

**[Report 1964] / Medical Officer of Health, Cheltenham Borough.**

**Contributors**

Cheltenham (England). Borough Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1964

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/g3bnztd2>

**License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>



# THE HEALTH OF CHELTENHAM


1964

T. O. P. D. LAWSON, M.D., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND  
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

J. F. URSELL, D.P.A., F.A.P.H.I.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2017 with funding from  
Wellcome Library



# THE HEALTH OF CHELTENHAM

1964

T. O. P. D. LAWSON, M.D., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND  
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

J. F. URSELL, D.P.A., F.A.P.H.I.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR





THE HEALTH OF  
CHELTENHAM

1904

T. O. F. D. LAWSON, M.D., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND  
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

J. F. URSELL, D.P.A., F.A.P.H.I.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

## CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
INTRODUCTION ... ..	5

## SECTION I

## Environmental Health Services

	<i>Page</i>
Health Committee ... ..	10
Vital Statistics ... ..	11
Water Supply ... ..	16
Swimming Baths ... ..	18
Milk (Special Designation) Regulations ... ..	19
Infectious and Other Diseases ... ..	19
Housing ... ..	23
Nursing Homes ... ..	23

## SECTION II

## Welfare and Health Services

	<i>Page</i>
Welfare and Health Committee ... ..	26
(a) <i>Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946</i>	
Section 21 – Health Centres ... ..	27
Section 22 – Care of mothers and young children ... ..	27
Section 23 – Midwifery ... ..	33
Section 24 – Health Visiting ... ..	35
Section 25 – Home Nursing ... ..	35
Section 26 – Vaccination and Immunization ... ..	36
Section 28 – Prevention of illness, care and after-care ... ..	36
Section 29 – Domestic Help ... ..	38
(b) <i>Mental Health Act, 1959</i>	
Functions of local health authorities relating to mentally ill and mentally defective persons ... ..	39
(c) <i>National Assistance Act, 1948</i>	
(i) Welfare of disabled persons ... ..	42
(ii) Removal of persons in need of care and attention ... ..	43
(d) <i>Health Education</i> ... ..	43

### SECTION III

#### School Health Service

	<i>Page</i>
Education Committee (Medical-Sub) ... ..	46
Medical Inspection and Treatment ... ..	48
Dental Inspection and Treatment ... ..	55
Infectious Diseases ... ..	57
Speech Therapy ... ..	57
Physiotherapy ... ..	58
Child Guidance Clinic ... ..	58
Handicapped Children ... ..	59

### SECTION IV

#### Environmental Hygiene

##### *Report of Chief Public Health Inspector*

	<i>Page</i>
Summary of Visits ... ..	63
Factories Acts ... ..	66
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act ... ..	68
Atmospheric Pollution ... ..	71
Housing ... ..	72
Food and Drugs ... ..	74
Noise Abatement ... ..	80
Public Abattoir ... ..	82
Pests Control ... ..	86



## Annual Report on the Health of the Borough of Cheltenham for the Year 1964

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The health of the community throughout the year has been of a very high standard. The incidence and severity of infectious disease, apart from the usual outbreak of measles, have been negligible and, with the exception of tuberculosis, no deaths from this cause have been recorded. Mention of diphtheria and poliomyelitis no longer appears in these reports. The incidence of tuberculosis still remains low, only twenty-three new cases having been reported during 1964 and only two people, both elderly, died from the disease.

The main feature of the report this year is the marked improvement in the Infant Mortality Rate which has dropped below 20 and is less than the average for the rest of the country. It is to be hoped that the frequent consultations between the family doctors, the hospital consultants and ourselves, and the subsequent changes and improvements made, have contributed to this happy result, but it is too early to say. We must hope for the same results over the next few years.

The mental health services which include the rehabilitation in the community of the mentally ill, and the training of the mentally deficient, continue to expand. The new Adult Training Centre was officially opened in May by Sir George Dowty and the original workshop at Eildon has been converted to a nursery unit which has been a great asset. Planning is already well advanced to extend and double the accommodation at the new Adult Training Centre which is proving inadequate to cope with the volume of work now being undertaken.

Every aspect of the work of the Local Authority Health Services is on the increase but this must be expected in a town with a significant increase in population every year and a rising birth rate. It used to be that the main pressure on the health services in Cheltenham was by old people who have

always formed a disproportionate part of the population but this is no longer true. The character of the town is changing and as the population increases and industry expands we are becoming more a mixed community with as many of the physically handicapped and other categories as any other comparable town. Another aspect of pressure on our services is seen in the heavy demand for places in our Day Nurseries and the use made of the Child Minders service. This has led to a request to the County Council for additional Nursery accommodation.

An encouraging aspect of our Health Services has been the improvement in the staffing situation in the Dental Department. At the end of the year we were fully staffed in every section of this work. Staff changes in other Departments have taken place from time to time during the year but generally speaking we are fortunate in our ability to recruit and retain staff in all Departments.

The following is a short summary of the more important aspects of the Public Health in Cheltenham during the year which may be convenient for those who do not wish to study the Report in detail.

### **Infant Mortality**

The infant mortality, i.e. the number of infants who died in the first year of life per 1000 live births, was 19.4 as compared with 25.5 the previous year, a considerable improvement and the first time we have been below the national average (20.0) since 1960.

### **Tuberculosis**

The incidence of tuberculosis in the town continues to remain low especially among schoolchildren among whom no cases were reported during the year. There were only two deaths from the disease both in elderly people.

### **Lung Cancer**

For the first time in ten years there has been a noticeable increase in deaths from lung cancer. The average number of deaths during this period has been around thirty. There were forty deaths in 1964. This is in keeping with the increase in lung cancer deaths throughout the country.

### **Other Vital Statistics**

The population of the town has increased by 620 to 74,910. There is also an increase in the birthrate from 17.9 in 1963 to 18.6 in 1964 compared with the national birthrate of 18.4. The deathrate at 11.8 per 1000 population has fallen compared with the previous year (12.8).



Once again I would like to record my appreciation of the constant support I receive from the members of the Public Health and Welfare and Health Committees and the co-operation and loyalty of the staff. I would like to mention specially Mr. J. F. Ursell, Chief Public Health Inspector whose help and advice is invaluable and Mr. W. H. G. Meakins who is responsible for the statistical data of this Report.

My thanks are also due to the family doctors in the town and the hospital staff without whose co-operation and support it would not be possible to run an effective service. I would also like to acknowledge the valuable services provided for the sick and disabled by the many voluntary organisations in the town.

My thanks are also due once again to the local Press for their help and co-operation throughout the year.

T. O. P. D. LAWSON,  
Medical Officer of Health.

Health Department,  
P.O. Box No. 12,  
Municipal Offices,  
Cheltenham, Glos.  
Telephone 21333.





## SECTION I

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE 1964

Councillor R. F. BROOKES (*Chairman*)Councillor D. G. ALDRIDGE (*Vice-Chairman*)

Councillor W. ASH

Councillor C. W. A. FOSTER

Councillor J. A. ASTON

Councillor A. G. K. FREWIN

Alderman C. BARLOW

The Mayor

(Councillor D. H. St. L. MORRIS)

Alderman A. J. BETTRIDGE

Councillor R. H. C. SMITH

Councillor Mrs. M. F. YEATES

(Co-opted Member, Charlton Kings U.D.C.: Mrs. E. L. F. ALLPRESS)

## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health

*Thomas O. P. D. Lawson, M.D.,  
D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.*

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

*D. B. Hill, M.A., M.B., B. Chir.,  
L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.*

Chief Public Health Inspector

*J. F. Ursell, D.P.A., F.A.P.H.I.,  
M.R.S.H.\*†*Deputy Chief Public Health  
Inspector*A. L. Jones, M.A.P.H.I., San. Science  
R.S.H.\*†*

Public Health Inspectors

*G. J. C. Buck, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.\*†**A. H. Carling, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.\*†**R. Hullah, M.Inst., M., M.A.P.H.I.\*†**H. Stone, M.A.P.H.I.\*†**R. Webb, M.A.P.H.I.\*†‡**R. J. Wintle, M.A.P.H.I.\*†*

Chief Clerk

*W. H. G. Meakins*

Senior Clerk

*D. Y. Harrison*Medical Officer of Health's  
Secretary*Miss G. W. Hiron*Chief Public Health Inspector's  
Secretary*Miss M. E. Edden*

Clerical Assistant

*Miss E. M. Oliver*

Shorthand Typist

*Miss J. Reeves*

Enquiry Office Clerk

*Mrs. N. Blatchly*

Junior Clerk

*Miss S. Davis*

Pupil

*R. S. Walker*

Disinfection Officer

*G. Cross*

\* Certified Meat and Foods Inspector, R.S.H.

† Public Health Inspector's Education Board Certificate.

‡ Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

**NOTE** For Rodent Control and Abattoir Staff, see report of Chief Public Health Inspector, page 88



### SUMMARY OF GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS, 1964

Area of Borough ...	...	...	...	5,146 acres
Population Mid-year 1964 Registrar General's Estimate ...	...	...	...	74,910
Number of inhabited houses (as at 31.3.65)	(a)	Houses and Flats	...	23,456
	(b)	Hotels, Occupied Shops, etc.	...	580
Rateable Value (as at 31.3.64) ...	...	...	...	£3,189,770
Sum represented by a penny rate (1964-65) ...	...	...	...	£12,831

### TABULAR STATEMENT OF THE MAIN VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1964

(with comparative figures for England and Wales)

	M.	F.	Total	Cheltenham	England and Wales
<b>LIVE BIRTHS</b>					
Legitimate ...	649	601	1250		
Illegitimate ...	64	80	144		
<b>TOTALS</b> ...	<u>713</u>	<u>681</u>	<u>1394</u>		
Rate per 1000 population				18.6	18.4
<b>ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS</b>	64	80	144		
Per cent of total live births ...				10.3%	
<b>STILL BIRTHS</b>					
Legitimate ...	9	12	21		
Illegitimate ...	2	3	5		
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<u>11</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>26</u>		
Rate per 1000 total live and still births				18.3	16.4
<b>TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS</b> ...	724	696	1420		
<b>INFANT DEATHS</b> (Deaths under 1 year)					
Legitimate ...	14	9	23		
Illegitimate ...	1	3	4		
<b>TOTAL</b> ...	<u>15</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>27</u>		
<b>INFANT MORTALITY RATES</b>					
Total infant deaths per 1000 total live births ...				19.4	20.0
Legitimate infant deaths per 1000 legitimate live births ...				18.4	
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1000 illegitimate live births ...				27.8	
Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births) ...				9.3	13.8
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births) ...				8.6	
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1000 total live and still births) ...				26.8	28.2
<b>MATERNAL MORTALITY</b> (including abortion)	—	—	—	—	0.25
Rate per 1000 total live and still births					
<b>DEATHS</b> (all ages) ...	394	486	880		
Rate per 1000 population				11.8	11.3

**NOTE.** 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.

## Main Vital Statistics — 10 year period 1955-64 (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 Live Births	Birth Rate per 1000 population	Total Deaths of Infants (under 1 year of age)	Cheltenham	England and Wales	Cheltenham	Cheltenham		England and Wales	Tuberculosis (Cheltenham)	
								Recorded	Corrected		Pulmonary	Other
1955	67730	1125	16.61	34	30.22	24.9	816	12.05	9.88	11.7	0.118	0.015
1956	68010	1187	17.45	33	27.8	23.8	863	12.69	11.17	11.7	0.103	0.00
1957	68230	1210	17.73	33	27.27	23.1	815	11.94	10.51	11.5	0.073	0.00
1958	68610	1153	16.81	24	20.82	22.6	889	12.96	11.01	11.7	0.058	0.015
1959	69490	1235	17.77	24	19.43	22.2	835	12.02	10.21	11.6	0.00	0.00
1960	70370	1306	18.56	18	13.78	21.9	870	12.36	10.5	11.5	0.04	0.00
1961	72930	1357	18.61	32	23.58	21.6	903	12.38	11.1	12.0	0.05	0.00
1962	73770	1419	19.2	39	27.4	21.6	955	12.94	11.7	11.9	0.05	0.00
1963	74290	1332	17.9	34	25.5	21.1	949	12.8	12.2	12.2	0.01	0.00
1964	74910	1394	18.6	27	19.4	20.0	880	11.8	11.2	11.3	0.03	0.00



## NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1964

### Population

The Registrar's estimate of the population of Cheltenham for mid-year 1964 is 74,910 which is 620 more than the estimate for 1963.

### Death Rate

The Crude Death Rate was 11.8 a lower figure than that of last year. The corrected Death Rate (Registrar's correction factor 0.95) was 11.2 which is slightly lower than the figure for England and Wales.

### Birth Rate

Live Births in 1964 totalled 1,394 which is 62 more than the figure for the previous year.

The Birth Rate was 18.6 and is higher than the figure for 1963. The Registrar now provides a correction factor for birth rates. For Cheltenham this factor is 0.98 which gives a rate of 18.1 compared with 18.4 for England and Wales.

The number of Still Births per 1,000 live and still births, was 18.3 (or 17.9 corrected) compared with 16.4 for England and Wales.

### Causes of Death relating to Cheltenham Residents as given by the Registrar General for the year 1964.

					Male	Female
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	1	1
2	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	—	—
3	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	—	—
4	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—
5	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	—	—
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	—
8	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	1	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	9	8
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	32	8
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	—	24
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	—	9
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	40	48
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	4	3
16	Diabetes	...	...	...	4	11
17	Vascular lesions of nervous systems	...	...	...	44	72
18	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	113	77
19	Hypertension, with heart disease	...	...	...	2	7
20	Other heart disease	...	...	...	29	73
21	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	8	27
22	Influenza	...	...	...	—	3
23	Pneumonia	...	...	...	21	37
24	Bronchitis	...	...	...	19	11
Total carried forward					327	419



Total brought forward						<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
						327	419
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	3	2
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	3	3
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	2	2
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	2	2
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	3	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	—
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	6	4
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	26	36
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	8	1
34	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	6	11
35	Suicide	...	...	...	...	8	6
36	Homicide and operations of war...	...	...	...	...	—	—
All Causes						394	486

## DISCUSSION

The majority of deaths were, as always, due to cancer and heart disease, over 60% of deaths in the latter category being due to disease of the coronary arteries, now the chief modern killer disease. Cancer deaths at 178 are little different from last year (167) but mention has already been made of the increase in the number of deaths from lung cancer. This disease has almost reached epidemic proportions and there is as yet no sign of a peak nor will there be, I fear, until more serious notice is taken of the association between it and cigarette smoking, an association which only the wishful thinker can now deny. Another form of cancer, viz. carcinoma of the cervix has been found to be capable of prevention by a special screening test and consultations are being held with the hospital authority as to how these tests may be made available in Cheltenham.

### Deaths from Accidents

The table below shows the number of deaths from accidents during the last five years, deaths caused by motor vehicle accidents being shown separately.

				<i>Motor Vehicle Accidents</i>	<i>Other Accidents</i>
1960	...	...	...	13	22
1961	...	...	...	10	23
1962	...	...	...	7	19
1963	...	...	...	9	11
1964	...	...	...	9	17

### Infant Mortality

There were 27 infant deaths during the year as compared with 34 in 1963, giving an infant mortality rate of 19.4 compared with 25.5 last year. The infant mortality rate for the whole country during the year was 20.0 and this is the first time the Cheltenham rate has been below the national rate since 1960. The causes of the 27 infant deaths were as follows :

				Neonatal	4 wks-1 yr.	Total
Prematurity (stated or considered to be main cause of death)	...	...	...	6	—	6
Respiratory	...	...	...	1	7	8
Congenital Defects	...	...	...	4	2	6
Accidental Death	...	...	...	—	2	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	1	—	1
Other Causes	...	...	...	1	3	4
				—	—	—
				13	14	27
				—	—	—

The overall picture of the infant death rate is an encouraging one but the chief causes remain basically the same. As in previous years, nearly 50 per cent of these deaths is accounted for by prematurity and congenital defects, the two conditions which are the most difficult to prevent. The deaths from respiratory causes appear unusually high but three of these infants suffered from other complications all of which could have caused death.

The part that prematurity plays in the causation of infant deaths is amply demonstrated by the fact that 13 of the 27 babies who died in the first year of life were all premature. Prematurity was stated to be the chief cause of death in only six of these cases but it was undoubtedly a contributory factor in the others. The birth weights of these 13 babies were as follows :

3 lbs. 4 ozs. or less	...	...	...	...	6
Over 3 lbs. 4 ozs. — 4 lbs. 6 ozs.	...	...	...	...	3
Over 4 lbs. 6 ozs. — 4 lbs. 15 ozs.	...	...	...	...	1
Over 4 lbs. 15 ozs. — 5 lbs. 8 ozs.	...	...	...	...	3
					—
					13
					—

Almost half of these 13 children who died were under 3 lbs. 4 ozs. and had very little hope of survival under any circumstances. This is a constant annual feature of the analysis of premature baby deaths and will continue until we know more about the causes of prematurity.



## WATER SUPPLY OF THE BOROUGH

The water supply of the area has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity during the year. Daily examinations of the River Severn Water at all stages of the treatment to the Final Water were free from bacteriological and chemical contamination. There was no plumbo solvency of waters from any source. Bacteriological contamination of an open reservoir, was countered by withdrawal from supply. Intermittent discolouration of Final Water in supply due to deposited manganese is under investigation.

All samples of water supplies, including Spa waters taken by the Public Health Inspectors of the Health Department and submitted for bacteriological and chemical analysis, are examined by Mr. J. Henderson, Analyst to the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board. He has provided the following report showing the number of samples examined bacteriologically and chemically during 1964 with a statement on radioactivity.

CHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS						<i>No. of samples examined.</i>	
						1963	1964
<b>Cheltenham</b>							
Dowdeswell Raw	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
Dowdeswell Final	...	...	...	...	...	5	3
Northfield ...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
Sandford ...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
Pittville Spa	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	21	8
Alstone Baths	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
						—	—
						37	20
						—	—

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS						<i>No. of samples examined.</i>	
						1963	1964
Dowdeswell Raw	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Dowdeswell Final	...	...	...	...	...	12	11
Hewletts Raw	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
Hewletts Reservoir	...	...	...	...	...	31	13
Northfield	...	...	...	...	...	12	11
Sandford ...	...	...	...	...	...	12	11
Swimming Pools	...	...	...	...	...	37	34
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	4	3
Spa Water, Pittville ...	...	...	...	...	...	14	11
						—	—
						128	87
						—	—

The seasonal contamination of an uncovered supply reservoir forced its withdrawal from service, as had been the case in previous years. The covering of this reservoir, now completed, will remove any potential danger to the wholesomeness of the supply, whilst obviating any necessity for intermittent withdrawal from service.



With this exception, the bacteriological condition of Cheltenham's potable water supplies throughout the year has been entirely satisfactory, and similar comment attaches to the condition of the water in the swimming pools, covered or uncovered.

Purified water from the River Severn continues to be the principal source of Cheltenham's water supply and this position will remain unchanged with the operation of the new North West Gloucestershire Water Board. Despite the fact that this source continues to be subject to intense pollution, the bacteriological quality of the final product has been maintained at a very satisfactory level throughout the year under review. Diminution of pollution, or its complete eradication, will be one of the many aims of the new River Authority, but the problem is so extensive and complicated that the Utopian solution lies in the distant, rather than the immediate, future. Nevertheless, it is pleasing to report that the presence of coliform organisms in volumes of river water of 0.01 ml or less, showed a reduction, compared with 1963, from 72% to 61%, and the more important index of excremental bacteria (*E. Coli* I) from 46% to 33%.

Throughout the year, the chemical composition of Cheltenham's own supplies has remained within the limits which have been established over many years, and their quality was always satisfactory for the purposes of a public supply.

### **RADIO ACTIVITY OF WATER SUPPLY AND RAINFALL**

With the continued cessation through 1964 of nuclear testing explosions, the level of activity of the rainfall has shown a slow, but gradual, diminution, with only one minor increase during a very wet day in mid July. The comparatively dry winter has aided the reduction in activity which is now approaching the minimum figures recorded in late 1960 — early 1961.

This welcome reduction in activity has been communicated necessarily to the river water from which the supply is drawn and, with the further reduction which is obtained during processing, the level of activity in the Borough's public supply is satisfactorily low without consideration of the considerable safety factor which has always existed.

### **SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL**

The Sewerage and Sewage Disposal arrangements are adequate for the district and work will shortly commence on the relaying of a portion of the main Chelt Sewer where it is situated within the limits of the new Highways Depot at Arle. There has been a surcharging of the Hatherley Outfall Sewer and this is to be investigated.

The Sewage Works extensions are almost completed. To a limited degree gas production has started in the sludge digestion plant, and as soon as bed dried sludge is available, the sludge drying and pulverising plant will be brought into use. Tenders have now been invited for the construction of the Final Effluent Culvert from the Sewage Works to the River Chelt and when this is completed it will allow the works to operate at full capacity.

The installation of a screen washer has been approved and it is hoped to put this work in hand very soon.

## SWIMMING BATHS

There are two public swimming baths in the town, a covered bath and an open-air pool. In both cases the source of the water used for filling is the mains supply and the method of treatment is filtration and automatic chlorination. In the covered bath there is a complete change of water every four hours, both in the main pool and the instructional pool. In the open-air pool there is a complete change every six hours.

Regular samples of water from the swimming baths are submitted for bacteriological examination. They showed that a satisfactory standard had been maintained throughout the year.



### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS

During 1964, licences to use special designations in relation to milk sold within the Borough, totalled one hundred and thirty-five as follows :

Designation	Type of Licence		Total
	Pasteurizers	Dealers	
Tuberculin Tested	—	51	51
Pasteurized	1	67	68
Sterilized	—	16	16
TOTALS	1	134	135

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

Very few results during 1964 failed to satisfy the standards of the Ministry of Health.

### PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The following statement shows the corrected numbers of cases notified during 1964. (Tuberculosis is dealt with separately).

Acute Encephalitis ...	...	...	...	...	1
Dysentery ...	...	...	...	...	9
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	2
Food Poisoning ...	...	...	...	...	5
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	505
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	3
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	...	...	31
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	15
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	26

### NOTES ON INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Infectious disease, apart from tuberculosis, which is dealt with later in the Report, is no longer a serious health hazard in the community. Apart from the expected outbreak of measles, the impact of infectious disease on the health of the town is negligible, a state of affairs which is now expected and is very largely taken for granted. However, this is one of the major achievements of the 20th century, as many who can recall conditions as they existed forty or fifty years ago, will agree. The elimination of the serious infectious diseases has taken years of endeavour and effort and their continued absence is only achieved by a planned and persistent programme of health education. It is a constant encouragement to all of us concerned with the health of the community to see our children so healthy and free from disease,



but we must never forget to let parents know why this is so and how they themselves help to achieve this very satisfactory state of affairs by co-operating with us in our immunisation and vaccination programmes which form an ever increasing part of our preventive health work among pre-school and school children.

### VENEREAL DISEASES

The following report has been received from A. E. Tinkler, M.A., M.D., D.P.H., Consultant Venereologist, South Western Region Hospital Board.

The number of new patients seen at the Venereal Disease Clinic at the Cheltenham General Hospital continues to rise although the total remains quite small.

TABLE 1. New Cases : All Conditions — Cheltenham 1959-1964.

Year	New Cases
1959	83
1961	124
1963	124
1964	144

#### Syphilis

The incidence of early infectious syphilis has almost doubled in England and Wales since 1959/60 but fortunately the total numbers are very small as compared with the immediate post-war years. In 1963 no cases of early syphilis were seen at the Cheltenham Clinic and only one case of latent syphilis was discovered through routine ante natal serum testing. In 1964 there was one case of secondary syphilis in a young male patient and three female patients were referred with late syphilis. Again no case of congenital syphilis was seen in any age group during the year.

#### Gonorrhoea

Although the total number of cases remains small Table 2 shows that the incidence of gonorrhoea in Cheltenham has more than doubled since 1959.

TABLE 2. Incidence of gonorrhoea — Cheltenham 1959-1964.

Year	New Cases
1959	15
1961	23
1963	30
1964	36

The short incubation period makes this condition extremely difficult to control but there can be little doubt that the excellent co-operation between the Clinic and the Health Authority in the tracing of contacts has played a significant part in preventing the spread of this disease, the rising incidence of which is causing grave concern in the country as a whole.

## ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS

There were 5 Food Poisoning notifications during the year.

### PUBLIC HEALTH (TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1952

*Part I* Summary of notifications of tuberculosis during the period from 1st January, 1964 to 31st December, 1964.

	Formal Notifications													
	Number of Primary Notifications of new cases of Tuberculosis													
Age Periods	0—	1—	2—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—	Total— all ages
Respiratory, Males	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	2	3	1	—	12
Respiratory, Females	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	3	1	—	—	—	1	9
Non-respiratory, Males	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Non-respiratory, Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

*Part II* Deaths from tuberculosis during the above-mentioned period.

Number of cases in age groups															Total— all ages
Age Periods	0—	1—	2—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—	75—		
Respiratory, Males	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
Respiratory, Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Non-respiratory, Males	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Non-respiratory, Females	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

### Death Rates

The tuberculosis death rates for Cheltenham during 1964 were as follows :

Comparative Figures	}	England and Wales	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.03	}	Per 1,000 of Population
			Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.00		
			Total	0.03		
			Total	0.05		



The incidence of new cases continues to remain at a satisfactory low level and has done so for some years. Progress towards eradication of the disease has slowed down in recent years and is not helped by the steady influx of cases from other countries. It is to be hoped that this problem at present being considered by the Ministry of Health will be resolved by a much stricter examination of immigrants, or better still, intending immigrants. The death rate from the disease is again extremely low and under the national figure.

The following report has been received from Dr. F. J. D. Knights, M.D., M.R.C.P., Senior Chest Physician, North Gloucestershire Clinical Area :

During 1964, 22 newly notified cases of tuberculosis were handled in the chest clinic service.

Five of these were non-respiratory, two were primary infections of hilar glands or pleura, and 15 were cases of phthisis, 13 moderately advanced and two advanced.

Nine of the cases were referred from general practitioners, seven of the cases were referred from other hospital departments, three of the cases were referred from Mass Radiography, three cases were picked up as contacts.

The register of persons notified as suffering from tuberculosis in Cheltenham stood at 31.12.64 as follows :

RED, markedly infectious	...	...	...	24
YELLOW, Potentially infectious	...	...	...	73
GREEN, non-infectious	...	...	...	157
				<hr/> 254 <hr/>

Of the 24 REDS, 13 are chronically infectious cases of whom 2 are at present drug resistant. Three of them are unco-operative, including a drug-resistant vagrant from a lodging house, but this man has now been in hospital for about two years. None of the new cases notified was found to be excreting resistant strains of bacilli.

*Contact examinations arising out of the total of 24 cases notified in Cheltenham in 1964.*

Average number of contacts per case :	Listed	6
	Seen	4.7

### Adults

Number called : 104. Response : 76. 73% attended.  
No case of significance was found.

### Children

Of 40 children called, four did not attend at all. One girl of 4 was admitted to hospital under the Paediatrician as an emergency after being tuberculin tested at a contact clinic, and before returning for the result to be seen. She was subsequently notified as having a primary complex in the lung. Her younger brother was also admitted for observation but was not notifiable.

The remaining 34 children were healthy and are analysed as follows :

Tuberculin positive. Age 12—16. For Mass X-ray follow up	...	1
Previously B.C.G. vaccinated.	" " " " "	2
Tuberculin negative. B.C.G. vaccinated	... ..	26
Failed attendance for B.C.G., but attending for Mass X-ray	...	2
Tuberculin negative, awaiting B.C.G.	... ..	1
Tuberculin negative and/or X-rayed and discharged	... ..	2

In addition to the above, one adult and four children were referred to other chest clinics for action.

### HOUSING

Regular visits were made with members of the Public Health Committee to houses considered unfit for human habitation and appropriate recommendations made to the Housing Committee.

The following is the number of cases dealt with during the year :

Number of cases rehoused because of tuberculosis ... 2 (Nil)

Number of cases rehoused from houses on which a Demolition or Closing Order was operative or certificate of unfitness issued ... .. 24 (58)

The 1963 figures are shown in brackets.

### REGISTRATION AND INSPECTION OF NURSING HOMES SECTIONS 187-194. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

At the commencement of 1964 there were 10 Nursing Homes on the Register.

The total number of beds available at the end of the year was 109 classified as follows :

	Number of Homes	Number of beds provided for		
		Maternity	Others	Totals
Homes formerly exempted from registration registered during year	—	—	—	—
Other homes registered during the year	—	—	—	—
Homes whose registrations were withdrawn during the year	—	—	—	—
Homes on the register at the end of the year	10	—	109	109

Private Nursing Homes in Cheltenham still provide a most valuable addition to the accommodation available for sick persons.

Many of the homes provide mainly for old persons and help in no small way to solve a problem which yearly becomes more difficult.

Visits were paid to all Nursing Homes on two or more occasions during the year.





## SECTION II

### National Health Services Act 1946

#### PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES



## WELFARE AND HEALTH COMMITTEE 1964

Alderman A. J. BETTRIDGE (*Chairman*)Councillor C. W. A. FOSTER (*Vice-Chairman*)

Councillor J. A. ASTON

Councillor Miss M. N. P. DENT

Alderman C. BARLOW

Councillor Miss D. FAVELL

Councillor R. F. BROOKES

Councillor C. H. MARKHAM, O.B.E.

Alderman Miss F. L. CARTER

Councillor A. YATES

Councillor Mrs. M. F. YEATES

## CO-OPTED MEMBERS

Mrs. G. MELLERSH

Mr. A. F. NUTTER

Mrs. D. M. SHENTON

Mrs. H. SMITH

## WELFARE AND HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

*T. O. P. D. Lawson, M.D.,  
D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.*

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

*D. B. Hill, M.A., M.B., B.Chir.,  
L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.*

Senior Health Visitor

*Miss E. M. Tatlow, S.R.N.,  
S.C.M., D.N.*

Health Visitors

*10 in number*

Home Help Organiser

*Miss M. Langford*

Assistant Home Help Organiser

*Miss D. E. Durham**90 Home Helps*

Cheltenham Nursing Association :

Superintendent

*Miss D. E. Tate, S.R.N.,  
S.C.M., Q.N.S., H.V.Cert.*

Assistant Superintendent

*Mrs. P. Huxford, S.R.N.,  
S.C.M., Q.N.S.**7 Midwives**20 Home Nurses*

Day Nurseries : Whaddon Road

*Miss E. J. Pugh (Matron) N.S.C.N.  
6 Staff**7 Student Nurses*

Swindon Road

*Miss M. Lee (Matron) N.N.E.B.  
4 Staff**6 Student Nurses*

Eildon Training Centre : Supervisor

*Miss A. M. Sowerby  
11 Staff*

Adult Training Centre : Supervisor

*Mr. J. Naylon  
4 Staff*

Health Centre :

*2 Nurses  
3 Clerks (2 Part-Time)*

Welfare Foods Centre :

*2 Part-Time Clerks*

Senior Mental Welfare Officer :

*Mr. G. H. Watts*

Mental Welfare Officer :

*Mr. P. Collingborn*

Home Teacher for the Blind :

*Miss J. B. Finley*Part-Time Home Teacher for  
the Blind :*Mrs. H. Wilkinson*

Welfare Assistants :

*2 in number*

Administrative Staff :

Chief Clerk

*Mr. W. H. G. Meakins*

Clerical Staff

*Miss G. Kear      Mrs. P. Butfield  
Mrs. M. McCabe   Miss S. M. Davis  
Mrs. E. Hunt      Mrs. L. M. Quirke*

## SECTION 21

### Health Centres

The Hesters Way Health Centre continues to provide medical and health services for the increasing population on the estate and attendances during the year were in excess of the figure for 1963.

Attendances during the year are shown in the following tables :

General Practitioner Consultations	Treatment and Casualties	Child Welfare	Ante and Relaxation Classes	Total
17,627	3,504	3,979	2,130	27,240

## SECTION 22

### Care of Mothers and Young Children

#### Child Welfare Centres

These are held weekly throughout the town as follows :

St. Michael's Hall, Whaddon Road	...	Thursday
St. Paul's Hall, Swindon Road	...	Tuesday
Hesters Way Health Centre	...	Tuesday and Thursday
Bethesda Church Hall	...	Wednesday
Highbury Church Hall	...	Tuesday
Leckhampton Church Hall	...	Friday
Gloucester Road Methodist Sunday School	...	Wednesday
Windermere Road, The Bungalow	...	Thursday

Toddlers clinics for older children are held separately or in conjunction with these Centres.

Records of attendances are as follows :

No. of Centres provided	...	...	...	...	8
No. of Children aged under 1 year who attended a Centre for the first time	...	...	...	...	1,333
Total No. of Children who attended a Centre during the year	...	...	...	...	3,070

Total attendances made :

Children under 1 year	...	...	...	12,076
Children 1 to 5 years	...	...	...	6,975



Following the usual trend total attendances at infant welfare centres during the year show an increase on 1963, and whatever may be said about the usefulness or otherwise of these welfare centres in a National Health Service, these figures speak for themselves. These centres are run, not only or even predominantly by our own medical and nursing staff but by general practitioners appointed by the voluntary committees who are responsible for the organisation of the centres. We are greatly indebted to them for the time and effort they contribute to a service which is so obviously appreciated by so many mothers in the town.

### **Welfare Food Centre**

The Health Department undertakes the distribution of various welfare foods and diet supplements provided by the Ministry of Health. The distribution of welfare foods is carried out from the Welfare Food Centre in Clarence Street and from Child Welfare Centres in various parts of the Borough.

The sale of welfare foods shows quite an improvement on last year.

The amounts distributed during 1964 were as follows :

National Dried Milk—tins ...	...	...	...	27,237
Orange Juice—bottles ...	...	...	...	29,536
Cod Liver Oil—bottles ...	...	...	...	2,362
Vitamin Tablets—packets ...	...	...	...	2,385

### **Family Planning Clinic**

The Cheltenham Branch of the Family Planning Association who act as the Council's Agents for the provision of this service, continues to run well-attended sessions in the School Clinic premises. Requests made to the Health Department, on medical grounds, are referred to the Family Planning Association.

### **Care of the Unmarried Mother and Child**

Arrangements for the care of the unmarried mother are provided on behalf of the Council by the Cheltenham Deanery Association for Social Work. This service is grant-aided by the Council. The number of cases dealt with in Cheltenham during the year was 126. There were 144 illegitimate births out of a total of 1,394 births, a percentage illegitimate birth rate of 10.3%, representing an appreciable increase on the previous year (8.7%).

St. Catherine's Home in Cheltenham provides accommodation for the admission of unmarried mothers but they are also admitted to similar homes run by the Diocesan Moral Welfare Association in other parts of the country.



## Dental Treatment for Expectant and Nursing Mothers

The following report has been supplied by Mr. P. Stone, L.D.S., Area Dental Officer.

### A. DENTAL TREATMENT — NUMBERS OF CASES

(Figures for 1963 in parentheses)

		Examined (1)	Needing Treatment (2)	Treated (3)
1	Expectant and Nursing Mothers	51 (156)	40 (86)	36 (100)
2	Children under Five	88 (198)	69 (121)	65 (131)

### B. DENTAL TREATMENT PROVIDED

		Scalings and Gum Treatment (1)	Fillings (2)	Silver Nitrate Treat- ment (3)	Crowns or Inlays (4)	Extrac- tions (5)	General Anaesthetics (6)
1	Expectant and Nursing Mothers	18 (24)	60 (113)	0 (0)	0 (0)	88 (92)	12 (11)
2	Children	1 (0)	35 (84)	5 (2)	0 (0)	51 (140)	49 (44)

		Dentures Provided		Radiographs (9)
		Full Upper or Lower (7)	Partial Upper or Lower (8)	
1	Expectant and Nursing Mothers	7 (13)	3 (21)	5 (6)
2	Children	0 (0)	0 (1)	0 (3)

There was a slackening of the Dental Health Campaign in Welfare Centres due to major staff changes, the Dental Department being without a hygienist from September 1963 until Miss Wilson's appointment to this post in August, 1964. However, since then there has been a most pleasing resurgence of interest in the Welfare Centres in dental matters.

The proportion of children aged 3 to 5 who have inspections and treatment remains disappointingly low and we must continue to encourage their mothers to bring them for regular check-ups and advice. This is not going to be easy because the attendance of children in this age-group at Welfare Centres is generally low. However, we feel that advice and guidance in the matters of correct diet and oral hygiene offer the best solution to the problem facing the dental officer when he examines the 5-year-old children at routine dental inspections in school.

Of these 639 were inspected in 1964, only 27% still had a perfect set of teeth and of the rest nearly 1 in 5 had 10 or more decayed, missing or filled teeth. Every effort must be made to improve this position in the future.

### Orthopaedic Clinic

An Orthopaedic Clinic is held on three occasions each month where children under five years can have postural and other defects remedied. Two sessions are held in the same premises as the School Physiotherapy Clinic and the third at the Health Centre.

### Care of Premature Infants

Following an appreciable fall in the total of premature babies born during 1963 (94), there has again been a further slight fall in 1964 (86). If this trend continues there should be a corresponding improvement in the infant mortality rate.

All very small premature babies are treated under specialist care in hospital but special arrangements are made for treating those in the higher weight range at home. In this we have the co-operation of the Ambulance Superintendent and his staff who deliver the necessary equipment to the home on request. The number of premature babies treated at home during the year was five. All made satisfactory progress.

Premature live and still births notified during the 12 months under review were as follows :

#### *No. of Premature Live Births notified :*

(a)	In hospital	...	...	...	...	...	80
(b)	At home	...	...	...	...	...	6

#### *No. of Premature Still Births notified :*

(a)	In hospital	...	...	...	...	...	13
(b)	At home	...	...	...	...	...	1

The following table shows in more detail the distribution of premature babies born during the year by weight and survival rate :



Weight at birth	Premature live births														Premature still births	
	Born at home or in a nursing home															
	Born in hospital				Nursed, entirely at home or in a nursing home				Transferred to hospital on or before 28th day							
	Total births (1)	within 24 hours of birth (2)	Died		Total births (5)	within 24 hours of birth (6)	Died		Total births (9)	within 24 hours of birth (10)	Died		in 7 and under 28 days (12)	in hospital (13)	at home or in a nursing home (14)	
in 1 and under 7 days (3)			in 7 and under 28 days (4)	in 1 and under 7 days (7)			in 7 and under 28 days (8)	in 1 and under 7 days (11)								
1. 2 lb. 3 oz. or less	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—		
2. Over 2 lb. 3 oz. up to and including 3 lb. 4 oz.	6	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—		
3. Over 3 lb. 4 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 6 oz.	19	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—		
4. Over 4 lb. 6 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 15 oz.	12	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1		
5. Over 4 lb. 15 oz. up to and including 5 lb. 8 oz.	39	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
6. Total	80	7	3	1	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	13	1		



The total of 86 premature babies born alive during the year represents 6.2 per cent of the total live births, a further improvement on last year's figure (7.1). Also the number of very small premature babies born alive but with little chance of survival, is much lower than in previous years. This is one of the most favourable statistical features of this year's and last year's report. For several years past we have had nearly every year an unusually large number of these very small babies, and this has been reflected in an unfavourable infant mortality rate. The improvement in the infant mortality rate this year is in some measure attributable to the reduction in the number of live born premature babies a trend which we hope will continue.

### Notification of Births

The following table shows the actual number of births notified in Cheltenham during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1964, and the number is adjusted by any notifications transferred in or out of the area :

	Live Births		Still Births		Total	
	Actual	Adjusted	Actual	Adjusted	Actual	Adjusted
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
(a) Domiciliary	356	357	1	1	357	358
(b) Institutional	1094	1062	35	23	1939	1085
(c) Total	2260	1419	36	24	2296	1443

It is interesting to note in the above table that the number of domiciliary births is practically the same as last year (356). The trend during past years has been an annual reduction in the number of babies born at home. This may be an indication that maternity hospital accommodation in the town is now being used to capacity.

### Day Nurseries

There are two Day Nurseries in the town and both are normally full to capacity. The Whaddon nursery has places for 50 children and the Swindon nursery has 40 places but the accommodation is proving inadequate, although admission is restricted to priority cases. The main priorities are, children of unmarried mothers and of divorced or separated parents provided, in the case of the unmarried mother, that she is willing to find employment. Other priorities include sudden illness or removal to hospital of the mother, children of very large families where the mother is unable to cope and a variety of other cases which are considered on their merits. No child is admitted to either nursery if both parents are earning.

The provision of sufficient nursery accommodation is becoming quite an acute problem. This may be a reflection of the high divorce rate nationally and where a divorce cannot be obtained presumably many parents separate. There is however one indisputable local statistic. One third of our total nursery places are taken up by children of unmarried mothers and there has been a sharp increase in the illegitimacy rate over the last two years.



The County Council have agreed to a request from the Welfare and Health Committee that the 40 place Swindon Road Day Nursery be replaced by a sixty place nursery on a more central site provided we can find a suitable site. This we are trying to do but we cannot hope to have a new nursery in the very near future and the problem increases yearly.

The following table show children on register and average daily attendances at the Nurseries during the year.

	Number of approved places	Number of children on the register at the end of the year	Average daily attendance during the year
Swindon Road Day Nursery	40	41	35
Whaddon Road Day Nursery	50	55	49

### **Nurseries and Child Minder Regulations Act, 1948**

There have been a few changes in the Child Minders registered during the year. On 31st December, 1964, there were eight child minders registered with the Borough in accordance with the above regulations to look after a total of 62 children. One Day Nursery is registered for 25 children. Routine inspections are carried out during the year in accordance with the Regulations.

Child Minders, while providing a substantial number of places do little to relieve the situation at our own two day nurseries since they cater largely for children whose parents wish to take up employment.

### **National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children**

Very close co-operation is maintained between the Health Department and Inspector Hammer of the N.S.P.C.C. Frequent joint visits are made to homes, either on the initiative of Inspector Hammer or the Health Department and these visits are of mutual benefit. I would like to record my appreciation of the many instances in which Inspector Hammer has given valuable assistance both to the Health Department and the School Health Service in the welfare of children.

Inspector Hammer and the Medical Officer of Health attend the Joint Committee of Officers concerned with problem families where Cheltenham cases are discussed and appropriate measures taken following joint consultation.

## **SECTION 23**

### **Midwifery Services**

#### **Antenatal Clinics**

Antenatal Clinics are held at the Cheltenham Maternity Hospital and Hesters Way Health Centre. At the Health Centre the clinics are run by family doctors and midwives. At the Maternity Hospital, hospital medical staff, family doctors and midwives are in attendance. At both clinics, health education activities are run by our health visitors, who give talks or individual instruction to expectant mothers. Also at both clinics relaxation classes are held and are conducted by a qualified physiotherapist.



Maternity beds for hospital confinement are allocated for medical and social reasons. Each applicant is visited by a health visitor who makes an assessment of the need for institutional confinement in all cases where the reason for the application is other than medical. All institutional confinements take place at the Maternity Hospital or the Victoria Home, but occasionally when accommodation is over-booked, some cases are transferred to the Cirencester or Stroud Maternity Hospitals.

The improvements in the antenatal arrangements outlined in last year's report have continued in operation and, it is hoped, are in some measure, responsible for the marked improvement in the infant death rate.

Records of attendances at antenatal and postnatal clinics for the year were as follows :

*Antenatal Clinics*

No. of Antenatal Clinics provided	...	...	...	2
No. of sessions held per month	...	...	...	13
New cases attending	...	...	...	715
Total attendances made	...	...	...	2,130

*Postnatal Clinics*

No. of Postnatal Clinics provided	...	...	...	1
No. of sessions held per month	...	...	...	1
New cases attending	...	...	...	63
Total attendances made	...	...	...	63

**Domiciliary Midwifery**

The Midwifery Service in Cheltenham is based at the Victoria Home in charge of a Superintendent and an establishment of eight domiciliary midwives. The service is provided by the Cheltenham District Nursing Association on behalf of the Council. The service is administered by an Executive Committee on which the Borough Council has six representatives.

The following is a summary of the work of the Domiciliary Midwifery Service for 1964 :

**New Cases :**

Deliveries	...	...	...	353
Early Discharges from Hospital	...	...	...	386
				<hr/> 739

**Visits Paid :**

Nursing Visits to Home Deliveries	...	...	...	4,859
Nursing Visits to Hospital Deliveries	...	...	...	2,510
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	...	514
Antenatal Home Visits	...	...	...	2,013
				<hr/> 9,896

**Clinic Sessions :**

Ante and Postnatal (combined) Sessions	...	...	262
--	-----	-----	-----



The picture of the domiciliary midwifery service is much the same as the previous year but while more babies are still being born in hospital it is worth noting that the decrease in domiciliary confinements is much less noticeable than in previous years. Although the percentage of home deliveries has dropped from 27 per cent to 25 per cent, there were only twelve fewer deliveries on the district in 1964 as compared with 1963. This would seem to indicate that the maternity hospital is reaching capacity and in order to maintain the present position it will be necessary for us to retain our present complement of midwives not only to deal with domiciliary confinements but with the increasing numbers of early discharges from hospital. At the moment the indications are that we will not be able to maintain a full establishment of domiciliary midwives in spite of efforts to recruit part-time or full-time staff.

## SECTION 24

### Health Visitors

The work of the Health Visitors increases each year with the annual increase in the birth rate but her work is no longer confined only to the children in the family. Many of her visits are now concerned with social conditions with special regard to the suitability of the home for the early discharge of the mother and baby from the maternity hospital. A lot of her work also is concerned with the welfare of the old, infirm and other handicapped persons since the delegation of welfare and health functions to the Borough under the scheme of delegation. Health Visitors are also attached to various special clinics at local hospitals.

The following is a summary of the work done by the Health Visitors during the year :

Number of children visited during the year	...	...	5,609
First visits to infants under 1 year of age	...	...	1,649
Total visits to infants under 1 year of age	...	...	5,736
Visits to children aged 1—5 years	...	...	17,652
Visits to expectant mothers	...	...	744
Tuberculosis visits	...	...	310
Investigations of Social Conditions for Hospitals, visits to sick persons, old people, etc.	...	...	843
Number of attendances by Health Visitors at Clinic Sessions...			835

## SECTION 25

### Home Nursing

The Home Nursing Service is based on Victoria Home and comprises a Superintendent with 18 full-time and 2 part-time Home Nurses. These numbers include 3 full-time male nurses and 1 full-time nurse who is responsible for the domiciliary nursing care of children. The male nurses and the children's nurse cover the whole town, but the other nurses work in specified districts. Nursing duties include all illness occurring in the home and also the care of patients discharged from hospital. Much time is taken up with the nursing care of the elderly, many of whom would have to be admitted to hospital but for the domiciliary care provided by the Family Doctor, the Home Nurse and the Home Help, with the very useful addition of the Meals on Wheels Service provided by the Old People's Welfare Association.



Work carried out during the year is shown in the following table :

Number of cases on books, 1st January, 1964	...	...	346
Number of cases on books, 31st December, 1964	...	...	385
General Nursing :			
New cases of all types	...	...	1,612
Visits to all general patients	...	...	48,788

There has been a general increase in all categories of home nursing during the year.

## SECTION 26

### Vaccination and Immunisation

Routine programmes of vaccination and immunisation have continued throughout the year.

### Vaccination against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

The following figures show the number of completed courses carried out during the year and the number of booster doses :

Complete Courses

	<i>Diphtheria</i>	<i>Diphtheria/ Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Diphtheria/ Tetanus</i>	<i>Diphtheria/ Whooping Cough/ Tetanus</i>
	18	13	96	1038
Boosters	1013	2	126	553

### Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

During the year a total of 1,250 children between the ages of 6 months and 15 years received a complete course, together with 33 young persons and 16 in the older age groups. Booster doses covering all ages numbered 561.

## SECTION 28

### Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

#### Tuberculosis

All new notifications of cases of tuberculosis are sent through the Health Department to the Health Visitors who visit the family for the purpose of giving advice and tracing contacts who are referred for chest X-ray. They also visit patients who are being nursed at home or who have been discharged from hospital. A total of 297 visits were made during the year.

At 31st December, 1964, 13 persons suffering from tuberculosis were receiving free milk, which is granted in all cases where the income falls below a fixed minimum. Apart from other benefits received from National sources, these patients receive considerable help from the Cheltenham Tuberculosis Care Committee. This is a voluntary organisation which raises its own funds and makes financial grants in needy cases. The Borough's Health and Welfare Services Committee is represented on the Tuberculosis Care Committee, and both the Medical Officer of Health and the Health Visitors attend so that it is known from personal experience what a worthwhile job this Committee is doing with the limited funds available and how many tuberculosis patients have received substantial benefits. This Committee deserve every encouragement and the gratitude of the community.

#### Incontinence Pads

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular No. 14/63 a Pilot Scheme introduced the use of Incontinence Pads in Cheltenham in July,



1964. For three months they were supplied in one area of the town only.

The area chosen was a district where most of the patients likely to be requiring them would be Old Age pensioners receiving National Assistance. In October, the scheme was extended to the whole of the Borough.

Two pads per day were allowed and this number proved sufficient in practically every case. The use of one pad per night on top of a draw sheet and mackintosh is sufficient to keep the majority of patients dry and comfortable. No case of skin irritation due to the use of the pads was reported.

Two types of Incontinence pads have been tried but the type preferred, Thickness No. 1, is thicker, larger and more absorbent than the other pads tried. These pads are also easier to transport being packed in dozen packets.

With each dozen packet, two large opaque polythene bags and rubber bands are issued to the patients' relatives. The pads when soiled, are rolled up and put into this bag which will hold six soiled pads. When full, the top of the bag is secured firmly with a rubber band and the bag put into the dustbin. The bags are completely waterproof and no complaints re odour or handling by Corporation workmen have been received.

District Nurses in attendance upon incontinent patients take the pads and polythene bags to the patients when visiting. A certain number of ambulant incontinent persons who are not attended by a District Nurse are supplied with pads but these persons or their relatives collect the pads from the Victoria Home.

During the six months the scheme has been in operation, approximately 75—80 dozen pads have been used which is a considerably smaller number than was first anticipated, but the number used next year will inevitably be larger now that the whole of the Borough is incorporated in the scheme. It is an extremely useful service providing extra comfort and security to the patient, considerably less washing for the relatives and a saving of working time for the nurse.

## General

The general work of the Health Department in the prevention of illness, care and after-care, although a delegated function under the scheme, is very much a joint effort between our own staff, Health Visitors, Home Helps, District Nurses, etc., and other bodies, such as the National Assistance Board, Women's Voluntary Service, Red Cross, the County Welfare Department and the Tuberculosis Care Committee already mentioned. The Hospital Authority and the Family Doctors are very closely associated in this work especially as it concerns the care of patients discharged from hospital and the welfare of old people, and altogether it is this co-operative effort which achieves results. Cheltenham is also very fortunate in the amount of voluntary effort put into this work. I need only mention the Local Spastics Committee who run their own excellent school for spastic children, the Cheltenham Branch of the Infantile Paralysis Fellowship, the Cripples' Aid Committee, the Muscular Dystrophy Group, and the well-known and greatly appreciated work done by the Committee who arrange for the weekly swimming sessions for handicapped persons at Alstone Baths. The latest venture, the opening of a Cheshire Home in the town, is already doing wonderful work.

Sick room equipment is available on loan when required for patients being nursed at home. Large items, such as wheel chairs, etc., can be obtained from the Red Cross at a small charge.



### Chiropody Service

The chiropody service provided treatment for the priority classes throughout the year and although unable to keep up with the demand, there was a considerable improvement on last year. The Old People's Welfare Association who provide the service on behalf of the Council, were able to employ another chiropodist and the number of sessions have been increased. By the end of the year the waiting list had been more than halved as compared with the previous year. The service is still confined to old people, the physically handicapped and expectant mothers.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year :

Cases on the waiting list at 1st January, 1964	...	...	...	16
Cases on the waiting list at 31st December, 1964	...	...	...	24
Cases seen by chiropodists	...	...	...	949
Appointments not kept by patients	...	...	...	59
Sessions during the year	...	...	...	144
Chiropodists employed during the year	...	...	...	5

Transport was arranged for 11 appointments.

## SECTION 29

### Home Help Service

This is a service on which there is continual pressure and there are periods when it is impossible to meet all demands, especially from the aged and chronic sick from whom there is by far the greatest call. Invariably many of these requests have to be reduced to what is possible with the personnel available. Along with the increasing demand on the service we are now faced with a shortage of home helps and it is becoming more and more difficult to recruit the right type of person. It is true to say that we will probably never have all the home helps necessary to meet every request for assistance, especially for help required over a very long period, but no genuine case goes without help even if it cannot be as much as they would like.

Some 90 Home Helps work in the town under the supervision of the Home Help Organiser.

The following is a summary of the work done during the year :

	Mater- nity	Chronic Sick and Old Age	General Sickness	Tuber- culosis	Night Sitters	Total
No. of cases being assisted 1st January, 1964	1	266	22	1	—	290
No. of applications received during year	—	—	—	—	—	940
No. of new cases	121	209	138	1	6	475
Total number of cases assisted in 1964	122	475	160	2	6	765
No. of cases being assisted at the end of 1964	5	290	31	2	—	328



## MENTAL HEALTH

The demand for the services of the Mental Welfare Officer has continued to increase over the past year, accordingly a Mental Welfare Officer was appointed to assist the Senior Mental Welfare Officer and Mr. P. A. Collingborn commenced his duties on 13th July.

### Work in the Community

#### (a) *Mental Illness*

During the year the Mental Welfare Officers were directly involved in 83 admissions of mentally ill persons to Hospital. There were also 47 patients who were referred for after-care visitation; an increase of 10 over the previous year.

The number of after-care visits made during the year amounted to 520.

#### (b) *Mental Subnormality*

*Community Care.* During the year 18 new cases were formally referred, of these 6 were referred by the Education Committee as being unsuitable for education at school.

Total number on the Subnormal Register as at 31.12.64 ...	196
Receiving Care and Guidance in the Community ...	118
Under Guardianship ... ..	3
In Hospital or on extended leave ... ..	75

### Admissions to Hospital

There were two subnormal persons admitted for full-time care to a Hospital for the subnormal.

The number of admissions for short term care, to give parents a rest from the constant care of their subnormal children and to allow them to take a holiday for the benefit of other members of the family, amounted to 8.

There are 7 subnormal persons on the waiting list for permanent hospital care; none of these however is of an urgent nature.

### Employment

Out of a total of 118 persons receiving Care and Guidance in the community, 24 were in full-time employment.

### Eildon Junior Training Centre

During the year we were sorry to lose the services of our Supervisor, Mrs. Halsall, who has been in charge of the Centre for many years and has been responsible for the high standards achieved, and this was recognised by her promotion to the staff of the Ministry of Health in London. We were fortunate in replacing Mrs. Halsall with Miss Sowerby a previous deputy Supervisor at Eildon already well known to many of the staff and the children.

The Junior Centre caters for about eighty subnormal children daily, from Cheltenham and the North Cotswolds, and a very high standard of training is maintained from the nursery unit through the intermediate classes to the workshop for those of 16 years and over who are trained for contract work and transferred to the Adult Training Centre when sufficiently skilled. Eventually the aim is to restrict admission to Eildon to subnormal children under 16 years.



The children are transported daily to and from the Centre and transport arrangements organised by the Senior Mental Welfare Officer usually function smoothly but distances are long, timings complicated, and in the winter months, the weather sometimes upsets the schedules. We do our best to minimise difficulties.

### **Adult Training Centre**

The Adult Centre continues to expand its training facilities and productivity. The potential of this type of training centre for adult sub-normals becomes more apparent each year as more skills are mastered and more skilled work can be undertaken. As stated last year expansion of activities soon resulted in lack of space and plans are now complete for the enlargement of the Centre to take 120 trainees. Work will start early in 1965 and an account of the progress made will be included in next year's Report.

Once again I would like to thank all those who have helped in the successful running of the Centre by the offer of contracts and placing of orders. We have established firm contracts with many firms and businesses in the town but more will be welcome.

We are very much indebted to the Dowty Group for the gift of a Fly Press which has proved of great value and is much appreciated.

### **North Gloucestershire Society for Mentally Handicapped Children**

The pleasure and happiness enjoyed by all those attending the Junior and Adult Training Centres for the Mentally Handicapped is constantly enhanced by the support and generosity of this Society and on behalf of the Chairman and members of the Welfare and Health Committee I would like to express our appreciation.

## **WELFARE SERVICES**

### **Residential Accommodation**

Under Section 21 (1) (a) of the National Assistance Act, 1948, the Welfare Department of the County Council is responsible for the provision in Cheltenham of residential accommodation "for persons, who by reasons of age, infirmity or any other circumstances, are in need of care and attention which is not otherwise available to them".

Mr. H. D. Nichols, County Welfare Officer, had kindly supplied the following information concerning the number of Cheltenham old people in residential accommodation, as at 31st December, 1964.

Arle House	...	...	...	...	31
Sunnyside Old People's Home	...	...	...	...	48
Orchard House, Bishop's Cleeve	...	...	...	...	29
East Court, Charlton Kings	...	...	...	...	13
Grevill House	...	...	...	...	19
Waiting List	...	...	...	...	72

### **Temporary Accommodation**

Under Section 21 (1) (b) of the National Assistance Act, 1948, the Local Authority has a duty to provide temporary accommodation "for persons who are in urgent need thereof, being need arising in circumstances which could not reasonably have been foreseen, or in such circumstances as the authority may in any particular case determine".

This type of accommodation is provided by the County Welfare Department at the hostel at Newent.



## **Welfare of Old People**

Visiting of old people is undertaken by the Health Visitors working in close contact with other voluntary and statutory agencies. A register is kept of all old people in the town visited for the first time and their needs ascertained and recorded for future reference. The Health Visitor advises and provides help where she can or makes arrangements for other help to be provided. In cases where residential accommodation is considered necessary, the case is referred to the County Welfare Officer.

## **Welfare of the Deaf**

A total of 288 visits were made by the Welfare Officer to Borough residents throughout the year. One baby was referred for screening and followed up, and three pre-school children were observed on account of poor or late speech.

One young adult attended the evening Adult Rehabilitation Class at the Gloucester Royal Infirmary throughout the year. The Borough has enough adult deaf to warrant an Adult Rehabilitation Class at the Cheltenham Hospital, and the Otologist is willing to provide the facilities where room and equipment are concerned. Unfortunately however there is still only one Welfare Officer for the whole county including the Borough, and she could not undertake any further regular evening commitments. Cheltenham and District Deaf and Hard of Hearing Club has continued to thrive and now has a membership of 40. These of course often bring hearing relatives and friends along with them. Several joint ventures such as Bring and Buy Sales, etc., have been made with the Gloucester Branch of the National Deaf Children's Society which holds most of its meetings in the Borough. This has the advantage of introducing young deaf and hard of hearing people into the Club before they leave school, and we believe this transition from school to work is thus eased.

Enquiries and referrals have been received from General Practitioners, National Assistance Board and Ministry of Labour Officers and liaison has been maintained throughout the year with all other sections of the Health Department and other Borough officers.

## **Welfare of the Blind**

The numbers on the registers at 31st December, 1964, were as follows :

Blind ...	175	Partially-Sighted ...	30
-----------	-----	-----------------------	----

During the year the Home Teacher carried out routine visits to the Blind and Partially-Sighted in their own homes and continued to take those attending the various Clinics at the General Hospital. Lessons were given in Braille and Moon and books and magazines in both types were supplied. Several Talking Books were installed.

In the fourth quarter more lessons were given and more visiting was carried out when the part-time Home Teacher and the Welfare Assistant gave supplementary help.

The Home Teacher attended the Joint Conference of the Western Regional Association for the Blind and the National Council of Missioners and Welfare Officers for the Deaf, at the Institute for the Deaf, in Bristol; she also visited the Industrial Rehabilitation Unit at Fishponds, Bristol, and



spent a week-end at Condover Hall School meeting parents and teachers to discuss blind children with additional handicaps.

The weekly Social Club had a very happy year at Highbury. Members enjoyed the "Cotswold Roundabout" tape each month, also various entertainments, including Handbells, rung by the Churchdown Women's Institute, a visit to the Theatre, a garden party at "Ashmead", and an afternoon at the Fire Station, by kind invitation of Mr. Payne, the Chief Fire Officer. The Summer Outing was to Abingdon, with a trip on the river, and was a "perfect day" in every way. The Christmas Party was postponed, owing to hazards of fog.

We are most grateful to our Voluntary Helpers who give regular and invaluable help with transport and all Club activities, and contribute so much to the general enjoyment and happiness of all members.

The Deaf-Blind people enjoyed their quarterly meetings in the County, especially the Christmas Party at Brockworth, and the Summer Outing on the River Avon at Tewkesbury. They also derived pleasure and benefit from the Western Counties' re-union at Weston-super-Mare.

Blind and Partially-Sighted children were invited to the first Children's Party given by the Gloucestershire County Association for the Blind; it was held at Sandiwell Park, in April, and was most successful.

We are very grateful to members of Toc H (Women's branch) for their Party at Highbury in February, and for the Summer Outing to Newent — both were enjoyed very much. The Inner Wheel gave their Annual Party at the Town Hall in April, and this was greatly appreciated.

As always, members of the Committee of the Gloucestershire County Association for the Blind have given help and encouragement, also funds for extra gifts and comforts which have been supplied.

### **Physically Handicapped**

The number of physically handicapped on the register at the end of 1964 was 498, an increase of 31 since last year.

The Occupational Therapy Centre had to move from the R.A.F.A. Hut in Monson Avenue at the end of May and has since met each Wednesday afternoon in the Whaddon Boys' Club, Dart Road, Cheltenham. Here the accommodation is very good and the Boys' Club are most helpful. During the summer the Club helped to organise a most successful outing for the disabled.

The number of disabled attending the Occupational Therapy Centre averages 20 and as soon as more help is available, it is hoped to open it for a full day each week.

The British Red Cross Society Club meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday afternoon, in the large hall at Ambulance Headquarters and numbers increase steadily. This Social Club is extremely popular and filling a real need. It could expand still further if more Hospital Car Service drivers were available.

Domiciliary occupational therapy continues for those who are not able to attend the Centre.

The Cheltenham Cripples' Aid visit regularly and give very valuable help to the many severely disabled people on the register. Members of the Committee have also helped to raise funds for Muscular Dystrophy research.



### **Meals on Wheels Service**

This service has been operated successfully during the year in the capable hands of the Old People's Welfare Association providing a much needed and highly appreciated help for old people.

### **Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in need of Care and Protection**

*(National Assistance Act, 1948, Sec. 47 and Amendment Act, October, 1951)*

One person in need of care and protection was removed during the year under the above Act.

### **Welfare Assistants Training Scheme**

I made reference to this training scheme in my last report. In July 1965 our first qualified Welfare Assistant should return to the Department for a minimum period of two years and another trainee is still undergoing initial training prior to proceeding to the two years Diploma Course. This is a very worthwhile scheme for the provision of properly trained and qualified Welfare staff. My only criticism is the difficulty which young trainees are finding in obtaining vacancies on the Diploma Courses after adequate initial training. They come in full of enthusiasm which soon gives way to disappointment when they find that after more than two years they cannot get a place on the Course. This is a difficulty which will probably right itself in time when more training schools have been established.

## **HEALTH EDUCATION**

Health Education is to promote healthy living and to prevent disease, and this has been very prominent in talks during the year, both in organised and individual forms.

The Health Visitors gave talks and examinations to a variety of organisations, including Probation Homes, Women's Meetings, Youth Groups and schools. Total attendances of 4,595 were recorded at the 330 talks given.

Child Welfare Centres have also had talks on health topics from various speakers, but it is in the friendly atmosphere of informal conversation with mothers and fathers that most of the health education is done.

At the Ante-Natal Clinics the expectant mothers are given the basic knowledge of hygiene and diet in pregnancy, care of the baby, and the promotion of general health and well-being, with special emphasis on a balanced diet for the family coupled with dental hygiene.

Each year a plan is prepared to cover the monthly health education projects, and this includes the National drives on Lung Cancer, Home and Public Safety and the prevention of disease.

Our cancer campaign stresses the dangers of cigarette smoking and at the same time urges young people to help discourage any potential smokers. The use of posters, leaflets and films has contributed to the discussions which followed talks especially to youth groups.

Some student organisations have their own campaign amongst themselves on the preventative aspect of cigarette smoking and the Health Department provides the information. Youth is most receptive and if the subject is interesting enough we hope that they not only listen but mark, learn and



inwardly digest lessons we want to teach, realising in time that, "Prevention is better than Cure".

In co-operation with the General Hospital an intensive study on non-fatal home accidents to children under five years of age was commenced in July and 239 children came into this category. Their homes have been visited by the Health Visitor, and the preventative aspect of home safety discussed with the parents. A great deal of education is carried out during these visits as the Health Visitor is in an unequalled position in her relationship with the parents and children in their homes, and has contributed considerably to the general public's interest in Home Safety. It is found too that the children themselves take notice of what is said in their homes by the Health Visitor.

The friendly liaison between the Health Department and various statutory bodies, voluntary agencies and others, is a most important channel of education. Continued progress will only be achieved by educating people how to protect themselves against themselves.

Health Education must do more than provide information, it must also seek to influence people who appear to be a danger to themselves, and to others, and to teach them how to benefit from the advice given for their well-being.

## SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

## SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

## SECTION III

## SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE



# SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

## SCHOOL MEDICAL SUB-COMMITTEE

Alderman Miss F. L. CARTER ( <i>Chairman</i> )	
Alderman A. G. DYE	Councillor D. OWEN
Rev. E. C. Canon HANSON	Mr. L. J. RICHARDS
Miss D. HORTON	Councillor E. WROOT
Mrs. I. M. B. JAMES	Councillor A. H. YATES
Mr. H. J. NORRIS	Councillor Mrs. M. F. YEATES

## STAFF OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Borough School Medical Officer	<i>T. O. P. D. Lawson, M.D., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H.</i>
Assistant School Medical Officers	<i>D. B. Hill, M.A., M.B., B.Chir., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H. Brenda G. King, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.</i>
Area Dental Officer	<i>P. Stone, L.D.S.</i>
School Dental Officer	<i>A. W. McCarthy, L.D.S.</i>
Dental Hygienist	<i>Miss R. Wilson</i>
School Clinic Nurses	<i>Nurse M. Laffineur, S.R.N., R.F.N. Nurse M. S. Read, S.R.N. Nurse A. Wood, S.R.N.</i>
Physiotherapist	<i>Mrs. V. Keene</i>
Speech Therapist	<i>Mrs. M. Heaven</i>
Chief Clerk	<i>W. H. G. Meakins</i>
School Clinic Clerks	<i>Mrs. J. Abbott Miss J. Beach Miss A. Clark Miss M. Thomas</i>
School Dental Attendants	<i>Miss V. Carpenter Mrs. R. Facey Miss M. Walton</i>
School Dental Clerk	<i>Miss R. Fenton</i>

# SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER 1964

*To the Chairman and Members of the School Medical Sub-Committee.*

Madam Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The health of the school children of the town has continued to be maintained at the high standard to which we have now become accustomed. The work in the various departments in the school health service has continued along the usual lines and there is nothing outstanding to report apart from a record of very good child health throughout all our schools.

There have been no outbreaks of infectious disease, and apart from the usual incidence of measles, the effects of the common infectious diseases are now negligible and no longer present a serious problem in the health of the schoolchildren. No cases of any form of tuberculosis were notified during the year, and this in itself is a good measure of a strong and healthy child population, aided by a continuing high level of immunisation and vaccination.

Adequate provision is made for the various specialist needs of the children. The School Dental Service is still in a very healthy state with a full complement of dental officers and ancillary staff. Mr. Stone, L.D.S., was appointed Area Dental Officer in June, 1964, to succeed Mr. J. S. MacLachlan who was appointed Chief Dental Officer, Dorset County Council. Routine Audiometry is now a permanent and valuable part of the young school child's medical examination and parents are becoming more aware of the advantages of the Speech Therapy service for early speech defects. The comparatively recent introduction of an Enuresis Clinic has supplied an obvious need and has been welcomed by parents and family doctors.

As usual a large part of the specialised work of the School Health Service has been devoted to those pupils who because of mental or physical defect, require special educational treatment. These children receive special attention not only by the school medical staff but many are referred for examination to the Child Guidance and hospital consultant services after consultation with their family doctors. The child whose education has suffered because of a missed diagnosis in early life is now a rarity.

The work of the School Health Service is of course very much a joint effort and it is successful only because of the co-operation between our own medical and nursing staff and teachers and parents, family doctors and hospital consultants. We enjoy a very happy relationship with them all.

My thanks are due once again to the Chairman and members of the School Medical Sub-Committee for their continued encouragement and to Mr. Simmonds the Borough Education Officer and his staff who along with all the Head Teachers in the schools do much to facilitate our work. Lastly I would like to thank my own medical, nursing and clerical staff for their loyalty and support throughout the year.

T. O. P. D. LAWSON,  
School Medical Officer.



## **School Medical Inspections**

The routine medical inspections of school children have continued during 1964 and 4,397 children were examined throughout the year.

Children are examined :

- (a) on entry for the first time to a maintained school;
- (b) during the year in which they are 8 years old;
- (c) after entry to a secondary school when they are 12 years old, and
- (d) in the last year of their attendance at a secondary school.

These examinations are full routine medical inspections.

In addition, older pupils are examined before they leave school at the higher age groups in Pate's Grammar School for Girls, the Boys' Grammar School and the Technical High School.

As a result of these inspections, 571 pupils were found to have defective vision (excluding squint) and where necessary were referred to the Eye Specialist. A further 877 children were found to be suffering from other defects or diseases requiring treatment, and the necessary action was taken in all cases. The number of defects requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment was 1,617 and the children concerned were kept under special observation during the year. This latter group, of course, includes very many minor defects which may be remedied spontaneously and never require treatment. They are kept under observation merely as a precautionary measure. This is, of course, the main purpose of the routine medical inspections, to prevent the minor defect becoming a major one.

The school population at the end of 1964 was 12,211 and every child has an up-to-date school medical record.

## **Special School Medical Inspection**

These inspections cover children examined other than at a routine medical inspection for some special reason. During 1964, 80 children were examined at these inspections, and the appropriate action taken.

## **Re-Inspections**

Re-inspections have been held each term in all schools in the Borough when children who had previously been noted at routine or special medical inspections to be in need of further observation and advice, were seen by the School Medical Officers.

During 1964, 1,146 children were examined at these inspections.

**MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS**  
(Including Special Schools)

**Table A. Periodic Medical Inspections**

Age Group inspected (By year of Birth)	No. of Pupils who have received a full medical examination	PHYSICAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED		No. of Pupils found not to warrant a medical examination	Pupils found to require treatment (excluding dental diseases and infestation with vermin)		
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory		For defective vision (excluding squint)	For any other condition recorded at Part II	Total individual pupils
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1960 and later	110	109	1	—	3	20	23
1959	735	731	4	—	17	154	169
1958	318	318	—	—	10	83	89
1957	37	37	—	—	—	10	10
1956	1001	1000	1	—	113	200	277
1955	90	90	—	—	9	11	17
1954	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1953	105	105	—	—	23	17	35
1952	692	692	—	—	101	150	231
1951	122	122	—	—	19	20	34
1950	823	823	—	—	170	151	292
1949 and earlier	364	364	—	—	106	61	155
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4397</b>	<b>4391</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>877</b>	<b>1332</b>

Col. (3) total as a percentage of Col. (2) total 99.86%      Col. (4) total as a percentage of Col. (2) total 0.14%



**Table B. Other Inspections**

Number of Special Inspections...	...	80
Number of Re-Inspections	... ..	1146
TOTAL		1226

**Table C. Infestation with Vermin**

(1)	Total number of individual examinations of pupils in schools by school nurses or other authorized persons	... ..	17,966
(2)	Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	...	144
(3)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2) Education Act, 1944)	...	123
(4)	Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3) Education Act, 1944)	...	—

## PART II

## Defects found by Periodic and Special Medical Inspections during the Year.

Defect Code No. (1)	Defect or Disease (2)					Periodic Inspections				Special Inspections
						Entrants	Leavers	Others	Total	
4	Skin ... ..	T	27	40	47	114				1
		O	32	22	44	98				3
5	Eyes—(a) Vision ... ..	T	30	234	307	571				9
		O	27	7	37	71				3
	(b) Squint ... ..	T	39	12	33	84				3
		O	11	1	5	17				—
	(c) Other ... ..	T	9	10	17	36				2
		O	8	4	7	19				—
6	Ears—(a) Hearing ... ..	T	18	10	23	51				1
		O	50	15	66	131				1
	(b) Otitis Media... ..	T	7	8	4	19				—
		O	20	5	11	36				1
	(c) Other... ..	T	4	2	13	19				—
		O	5	1	5	11				—
7	Nose and Throat ... ..	T	67	14	43	124				5
		O	150	18	83	251				4
8	Speech ... ..	T	10	2	12	24				—
		O	23	3	16	42				1
9	Lymphatic Glands ... ..	T	1	—	—	1				—
		O	43	3	13	59				—
10	Heart ... ..	T	1	1	1	3				—
		O	33	12	27	72				4
11	Lungs ... ..	T	22	4	20	46				2
		O	55	12	37	104				2
12	Developmental—(a) Hernia ... ..	T	1	—	5	6				—
		O	9	1	9	19				—
	(b) Other ... ..	T	3	7	15	25				3
		O	32	16	58	106				2
13	Orthopaedic—(a) Posture ... ..	T	2	15	12	29				3
		O	8	47	44	99				4
	(b) Feet ... ..	T	44	28	87	159				2
		O	36	16	49	101				—
	(c) Other ... ..	T	15	19	27	61				1
		O	49	35	59	143				4
14	Nervous System—(a) Epilepsy	T	6	6	6	18				2
		O	1	1	1	3				—
	(b) Other ... ..	T	2	2	3	7				—
		O	8	4	9	21				—
15	Psychological—(a) Development	T	—	11	40	51				9
		O	10	6	20	36				4
	(b) Stability ... ..	T	5	2	35	42				2
		O	63	7	37	107				3
16	Abdomen ... ..	T	4	4	12	20				—
		O	5	5	9	19				—
17	Other ... ..	T	8	10	9	27				1
		O	6	—	8	14				2

T)—Treatment. (O)—Observation.



## PART III

**Treatment of Pupils attending maintained Primary and Secondary Schools**  
(Including Special Schools)

**Table A. Eye Diseases, Defective Vision and Squint**

*Number of cases known  
to have been dealt with*

External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	...	...	...	...	37
Errors of refraction (including squint)	...	...	...	...	864
Total					901
No. of Pupils for whom spectacles were prescribed ...					597

**Table B. Diseases and Defects of Ear, Nose and Throat**

*Number of cases known  
to have been dealt with*

Received operative treatment :					
(a)	for diseases of the ear	...	...	...	24
(b)	for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	...	...	...	327
(c)	for other nose and throat conditions	...	...	...	32
Received other forms of treatment					125
Total					508

Total number of pupils in schools who are known to have been provided with hearing aids :

(a)	in 1964	...	...	...	3
(b)	in previous years	...	...	...	14

**Table C. Orthopaedic and Postural Defects**

*Number of cases known  
to have been treated*

(a)	Pupils treated at clinics or out-patients departments	...	...	...	407
(b)	Pupils treated at school for postural defects	...	...	...	—
Total					407

**Table D. Diseases of the Skin (excluding uncleanness, for which see Table C of Part I.)**

*Number of cases known  
to have been treated*

Ringworm	(a)	Scalp	...	...	...	—
	(b)	Body	...	...	...	2
Scabies	...	...	...	...	...	18
Impetigo	...	...	...	...	...	24
Other skin diseases	...	...	...	...	...	71
Total						115

**Table E. Child Guidance Treatment**

	<i>Number of cases known to have been treated</i>
Pupils treated at Child Guidance clinics ...	142

**Table F. Speech Therapy**

	<i>Number of cases known to have been treated</i>
Pupils treated by Speech Therapists ...	152

**Table G. Other Treatment Given**

	<i>Number of cases known to have been dealt with</i>
(a) Pupils with Minor Ailments ...	1317
(b) Pupils who received convalescent treatment under School Health Service arrange- ments ...	—
(c) Pupils who received B.C.G. vaccination ...	622
(d) Other than (a), (b) and (c) above. Please specify :	
U.V.L. Treatment ...	17
Anaemia ...	8
Chest ...	34
Debility... ..	16
Total	2014

The foregoing tables record the general range of examination and treatment carried out within the school health service during the year and the various defects found to require treatment or observation. Except for defects of vision, no treatment is undertaken or arranged without the concurrence of the child's own family doctor. These statistics do not demonstrate a high rate of defects or disease. Much of the treatment undertaken is preventive or remedial and this is the main purpose of the school health service.

### Minor Ailments Clinics

These clinics serve a useful purpose for the referral of children from school or for special examinations.

### Audiometry

The routine testing of school children for hearing defect has continued in the schools during the year with the co-operation of head teachers, and is proving one of the most effective preventive measures of the School Health Service. The County Education Authority provide the services of a skilled examiner and the six-year-old group are selected for examination, although the examiner will test any special case referred to her by the head teacher. This is proving a very useful means of discovering early cases of hearing defect and where necessary, treatment can be started at an early age before the disability can affect the child's education. Details of 1,121 audiometric examinations carried out in Cheltenham schools during the year, are shown in the following tables :



**Routine Tests**

<i>Number Tested</i> 992	<i>Number Failed</i> 57 (6%)	<i>Referred Hospital</i> 7
-----------------------------	---------------------------------	-------------------------------

**Special Cases and Re-tests**

<i>Number Tested</i> 129	<i>Number Failed</i> 59 (46%)	<i>Referred Hospital</i> 17
-----------------------------	----------------------------------	--------------------------------

I am greatly indebted to Mr. G. N. Barker, M.B., B.S., F.R.C.S.(ED.), D.L.O., Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon, Cheltenham General Hospital, for his co-operation in the examination and treatment of cases referred to him by our School Medical Officers.

## PART IV

### DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY

1964 has seen for the first time in many years a full dental establishment. Mr. J. S. MacLachlan, L.D.S., our Area Dental Officer, left and was replaced by Mr. P. B. Stone, L.D.S. Later in the year the vacancy for a Dental Hygienist was filled by Miss R. M. Wilson and in November we appointed a third dental officer, Miss K. A. Goldberg, L.D.S. We now have three dental officers, three dental nurses, a dental hygienist and a dental clerk.

Dental inspection and treatment is now proceeding regularly throughout the schools in the town and in a full year should show very satisfactory results. The Mobile Dental Clinic is proving its worth by taking treatment to the schools but now that we have three full-time dentists a third dental surgery is essential in order to give full facilities to all our dental officers. Dental Health Education is being taken over by the Dental Hygienist.

#### Dental Inspection and Treatment

The following table gives the details of inspections and treatment carried out in the year 1964. Corresponding figures for the year 1963 are given in parentheses :

- (1) Number of children inspected by school dental officers :

(a) At Periodic Inspections	...	...	7499	(8671)
(b) As Specials	...	...	781	(891)
		Total	8280	(9562)

(2) Number found to require treatment	...	5719	(6025)
(3) Number offered treatment	...	4543	(4967)
(4) Number actually treated	...	3057	(2465)
(5) Number of attendances made by pupils for treatment, excluding those recorded at 13(a)	...	3928	(4515)
(6) Half-days devoted to :			
Periodic School Inspection	...	68	(88)
Treatment	...	835	(730)
	Total	903	(818)

(7) Fillings :			
Permanent teeth	...	2959	(3184)
Temporary teeth	...	626	(506)
	Total	3585	(3690)



(8) Teeth filled :	Permanent teeth	...	...	2959	(2944)
	Temporary teeth	...	...	626	(501)
			Total	3585	(3445)
(9) Extractions :	Permanent teeth	...	...	395	(521)
	Temporary teeth	...	...	1498	(1291)
			Total	1893	(1812)
(10) (a)	Number of general anaesthetics given for extractions			750	(659)
(b)	Number of half-days devoted to the administration of general anaesthetics by				
(i)	Dentists	...	...	10	(14)
(ii)	Medical practitioners	...	...	53	(58)
			Total	63	(72)
(11)	Number of pupils supplied with artificial teeth			29	(28)
(12) Other operations	(a)	Crowns	...	5	(6)
	(b)	Inlays	...	—	—
	(c)	Other treatment	...	7	—
			Total	12	(6)
(13) Orthodontics :					
(a)	Number of attendances made by pupils for orthodontic treatment			167	(149)
(b)	Half-days devoted to orthodontic treatment			21	(18)
(c)	Cases commenced during the year			14	(23)
(d)	Cases brought forward from the previous year			15	(24)
(e)	Cases completed during the year			13	(23)
(f)	Cases discontinued during the year			5	(11)
(g)	Number of pupils treated by means of appliances			13	(46)
(h)	Number of removable appliances fitted			13	(15)
(i)	Number of fixed appliances fitted			—	—
(j)	Cases referred to and treated by Hospital Orthodontists			—	—
			Total	261	(309)

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Infectious disease among school children in the town is no longer a serious problem as the following figures show :

<i>Measles</i>	<i>Diphtheria</i>	<i>Scarlet Fever</i>	<i>Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Poliomyelitis Paralytic</i>	<i>Non-Paralytic</i>	<i>Dysentery</i>
207	Nil	12	14	Nil	Nil	2

### Tuberculosis

There were no notifications of tuberculosis among school children during the year.

### B.C.G. Vaccination

The following table shows details of tuberculin testing and vaccination against tuberculosis, a means of protection against the disease which has been available to school children between the ages of 13 and 14 years since 1954. It is encouraging to report a continuing high acceptance rate and this simple, safe and effective protection against tuberculosis is obviously acceptable to parents and it is hoped it will continue to be so.

<i>No. of Schools</i>	<i>Invited</i>	<i>Accepted</i>	<i>Tuber- culin Tested</i>	<i>No. Positive</i>	<i>No. Negative</i>	<i>% Positive</i>	<i>NOT Vaccin- ated</i>	<i>Vaccin- ated</i>
11	1,035	825	747	113	622	15.1%	12	622

## SPEECH THERAPY

Work continued on the same lines as 1963 with treatment sessions at the main clinic in the Municipal Offices; Health Centre, Newton Road; Thirlestaine Court E.S.N. School; St. Vincent's Remedial Centre for Cerebral Palsied Children and in various schools.

Following is an analysis of the work done. In addition, 99 children were seen and advice given though regular Speech Therapy was not necessary.

*Year Ending 31st December, 1964.*

Number of Clinics held	...	...	...	...	353
Number of Sessions for School Visiting, Clerical, etc.	...	...	...	...	105
Number of Consultations	...	...	...	...	235
Number of Treatments given	...	...	...	...	1,764
Number of children admitted	...	...	...	...	42
Number of children discharged	...	...	...	...	46
Number of children on Register, 31st December, 1964	...	...	...	...	120

### Discharges

	Stammer		Stammer and Dyslalia		Dyslalia		Cleft Palate		Other		Total
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	
Provisionally Cured	—	—	—	1	13	6	—	1	1	—	22
Much Improved	3	1	—	—	5	3	—	—	5	2	19
Slightly Improved/ Unco-operative	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
No improvement	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Left District and School	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	3
TOTAL	4	1	—	1	19	10	—	1	7	3	46



## Physiotherapy

A physiotherapy clinic is held on two days per week. Children are referred by the School Medical Officer from the routine school medical inspections or from minor ailments clinics. Treatment consists of graduated exercises and ultra violet light. Progress is watched and the children are re-inspected at school.

The following statistics show the work done during the year :

Exercise ...	913
U.V.L. Treatment ...	244

## Recuperative Holidays

We are indebted to the Cheltenham Rotary Club for generously providing a free fortnight's holiday for Cheltenham schoolboys at Weston-super-Mare.

The boys selected by the school medical officers, are convalescent or debilitated children, whose parents would not be able otherwise to provide them with a recuperative holiday by the sea. The boys stay at the Rotary Boys House where a healthy and happy holiday, with good food and regular hours, does much to restore them to their normal vigour. Travelling expenses are also provided by the Rotary Club.

The Cheltenham Rotary Club has been providing these holidays for schoolboys in the town since 1928 and up to four boys per month can be sent to Weston. On behalf of the School Medical Committee, I would like to express our sincere thanks for this very fine example of 'Service Before Self' and couple with it the gratitude of many parents in the town.

## Child Guidance Clinic

Dr. P. R. Doherty, the Medical Director of the Child Guidance Service, has again been most helpful in examining the large number of children referred to him during the year both from the School Health Service and general practitioners. These numbers increase every year and a waiting list for appointment is inevitable but every child is seen as quickly as possible.

## Enuresis Clinic

The Enuresis Clinic has now been established at the School Clinic, Royal Well Road, since August, 1963. The clinic was started following consultation with the Medical Director of the Child Guidance Clinic and is staffed by a school doctor and a psychiatric social worker. Children are referred to the clinic by general practitioners and school medical officers.

This has been a successful venture and the response has been encouraging.

Enuresis is a common and distressing complaint among school children, arising from many and sometimes obscure causes which often require detailed and specialist investigation. Specialist equipment, often necessary for treatment is also available, and in co-operation with the family doctor, is issued for use at home. Also, where it appears that surgical investigation is necessary, Mr. P. F. Boreham, F.R.C.S. at the General Hospital has kindly offered to see any children we may wish to refer to him with the concurrence of the family doctor.



Work done during the year was as follows :

Number of clinics held	...	...	...	...	20
Number of new cases seen	...	...	...	...	32
Number of consultations	...	...	...	...	149
Number of cases cured as at 31st December, 1964	...	...	...	...	24
Number of cases still under treatment	...	...	...	...	18

The above figures show a very satisfactory result for the short time that the clinic has been in operation and as will be noted the cure rate is of the order of 75 per cent.

### Employment of Children and Young Persons

During the year 113 school children were examined as to fitness for employment before or after school hours and the necessary certificate was granted in each case. The standard of fitness among Cheltenham school children is such, that it is exceptional if a certificate of fitness has to be refused to an applicant.

These children are kept under medical observation and there has never been any evidence that the part-time employment has been in any way detrimental to their physical or mental welfare.

All children leaving school are examined and advised in the light of their known medical histories as to any type of work for which they may have been found to be physically unsuitable and good liaison has been maintained with the Youth Employment Officer in this respect.

### Handicapped Children

In accordance with the requirements of the Handicapped Pupils and Special Schools Regulations, 1959, 79 pupils have been examined or re-examined during 1964 for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not they are suffering from a disability of the mind or body, and if the disability is such as to fall within a category requiring special educational treatment as prescribed by the Regulations. Of the pupils examined during 1964 the following recommendations were made :

To attend Day Special School	...	...	...	28
To attend Residential School	...	...	...	14
Unsuitable for education at school	...	...	...	4
Requiring friendly care and guidance	...	...	...	2
Recommended for Home Tuition	...	...	...	5

In addition a further 26 pupils were examined; 13 were found to require special education in an ordinary school and 13 were found to have no disability.

The results of these examinations which were carried out by our medical staff, who are specially qualified for the purpose, are brought before the School Medical Sub-Committee with an appropriate recommendation. They also include the examinations of school children referred to the Child Guidance Clinic with the recommendation of the Medical Director.

The figures shown above are encouraging because they show a reduction in nearly every category as compared with last year, the only exceptions being that a few more were recommended for home tuition and more were found to be suffering from no disability on examination.



## SECTION IV

### ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE

#### Report of Chief Public Health Inspector

## REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND MANAGER OF THE PUBLIC ABATTOIR

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the work carried out in the Department during the past year.

The total number of visits made increased to 22,006, some 3,300 above the previous year.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act became operative during this period, requiring the registration of all offices and shops where persons are employed for a total of more than 21 hours per week. Its scope is wide, covering heating, lighting, ventilation, washing, sanitary and first-aid facilities, danger from machinery, noise and vibration. A completely new section requires the notification and investigation of accidents, a report on which has to be sent to the Deputy Superintending Inspector of Factories, giving an opinion as to the cause and the measures taken to prevent any recurrence.

It is rather disappointing to note that no specific regulations have been made prescribing standards for lighting and ventilation, as these would have proved extremely useful to both architects and builders involved in the rebuilding of offices and shops.

The Aberdeen Typhoid outbreak, with its incidence of almost 500 cases, provided another disturbing reminder of the necessity for the strictest control, not only in all stages of food manufacturing, but especially during storage and sale. It is singularly unfortunate that it has taken an epidemic of this magnitude to obtain a review of the temperature control provisions in the Food Hygiene Regulations, which at present allow such foods as meat and meat products to be exposed for sale in warm shops for indefinite periods.

The publicity given to this outbreak, which involved 752 enquiries by the Public Health Inspectors relating to suspected tins of corned beef, has undoubtedly aroused public opinion as to the danger of unhygienic food practices. Talks on the subject of food hygiene were given to various organisations, including College students, Licensed Victuallers and Health Visitors. One meeting was held for the food traders at the Town Hall, at which the Food Hygiene Advisory Officer of the Ministry of Health was the Guest Speaker.

It was unfortunately necessary to take legal proceedings in 14 cases of serious contraventions of the Food and Drugs Act, the details of which are set out in the accompanying schedule.

The formation of an additional Smoke Control Area has been deferred for one year, primarily because of the greatly increased cost of conversions and also the shortage of some smokeless fuels. Investigations of pollution continue to be made by means of three deposit gauges and a smoke and SO<sub>2</sub> recorder. The average deposits in tons of solids per square mile per month were 5.4 at the Hesters Way Health Centre, 7.4 at the Municipal Offices and 8.6 at Dunalley Street Schools and for the whole town 7.1 tons, compared with 8.8 tons for 1963.

A great deal of progress has been made in the removal of visible pollutants such as smoke, from the atmosphere, but there still remain the



invisible toxic gases such as sulphur oxides. In the case of small factories and domestic chimneys, the only practicable method at present of dealing with this pollution is by means of dilution and dispersion achieved by building chimneys of adequate height to carry it clear of surrounding properties.

Attention is also being directed to checking air pollution at ground level emanating from vehicles in the parts of the town where the traffic is most dense.

Many surveys and investigations were undertaken in connection with noise nuisances from factories. The chief offenders were those that had been erected in close proximity to dwelling houses and a noise level that was tolerable during the day, proved to be the cause of much concern when night shifts were put into operation. Improvements were achieved by additional insulation of the more noisy parts of the plant and by the provision of baffle walls, but it is extremely difficult to deal with the steady humming sound made by such apparatus as extraction fans during the hours of darkness.

The Public Health Committee continued to deal with many unfit premises and are ahead of the 5-year programme submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, the number dealt with by means of demolition orders, closing orders and undertakings since 1955 having reached 674. This number excludes repair notices and those served under the nuisance sections of the Public Health Acts.

The reconditioning of houses for the Housing Committee continued on a restricted scale, which was primarily due to the Central Area Redevelopment Plan being in the course of preparation and, until its detailed provisions have been decided, reconditioning is, in general, being confined to areas outside its boundaries.

The throughput of animals at the Abattoir decreased from 42,726 in 1963, to 39,415, a trend which is general throughout the country and reflects the housewife's preference for imported meat with the occasional broiler chicken, rather than home killed meat. There is also a steady export of animals for food being sold to the Continent. Thus, although a profit has been made at the Abattoir for the past 7 years, a loss will probably occur due to rising maintenance costs and lower throughput.

The building adjacent to the Abattoir, formerly occupied by the Gloucestershire Marketing Society for the storage and construction of boxes, was converted during the year to provide additional covered lairage accommodation for cattle. This is a great improvement and means that no animals have to be housed in open yards during the winter weather.

The Marketing Society moved from the market, which they had occupied for almost 30 years, to their new premises in Alstone Lane. This large covered building has now been leased to a local firm and completely separated from the market toll ground. This change means that many products that were formerly prohibited under the terms of the Marketing Society's agreement can now be sold in the toll market, which is well attended on Thursday mornings, the number of stall holders averaging 30 per week, which compares favourably with the previous year.

I should like to express my sincere appreciation to the Chairmen and members of the Public Health and other Committees of the Council for their continued confidence and support and to thank my Deputy and the staff for their contribution to the work summarised in this report.

J. F. URSELL, D.P.A., F.A.P.H.I.

## 1. Public Health

Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	113
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	2,360
Stables and Piggeries		...	...	...	...	3
Waste Food Boiling Plants		...	...	...	...	1
Common Lodging House		...	...	...	...	8
Houses Let in Lodgings		...	...	...	...	27
Caravan Sites	...	...	...	...	...	115
Public Conveniences		...	...	...	...	142
Theatres and Places of Entertainment	...		...	...	...	7
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	171
Smoke Observations		...	...	...	...	7
Clean Air Act	...	...	...	...	...	166
Marine Store Dealers		...	...	...	...	5
Rodent and Pest Control		...	...	...	...	139
Houses inspected under Public Health Act				...	...	613
Re-visits	...	...	...	...	...	551
Rag Flock Premises	...	...	...	...	...	8
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	2
Enquiries following Infectious Disease	...			...	...	9
Miscellaneous Infectious Disease Visits				...	...	7
Inspection of Corned Beef Tins			...	...	...	752
Interviews	...	...	...	...	...	685
Noise Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	85
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...		...	...	...	440
						<hr/> 6,416

## 2. Housing

Number of houses inspected under Housing Act	...	579
Re-visits	...	3,496
Overcrowding — Number of houses inspected	...	15
Re-visits	...	7
Verminous Dwellings inspected	...	2
Re-visits	...	—
Rent Act	...	4
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	...	658
		<hr/> 4,761



TABLE III

## 3. Food Hygiene

Abattoir (Additional visits by District Inspectors)	...	86
Other premises — meat inspection	...	33
Butchers Shops	...	199
Fishmongers and Poulterers	...	34
Grocers Shops	...	245
Greengrocers and Fruiterers	...	104
Licensed Premises	...	282
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	30
Ice Cream Premises	...	111
Confectioners	...	127
School Canteens	...	47
Food Preparing Premises	...	188
Restaurant and Hotel Kitchens	...	431
Market Stalls	...	94
Street Vendors and Food Delivery Vehicles	...	37
Food Inspection and Condemnation	...	273
Milk, Bacteriological Samples	...	28
Food and Drugs Samples	...	230
Offensive Trades	...	10
Fried Fish Shops	...	36
Bakehouses	...	74
Miscellaneous Visits in connection with food	...	304
Removal of Unsound Food	...	221
		<hr/> 3,224 <hr/>

TABLE IV

## 4. Offices, Shops and Factories

Factories	...	258
Outworkers	...	20
Offices and Shops	...	418
		<hr/> 696 <hr/>

TABLE V

## 5. Disinfection and Disinfestation

*Disinfection :*

Premises fumigated	...	12
Infectious articles disinfected	...	39
Other articles disinfected...	...	200

*Disinfestation :*

Premises treated	...	126
Articles treated	...	180

*Destruction of Mattresses, etc. :*

Articles destroyed	...	237
Other visits	...	1,877

---

2,671

---

TABLE VI

## 6. Rodent Control

*Rats and Mice :*

Number of visits for Inspection	...	...	...	1,938
Number of visits for Treatment	...	...	...	1,491

*Other Pests :*

Number of visits for Inspection	...	...	...	249
Number of visits for Treatment	...	...	...	187

---

3,865

---

TABLE VII

## 7. Other Visits

Shops Act—Hours of Trading	...	...	...	158
Employment of Young Persons	...	...	...	32
Employees Welfare	...	...	...	29
Pharmacy and Poisons Act	...	...	...	1
Fabrics — Misdescription Regulations	...	...	...	5
Merchandise Marks Act	...	...	...	131
Pet Animal Shops	...	...	...	2
Animal Food Shops	...	...	...	13
Animal Boarding Establishments	...	...	...	2

---

373

---

Total of Tables I, II, III, IV, V, VI and VII	...	...	...	22,006
---	-----	-----	-----	--------

---

## NOTICES SERVED

		<i>Informal Notices</i>		<i>Formal Notices</i>	
		<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied</i>	<i>Served</i>	<i>Complied</i>
Public Health Act, 1936	...	141	133	13	10
Pests Act, 1949	...	6	2	—	—
Shops Act, 1950	...	1	1	—	1
Housing Act, 1957	...	—	—	—	—
Factories Act, 1961	...	37	36	2	2
		<hr/> 185	<hr/> 172	<hr/> 15	<hr/> 13

In addition to the above, letters concerning eighty-three contraventions under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960, and seventy-two contraventions under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963, were sent during the 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 2,089 Official Searches.



# **PRESCRIBED PARTICULARS ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961**

## **PART 1 OF THE ACT**

### **1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).**

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	29	18	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	352	216	35	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' Premises) ... ..	14	24	2	—
<b>TOTAL ...</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>258</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>—</b>

## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
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	3	3	—	3	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	34	33	—	15	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>—</b>

## PART VIII OF THE ACT OUTWORK

(Sections 133 and 134)

Nature of Work (1)	Section 133			Section 134		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (c) (2)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council (3)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists (4)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises (5)	Notices served (6)	Prosecutions (7)
Wearing apparel (Making etc.)	12	—	—	—	—	—



## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

This Act came into operation in 1964, requiring, in addition to other provisions, the registration of all shops and offices to which it applies.

It makes provision for the safety, health and welfare of a great many people employed in shops and offices, by laying down extensive requirements in regard to their environment. Regulations have been made dealing with W.C. and washing accommodation, which come into force in 1966. On the question of "heating", it is disappointing that certain types of shops will be exempted from the temperature requirement. Could not a lower minimum temperature have been substituted in these days of refrigerated counters and storerooms? This would also have the effect of discouraging the anachronism of the open-fronted food shops.

An extract from the first Annual Report containing the prescribed particulars submitted to the Minister of Labour under Section 60 of the Act, is set out below. The Report covers the period from the operative date, 1st May, to the end of the year.

Following the initial flood of registration forms received during May and June, it was calculated that there were still some 40% of the employers who had not registered. Subsequently, letters were sent to over 500 offices and shops, enclosing the necessary forms and, by the end of December, over 1,000 registration forms had been received.

An additional Public Health Inspector was appointed in June to assist in carrying out the survey of premises and 118 full inspections had been made before the end of the year. During these inspections, 277 contraventions were noted and letters were sent to 72 employers requesting additional facilities, ventilation of premises, etc.

Six notifications of an accident were received, all concerning female employees, four working in shops and two in canteens. Each case was fully investigated and, in two instances, the management was requested to implement certain precautions to prevent further accidents. As required by the Act, Investigation Reports were submitted to the Regional Superintending Inspector.

There were no applications for Exemption Certificates and, in fact, very few enquiries concerning these were received.

The implementation of this Act will absorb a great deal of the Department's time in the future. The Public Health Committee again expressed concern at the large amount of statistical information which local authorities were required to forward to the Ministry of Labour, little of which appeared to be of any benefit or help to the authority concerned. They decided to make further representations to their Association, urging them to take the matter up with the Ministry, and also to seek grant aid in respect of the time and expenditure involved in operating this Act.

# OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

## Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	No. of premises registered during the year	No. of registered premises at end of year	No. of registered premises receiving general inspection during the year
Offices ... ..	348	344	30
Retail Shops ...	547	524	83
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses ...	36	36	5
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens ...	69	69	—
Fuel storage depots ...	3	3	—
TOTALS ...	1003	976	118

## ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY WORKPLACE

<i>Class of Workplace</i>	<i>Number of Persons Employed</i>
Offices ... ..	3,651
Retail Shops ... ..	4,310
Wholesale Departments, Warehouses ...	503
Catering Establishments open to the public	799
Canteens ... ..	70
Fuel Storage Depots ... ..	24
Total	9,357
Total Males	3,746
Total Females	5,611



## Reported Accidents

Workplace	Number Reported		Total Number Investigated	Action Recommended			
	Fatal	Non-Fatal		Prosecution	Formal Warning	Informal Advice	No Action
Offices	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Retail Shops	—	4	4	—	—	1	3
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Catering establishments open to public, canteens	—	2	2	—	—	1	1
Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	6	6	—	—	2	4

## ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The evidence linking air pollution with lung cancer continues to increase. Surveys have continued on all chimneys that occasionally emit black smoke and the Public Health Committee gave further consideration to the establishment of a second Smoke Control Area early in the year. However, in view of the Ministry of Power's White Paper on Domestic Fuel Supplies and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government's Circular on Smoke Control Areas, the Committee decided to reconsider this matter in twelve months' time. This decision was undoubtedly influenced by the greatly increased cost of establishing Smoke Control Areas in accordance with the new policy.

Every effort has been made to reduce air pollution caused by the burning of trade refuse, especially in connection with the scrap metal industry.



## HOUSING

It will be seen from the table that, since 1945, some 1,326 premises have been dealt with. Of these 603 properties have been the subject of Closing Orders, 54 Undertakings were accepted by the owners in lieu of Closing Orders, 403 houses were demolished and 266 made fit as the result of formal notices. It is interesting to note that the number of persons displaced in connection with this action amounted to 2,808.

The standards laid down under the Housing Act remain deplorably low. One cannot insist on the provision of a bath, let alone a bathroom or a hot water supply and the time is undoubtedly long overdue when adequate standards should be specified. The success of any Housing Redevelopment Programme, whether carried out by private enterprise or not, should not only be assessed by the number of units made available, but by the number of houses brought up to modern standards. In this, the Borough are now taking an active lead in connection with the modernisation of their own Council houses.

Houses in multiple occupation continue to give cause for some anxiety and the appalling conditions under which some aged owner/occupiers exist can be illustrated by a case involving a small 4-room terrace house, occupied by an aged owner, which had fallen into such a serious state of decay that the roof was leaking badly, the staircase and ceilings had collapsed and the general condition was most unsatisfactory. It was eventually necessary to remove the elderly married woman in the house under the National Assistance Act, the adult daughter was admitted to a mental hospital, and the owner voluntarily entered another hospital.

### Reconditioning

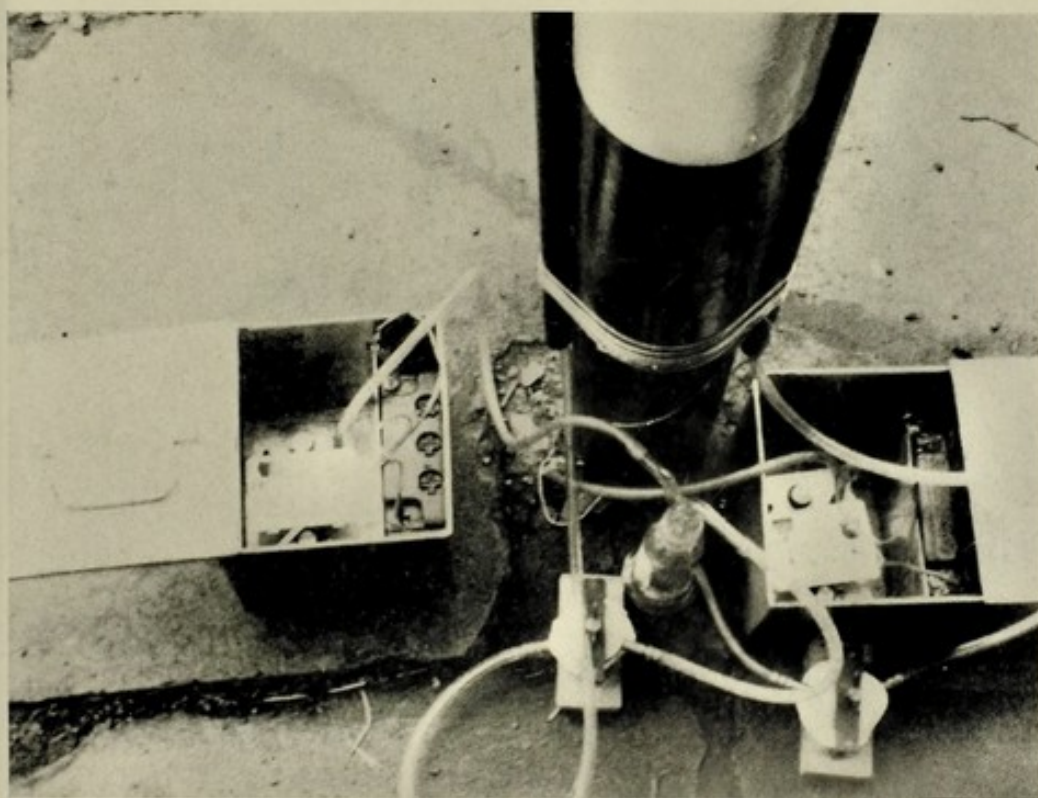
A further 6 houses were reconditioned during the year, bringing the total for the six years the scheme has been in operation to 31. The average cost of reconditioning these houses is £613, after allowing for the Improvement Grant received from the Ministry.

### HOUSING ACT, 1957

The following action under the above Act was taken during the year (figures for 1963 are given for comparative purposes) :

	1963	1964
(a) Closing Orders (Basement Dwellings) ... ..	10	14
(b) Closing Orders (Parts of Houses, etc.) ... ..	4	3
(c) Closing Orders Determined ... ..	17	21
(d) Demolition Orders ... ..	4	1
(e) Houses Closed ... ..	18	14
(f) Undertakings to render premises fit ... ..	—	5
(g) Undertakings cancelled ... ..	3	2
(h) Undertakings not to use premises for human habitation ... ..	1	5
(i) Houses demolished ... ..	23	67
(j) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit ...	7	—





*These two photographs show the apparatus on loan from the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research to ascertain atmospheric pollution at the roadside. Pollution emanating mainly from the exhaust fumes of vehicles will be obtained.*

*The top picture shows the battery-operated pump in position on a busy traffic island.*

*The lower picture shows the layout of the equipment in which the flow of air is measured, filtered and the sulphur oxides recorded.*



### 3 QUEEN'S RETREAT



*Photograph by courtesy of the Gloucestershire Echo*  
*The scene outside a terraced house in Cheltenham which burnt out in a disastrous fire*



*After remaining derelict for some years, the house was purchased by the Council and completely rebuilt to modern standards*

## Action taken since the end of the War :

	No. of Houses	No. of persons displaced
(a) Houses closed ... ..	201	636
(b) Parts of buildings closed ... ..	402	1,024
(c) Houses closed in pursuance of an under-taking by the Owner ... ..	54	187
(d) Houses demolished ... ..	403	961
(e) Houses made fit as a result of formal notices ... ..	266	—

## NEW HOUSES

## New houses completed in the Borough since June, 1945 :

	By the Council	By Private Enterprise
Up to 31st December, 1960 ... ..	4,648	
During 1961 ... ..	187	
„ 1962 ... ..	117	
„ 1963 ... ..	31	
„ 1964 ... ..	103	
	5,086	3,826



## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT AND FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

Seventy complaints were received from members of the public concerning the sale of unsatisfactory food. Legal proceedings were taken in fourteen instances, thirteen of which were successful. Fines totalling £410 were imposed, and Costs of forty-one guineas were awarded by the Magistrates' Court. One case concerning mouldy sausage rolls sold to a customer in a large restaurant/snack bar was dismissed. The proprietors pleaded not guilty and established successfully a warranty agreement between themselves and the manufacturers.

A case of particular interest concerned a sugar bun which had a small larva adhering to the top surface. The usual investigation was carried out at the shop and adjoining bakehouse, and an infestation of flour moth and larvae was found in a flour drawer in the bakehouse.

Subsequently proceedings were taken against the firm under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act and Regulation 6 of the Food Hygiene Regulations. The firm was fined £100 and ordered to pay five guineas costs.

The majority of the other cases concerned food sold to the customer in a mouldy condition, and in many cases investigations revealed that food had been exposed for sale for periods up to three weeks.

Whilst it is appreciated that there would be some sales resistance to pies marked "to be eaten before . . .", it is obvious that if a simple and prescribed date code was punched into each pie wrapping, and legislation passed to improve Inspectors' powers of examination of small goods during transportation, the steady increase of complaints regarding these items could be curbed.

Following investigation of a complaint regarding a rabbit sold in an open-fronted shop, it was noted that the shop-keeper did endeavour to maintain some standard of hygiene by frequent spraying of the exposed goods with water. The shop, however, is situated in the main street of the town facing an open road junction, and there must undoubtedly be considerable contamination of the food by dust and fumes.

With modern refrigeration, air-conditioning and other relevant facilities available to shop-keepers, it is deplorable, in my opinion, that a loop-hole in the legislation permits food for sale to be exposed in this way.

From time to time too, food delivery vehicles are noted being driven with the rear doors open, and in such cases the commodities must obviously become contaminated by exhaust fumes and dust. Quite often, the personnel employed on such vehicles are not provided with washing facilities, and one firm has stated that they rely on the good will of their customers to permit their men to wash their hands as necessary. This is obviously not only impracticable but quite unrealistic. There is a very strong case for firms employing door-to-door confectionary salesmen to provide them with proper washing facilities on their vehicles.



# SAMPLES OF FOOD AND DRUGS SUBMITTED FOR ANALYSIS

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

Commodity	Formal	Informal	Commodity	Formal	Informal
Aluminium Hydroxide			Fruit Pudding ...	1	—
Gel B.P. ...	—	1	Fruit Pulp ...	1	—
Apple Sauce ...	2	—	Garlic Salt ...	—	1
Apricot Jam ...	1	—	Gelatine ...	—	1
Apricots ...	1	1	Gin ...	1	—
Banana Syrup ...	—	1	Ginger Beer ...	—	1
Batter Mix ...	1	—	Glucose ...	1	—
Beef Sausage Meat ...	1	—	Glucose Liquor Drink	—	1
Beef Suet ...	1	—	Glycerine, Honey and		
Beer ...	3	—	Lemon ...	—	1
Blackberries ...	1	—	Ground Almonds ...	1	1
Blackcurrant Cordial...	1	—	Guavas ...	1	—
Blackcurrants ...	—	1	Hamburgers ...	1	—
Blood Mixture ...	—	1	Honey ...	1	—
Bread ...	—	2	Honey Ginger Preserve	1	—
Bubble Gum ...	1	—	Honey Spread ...	—	1
Butter ...	3	—	Ice Cream ...	5	—
Butter Cream Flapjacks	1	—	Icing Sugar ...	—	1
Calves Foot Jelly ...	1	—	Indigestion Tablets ...	—	1
Cascara ...	—	1	Influenza Mixture ...	—	1
Cereal ...	—	1	Instant Milk ...	—	1
Cheese and Beer ...	—	1	Irish Stew ...	1	—
Cheese Cake ...	1	—	Jam ...	—	1
Chelsea Bun ...	—	1	Jellied Veal ...	—	1
Cherries ...	—	1	Jelly ...	1	—
Chicken Spread ...	—	1	Lard ...	1	—
Chocolate Cereal ...	1	—	Laxative ...	—	2
Chocolate			Lemon Curd ...	1	—
Marshmallows ...	1	—	Lemon Juice ...	1	—
Chocolate Snowballs...	1	—	Lemonade Powder ...	—	2
Coffee ...	—	1	Lettuce ...	—	1
Condensed Milk ...	—	1	Licquorice Sticks ...	1	—
Cooked Ham ...	—	1	Liver Sausage... ..	1	—
Corned Beef ...	—	1	Low Sugar Jam ...	—	1
Cornish Pasties ...	1	—	Luncheon Meat ...	1	1
Cough Syrup ...	—	1	Malt Beverage ...	—	1
Cream ...	—	1	Margarine ...	3	—
Cream Horns ...	2	—	Marzipan ...	1	—
Cream Sponge ...	1	—	Meat Sauce ...	—	1
Creamed Sago ...	—	1	Meringues ...	1	—
Cucumber ...	—	1	Milk ...	36	1
Curried Chicken and			Milk Shake Syrup ...	1	—
Mushroom ...	1	—	Minced Beef ...	6	1
Custard Powder ...	1	—	Minced Turkey ...	1	—
Date Sandwich ...	—	1	Mincemeat ...	1	—
Dates ...	1	—	Mixed Peel ...	1	—
Demerara Sugar ...	1	—	Mousse ...	1	—
Desiccated Coconut ...	2	1	Mushroom with		
Egg Rusks ...	1	—	Noodles ...	—	1
Energy Tablets ...	—	1	Mushroom Soup ...	1	—
Ephedrine Hydro-			Mushrooms ...	1	—
chloride B.P. Tablets	—	1	Oats ...	1	—
Evaporated Milk ...	—	1	Olive Oil ...	1	—
Extract of Beef ...	—	1	Orange Drink... ..	1	—
Faggots ...	1	—	Orange Juice ...	—	1
Fig Syrup ...	—	1	Pain Tablets ...	—	1
Fish Cake ...	—	1	Parrish's Food B.P. ...	—	1
Foam Crystals ...	—	1	Pease Pudding ...	1	—
Food Colour ...	—	1	Peeled Tomatoes ...	1	—
Frozen Egg ...	—	2	Phenolphthalein in		
Frozen Beans ...	2	—	Agar Emulsion ...	—	1
Fruit Cake ...	1	—	Pickled Eggs ...	—	1



Commodity	Formal	Informal	Commodity	Formal	Informal
Pie Filling ...	1	—	Spearmint ...	1	—
Plums ...	—	1	Steak & Kidney Pie ...	1	—
Pork Pie ...	1	—	Stomach Powder ...	1	—
Pork Roll ...	—	1	Strawberries ...	—	1
Pork Sausages ...	2	—	Strawberry Drink ...	1	1
Potato Flour ...	—	1	Stuffed Peppers ...	—	1
Prunes... ..	1	—	Sugar Bun ...	—	1
Quick Flan ...	—	1	Sugar Preparation ...	1	—
Quick Jel ...	—	1	Sugarless Pastilles ...	—	1
Raisins ...	2	—	Sultana Malt Loaf ...	1	—
Ready Dinner ...	1	—	Tea ...	2	—
Rice ...	—	1	Toffees ...	—	1
Rum ...	1	—	Tomato Paste ...	—	1
Runner Beans ...	—	1	Tomatoes ...	—	2
Sago ...	1	—	Tongue ...	—	1
Sal Volatile ...	—	1	Treacle Tarts... ..	1	—
Salmon Croquettes ...	—	1	Vegetable Juice ...	—	1
Salmon Spread ...	1	—	Vegetable Oil ...	1	—
Seasoning ...	—	1	Vegetables ...	1	—
Seaweed ...	1	—	Vinegar ...	1	—
Self Raising Flour ...	1	1	Whiskey ...	4	—
Sherry... ..	1	—	Yeast ...	—	2
Soup Mix ...	—	1			

Number of samples taken during 1964 :

Formal	...	...	148
Informal	...	...	88
Total			236

## ICE CREAM

At the end of the year, 275 premises were registered for the storage and sale of ice cream, 9 were registered for the manufacture, storage and sale, and 5 were registered for the storage only of ice cream.

Five samples were submitted for chemical analysis, all were reported by the Public Analyst as being genuine.

## ACTION TAKEN IN CONNECTION WITH FOOD AND DRUGS

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Formal or Informal</i>	<i>Report of Public Analyst</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>
219	Tin peas containing small snail	Complaint	—	Warning letter to manufacturers
234	Coconut containing mouse droppings	Complaint	Confirmed to be mouse faeces	Proceedings taken, Vendors fined £25. Costs £5 5s.
1	Metal wiring clip in cake	Complaint	—	Warning letter to Manufacturers
2	Mouldy Pork Pie	Complaint	—	Proceedings taken, Vendor fined £10. Costs £2 2s.
247	Spirit of Sal Volatile	Formal	Deficient in ammonia to extent of 15.1%	Warning letter to Vendor
248	Eau d'Alibur	Formal	Copper sulphate deficient to extent of 14.28%	Warning letter to Vendor
3	Mouldy Steak and Kidney Pie	Complaint	...	Warning letter to Vendor
11	Larva in bread	Complaint	Larva of a moth had been cooked in the loaf	Manufacturers prosecuted, fined £20. Costs £3 3s.
24	Mouldy Chocolate Sponge	Complaint	—	Manufacturers fined £40. Costs £4 4s.
28	Beetle in cream slice	Complaint	—	Warning letter to Vendors
50	Mouldy Cheese and Onion Biscuits	Complaint	—	Vendors fined £10. Costs £2 2s.
51	Piece of cloth in tin of Stewed Steak	Complaint	—	Manufacturers fined £15. Costs £3. 3s.
52	Mouldy Potato Crisps	Complaint	—	Warning letter to Manufacturers
53	Mouldy Steak and Kidney Pie	Complaint	—	Vendor fined £20. Costs £2 2s.
56	Mouldy Steak Pie	Complaint	—	Warning letters to Manufacturer and Vendor
57	Maggots in Steak and Kidney	Complaint	—	Vendors fined £25. Costs £3 3s.



<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Description</i>	<i>Formal or Informal</i>	<i>Report of Public Analyst</i>	<i>Action Taken</i>
60	Mouldy Malt Cake	Complaint	—	Vendors fined £40. Costs £4 4s.
61	Mouldy Steak and Kidney Pie	Complaint	—	Vendors fined £25. Costs £4 4s.
112	Bun containing nail	Complaint	The nail had been baked in the bun	Warning letter to Manufacturers
114	Mouldy sausage rolls	Complaint	—	Proceedings taken under Section 8, case dismissed on successful claim by Vendors of warranty
115	Mouldy Steak and Kidney Pie	Complaint	—	Vendors fined £30. Costs £4 4s.
135	Mineral Oil in packet of Cereal	Complaint	Considered to be adulteration	Warning letter to Manufacturers
139	Rice containing mouse droppings	Complaint	Confirmed to be mouse faeces constituting an adulteration	Proceedings taken against Vendors under Sections 2 and 8. Fined £50, plus Costs
163	Bun containing maggot	Complaint	Larva of flour moth had been baked in bun	Proceedings instituted against Confectioners under Section 2 Food and Drugs Act, and Food Hygiene Regulations. Fined £100. Costs £5 5s.
163a & 193b	Material taken from flour drawer in Bakehouse	Investigation of Complaint	Material consisted of larvae and moths	
182	Milk	Informal	Contained 0.021 units of Penicillin per ml.	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food informed

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

<b>Tinned Foods</b>				<i>Tins</i>	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Meat	...	...	...	1,009	—	18	1	23
Fish	...	...	...	520	—	2	1	13
Vegetables	...	...	...	2,862	1	4	2	5
Milk and Cream	...	...	...	214	—	1	1	20
Fruit	...	...	...	5,111	2	16	3	10
Soup	...	...	...	230	—	2	3	21
Jam	...	...	...	153	—	2	1	20
Milk Puddings	...	...	...	100	—	—	3	4
Miscellaneous tinned foods				3	—	—	—	12
Total				10,202	5	9	3	16

<b>General</b>				<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Meat	...	...	...	—	18	2	15
Fish	...	...	...	—	1	2	23
Bacon	...	...	...	—	3	2	17
Frozen Eggs	...	...	...	—	3	1	20
Poultry	...	...	...	—	2	3	8
Flour and Cereals	...	...	...	—	2	—	2
Fresh Fruit and Vegetables	...	...	...	—	3	3	13
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	—	1	3	18
Total				1	18	0	4
Grand Total				7	7	3	20

**RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951**

A routine sample of layered cotton felt from a local factory was taken during the early part of the year in the manner prescribed, and the result of the analysis indicated that the sample failed to meet the requirements of the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations 1951 in respect of the trash content, the permitted maximum being 7.5%.

Trash is described in the Regulations for unused cotton felt as "seed, chaff (leaf and stalk) or other impurities". The trash content was over twice that permitted by the Regulations.

The Manufacturers were summonsed in the Magistrates' Court and were fined £15 plus 5 guineas advocate's fees.



## NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960

This year has been fairly active in the field of noise complaints, but in each case no definite evidence of a statutory nuisance could be obtained in spite of considerable time being spent on observations in the evening and at weekends.

One case became headline news in the local Press when successful appeals were made to the Rating Valuation Court for a reduction in assessments on properties in close proximity to an aluminium extrusion factory. The owners of four nearby houses, described by their Advocate as four "souls in torment", asserted that a 1,500 ton electro-hydraulic press caused a dreadful noise.

In view of the exaggerated terms used by the residents and the publicity given to the complaints, the Public Health View Committee visited the factory when it was in full production and watched the process of extraction. In rooms adjacent to the factory they could hardly believe that they were in a building, the noise from which had been the subject of such dramatic descriptions as "shock waves going through the ground, as a result of which all the houses tremble reminiscent of bombs exploding during the war."

The complaints were investigated on a number of occasions and tests were made with a Sound Level Indicator, the readings taken at the houses of the residents varying between 53 and 58 decibels. Traffic noise at the front of the houses indicated 80 decibels.

Upon recommendations designed to effect a reduction in the volume of noise emitted from the factory, baffle walls were constructed adjacent to the suction fans and windows near the air compressor were baffled.

Another case causing complaints concerned the noisy behaviour of persons using the swimming pool of a social club that had been established adjoining a good residential area. This is a seasonal occurrence, but several hours were spent taking observations without obtaining evidence of a nuisance. However, several local residents received reductions in the rateable value of their premises.



## PETROL VAPOUR

A complaint was received from residents in Queens Road in October, regarding a sweet sickly odour within their premises. The occupiers were rather concerned whether or not there was any risk of explosion from the presence of gas.

Investigations were carried out but, whilst this did not appear to be coal gas, it was not possible to type the smell. It was, however, ascertained that the concentration was, at that time, not inflammable. The smell was found to be more noticeable in the manhole of the houses than in the sewer manholes adjacent.

A further complaint was received a week later and, on this occasion, chemical testing apparatus brought into use indicated that the gas was due to the presence of petrol vapour or petroleum derivative. Again, the Explosometer did not register any inflammability.

On the following day the sewers were again examined by this Department and the Petroleum Officer, and the petroleum vapour smell traced to a sewer manhole close to a garage in Lansdown Place, which was found to contain gas in inflammable proportions. The Drager Chemical Tester indicated the presence of hydrocarbons which are present in petrol.

Some 5 days later further complaints were received that the smell was again building up in the houses in Queens Road and subsequent investigations by this Department and representatives of the Gas Board revealed that this was not coal gas but a petrol vapour, an actual reading of 24% inflammability being registered.

The petrol tanks and feed pipes were tested in the nearby garage by the Petroleum Officer and it was ascertained that the petrol tank was leaking and one of the feed pipes to the pumps was also defective. It may be that the leakage of the feed pipe resulted in these complaints arising at the time of the day when the pumps were no longer in use.

The defects at the garage were rectified and no further complaints were received.

## DRY-CLEANING SUBSTANCES

### PERCHLOROETHYLENE AND TRICHLOROETHYLENE

During a visit to a local laundromat which also carries out dry cleaning, it was noted that there was a strong smell of Perchloroethylene. Two Westinghouse coin-operated dry-cleaning machines are operated by an attendant, the cycle lasting approximately 46 minutes. Both machines are mechanically ventilated and, if functioning correctly, no danger exists.

The substances used in dry-cleaning are Trichloroethylene and Perchloroethylene. These liquids have been used for many years for this purpose and give off a heavy vapour which, if inhaled for any length of time, or in a strong concentration, are dangerous. The Medical Research Council recommend that the maximum permissible concentration is 200 parts of vapour per million parts of air by volume for both substances. Fatalities have been reported in America and Canada, one said to be due to treated articles containing a high proportion of vapour being transported in a closed motor car, which rendered the driver partly unconscious with fatal results to a pedestrian.

In view of this it was stressed to the Manager and the owner that these machines should only be operated by a trained member of the staff who would ensure, not only that the ventilating system and cycle were operating correctly, but that the articles of clothing were hung in the fresh air for a period of at least thirty minutes before being delivered to the customer.



## PUBLIC ABATTOIR

The total number of animals slaughtered at the Abattoir during 1964 was 39,415. This figure is 3,311 fewer than that for the previous year.

This reduction in throughput is due to a combination of several factors, including local difficulties within the Wholesale Meat Companies operating from the Abattoir, but mainly attributable to the much wider and quite revolutionary changes experienced by the meat trade as a whole during the course of the year. Particularly was this felt in the case of cattle and calves where such factors as the increased demand for beef in countries not traditionally consumers of large quantities of beef and veal, the buying of increased numbers of English cattle in local markets by Continental buyers and the fact that the cattle population in this country was some 100,000 fewer than in the previous year, all contributed to a reduced available supply and a subsequent increase in the price of beef. Coinciding with this was the greater availability of other flesh foods — notably broiler chickens — at reduced prices.

Whilst these factors may at first seem to be somewhat remote from the working of the Public Abattoir, reduction in the total throughput of animals does mean also a reduction of income, which is charged on a "head-rate" basis. The present rate of charges per animal has remained unaltered since 1st June, 1957, and for some years a steady increase in the number of animals slaughtered — the total for 1957 was 25,818 — ensured that the Abattoir was able to operate at a small profit. With a reduction in throughput, however, this may be no longer possible and it may be that the Council will have to consider adjusting the Abattoir fees or introducing meat inspection charges if it is their wish that the premises do not become a charge on the rates.

Expenditure had to be incurred on two major items of repair, firstly, the defective and leaking part-slatted and part-felted roof over the old pig lairage was completely stripped and replaced by a lean-to asbestos roof and, secondly, the dilapidated wooden pale fence forming the boundary between the Abattoir and the Market was removed and replaced by iron railings.

The "Tuberculin Test" of all cattle on the farms, carried out by Veterinary Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food under the Tuberculosis Eradication Scheme resulted, during the year under review, in 160 animals being sent to the Abattoir for slaughter because of their failure to pass the test. Post-mortem examination of these animals revealed that in 64.4% of these cases tubercular lesions were in fact present. With the exception of two animals, however, the disease was in fact localised, requiring rejection, as unfit for human consumption, of only parts of the carcasses or organs. Apart from these animals slaughtered because of their having "reacted" to the "tuberculin test", all home-bred cattle from attested herds were free from the disease. Seven cases were revealed, however, in cattle which were brought into the Abattoir for slaughter direct from the Republic of Ireland. These figures again show a satisfactory improvement in the incidence of Tuberculosis in cattle, having fallen from 140 cases in 1963 to 110 in 1964.

The incidence of *Cysticercus Bovis* in cattle, however, showed an increase from 38 in the previous year to 47 during 1964, although it was necessary to submit only 8 of these carcasses to treatment by refrigeration.

An increase in the number of carcasses totally rejected as being unfit for human consumption was also recorded — 194 carcasses during the current year, compared with 160 during 1963. This was also reflected in the increased weight of meat and offals found diseased or otherwise unfit — 29 tons 7 cwt., compared with 26 tons rejected during 1963.



# **CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART AT CHELTENHAM PUBLIC ABATTOIR**

**Annual Summary ending 31st December, 1964**

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed	5,108	266	731	17,618	15,692	39,415
Number Inspected	5,108	266	731	17,618	15,692	39,415
<b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</b> Whole carcasses condemned	5	13	33	65	74	190
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1,176	87	5	1,220	1,917	4,405
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	23.12%	37.59%	5.19%	7.29%	12.68%	11.65%
<b>Tuberculosis only :</b> Whole carcasses condemned	1	2	—	—	1	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	26	79	2	—	413	520
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.52%	30.45%	0.27%	—	2.63%	1.30%
<b>Cysticercosis only :</b> Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	47	—	—	—	—	47
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	8	—	—	—	—	8
Generalized and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—



**TOTAL WEIGHTS OF MEAT AND ORGANS REJECTED, 1964**

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
<b>Bovine</b>								
Meat in Carcass	5	4	1	12				
Meat not in Carcass	1	12	0	9				
Organs and Viscera	7	11	0	8				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Ovine</b>								
Meat in Carcass	1	3	0	1				
Meat not in Carcass	—	—	3	3				
Organs and Viscera	1	6	2	26				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Swine</b>								
Meat in Carcass	4	17	2	25				
Meat not in Carcass	4	1	0	13				
Organs and Viscera	3	11	0	10				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>TOTAL MEAT</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>				
<b>TOTAL ORGANS AND VISCERA</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>16</b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>23</b>

**CYSTICERCUS BOVIS**

There were forty-seven cases of *Cysticercus Bovis* during the year, the overall rate of infestation being 0.87 per cent.

# **CARCASSES REJECTED AS TOTALLY UNFIT FOR HUMAN FOOD, 1964**

Diseases	Bulls	Cows	Heifers	Steers	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
Actinobacillosis, generalised,	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4
actinomycosis, generalised	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anaemia, advanced	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Abscesses, Multiple	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blackleg	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bruising, extensive and severe	—	1	—	—	2	7	—	10
Cysticercus bovis, generalised	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercus cellulosae	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercus ovis, generalised	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Decomposition, generalised	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3
Emaciation, pathological	—	3	—	—	2	36	5	46
Fever (including salmonellosis)	—	3	1	—	1	—	6	11
Foot and mouth disease	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Immaturity	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
a) Stillborn or unborn carcasses	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
b) Oedematous carcasses and carcasses in poor physical condition	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Jaundice	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	3
Moribund	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	8
Malignant Catarrhal fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mastitis, acute septic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Melanosis, generalised	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Metritis, acute septic	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Abnormal odour, associated with disease or other conditions prejudicial to health	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Oedema, generalised	—	2	—	—	1	4	2	9
Pericarditis, acute septic	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Peritonitis, acute, diffuse, septic	—	—	—	1	2	1	18	22
Pleurisy, acute, diffuse, septic	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
Pneumonia, acute, septic	—	1	—	—	2	1	4	8
Pyæmia, including joint-ill	—	—	—	—	7	2	6	15
Sarcocysts, generalised	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Septicaemia or toxæmia	—	1	2	—	15	2	11	31
Swine erysipelas, acute	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	5
Swine fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tetanus	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Trichinosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, generalised	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	4
Tuberculosis, Congenital	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tumours	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
i) Malignant with secondary growths	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
o) Multiple	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Jaemia	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
<b>TOTALS</b>	—	15	5	1	33	65	75	194



## PEST CONTROL

633 complaints of pests were received from members of the public during the year. They varied from rats, mice, moles and ants, to pigeons and cluster fly infestations. With modern insecticides it was possible to give satisfactory treatment in most of these cases, but one that does present a very intractable problem is the nuisance arising from large numbers of feral pigeons that inhabit the Regency buildings and Churches in the central areas of the town.

The Ministry advocate the use of a narcotic that stupefies the birds and good results have been obtained by this method at selected points. Specialist firms using a ladder similar to the Fire Service, have placed repellents on some of the more important Regency buildings. This is effective in preventing pigeons landing on the cornices and similar places, but does nothing to destroy them and they then migrate to adjacent properties.

It is unfortunate, however, that, although many complaints are received from those responsible for the maintenance of the buildings of the damage caused to roofs, ceilings and the fouling of the stonework, there are quite a few persons who continue to encourage these birds and the treatment so far undertaken has been on a limited scale due to the many difficulties involved.

Whilst no objection can be raised to a few of these birds, the problem of several hundreds in the town centre is a real danger.

It is interesting to note that the Public Health Laboratory have isolated salmonella from 43 out of 246 pigeons and emphasise the danger to health that might be caused by salmonella contaminating foodstuffs.

The six-monthly baiting of sewer manholes to control the rodent infestation in the sewerage system was carried out, some 417 manholes being baited. The number and percentage of manholes where poison bait was taken are set out in the following schedule. Warfarin still continues to be effective as a rodenticide with a considerable margin of safety insofar as human beings and other animals are concerned.

**PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949**  
**PART I — RATS AND MICE**

	<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>	<i>Total</i>
<b>1. Complaints Received ...</b>	214	207	421
<b>2. Number of Premises Inspected :</b>			
(a) As a result of complaint :			
Private Dwellings ...		332	
Business Premises ...		113	
Local Authority Properties		36	481
(b) As routine visit or survey :			
Private Dwellings ...		824	
Business Premises ...		301	
Local Authority Properties		170	1,295
<b>3. Number of Premises found to be infested :</b>			
	<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>	
Private Dwellings ...	125	135	260
Business Premises ...	45	66	111
Local Authority Premises...	23	28	51
			422
<b>4. Number of Visits Paid :</b>			
(a) For inspection ...	1,326	612	1,938
(b) For treatment ...	885	606	1,491
			3,429
<b>5. Sewer Maintenance Treatments :</b>			
Total number of manholes in Borough ...			1,657
Maintenance Treatment No. 35 (April, 1964) :			
Number of sewer manholes baited with poison ...		198	
Number of sewer manholes where poison bait taken		44	22.2%
Maintenance Treatment No. 36 (Oct./Nov. 1964) :			
Number of sewer manholes baited with poison ...		219	
Number of sewer manholes where poison bait taken		20	9.1%

**PART II — OTHER PESTS**

**1. Complaints Received :**

<i>Ants</i>		<i>Moles</i>		<i>Wasps</i>	<i>Insects</i>	
<i>Flies</i>	<i>Beetles</i>	<i>Rabbits</i>	<i>Pigeons</i>	<i>Bees</i>	<i>etc.</i>	<i>Total</i>
14	42	14	20	120	2	212

**2. Number of Visits Paid :**

Inspection	10	37	83	96	19	4	249
Treatment	8	41	19	7	112	—	187



## CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S STAFF 1964

### TECHNICAL

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector	<i>A. L. Jones, M.A.P.H.I., San. Science R.S.H.*†</i>
District Inspectors	<i>H. Stone, M.A.P.H.I.*† G. J. C. Buck, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.*† A. H. Carling, M.A.P.H.I.*† R. J. Wintle, M.A.P.H.I.*† R. G. Webb, M.A.P.H.I., San Science R.S.H.*†‡ (appointed in June)</i>
Pupils	<i>D. M. Wise (Diploma obtained in June, Resigned in September) R. S. C. Walker</i>

### ABATTOIR

Meat Inspector/Superintendent	<i>R. Hullah, M.Inst.M., M.A.P.H.I.*†</i>
Deputy Superintendent	<i>J. E. Phipps</i>
Assistant Superintendent	<i>A. H. J. Lewis</i>
Handymen	<i>A. Edwards E. Hawker</i>

Mr. T. W. Agg retired in November after 33 years' service.

\* Certified Meat and Food Inspector, R.S.H.

† Public Health Inspector's Education Board Certificate.

‡ Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

### DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Disinfection Officer	<i>G. Cross</i>
Assistant	<i>B. G. Davies</i>

### RODENT CONTROL

Pests Officer	<i>A. C. Jones</i>
Rodent Operators	<i>G. Richardson J. W. Quarterman</i>

Mr. H. J. Nunney retired in October after 10 years' service.

### CLERICAL

Senior Clerk	<i>D. Y. Harrison</i>
Secretary	<i>Miss M. E. J. Edden</i>
Clerical Assistant	<i>Miss E. M. Oliver</i>
Shorthand Typist	<i>Miss J. Reeves</i>
Junior Clerk	<i>Miss S. E. Davis</i>

Mrs. J. M. Workman resigned in February.