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C4432(1) CHELTENHAM

Borough of  Cheltenham

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health of Cheltenham

Vital Statistics, Sanitary Work, &c.

FOR THE YEAR

1951

BY

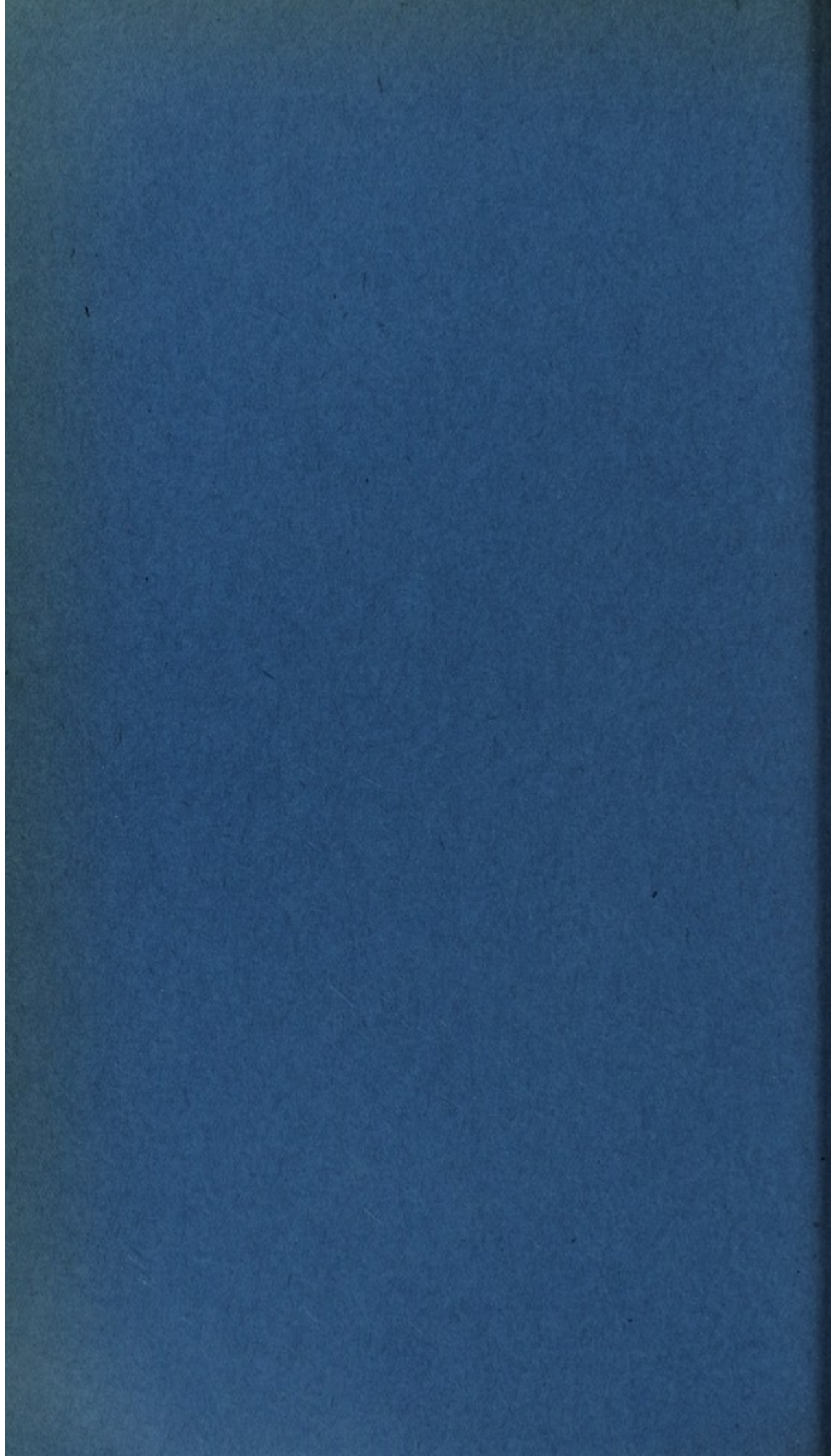
DONALD E. MORLEY, M.D. (Lond.), D.P.H.

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"



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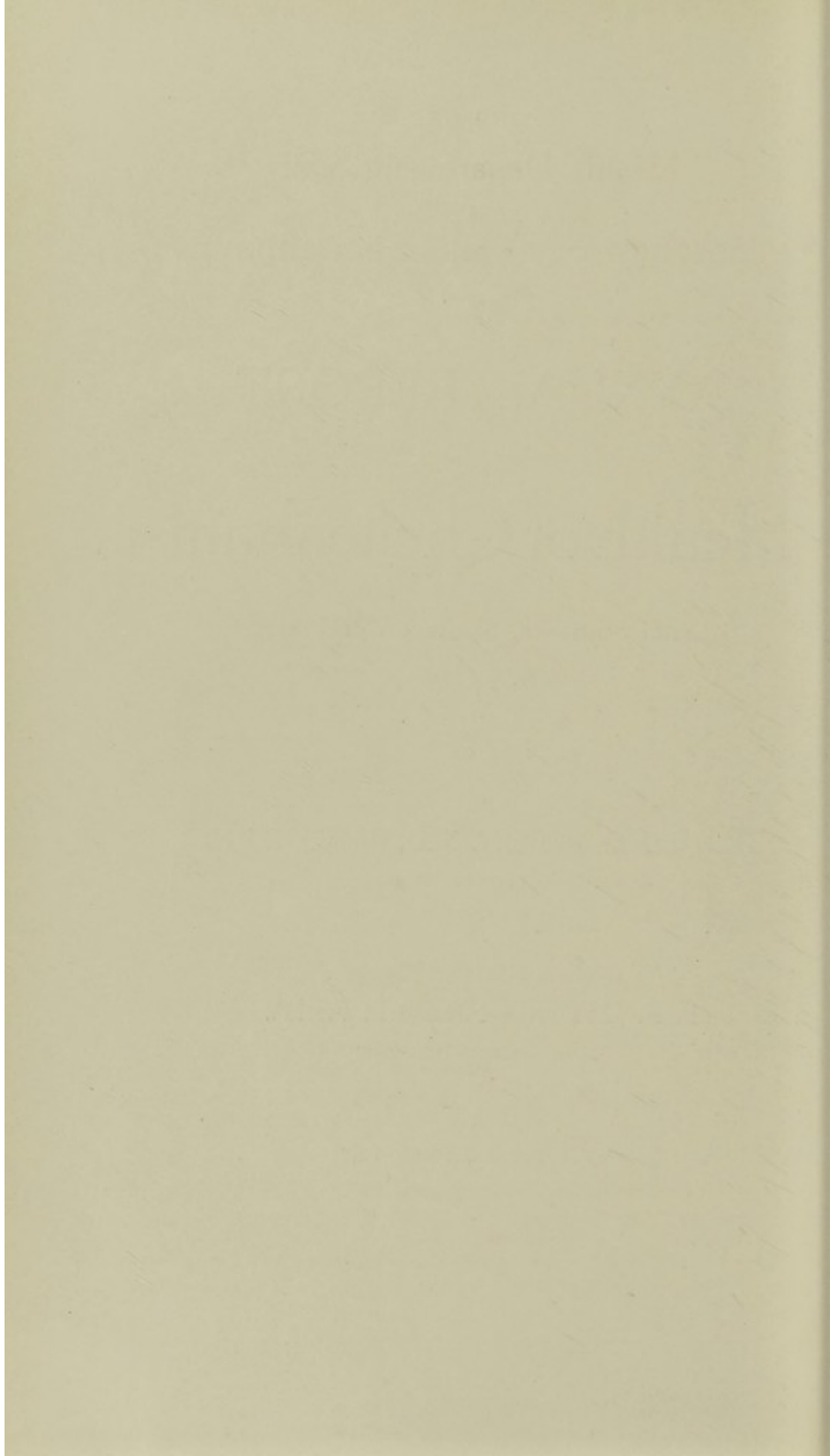
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Health Department Staff

(as at 31.12.51)

Medical Officer of Health	} <i>Donald E. Morley, M.D., B.S.Lond., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.</i>
School Medical Officer	
Divisional Medical Officer	
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	} <i>Clive L. E. Sharp, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.</i>
Assistant School Medical Officer	
Assistant School Medical Officer	} <i>Brenda G. King, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.</i>
Chief Sanitary Inspector	<i>F. R. Jefford, F.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.*</i>
Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector	<i>J. F. Ursell, D.P.A., M.I.San.E., F.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.*‡</i>
District Inspectors	<i>A. L. Jones, M.S.I.A., San. Science R.S.I.*‡ H. Stone, M.S.I.A.*‡ J. A. McPherson, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., M.Inst.M., M.R.S.A. (Scot)*‡ G. J. C. Buck, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.Inst.‡</i>
School Clinic Nurses	<i>Nurse M. Laffineur, S.R.N., R.F.N. Nurse S. M. Read, S.R.N. Nurse A. Wood, S.R.N.</i>
Chief Clerk	<i>W. H. G. Meakins.</i>
Senior Clerk	<i>D. Y. Harrison.</i>
Medical Officer of Health's Secretary	<i>Miss G. W. Hiron.</i>
Chief Sanitary Inspector's Secretary	<i>Miss E. E. Hayford.</i>
Clerical Assistant	<i>Miss N. E. Padfield.</i>
Maternity and Child Welfare Clerk	<i>Miss I. Tinning.</i>
School Clinic Clerks	<i>Miss M. Thomas. Miss J. Beech. Miss A. P. Lippett.</i>
School Dental Clinic Clerk	<i>Miss G. White.</i>
Enquiry Office Clerk	<i>Miss B. T. Roberts</i>
Junior Clerks	<i>Miss R. B. Claridge. Miss M. E. J. Edden. T. W. Camsey.</i>
Pupil	<i>R. J. Wintle.</i>
Disinfection Officer	<i>G. Cross.</i>

* Certified Meat and Foods Inspector, R.S.I.

‡ S.I.E.J.B. Certificate.

NOTE—For Rodent Control and Abattoir staff see Report of Chief Sanitary Inspector, page 48.

Annual Report on the Health of the Borough of Cheltenham for the Year 1951

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Health of the Borough during 1951, apart from a minor outbreak of Influenza in the early part of the year, was satisfactory. The slightly higher death rate can be largely accounted for by this outbreak and an associated increase in the number of deaths from pneumonia.

The Infant Death Rate showed improvement and it was slightly lower than the average rate for large towns.

The Borough was entirely free from Diphtheria during 1951 an improvement even on 1950 when the record was broken by the occurrence of one mild case in an adult. There has been no death from Diphtheria for over 6 years.

The satisfactory position regarding Tuberculosis was also maintained.

There were five cases of Food Poisoning, all of the same type and all made satisfactory and rapid recoveries.

A change in the Medical Staff during 1951 was necessitated by the departure of Dr. P. C. Dismorr to take up a post in Bermuda. Dr. C. L. E. Sharp was appointed as Deputy Medical Officer in his place.

Another change resulted from the acceptance of the important post of Assistant Secretary to the Board of Health, Northern Rhodesia by Mr. G. A. Lee, Chief Clerk of the Public Health Department. His departure was much regretted. His place has been filled by Mr. W. H. G. Meakins.

My appointment as Medical Superintendent of the Delancey Fever Hospital terminated at the end of the year, after nearly 20 years service, as a result of long foreshadowed changes under the National Health Service Act. The virtual non existence of Diphtheria and the improving control of other infectious diseases has made it possible for all such cases from this area to be accommodated at Over Isolation Hospital, Gloucester.

In conclusion I should like to express my thanks to the members of the Council for their consideration and help 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.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS, 1951

Area of borough	...	...	...	...	5,146 acres
Population	{ Census 1951, Corrected Figure ...				62,823
	{ Mid-year, 1951. Registrar General's				65,080
	{ Estimate ...				
Number of inhabited houses end 1951	{ (1) structurally separate ...				15,031
	{ (2) Flats, Hotels, Occupied				1,480
	{ Shops, etc. ...				
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	£530,976
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	£2,126

TABULAR STATEMENT OF THE MAIN VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1951

(with comparative Figures for England and Wales and other Great Towns).

	M.	F.	Totals	Rates per 1,000 Population		
ve Births						
Legitimate ...	507	494	1001	Cheltenham	126 Great Towns including London (average)	England and Wales
Illegitimate ...	37	30	67			
TOTALS	544	524	1068	16.4	17.3	15.5
ill Births						
Legitimate ...	10	13	23			
Illegitimate ...	2	1	3			
TOTALS	12	14	26	0.40	0.45	0.36
EATHS ...	417	487	904	13.89	13.4	12.5
aths of Infants						
Under 1 year of age)				{ Rates per 1 000 Live Births		
Legitimate ...	22	11	33			
Illegitimate ...	3	—	3			
TOTALS	25	11	36			
				33.7	33.9	29.6
aternal Deaths	—	2	2	1.83	{ Rates per 1000 Live & Still Births	0.79

NOTE ON TABULAR STATEMENT

The following points should be borne in mind when considering the comparative figures given above.

The figures for births and deaths are corrected for inward and outward transfers in order that the statistics may give as true a picture as possible of local conditions.

The figures given for England and Wales for Births and Deaths are calculated on the Total Population while for Cheltenham and the Great Towns they are calculated on the Civilian Population, because the figures for local Non-civilian populations are not known.

Other factors relating to the Death rates are referred to under the appropriate heading in the following notes on the Vital Statistics for the year 1951.

NOTES ON THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1951.

Population.

The provisional figures of the 1951 Census give Cheltenham a Population of 62,823, comprised of 27,962 Males and 34,861 Females. This is an increase of 12,655 or 25.2% on the provisional figure for the 1931 Census.

The new figure did not include the resident School & College populations as the Census was taken during a holiday period. It is not surprising therefore to find the Registrars estimate of the resident population for Mid 1951 as high as 65,080.

Death Rate.

The Crude Death Rate was 13.89 a slightly higher figure than usual. This is largely accounted for by the minor influenza outbreak of 1951 and associated deaths from pneumonia.

The Death Rate corrected for the higher average age of the Cheltenham Population is 12.22 (correcting Factor 0.88) compared with the rate of 12.5 for England & Wales.

Infant Mortality.

It will be seen that the Infant Mortality Rate for 1951 was 33.7 a shade better than the average for Great Towns. While there are no grounds for complacency this is a considerable improvement on the figure for last year which was 41.63.

Twenty one infants died within a month of birth.

The causes of the 36 infant deaths which occurred in Cheltenham during 1951 are classified as follows:—

<i>Cause of Death</i>	<i>No. of Deaths</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
Prematurity ...	8	22.2%
Intracranial and Cerebral Haemorrhage	8	22.2%
Birth Injuries ...		
Congenital Deformities ...	8	22.2%
Bronchopneumonia ...	8	22.2%
Gastro-enteritis ...	2	5.6%
Injuries and accidents ...	2	5.6%
	—	
	36	
	—	

The position of the birth in the family has a bearing of some importance in infant mortality. In 1951, 18 of the children who died were 1st children, 13 second, 2 sixth and 3 ninth children in the family.

In seven cases housing conditions were reported to have been unsatisfactory.

Causes of Death relating to Cheltenham Residents as given by the Registrar-General for the year 1951.

							Male	Female
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	10	6
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	2	1
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	1	—
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
8	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	4
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	10	13
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	13	—
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	—	17
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	—	11
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	36	37
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	—	3
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	4
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	42	70
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	58	34
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	8	15
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	81	141
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	6	15
22	Influenza	...	...	...	...	18	17
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	21	23
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	22	12
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	6	3
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	7	2
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	4	4
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	6	5
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	6	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	2
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	5	4
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	38	35
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	3	1
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	10	5
35	Suicide	...	...	...	...	2	3
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	1	—
All Causes							417	487

MAIN VITAL STATISTICS—10 YEAR PERIOD 1942-51 (inclusive).

CHELTENHAM					INFANT DEATH RATES Per 1,000 Live Births			TOTAL DEATHS	DEATH RATE Per 1,000 of Population				
YEAR	Estimated Population RG	No. of Births	Birth Rate per 1000 population	Total Deaths of Infants (under 1 year of age)	Cheltenham	Large Towns	England and Wales	Cheltenham	Cheltenham		England and Wales	Tuberculosis (Cheltenham)	
									Recorded	Corrected		Pulmonary	Other
1942	62650	1102	17.59	46	41.74	59	49	831	13.2	10.87	11.6	0.52	0.08
1943	61260	1141	18.6	57	49.9	58	49	943	15.4	12.6	12.1	0.57	0.07
1944	60810	1239	20.4	105	84.7	52	46	901	14.8	12.15	11.6	0.43	0.18
1945	59030	1122	19.0	55	49.0	54	46	856	14.5	11.89	11.4	0.69	0.14
1946	60540	1194	19.7	52	43.5	46	43	886	14.6	12.0	11.4	0.46	0.09
1947	61810	1313	21.2	56	42.6	47	41	926	15.0	12.3	12.0	0.34	0.097
1948	64260	1099	17.1	35	31.8	39	34	770	12.0	9.8	10.8	0.45	0.03
1949	64150	1123	17.5	34	30.3	37	32	806	12.56	11.2	11.7	0.33	0.00
1950	64600	1033	15.99	43	41.63	33.8	29.8	822	12.72	11.3	11.6	0.23	0.046
1951	65080	1068	16.4	36	33.7	33.9	29.6	904	13.89	12.22	12.5	0.25	0.046

WATER SUPPLY OF THE BOROUGH

A description of the four sources of supply has been given in previous years and no change of importance was made during the year.

With the exception of the supply to one small area on the hill side above the level of the reservoirs, all supplies are chlorinated.

In the autumn, one of the smaller supplies became temporarily contaminated as a result of a pipe fracture. The defect was however quickly discovered and remedied.

Samples of water from all supplies are taken regularly for Bacteriological and Chemical analysis. In addition monthly samples of Spa Water and water from the Open Air Swimming Pool and Alstone Covered Baths are submitted for analysis.

These samples are examined and reported on by Mr. J. Henderson, Analyst to the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board, who has provided the following list which shows the number of samples examined bacteriologically and chemically during 1951 :—

<i>Bacteriological Examinations</i>	<i>No. of Samples examined 1951</i>
Tewkesbury	
Raw River Water	87
Coagulated Water at Outlet from Tanks	49
Coagulated Water above Filters ...	29
Filtered Water	198
Chloraminated Water	472
	<hr/> 835
Cheltenham	
Dowdeswell Clean	14
Hewletts Reservoir	3
Northfield	50
Sandford	13
Swimming Pools	16
Miscellaneous	18
Spa Water—Pittville	14
	<hr/> 128

For the third successive year the raw water at Tewkesbury has shown a decrease in the intensity of bacterial pollution only 8% of the examined samples showing the presence of B.Coli in the minimal quantity of 0.001 ml. Figures for previous years have been :—1947 8.9% ; 1948 14.9% ; 1949 13.7% ; 1950 12.5%.

Of the final water samples, 99.6% showed the absence of presumptive B. Coli in 100 ml. quantities.

*Chemical Examinations**No. of Samples examined 1951***Tewkesbury**

Raw River Water	677
Coagulated & Filtered Waters	975
Final Water	547
	<hr/>
	2199

Cheltenham

Dowdeswell Clean	3
Northfield	3
Sandford	3
Consumers' Supply	2
	<hr/>
	11

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS)

During 1951, licences to use special designations were issued as follows :—

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

Type of Licence	Dealers	Supplementary	Total
Tuberculin Tested Milk	22	4	26
Accredited Milk	—	—	—
Totals	22	4	26

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

Type of Licence	Pasteurisers	Dealers	Supplementary	Total
Pasteurised	3*	13	2	18
Sterilised	—	—	—	—
Totals	3	13	2	18

*The Cheltenham Borough Council issues three licences for Pasteurising Plants.

Two pasteurisers are of the positive 'Holder' type and the other apparatus, installed in a large dairy late in 1948, is a High Temperature Short Time Pasteuriser.

Samples are taken fortnightly for analysis and the reports are submitted to the Health Committee.

Very few results during 1951 failed to satisfy the standards of the Ministry of Health, though bacterial tests have occasionally been unsatisfactory.

**THE PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER,
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES, 1951.**

The following statement shows the numbers of cases notified (after correction). Tuberculosis is dealt with separately.

Disease	Final Numbers after Correction
Diphtheria	NIL
Erysipelas	4
Encephalitis (Infective)	2
Measles	218
Pneumonia (all forms)	59
Poliomyelitis Paralytic	1
„ NON Paralytic	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	8
Scarlet Fever	58
Whooping Cough	196
Dysentery	22
Paratyphoid Fever	1
Food Poisoning	5

General Notes on Infectious Diseases.

Apart from a limited prevalence of Measles and Whooping Cough during the first half of the year there was little infectious disease of any consequence.

The complete absence of Diphtheria from the Borough is a matter for satisfaction.

Poliomyelitis

There were four notifications of Poliomyelitis, two paralytic and two non-paralytic. Two corrections reduced the numbers to one of each type.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

The annual return of figures relating to Diphtheria Immunisation required by the Ministry of Health is set out below. The statement relates to the position at the end of 1951.

The estimate of the number of children in Cheltenham Area under the age of 15 has been provided by the Registrar General.

Age at 31/12/51 i.e. Born in years indicated.	Under 1 1951	1 1950	2 1949	3 1948	4 1947	5-9 1942-1946	10-14 1937-1941	Total under 15
Number Immunised	349	685	570	560	758	3463	3359	9744
Estimated mid- year population of children 1951	(under 5) 5311					5-14 incl. 8998		14309

Percentage of Cheltenham Children Immunised against Diphtheria.

Children of age 8 months up to 5th Birthday	...	...	...	63%
" " 5 years up to 15th Birthday	...	...	...	76%
Total Children of age 8 months up to 15th Birthday	...	...	...	72%

It is not customary to immunise children before they reach the age of 8 months and for this reason children under this age are not included in calculating the percentages given above.

The figures given include the number of children immunised by Medical Practitioners from the 5th July, 1948, to the end of 1951. The number immunised by Private Practitioners prior to this date is not known so that the percentage of children actually immunised is appreciably higher than the figures given above.

The figures in the following table show the total number of immunisations completed each year during the last six years :—

		Completed Immunisations					
		1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
By Medical Officers	...	745	661	885	593	307	429
By Private Practitioners	...	?	?	105	277	418	505
Totals		745	661	990	870	725	934
Total Live Births (6 years)		6830					
Total Immunisations (6 years)		4925					

During 1951, in 349 cases immunisation was completed before the age of one year ; in 363 cases during the second year and in 222 cases during subsequent years.

Re-inforcing doses.

An additional dose is offered at the ages of 5 and 10 years to increase the resistance to Diphtheria of children during school life. During 1951, 1058 such doses were given by the Health Staff and 64 by private practitioners.

Progress.

The number of immunisations completed during the year exceeded those for 1950 by 209.

There were no cases of Diphtheria during the year.

The Health Visitors continue to urge parents to secure immunisation for their children as soon as they reach the age of 8 months.

ANNUAL RETURN OF CASES OF FOOD POISONING

Food Poisoning Notifications :—

1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
—	1	4	—	5

There were 5 notifications of food poisoning during 1951. All five cases were examples of *Salmonella Typhi* infection.

Two of the cases occurred in the same household. One patient was infected while on holiday away from Cheltenham and she appears to have infected another member of the family on her return.

The other three were isolated cases. Two were examples of infection in babies under a year old ; in one of these cases the house was badly infested with mice and food storage left much to be desired ; in the other case there was no sign of infestation and food storage was good but a number of ducks in a neighbouring farm may have been the source of infection.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1951.

Age Periods		New Cases				Deaths			
		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1—5 years	...	1	—	2	3	—	—	—	1
5—15	...	—	—	5	3	—	—	—	—
15—25	...	6	10	—	—	1	1	—	—
25—35	...	8	11	1	2	1	2	—	—
35—45	...	4	4	—	1	—	1	—	—
45—55	...	7	1	—	—	4	1	—	—
55—65	...	4	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
65 and upwards	...	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
		32	26	8	9	10	6	2	1
Registrar General's Figs.						10	6	2	1

Death Rates.

The Tuberculosis death rates for Cheltenham during 1951 were as follows:—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis		0.29	} Per 1,000 of Population
Non Pulmonary Tuberculosis		0.046	
Total		0.336	
Comparative Figures	Great Towns average	Total 0.37	}
	England and Wales	Total 0.31	

GENERAL NOTE

The improved outlook in the matter of Tuberculosis was maintained during 1951. Notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis declined and the number of deaths from all forms was 19 compared with the record low figure of 18 for 1950.

Disinfectants, paper handkerchiefs and antiseptic soaps continue to be provided free in suitable cases.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES 10 YEAR PERIOD 1942—51 INCLUSIVE

Year	Smallpox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Typhoid Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Pneumonia	Polio-myelitis & encephalitis		Erysipelas	Meningococcal Meningitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Acute Encephalitis		Measles	Whooping Cough	Tuberculosis	
							Paralytic	Non-Paralytic						Infective	Post-Infectious			Pulmonary	Other
1942	—	78	52	—	24	106	2	13	10	5	2	2	—	—	—	1297	67	69	19
1943	—	97	109	—	20	67	—	15	5	3	3	44	2	2	2	145	94	76	15
1944	—	141	88	—	11	56	1	19	1	4	4	—	—	—	—	120	134	69	23
1945	—	34	19	—	11	41	—	12	1	4	4	10	—	—	—	1202	171	59	21
1946	—	52	15	—	25	41	1	14	3	2	2	2	—	—	—	33	119	65	18
1947	—	108	4	—	18	44	3	14	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1046	192	69	20
1948	—	72	2	—	14	57	1	12	—	2	2	4	—	—	—	358	221	53	13
1949	—	46	2	—	3	40	2	4	—	—	10	—	8	—	—	94	86	57	7
1950	—	53	1	—	4	35	6	6	2	2	—	47	—	—	—	1448	225	70	14
1951	—	58	0	1	8	59	1	4	—	—	—	22	5	2	—	218	196	58	17

N.B.—Three cases of Malaria were also notified : 1 in 1942, 1 in 1945 and 1 in 1950.

REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION OF NURSING HOMES

SECTIONS 187-194. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936

At the commencement of 1951 there were 15 Nursing Homes on the register. With the exception of the re-registration of one home there was no change during the year so that the number at the end of the year remained at 15, the same as previously.

The number of beds available is as follows :—

General Medical and Surgical	...	98
Maternity	... ..	15

There is still a good demand for the accommodation provided by these Nursing Homes particularly the Maternity accommodation. This must represent an appreciable saving of money and beds on the National Health Service Account.

All the homes were inspected during the year on two or three occasions and in some cases many visits were made.

REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION

(National Assistance Act 1948 Section 47)

It was found necessary in one case during 1951 to obtain a Court Order for the removal of an elderly female from insanitary premises to a hospital.

The Amendment Act which came into force on September 1st, 1951, has made it possible to deal with urgent cases much more expeditiously. It is now possible for the Medical Officer of Health with the authority of the Chairman of the Public Health Committee to obtain a Magistrates Order, for the removal of an infirm person living under insanitary conditions and not receiving proper care and attention, to an Institution, within a few hours. This power is only used to prevent a person, who refuses to be moved, from suffering from the effects of neglect and privation.

C. Number of Individual Pupils found at Periodic Medical Inspection to require Treatment (excluding Dental Diseases and Infestation with Vermin.)

Group	For defective vision (excluding squint)	For any of the other condition recorded in Table IIa	Total individual pupils
Entrants	—	173	173
Second Age Group	193	192	354
Third Age Group	116	99	201
Total (prescribed Groups) ...	309	464	728
Other Periodic Inspections ...	77	83	151
Grand Total	386	547	879

TABLE II

A. Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection during the year.

Disease or Defect	Periodic Inspections		Special Inspections.	
	Number of Defects		Number of Defects	
	Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation but not Treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring Observation but not Treatment
Skin	47	13	29	10
Eyes				
(a) Vision	386	7	20	4
(b) Squint	27	4	18	8
(c) Other	33	6	18	12
Ears				
(a) Hearing	6	21	8	19
(b) Otitis Media ...	13	22	8	31
(c) Other	19	11	10	21
Nose and Throat	66	257	128	459
Speech	8	13	19	19
Cervical Glands	3	102	2	109
Heart and Circulation	1	57	2	119
Lungs	18	103	14	271
Developmental				
(a) Hernia	6	7	10	16
(b) Other	6	30	9	26
Orthopaedic				
(a) Posture	40	46	47	55
(b) Flat Foot	180	23	53	21
(c) Other	65	33	78	65
Nervous System				
(a) Epilepsy	4	2	7	3
(b) Other	3	14	3	16
Psychological				
(a) Development... ..	1	9	2	14
(b) Stability	4	24	16	39
Other	51	86	76	307

B. Classification of the General Condition of Pupils Inspected during the year in the Age Groups

Age Groups	Pupils Inspected	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants ...	874	237	27.1	607	69.5	30	3.4
Second Age Group	1364	482	35.3	851	62.4	31	2.3
Third Age Group	679	276	40.6	396	58.3	7	1.1
Other Periodic Inspections ...	719	175	24.4	528	73.4	16	2.2
Total	3636	1170	32.2	2382	65.5	84	2.3

TABLE III
Infestation with Vermin

(1) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons ...	21,762
(2) Total number of individual pupils examined ...	8,176
(3) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	273
(4) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2) Education Act, 1944) ...	1
(5) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944) ...	1

TABLE IV

Treatment of Pupils attending maintained Primary and Secondary Schools
GROUP 1. Diseases of the Skin (excluding uncleanliness, for which see Table III)

					<i>Number of Cases treated, or under treatment during the year</i>	
					<i>By the Authority</i>	<i>Otherwise</i>
Ringworm—(i) Scalp ...	...	...	...	...	5	4
(ii) Body ...	...	...	...	...	24	—
Scabies ...	...	...	...	...	10	—
Impetigo ...	...	...	...	...	77	2
Other skin diseases ...	...	...	...	...	54	15
Total					170	21

GROUP 2. Eye Diseases, Defective Vision and Squint.

					<i>Number of cases dealt with</i>	
					<i>By the Authority</i>	<i>Otherwise</i>
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint ...	...	...	...	...	103	5
Errors of Refraction (including squint) ...	...	...	...	...	—	478
Total					103	483

No. of Pupils for whom spectacles were

(a) Prescribed	...	...	...	...	...	...	380
(b) Obtained	...	...	...	...	...	...	371

GROUP 3. Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat.

Number of cases treated
By the
Authority. Otherwise

Received operative treatment :

(a) for diseases of the ear	...	...	...	—	11
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	...	...	...	—	625
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	...	...	...	—	138
Received other forms of treatment	...	...	...	169	—
				<hr/>	<hr/>
			Total	169	774
				<hr/>	<hr/>

By the
Authority Otherwise

GROUP 4. Orthopaedic and Postural Defects

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals		133
(b) Number treated otherwise, e.g. in clinics or out-patients departments	...	...
	200	71

GROUP 5. Child Guidance Treatment.

Number of cases treated
In the Authority's
Child Guidance. Else-
Clinics. where

Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	45	—
--	----	---

GROUP 6. Speech Therapy.

Number of cases treated
By the
Authority Otherwise

Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists ...	105	—
---	-----	---

GROUP 7. Other Treatment Given.

Number of cases treated
By the
Authority Otherwise

(a) Other (Specify)	Miscellaneous minor ailments	5083	23
Anaemia	...	16	9
Threadworms	...	7	9
Chest	...	18	37
Debility	...	25	10
		<hr/>	<hr/>
	Total	5149	88
		<hr/>	<hr/>

TABLE V.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE
AUTHORITY

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :—							
(a) Periodic age groups	...	...	...	...	...	...	341
(b) Specials	...	...	...	...	...	...	598
Total							939
<hr/>							
(2) Number found to require treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	873
(3) Number referred for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	858
(4) Number actually treated	...	...	...	...	...	...	546
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	...	...	...	...	...	...	1500
<hr/>							
(6) Half days devoted to:	Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	2
	Treatment	...	...	...	...	...	206
Total							208
<hr/>							
(7) Fillings:	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	320
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	19
Total							339
<hr/>							
(8) Number of teeth filled:	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	254
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	19
Total							273
<hr/>							
(9) Extractions:	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	140
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	726
Total							866
<hr/>							
(10) Administrations of general anaesthetics for extraction	...	...	...	...	...	...	309
<hr/>							
(11) Other operations:	Permanent Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	278
	Temporary Teeth	...	...	...	...	...	258
Total							536

Environmental Hygiene

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951

*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 1951, being my twenty-fourth as an Executive Officer of this Authority.

An endeavour has been made, in presenting this report, to have regard to economy while, at the same time, ensuring that the tables and statistics which are required by the Ministries of Health, Food and Agriculture and Fisheries are included. It is essential that a certain amount of statistical data should be given, in order to convey important information to both the Council and the public generally.

The year under review does not call for particular attention in any one section of the Department, although the work involved under the heading of Food Hygiene has been set out in some detail, owing to the scope and development of this subject in Cheltenham recently. A large amount of time is spent by the District Inspectors in responding to the requests of shopkeepers for the examination of canned and other foodstuffs. With the condemnation of goods, come persistent demands from the wholesalers for the correct coding and description to be entered on the necessary certificates, 2,100 of which were issued to enable shopkeepers to be reimbursed for condemned foodstuffs. There appears to be an appreciable increase in the amount of canned goods condemned and one is tempted to ask if there is a deterioration in the methods and materials now used for canning. One case which came to my notice was a request for inspection of goods by the new manager of a shop in which the value of the stock condemned was about £70; a more constant and detailed check of stock by the staff was obviously necessary.

It is not, I think, generally realised that no less than 60% of a Sanitary Inspector's working hours are spent in dealing with food and its inspection in all its stages, a very essential duty for the protection of the public's supplies.

In the list of staff changes, I have to report the appointment of Mr. D. Y. Harrison, of Scarborough, to be senior Clerk in place of Mr. W. H. G. Meakins, who was promoted to Chief Clerk; Miss E. E. Hayford succeeded Miss M. D. Heynes as my Secretary; and Mr. T. W. Camsey replaced Miss A. J. Burrows as Junior Clerk.

Once again I take this opportunity of recording my sincere thanks to the Chairman and members of the Public Health and other Committees of the Council for the sympathetic help received as an official, also to express my appreciation to the other Chief Officers for their co-operation.

With pleasure, I again record the loyal and valued assistance rendered to me by my Deputy, Mr. J. F. Ursell, F.S.I.A., and the District Inspectors, who have contributed to this Report, also to the other members of my staff for their team spirit.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

F. R. JEFFORD,

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

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

The total number of complaints received in the Department during the year 1951 was 705.

The following tables shew the amount of Routine Inspection work carried out by the District Sanitary Inspectors.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTORS' VISITS

TABLE I

General Sanitation

Water Supply	6
Drainage	2,791
Stables and Piggeries	4
Offensive Trades	28
Fried Fish Shops	32
Common Lodging House	27
Tents, Vans and Sheds	117
Factories	225
Workplaces	2
Outworkers	53
Bakehouses	51
Public Conveniences	6
Refuse Collection	268
Refuse Disposal	4
Smoke Observations	15
Marine Dealers	34
Schools	5
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	92
Interviews	561
Total	4,321

TABLE II

Housing

<i>Under Public Health Acts</i>		
No. of Houses Inspected	535	
Re-Visits	1,252	
<i>Under Housing Act</i>		
No. of Houses Inspected	267	
Re-Visits	689	
<i>Overcrowding</i>		
No. of Houses Inspected	25	
Re-Visits	10	
<i>Verminous Premises</i>		
No. of Houses Inspected	23	
Re-Visits	11	
<i>Miscellaneous Housing Visits</i>	15	
Total	2,827	

TABLE III

Infectious Diseases

Inquiries in Cases of Infectious Disease	...	...	15
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	...	...	3
			—
Total	...	...	18
			—

TABLE IV

Food Inspections, etc.*Inspection of Meat*

Visits to Public Abattoir	...	...	...	58
Visits to other premises	...	...	...	5

Registrations and Inspections

(Food and Drugs Act, Sections 13 and 14)

Butchers	...	...	...	103
Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	...	...	32
Grocers	...	...	...	104
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	...	...	36
Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	71
Ice-cream premises	...	...	...	100
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	89
Restaurants and Hotels Kitchens	...	...	...	151
Market Stalls	...	...	...	48

Food Inspection and Condemnation Visits	599
---	-----	-----	-----

Visits in connection with sampling

Milk—Bacteriological	99
Food and Drug Samples	190
Miscellaneous Food Visits	44

Total	1,729
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TABLE V

Other Visits*Shops Act.*

Closing Hours	345
Employment of Young Persons	78
Revisits	...	...	...	361

<i>Pharmacy and Poisons Act</i>	7
---------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

<i>Merchandise Marks Act</i>	86
------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

<i>Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act</i>	7
--	-----	-----	-----	---

Total	884
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Total of Tables I, II, III, IV and V	9,779
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NOTICES SERVED.

During the year the following notices were served :—

	<i>Informal Notices</i>		<i>Statutory Notices</i>	
	<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied</i>	<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied</i>
Public Health Act, 1936	258	254	44	55
Factories Act, 1937	24	29	—	—
Food and Drugs Act, 1938	48	50	1	1
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	1	1	—	—
Shops Act, 1950	9	8	—	—
	<hr/> 340	<hr/> 342	<hr/> 45	<hr/> 56

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

Information in regard to Land Charges

Requests for information under the Land Charges Act were received and dealt with during the year in respect of 1,291 Official Searches.

Apart from information regarding Demolition and Closing Orders and Statutory Notices, much valuable data is made available to prospective purchasers of property.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

225 inspections of factories were carried out during the past year. The list of factories is under constant revision, and, with the co-operation of the Factory Inspector, all new factories are entered on our list and inspected.

24 written notices were served, primarily dealing with inadequate sanitary accommodation for the staffs employed. There still remains a shortage of satisfactory factory buildings, and many of those existing remain unsuitable for the number of persons employed or for the type of work carried out.

Outworkers.

53 visits were made to the 40 outworkers falling within the provisions of the Factories Act.

The following tables show the work carried out during the year :—

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of	
		Inspection	Written Notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are enforced by the Local Authority	88	52	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	376	163	24
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	10	—
Totals ...	466	225	24

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	—	—
(a) insufficient	1	1
(b) unsuitable or defective	23	15
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—
Totals ...	24	16

3. Outwork—Sections 110 and 111 of the Factories Act, 1937.

Nature of Work	No. of outworkers in list required by Sec. 110 (i) (c)		Section 111 Notices Served
	February List	August List	
Wearing apparel (Making, etc.)	35	38	—
Curtains and Furniture Hangings	2	2	—

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

The three deposit gauges ordered by the Council some 15 months ago have not yet arrived due to the shortage of raw materials. Smoke observations on the main factory chimneys within the Borough have been continued and the advice given to the stokers of those offending has resulted in considerable abatement of smoke nuisance. This improvement is also due, in a great measure, to the better quality of fuel available. It must be realised, however, that, apart from this localised pollution of the atmosphere by factory chimneys, by far the largest proportion of smoke in this town emanates from household chimneys. The Gas Works, however, continue to cause the department considerable anxiety and are a source of many complaints, especially in the Tewkesbury Road area.

HOUSING.

Whilst this Authority is making great steps with the building of new houses, it has not been possible to deal with the older type of houses that are rapidly becoming derelict. This Authority has found, as have many others, that these old properties, that have long out-lived their usefulness, present a problem that cannot be solved with the existing legislation. The Housing Act, 1936, which deals with the repair of houses at reasonable cost is no longer a useful instrument because of the very high cost of repairs. We are, however, by means of urgent repair notices under the Public Health Act, patching up the fabric of these old houses that are no longer an economic proposition to their owners. It had been hoped that the past year would have shown a welding together of the forces responsible for the maintenance of existing houses, and the redevelopment necessary under planning. Improvement grants must also, of necessity, form an integral part of any clearance or redevelopment plan, as these houses have a guaranteed life of 30 years. In the case of notices relating to nuisances occurring in dwelling houses, statutory notices were issued and complied with. Legal proceedings were necessary in three cases. In the first of these, an Informal Notice was served dealing with a defective and leaking roof, which was followed by a Statutory Notice, and, three months later, proceedings were taken in the Magistrate's Court. The case was adjourned for three months in the hope and expectation that the work would be carried out. This did not, however, materialise and it was necessary to bring the case again before the Court. A Nuisance Order was made before the work was carried out. In the second case, after the expiration of the Statutory Notice, the case was heard in Court and adjourned for three months. At the adjourned hearing, the owner was fined £1, the work being later completed. In the third case, an Informal Notice was served in respect of repairs to the roofs. This was followed by a Statutory Notice three months later as a result of the owner's failure to execute the necessary works. The owner concerned was unable, at that time, to undertake the repairs required, and requested that the case be put before the Committee for their consideration. As a result, three tenders were obtained by this department from local builders, and the owner agreed, by virtue of Section 275 of the Public Health Act, to the Local Authority executing the work on his behalf. The owner authorised the Corporation to receive the weekly rent of the house until the debt had been discharged. The lowest tender was accepted and the work was carried out under the department's supervision and to the satisfaction of the owner.

It will be seen from these three cases that the procedure of enforcement in the absence of specific bye-laws is long and tedious, involving considerable hardship to the occupiers concerned.

One of the spheres where satisfactory progress has been achieved has been in the making of Closing Orders. These have dealt primarily with the basements of large houses that were deemed to be unfit for human habitation. During the year, 24 Closing Orders were made, the tenants in the majority of cases being rehoused by the local Authority.

HOUSING ACT, 1936.

The following action under the Housing Act, 1936, was taken during the year (1950 figures given for comparative purposes):

	1950	1951
(a) Closing Orders (Basement Dwellings) ...	18	21
(b) Closing Orders (Parts of Houses, etc.) ...	3	3
(c) Closing Orders determined ...	4	3
(d) Demolition Orders ...	4	7
(e) Undertakings to render premises fit accepted ...	2	8
(f) Undertakings to render premises fit complied with ...	1	3
(g) Undertakings not to use premises for human habitation ...	2	1
(h) Houses demolished ...	1	3

Action taken during the past six years is as follows:

	<i>No. of houses</i>	<i>No. of persons displaced</i>
Houses demolished as a result of formal procedure under Section 11 ...	9	38
Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section 11 ...	17	75
Parts of buildings closed (Section 12) ...	155	503
Houses made fit as a result of formal notice under Sections 9—12 ...	45	—

The Borough Surveyor has supplied the following information relating to new houses that have been completed in the Borough up to 31st December, 1951:—

Prefabricated ...	558
Traditional Houses ...	234
" " (War Damage) ...	12
" Flats ...	145
" Old People's Flats ...	16
Non Traditional ...	724

Total 1,689

COMMON LODGING HOUSE.

There is a continued trend for accommodation of this type to be used as permanent lodgings. Among the lodgers at the Rowton House, Grove Street, are those locally employed in the building and engineering trades, public utilities and local authority services, who have found it impossible to obtain lodgings in private houses. The economic factor must also be regarded as a contributing cause—the low charges of 1/6 per night having been maintained.

In spite of the demand, there are usually beds available for the "casuals." During the winter in severe weather, there was an unfortunate case of a local man sleeping out and found to be suffering from exposure. He died in the ambulance conveying him to hospital. Following the inquest, there were a number of letters in the correspondence column of the local press, deploring the fact that a man was without shelter and forced to sleep out. In point of fact, the deceased man had previously been a lodger at Rowton House, and, had he wished, could have obtained a bed at any time.

The lodging house is lacking adequate wardrobe space, and it is the unsatisfactory practice for lodgers to keep their clothes and belongings in bundles and suit cases under their beds. This interferes considerably with the thorough cleaning of floors and it tends to harbour dust and possibly vermin, apart from spoiling the clothes.

The lodging house keeper agreed to build an extension equipped with a range of wardrobes and lockers. It is suggested that a lodger be given a key to a wardrobe for his exclusive use upon payment of a nominal charge of 1/- per week. The Town Planning Committee indicated that no objection would be made to the building, and the necessary preliminaries of preparing plans and obtaining prices are being undertaken.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

The number of licensed caravan sites in the Borough at the end of the year was seven, and these provided accommodation for thirty-seven caravans. In general, the sites are well run and satisfy an urgent need for such accommodation. The Department is continually being asked for information concerning caravan sites within the Borough, and it is to be regretted that, so far, little progress has been possible towards the development of a municipal camping site. Towards the end of the year, a party of gypsies with five vans and a number of tents established an encampment near the boundary of the Borough. An inspection was made and the owner visited, and these people were informed that they must vacate the site after the expiration of the forty-two days allowed. In view of possible legal action, daily visits were made to this site. Fortunately, however, owing to pressure brought to bear, the encampment moved out at the end of this period.

INSPECTION OF FOOD.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

In accordance with the Ministry of Health requirements, the following samples were taken :—

Commodity	Formal	Informal	Commodity	Formal	Informal
Almonds, ground	—	1	Lemonade ...	1	—
Apple juice ...	—	1	Lemon curd ...	—	1
Aspirin ...	—	1	Lemon juice ...	—	1
Banana bars ...	—	1	Lemon powder	—	1
Beer, draught ...	1	—	Meat, pork luncheon	1	—
Blanc Mange powder	—	1	Meat, potted ...	—	1
Bread ...	—	2	Milk ...	60	1
Buns, cream ...	1	—	Mince meat ...	2	—
Cake decorations	—	1	Mussels ...	—	1
Caraway seeds ...	—	1	Nutmeg, ground	—	1
Cider, draught ...	1	—	Oil lotion ...	—	1
Cocoa ...	—	1	Oil, teaseed ...	1	—
Cockles ...	1	—	Paste, crab ...	—	2
Coffee essence ...	1	—	Pepper, cayenne	—	1
Coffee & Chicory essence	—	1	Peppermint essence	—	1
Colour, red liquid	—	1	Pepper flav. compound	—	1
Cough mixture	—	1	Pudding, black ...	1	—
Crisps ...	—	1	Pudding, Christmas	—	1
Cream, horseradish	—	1	Rice, ground ...	—	2
Curd, gauva ...	—	1	Rum ...	1	—
Curry powder ...	—	2	Saccharin tablets	—	1
Custard powder	1	1	Salame ...	1	—
Digestive pills ...	—	1	Salts, Epsom ...	—	1
Fig bars ...	—	1	Sauce, cranberry	1	—
Fish cakes ...	2	—	Sausages, beef	1	—
Flour, corn ...	3	—	Sherbet suckers	—	1
Fondant ...	1	—	Soup, chicken noodle	1	1
Fruitarian luncheon	—	1	Soup, meat ...	—	1
Fruit bar ...	—	1	Sleep inducing tablets	—	1
Fruit and nut cake	—	1	Sponge pudding	—	1
Gelatine ...	—	1	Solmeal mixture	—	1
Gin ...	1	—	Spread, sandwich	1	—
Ginger ale ...	—	1	Spread, "Sunny"	—	1
Ginger ...	—	2	Strength tablets	—	1
Ginger, crystallised	—	1	Stuffing ...	—	1
Ginger, stem ...	—	1	Tarts, custard ...	1	—
Glucose tablets ...	—	1	Teatime tablets	1	—
Grapefruit ...	1	—	Tomato ketchup	—	1
Gravy browning	—	1	Tonic syrup ...	—	1
Herbal tablets ...	—	1	Vinegar ...	3	3
Honey ...	3	—	Vitamin bar ...	—	1
Ice cream ...	15	2	Whipping compound	1	1
Jam ...	3	—	Whiskey ...	1	—
Jelly ...	—	1	Wine, blackcurrant flav.	—	1
Junket rennet ...	—	1	Wine, ginger ...	—	1
Kelm ...	—	1	Wine, port type	1	1
Kidneys, pigs, chopped	—	1	Wine, raisin flavour	—	1

Number of Samples taken during 1951 :

Formal	...	...	...	...	...	115
Informal	...	...	...	...	...	76
Total	...	...	...	...	...	191

TEN SAMPLES WERE ADVERSELY REPORTED UPON BY THE PUBLIC ANALYST DURING THE YEAR, viz :—

Sample No.	Description	Formal or Informal	Result of Analysis	Remarks
174	Sherbet Suckers	I	Microscopic examination showed the presence of a quantity of maize starch (cornflour). Presence not declared on the label, in contravention of the Labelling of Food Order	Warning letter to vendor
3	Mincemeat	F	Very slightly deficient in soluble solids—deficiency not sufficient to warrant any further action	Letter sent to vendor
38	Oil of Joy Lotion	I	Sample a mixture of vegetable extracts and vegetable matter in dilute acetic acid. Does not contain any oil	Warning letter sent to vendor
46	Milk	F	Slightly deficient in fat	Letter sent to vendor
50	Milk	F	Slightly deficient in fat	Letter sent to vendor
54	Milk	F	Slightly deficient in fat	Letter sent to vendor
56	Milk	F	Slightly deficient in fat	Letter sent to vendor
58	Ice-Cream	F	Seriously deficient in fat	Letter sent to vendor
69	Milk	F	Seriously deficient in fat	Error in Analyst's certificate. Case withdrawn on the advice of Public Analyst
156	Sleep Inducing Tablets	I	Sample contained a higher proportion of sand and siliceous matter than is desirable in an article of this nature	Legal proceedings instituted—vendor fined £100 in addition to costs. Vendor's appeal against this conviction was dismissed with costs Formal samples taken—same results. Letter sent to manufacturers

FOREIGN BODIES IN FOOD—OBSERVATIONS BY PUBLIC ANALYST AND ACTION TAKEN

Sample No.	Description	Formal or Informal	Result of Analysis	Remarks
27	Bread	I brought into office by purchaser	Foreign body found to be portion of the lava of an insect, probably a beetle of the order Tribolium. Examination shows that the lava must have been present in the dough before baking	Warning letter sent to vendor
65 66 67	Vinegar } Vinegar Vinegar	I brought into office by purchaser	Deposit at the bottom of these samples consisted of vinegar eels, together with organic matter deposited from the vinegar. Not sufficient to render the vinegar unfit for human consumption owing to the fact that vinegar eels are not parasitic	Letter sent to vendor
70	Bread	I three loaves brought into office by purchaser	Black stains in bread were due to the presence of rodent excrement, fusty smell due to presence of mould growth	Warning letter sent to vendor

FOOD SAMPLES.

A list of the Food and Drugs samples taken in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health is shown. Of 191 samples taken, 10 were adversely reported upon by the Public Analyst during the year. In one case, the deficiency in fat contained in milk amounted to 63.7% ; the Magistrates found the dairyman guilty and fined him £100 and costs. He subsequently appealed to the Gloucestershire Appeals Committee, but the appeal was dismissed with costs. In the remaining cases, warning letters were sent by the Town Clerk to eight of the Vendors, and one case, in which there was a deficiency in fat in ice-cream, was withdrawn on the advice of the Public Analyst.

FOREIGN BODIES IN FOOD

The Department has been perturbed on account of the immense number of foreign bodies which have been found in food. Those that are associated in some way with the packing of the article, such as small nails, pieces of wood, etc. may cause injury to the person concerned, but by far the most serious are rodent excrement and insect bodies. The contamination of food by such filth is likely to be indicative of the state of the premises where the food was prepared or sold. It is unfortunate, in this respect, that shopkeepers are often in the hands of the large manufacturers, and, whilst the majority take all practical steps, such as sifting of flour, much too large a proportion of these foreign bodies continue to be found in the finished product. A detailed inspection is always made of the premises and store rooms of the firm concerned, but often it has been found that the foreign body was imported in the bulk supply by the suppliers. This presents many difficulties, especially in the case of bulk fat, which is very difficult to check for extraneous bodies. Smoking is also the cause of odd cigarette ends being found in food, and, ironically enough, often on premises where the "No Smoking" rule is strictly enforced. This would indicate that, upon the approach of the owner or manager, a cigarette end is hastily thrown away, irrespective of where it may go.

ICE-CREAM.

This year has seen a great advance in the methods of manufacture, storage and standards of ice-cream. The Ministry of Food prescribed by Order that Ice-Cream must contain at least 5% fat, 10% sugar and 7½% milk solids other than milk fats. From 1st March, 1951, the Ministry decided that the requirements relating to the installation of thermometers on ice-cream heat treatment plants should come into operation. The provision of recording thermometers was a long overdue measure and had been postponed owing to the difficulties of supply of the apparatus. The result of this latter measure can be seen in the statistics given below. It will be noted that the number of manufacturers has dropped from 18 to 8, ten having discontinued business or transferred to Cold Mix during 1951. Over 100 visits were made to ice-cream manufacturing and storage premises.

Particular attention was paid to the manufacturing premises, recording thermometers being checked to ensure that adequate pasteurisation was carried out and that suitable sterilants were being used. This work was extended still further to cover mobile salesmen and to ensure that adequate facilities for the washing of hands and the sterilising of utensils were available. With the advent of quaternary ammonium compounds, the latter problem has now been solved, and it is possible to keep servers in a solution that will ensure bacteriological sterility, have no taste and not be deviated by heavy sugar content.

Number of Ice-Cream Premises Registered at 31st December, 1951.

Storage and Sale	Manufacture, Storage and Sale	Manufacture only	Storage only
120	8 (10 licences cancelled)	1	1

Ice-Cream Chemical Examination.

<i>Analyst's Sample No.</i>	<i>Total Solids</i>	<i>Fat</i>	<i>Non-Fatty Solids</i>	<i>Total Sugar</i>	<i>Preservatives</i>
1671	31.29%	9.71%	21.58%	10.60%	Absent
1672	38.33%	10.09%	28.24%	15.16%	Absent
1677	33.13%	9.16%	23.97%	10.78%	Absent
1692	34.68%	8.16%	26.52%	19.78%	Absent
1685	40.10%	9.48%	30.62%	24.05%	Absent
1687	41.68%	9.78%	31.90%	19.94%	Absent
1707	37.14%	7.03%	30.11%	18.11%	Absent
1708	29.14%	2.82%	26.32%	14.20%	Absent
1709	45.23%	20.07%	25.16%	17.03%	Absent
1710	31.55%	7.17%	24.38%	18.35%	Absent
1711	37.49%	9.01%	28.48%	25.46%	Absent
1712	41.86%	8.49%	33.37%	21.37%	Absent
1713	29.92%	5.76%	24.16%	16.63%	Absent
1714	32.35%	7.58%	24.77%	18.67%	
1726	38.19%	10.24%	27.95%	19.73%	Absent
1728	35.79%	14.05%	21.74%	17.20%	Absent
1729	35.78%	9.65%	26.13%	20.76%	Absent

INSPECTION OF TINNED AND OTHER FOODS

Whilst there has been a considerable reduction in the miscellaneous foodstuffs condemned as unfit for human consumption, the quantity of tinned meats has been exceptionally high. Between January and September, the amount of imported tinned meats, primarily ham of French and German origin, condemned, reached a total weight of 2030 lbs. These large hams, often weighing 20 lbs., were part of a consignment that had been inadequately canned. Throughout the whole of the country, hundreds of pounds of hams were condemned and the national wastage of these imported goods must have reached tremendous proportions.

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

Miscellaneous Tinned Foods				Tins	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Fruit	...	...	...	4,277	2	0	3	5
Meat	...	...	...	948	1	16	0	8
Vegetables	...	...	...	2,027		18	0	4
Soup	...	...	...	538		4	2	25
Milk	...	...	...	285		2	1	27
Others	...	...	...	433		4	0	3
TOTAL				8,508	5	6	0	16

General.

					<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Fish	...	...	...	...		17	2	20
Meat	...	...	...	...		17	1	12
Eggs	...	...	...	...		3	1	15
Cheese	...	...	...	...		3	0	8
Dried Fruit	...	...	...	...		1	3	10
Flour and Cereals	...	...	...	...		1	0	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...		12	0	26
TOTAL					2	16	2	9
GRAND TOTAL					8	2	2	25

During the year, 599 visits were made in connection with the condemnation of foodstuffs and some 2,100 certificates were issued.

In addition to the visits made by the Sanitary Inspectors, the Department was also concerned with transport for the purpose of collecting and disposing of the food.

FOOD HYGIENE

Excellent progress in the Campaign, started in 1950, was made during the year under review, and the scope of the scheme was widened to include lectures to food handlers, the general public and to the school children. New methods were adopted to keep the lessons of food hygiene constantly before the public.

Food Traders

The series of lectures to all members of the food trades, started in November, 1950 and continued until May, 1951, during which period 32 lectures were given to proprietors, managers and staff of Licensed Victuallers, Hotels and Restaurants, Bakers and Confectioners, Butchers, Fishmongers and Fish Friers. These were held in the Demonstration Theatre of the South-Western Gas Board, who kindly loaned the room free of charge for this purpose. In addition, ten lectures were given, on their own premises, to the larger firms. Personal certificates were granted to all those who had attended the required number of lectures; 1,397 certificates being issued and the Mayor kindly presenting the 1,000th certificate to a Bakery worker.

Certificates for display in their shops were also issued to 79 traders.

A series of lectures to the staffs in the Grocery and Greengrocery trades commenced in November, 1951, to continue until May, 1952, after which plans will have to be made for refresher courses.

As each group of traders attended lectures, a copy of the "Clean Food" Byelaws was sent to each firm.

Clean Food Weeks.

During the two Clean Food Weeks, 28th May to 9th June, 1951, film shows and talks were given each morning in the senior schools and talks, with filmstrips and sound films, were arranged for members of the public each afternoon at the Midlands Electricity Board Service Centre.

At the same time, a working model of a clean and dirty food shop was on view at a large store; this attracted a certain amount of attention.

Schools.

With the co-operation of the Borough Education Officer, a series of 9 lectures was given to the senior students of the Secondary Schools; the films chosen being: "Every Drop to Drink," "The Nose has It" (a film on sneezing featuring Arthur Askey), "The Young Housewife," "The Good Housewife in her Kitchen" and "Another Case of Poisoning."

I was fortunate in having the helpful co-operation of the Head Teachers, who encouraged their students by asking pertinent questions and reported afterwards that the films and talks had been much appreciated by the teachers and children alike. At the nine film shows given, the total attendance was 1,700.

It is obvious, from my experience that, if any headway is to be made in training the public to be "clean food conscious," the authorities concerned must concentrate on the school children who are the citizens of tomorrow.

Public.

As a result of holding nine film shows for members of the public during the Clean Food Weeks, the attendance was only forty-seven, which included twenty-four students from the Cheltenham Ladies' College Citizenship class.

This, and previous attempts to interest and educate the public in this very important matter, convinces me that they are completely apathetic.

Other Talks and Lectures.

In February, 1951, I gave a lecture with films to members of the Cheltenham Trades Council and, in May, I spoke to the catering students at the North Gloucestershire Technical College.

In June and July, I and my Deputy each gave a lecture under the National Trade Defence Association in their training course for Licensed House staff.

At the request of the Ladies' Sections of both the St. Mark's and the Whaddon Community Centres, talks with films were given to their members during November and were very well attended.

Public Relations.

I should like to place on record that, during the whole of the Campaign, I have received the utmost co-operation and support from the local Press.

In order to keep the subject of Food Hygiene constantly in the public eye, a series of displays were arranged in the shop windows of traders who had already received a Display Certificate—this being used as the centre piece. Considerable attention and comment was aroused in this way.

Owing to the success of the Clean Food Campaign in Cheltenham, I was privileged to be invited to read a Paper on this subject at the Annual Conference of the Sanitary Inspectors' Association in September, when I chose as my title "Education: The Food Handler and the Public." This paper has been commented on by those interested in Public Health in both Ireland and the U.S.A., as well as in this country.

In November, 1951, I was invited to stage an exhibit in connection with the National Conference of the British Hotels and Restaurants Association, held in the Town Hall, where a Display Stand was erected by members of my staff. For this exhibit, the Research Department of a leading firm of manufacturing chemists made a set of plastic petri-dishes showing specimens of various utensils—plate, knife, fork and spoon, bottle brush, etc., colonies of germs being revealed by the culture medium on what appeared to be clean utensils.

Statistics.

Final statistics for the complete series of lectures to the food traders (seven trades in all) will be given in my report for 1952, but it is interesting to note that during 1951:

Total number of lectures given	70.
Total attendances:	4,400.



His Worship the Mayor (Alderman A. J. Bettridge) presenting the Certificate of Attendance number 1,000 to a Bakery worker.



Display Stand erected by the Public Health Department at the National Conference of the British Hotels and Restaurants Association.



Views of local restaurant kitchen after reconditioning.

Reconditioning of Restaurant Kitchen.

As a result of reconditioning carried out in the restaurant kitchen of a large local store, the whole kitchen premises are now a model. Photographs of these premises show the very excellent result of careful planning.

All walls are enamelled and there are impervious washable floors, good lighting and ventilation. Each section is divided from the next by shoulder-high white-tiled walls, separating the service and washing-up section from the fish-frying, main cooking and the vegetable sections respectively. A wash-hand basin with hot and cold water supply is provided for the use of all workers. A separate pastry room, cold store and vegetable store adjoin the main kitchen.

The service counter, cutlery racks and all table tops are of stainless steel, while other surfaces are enamelled.

Lectures with films on Food Hygiene are given at regular intervals by the firm's own fully-qualified medical officers, to all staff engaged in food handling. Such is the satisfaction of the management with their newly equipped premises, that customers are invited to inspect them at any time.

PERIPATETIC CATERING.

The difficulties associated with catering at open air festivals and shows have, in the past, caused much disquiet. The fundamental defects are those arising from a large gathering of people being present for a short while, further complicated by the fact that the caterers have often to rely upon casual labour. I am pleased to report, however, that, following representations to the caterers and organisers, there has been a great improvement this year. Daily inspections of such festivals and shows ascertained that, not only was food properly covered and detergents and sterilants in use for cups and utensils, but clean washable clothing was invariably provided for all the staff engaged. In general, it can be said that an all-round improvement has taken place, and, bearing in mind the temporary nature of this kind of catering, the facilities can be regarded as satisfactory.

PUBLIC ABATTOIR—MEAT INSPECTION.

CASUALTIES RECEIVED 1951.

	Bulls	Cows	Steers	Heifers	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Totals
Animals admitted	16	69	26	25	36	221	212	605
Carcases admitted	—	2	—	—	1	42	23	68
	16	71	26	25	37	263	235	673
Total Condemnations	—	30	12	3	21	60	27	153
Partial Condemnations	10	41	14	22	5	176	191	459
	10	71	26	25	26	236	218	612

A total of 53 veterinary surgeons' certificates were received in respect of the 605 animals and 68 dressed carcasses admitted to the Abattoir. The deficiency is noteworthy, and, to say the least, distressing when one considers that, in the majority of cases, the animals concerned were considered to be in such a serious condition as to warrant immediate slaughter.

Perusal of the above table will show that some 22.73% of the animals admitted were totally condemned as being unfit for human consumption, and of the remaining 520 animals, 88.26% had some part or organ condemned for the same reason.

The Interdepartmental Committee Report on Meat Inspection (1951) recommends "that no undressed carcase shall be admitted into a slaughterhouse, unless accompanied by a certificate given by a veterinary surgeon, stating the reason for slaughter and particulars of any drugs which might affect the carcase which to his knowledge have been administered to the live animal. No dressed carcase shall be admitted into a slaughterhouse unless either :—

- (a) the carcase (with or without the organs and viscera) is accompanied by a certificate given by a qualified Meat Inspector which certifies that the carcase and its organs and viscera have been inspected and passed as fit for human consumption, or,
- (b) the carcase is accompanied by the internal organs and viscera (other than the intestines) and a certificate given by a veterinary surgeon stating the reason for slaughter and particulars of any drugs which might affect the carcase which to his knowledge have been administered to the live animal."

Although these recommendations are certainly a step forward in the right direction, they do not go far enough. It is submitted that all casualty animals should be accompanied by a certificate given by a veterinary surgeon stating (a) the reason for requiring immediate slaughter and (b) provisional diagnosis and any other information which, in the opinion of the veterinary surgeon, would be of use to the Meat Inspector.

Such an arrangement would be of the utmost value to the Meat Inspector and would provide his final decision with a more solid basis.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned at Cheltenham Public Abattoir.

ANNUAL SUMMARY 1951.

	Totals	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
No. killed	23469	2875	1177	4575	13478	1364
No. inspected	23469	2875	1177	4575	13478	1364
All diseases except Tuberculosis						
Whole carcases condemned	278	16	44	102	89	27
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3391	847	729	46	1205	564
Percentage of the No. in- spected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis	14.44%	30.01%	65.67%	3.23%	9.60%	41.12%
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcases condemned	53	23	22	4	—	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	625	201	236	—	—	188
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	2.88%	7.79%	21.07%	0.087%	—	14.08%

Total Weights of Meat and Organs condemned, 1951.

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
					Total			
Bovine								
Meat in Carcase	24	4	2	6				
Meat not in Carcase	1	6	1	23				
Organs and Viscera	25	9	0	13				
Total					51	0	0	14
Ovine								
Meat in Carcase	1	17	2	9				
Meat not in Carcase	—	1	3	26				
Organs and Viscera	1	16	2	10				
Total					3	16	0	17
Swine								
Meat in Carcase	1	18	3	3				
Meat not in Carcase	—	3	0	18				
Organs and Viscera	3	11	3	17				
Total					5	13	3	10
Total Carcase Meat	29	12	2	1				
Total Organs and Viscera	30	17	2	12				
Total					60	10	0	13

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS.

111 cases of *Cysticercus Bovis* were diagnosed among cattle admitted to the Abattoir during the year 1951. The overall rate of infestation was 2.74%.

The notification scheme, which was introduced at the end of the previous year, was continued, but results have been most disappointing.

The following incidence rates are recorded for information :—

SEX INCIDENCE.

	<i>Number Killed</i>	<i>Number Infested</i>	<i>%</i>
Bulls	88	5	5.68
Cows	1,177	20	1.69
Heifers	1,684	54	3.20
Steers	1,103	32	2.90

REGIONAL INFESTATION.

		<i>%</i>
External masseter muscles	65	51.18
Internal masseter muscles	9	7.08
Heart musculature	47	37.00
Diaphragm musculature	4	3.14
Other sites	2	1.57

CONDITION OF CYSTS.

		<i>%</i>
Degenerated	104	81.81
Viable	23	18.11

Estimated Financial Loss, due to *Cysticercus Bovis*.

All animal carcasses, irrespective of their original market grading, are graded as "manufacturing" after undergoing the regulation cold storage treatment of twenty-one days. In almost all cases this has meant the down-grading of each carcass from either Grades 'A' or 'B' to Grade 'M'. Farmers are paid on the original market grading, thus a trading loss is incurred by the Ministry, which, of course, is borne by the taxpayer.

Taking into consideration actual down-gradings, cold-storage fees and transport costs, it is estimated that the loss, amounted to approximately £1,100 for the year 1951.

CARCASSES CONDEMNED AS TOTALLY UNFIT FOR HUMAN FOOD 1951

Species	Tuberculosis	Fever	Septicaemia	Generalised Actinomycosis	Swine Erysipelas	Pathological Emaciation	General Bruising	Moribund	Pyæmia	Joint-Ill	Dropsy	Acute Septic Mastitis	Acute Septic Peritonitis	Acute Septic Pneumonia	Generalised Sarcosporidiosis	Acute Septic Metritis	Tetanus	Immaturity	Casous Lymphadenitis	Generalised Sarcomata	Other Abnormal Pathological conditions	Totals
Bulls	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cows	22	2	4	—	—	21	1	—	6	—	—	4	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	2	66
Heifers	14	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	21
Steers	9	2	2	1	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18
Calves	4	10	3	—	—	2	—	1	7	69	1	—	1	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	106
Sheep	—	—	2	—	—	38	—	6	4	—	—	2	6	11	—	4	2	—	4	1	9	89
Pigs	4	3	3	—	3	3	1	—	6	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	5	31
Totals	53	18	15	1	3	66	2	7	25	69	1	6	9	17	1	9	2	2	4	2	19	331

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

Prior to 1st January, 1951, the Council had only been responsible for administration of the sanitary provisions of the Shops Act. On that date, the remaining duties under the Act were transferred to the Council to be carried out by the Public Health Department. The chief requirements under this heading relate to closing hours, half-day and Sunday closing, employment of young persons and keeping of records.

There are in the borough over nine hundred shops and other business premises, which, to some extent, come under the provisions of these Acts, which are of a complex legal nature. Several Closing Orders, as set out below, are still in force; these lay down various early closing days and closing hours.

Fruiterers and Greengrocers (1912).

Hairdressers and Barbers (1908).

Tobacconists (1912).

Drapers, Clothiers and Hosiery (1915).

Fishmongers, Game and Poultry Dealers (1926).

Boot and Shoe Shops (1911).

Watchmakers and Jewellers (1907).

These closing Orders are not in keeping with the concepts of the 1950 Act and, in some respects, contradict it. It is intended to review them all and they are being dealt with, one by one, in consultation with the representatives of the associations of the trades concerned.

It became apparent that many of the smaller shopkeepers were ignorant of the requirements of the Act, particularly in relation to closing hours, and the Inspectors made a large number of shop-to-shop visits to explain the Act as it affects the various trades. This necessitates frequent evening and Sunday visits being undertaken by the Inspectors. A supply of booklets, comprising a Summary of the principal provisions, is being obtained for distribution amongst shopkeepers. Visits amounted during the year to some 361. An early improvement in the observance of the stipulated closing hours was secured, and it can be assumed that the majority of traders are in favour of the Act being enforced, if only that reasonable hours are thereby assured and unfair competition eliminated.

The conditions of employment laid down in the Act are being well observed as regards half-holidays, lunch intervals, hours of employment, etc. and this also applies to those provisions dealing with young persons under 18 years of age.

In so far as arrangements for health and comfort are concerned, some difficulty is encountered in regard to the provision of suitable and sufficient means of heating for employed persons. Some members of the food trade have raised objection to providing more than a minimum of heating on the grounds that the quality of goods is affected. The

open-fronted shop, such as a fishmongers, provides a very difficult problem that can only be solved by localised heating. Nevertheless, temperature readings have been taken at various points on cold days in certain shops as thought necessary, and the firms concerned have been advised of the results with a request to provide additional heating.

In order to explain the rather complicated provisions of the Shops Act, I was asked by the Chamber of Commerce to address their members on this matter at one of their monthly meetings. During the year, I also addressed meetings of trades organisations on the Act and answered various questions raised by the members.

MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1926.

Requests have been received from the Ministry of Agriculture with regard to the enforcement of various Orders, made under the above Act, requiring certain imported foodstuffs to be marked with an indication of origin.

In consequence, particular attention was paid to butchers' and greengrocers' shops during the year, the foodstuffs chiefly affected, other than meat, being fresh apples and raw tomatoes. Whilst the requirements of the Act must be complied with, it appears that, in the case of certain imported tomatoes at the early season of the year, it is doubtful whether even an expert could detect the difference between such tomatoes and those produced in this country.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Rodent Control Section under my supervision continued with their most important work in the eradication of rodents and dealing with other insect pests. It is imperative in restaurants, cafes and other food premises that pests, such as cockroaches, silver-fish, etc., should either be exterminated or rigidly controlled. To this end, annual agreements dealing with pests and rodents are in hand to the value of £552. Set out below is a table of complaints made to this Section which amply demonstrates their number and variety. Only in one case was legal action taken under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, when the Corporation sued a local garage in an attempt to recover the cost of treatment carried out under Section 6 of the above act; the Judge, however, declared against the Corporation. During this case, a definition was asked of the term "substantial numbers," but no guidance was found in the Act nor do the Ministry give any help in any subsequent circulars or Orders.

Local Authority Property.

All major Local Authority property is inspected at regular intervals and treatment given as and when required. The position is very satisfactory as can be seen by the marked decline in visits it was found necessary to pay during the last three years, which indicates the cumulative value of efficient Rodent Control.

Rivers and streams have improved, but they remain a natural highway for rats from the rural areas.

Sewer Maintenance Treatments.

Six-monthly maintenance treatments have been carried out in accordance with the Ministry's requirements, and, whilst some of the older sewers show a considerable degree of infestation, there is no general increase in the takes that would give rise to anxiety.

Complaints.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>	<i>Beetles</i>	<i>Wasps</i>	<i>Other Pests</i>	<i>Total</i>
1951	410	243	50	55	25	783
1950	441	341	52	47	48	929
1949	393	248	32	111	42	826

Inspections and Treatments.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Private Dwellings</i>	<i>Business Premises</i>	<i>Premises under Agreement</i>	<i>Local Authority Property</i>	<i>Total</i>
1951	3,985	1,040	1,949	657	7,631
1950	4,256	1,199	2,133	895	8,483
1949	4,194	930	1,620	1,099	7,843

Annual Agreements.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Total Value</i>
1951	50	£552
1950	60	£733
1949	47	£661

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S STAFF

as at 31st December, 1951

TECHNICAL

Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector	<i>J. F. Ursell, D.P.A., M.I.San.E., F.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.,*‡</i>
District Inspectors	<i>A. L. Jones, M.S.I.A., San. Science R.S.I.,*‡ H. Stone, M.S.I.A.,*‡ G. J. C. Buck, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.,‡</i>
Pupil	<i>R. J. Wintle.</i>

ABATTOIR

Meat Inspector	<i>J. A. McPherson, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I., M.Inst.M., M.R.S.A. (Scot)*‡</i>
Superintendent	<i>T. W. Agg.</i>
Carter	<i>J. Wiggett.</i>
Stoker	<i>H. Gram.</i>

*Certified Meat and Food Inspector, R.S.I. ‡S.I.E.J.B. Certificate

DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Disinfection Officer	<i>G. Cross.</i>
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DRIAN-TESTING ETC.

Operator	<i>W. Taylor</i>
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RODENT CONTROL

Pests Officer	<i>A. Anson.</i>
Assistant Pests Officer	<i>F. Harrison-Smith.</i>
Operators	<i>T. A. Foster. C. E. Ilott.</i>

CLERICAL

Senior Clerk	<i>D. Y. Harrison.</i>
Clerical Assistant	<i>Miss N. E. Padfield.</i>
Chief Sanitary Inspector's Secretary	<i>Miss E. E. Hayford.</i>
Junior Shorthand-Typist	<i>Miss M. E. J. Edden.</i>
Junior Clerk	<i>T. W. Camsey.</i>

