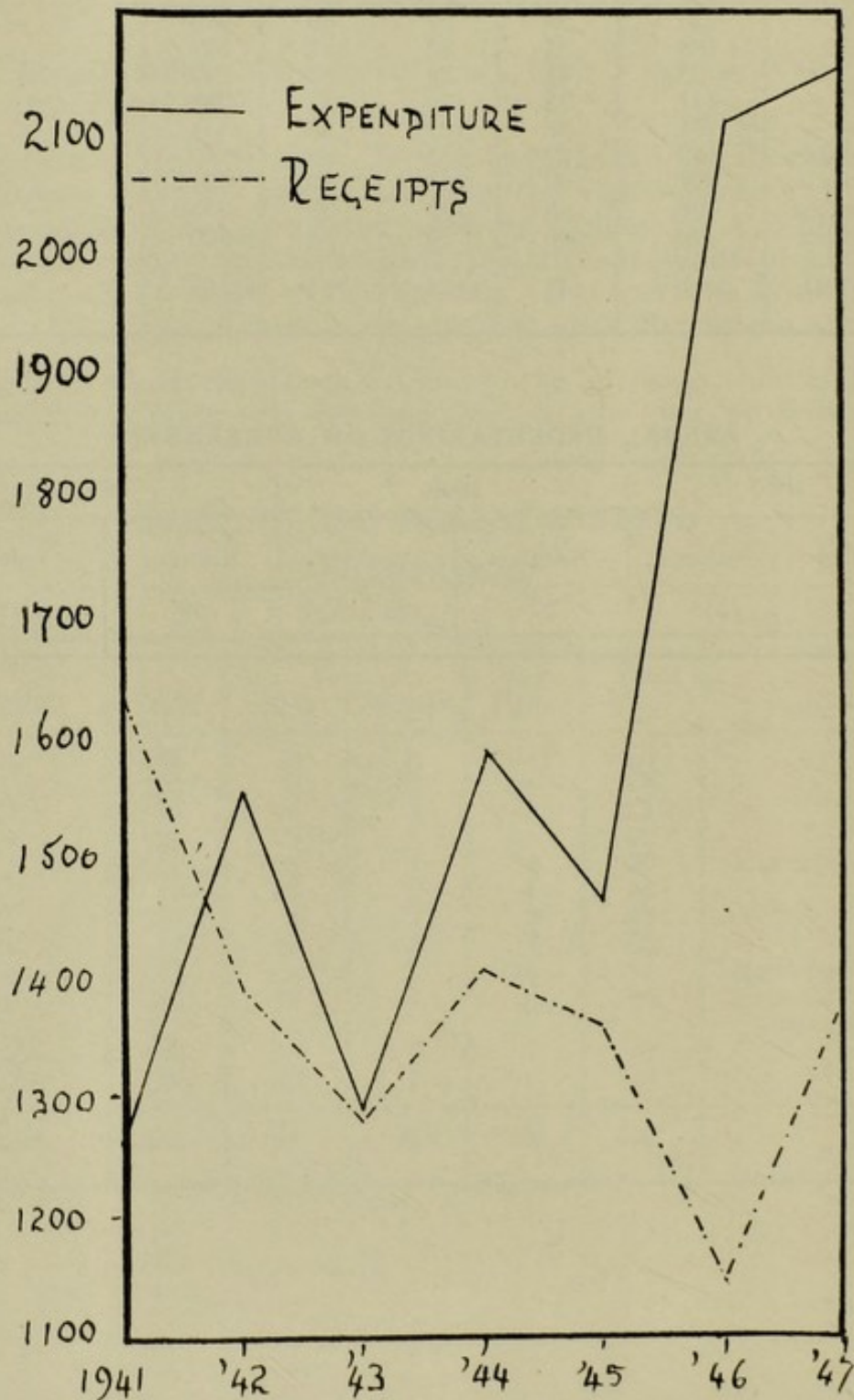
Month	Private Dwellings	Business Premises	Agreements	Local Auth.	Total	Remarks
January	681	259	129	64	1133	Survey & Block Treatment included
February	652	128	111	61	952	" "
March	297	41	80	63	481	
April	236	28	97	49	410	
May	188	37	62	41	328	
June	73	44	57	68	242	
July	111	75	125	77	388	
August	251	38	102	50	441	
September	143	22	55	39	259	
October	191	62	145	83	481	
November	106	45	133	69	353	
December	90	66	90	50	296	Xmas Holiday
TOTAL	3019	845	1186	714	5764	

ANNUAL UNDERTAKINGS OR AGREEMENTS

1945		1946		1947	
Number	Value	Number	Value	Number	Value
25	£411	27	£422 . 10 . 0	39	£563

PUBLIC ABATTOIR

EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS DURING THE PERIOD
1941—1947.



PUBLIC ABATTOIR

NUMBER OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED DURING THE YEARS
1940—1947 IN THOUSANDS.

