

[Report 1946] / Medical Officer of Health, Cheltenham (Union) R.D.C.

Contributors

Cheltenham (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1946

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Cheltenham Rural District

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1946

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

STEPHEN KNIGHT,
M.B., B.S.(Lond), M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor :

E. H. ROSSER, M.R.S.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

L. GROGAN,
Certified Sanitary Inspector.
Certified Inspector of Meats and Foods.

F. H. LEWIS,
Certified Sanitary Inspector.

Housing Inspectors :

A. F. YOUNG.
M. CLARK.



Cheltenham Rural District Council

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1946

To the Chairman and Members of the Cheltenham Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the District for 1946.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population 18,910 is a thousand less than that for the previous year, but owing to the occupation of the ex-service camps at the end of the year and other factors there is probably a slight increase rather than a decrease in population.

The birth rate 17.9 is somewhat below that for the Country as a whole but is an increase on the figure for the previous year and follows the general tendency to rise in the post-war years.

The death rate 12.2 is a little in excess of the national figure of 11.5. Explanation for these slight variations from the national rates for both births and deaths is because of the relatively high proportion of elderly people in the District.

The infantile mortality rate, a delicate index which may be closely watched for the well-being of a community, is 38 deaths of infants under one year of age, per 1,000 live births as compared with the higher rate of 43 for the country as a whole.

The District enjoyed a freedom from acute infectious disease. The general decline in the incidence of these diseases is due to rising standards of personal and environmental hygiene, while direct action against diphtheria by immunisation has reduced cases of this disease to very small numbers.

Twenty-four new cases of tuberculosis were notified, a large number, but not excessive in view of the size of the population and the general incidence of this disease in the Country. Bad housing and overcrowding are factors of considerable importance in the spread of the disease. When necessary a house should be allocated to the family of a tuberculosis person so that he may have a separate bedroom.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

STEPHEN KNIGHT,
Medical Officer of Health.

Cheltenham Rural District Council

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Cheltenham for the year 1946.

Area in Acres, 81,940.

Rateable value (March, 1946), £126,866.

Population (as estimated by the Registrar General), 18,910.

Yield of one penny rate, £512 18s. 10d.

Number of inhabited houses, 5,338.

Vital Statistics

BIRTHS

			LIVE BIRTHS.		Total.
			Males.	Females.	
Legitimate	..	..	149	151	300
Illegitimate	..	..	17	22	39
Total	..	..	166	173	339

Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population, 17.9.

			STILL BIRTHS.		Total.
			Males.	Females.	
Legitimate	..	..	6	5	11
Illegitimate	..	..	1	—	1
Total	..	..	7	5	12

Still Births per 1,000 estimated population, 0.6.

INFANTILE DEATH RATE.

			Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	..	..	5	3	8
Illegitimate	..	..	1	4	5
Total	..	..	6	7	13

Giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 38 per 1,000 Live Births.

The need for special care on the part of the authorities for the illegitimate child is clearly shown, no less than 5 of the 39 illegitimate children born dying before their first birthday. An infantile mortality rate of 130 per 1,000.

DEATHS.

230 (112 Males, 118 Females) deaths of residents were registered during the year, giving a Death Rate of 12.2 per 1,000 population.

Deaths from Cancer, 1.9 per 1,000 population.

Deaths from Tuberculosis (all forms), 0.5 per 1,000 population.

The principal causes of death were :—

DISEASE.						Males.	Females
Typhoid and Para. Fevers	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
Tuberculosis—Respiratory System	..	..	..	..	..	5	3
Other forms of Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
Syphilitic Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	—	2
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Polio-Encephalitis	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Acute Infect. Encephalitis	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Cancer { Bucc. Cav. Oesophagus (M) Uterus (F) }	..	..	..	..	..	—	3
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	5	5
Cancer of Breast	..	..	..	..	..	—	5
Cancer of other Sites	..	..	..	..	..	10	8
Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	—	2
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	..	..	..	..	..	5	12
Heart Disease	..	..	..	..	..	29	40
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	..	..	..	..	..	2	3
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	6	5
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	5	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Diarrhoea under two years of age	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Appendicitis	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	5	6
Nephritis	..	..	..	..	..	5	4
Puerperal and Post-Abortion Sepsis	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
Other Maternal Causes	..	..	..	..	..	—	1

DISEASE.						Males.	Females
Premature Birth	..	..	..	..	..	3	2
Congenital Malformation—Birth Injuries, Infantile Disease, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	2	3
Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	2	—
Road Traffic Acc.	..	..	..	..	..	5	—
Other Violent Causes	..	..	..	..	..	4	—
All other Causes	..	..	..	..	..	14	8

Total.. .. 112 118

Total, both Male and Female .. 230

Infectious Diseases notified during 1946

(Excluding Tuberculosis).

DISEASES.	Under 1 year		1 to 5		5 to 15		15 to 25		25 and upwards		Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	3	3	6	—	—	—	1	13
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	4
Whooping Cough ..	—	3	1	5	1	4	—	1	—	—	15
Measles	1	1	2	3	4	1	—	1	1	—	14
Pneumonia	3	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	4
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2

TUBERCULOSIS

The following new cases were notified during the year :

PULMONARY.			NON-PULMONARY.			All Forms
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Total.
15	5	20	1	3	4	24

The Age Group at notification :—

	0 to 5		5 to 15		15 to 25		25 and upward	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Pulmonary	—	—	1	1	6	—	8	4
Non-Pulmonary ..	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	1

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS, 1946

PULMONARY.		NON-PULMONARY.	
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
5	3	—	1

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

The number of cases on the Register, 31st December, 1946, was as follows :—

PULMONARY.			NON-PULMONARY.			TOTAL.
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	
66	30	96	21	13	35	131

BIRTH, DEATH, AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1946.
Birth Rate (Per 1,000 population).	23.7	16.3	18.9	17.1	17.9
Death Rate (Per 1,000 population).	11.8	11.9	10.3	11.4	12.2
Infantile Mortality Rate .. (Per 1,000 Live Births).	23.4	42.2	48.3	32	38
(Deaths of infants under one year).					

**FOR COMPARISON, THE BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANTILE
MORTALITY RATES OF ENGLAND AND WALES, ETC.,
ARE GIVEN BELOW.**

	England and Wales.	126 C.B.'s and Great Towns.	148 Smaller Towns.	County of Glouces- ter.	Chelten- ham R.D.C.
Live Births	19.1	22.2	21.3	18.9	17.9
Still Births	0.53	0.67	0.59	—	0.6
(Per 1,000 population).					
Death Rate	11.5	12.7	11.7	12.16	12.2
(Per 1,000 population).					
Infantile Mortality Rate	43	46	37	38	38
(Deaths of infants under 1 year)					
(Per 1,000 Live Births).					
Deaths under 2 years of age from Diarrhoea and Enteritis	4.4	6.1	2.8	2.5	—
(Per 1,000 Live Births).					

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

It will be noticed that although four cases of diphtheria were notified during the year only one of these was of a child under 15 years of age and that child had not been immunised. The remaining three cases occurred over a period, in a hostel amongst young adults, who had grown up before the immunisation campaign was under way. However, although this source of infection was in our midst there was no spread to the child population.

The importance of immunisation is shewn also by the national figures for 1945; of the 593 children under 15 years who died from diphtheria only 36 were reported to have been immunised and 30 of these 36 had not been given a reinforcing dose subsequent to the primary immunisation in infancy.

The immunity conferred by artificial immunisation is not maintained indefinitely, so that it is desirable that a child who has been immunised in infancy at about 9 months old should be given a single reinforcing dose at the age of 4 to 5 to afford maximum protection on entry into school.

Three hundred and thirty-five children were given primary immunisation during the year raising the percentage of immunised children from 50 per cent. in 1945 to 58 per cent. in 1946, in addition 178 children received a reinforcing dose.

Immunisation is carried out at all welfare centres, in the schools, and by arrangement by the family doctor.

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1946:—

Age at 31/12/46 e.g. born in year	Under						10 to 14 1932-36	Total under 15
	1 year 1946	1 1945	2 1944	3 1943	4 1942	5 to 9 1937-41		
Number immunised	1	88	151	134	142	892	857	2,265
Estimated mid-year population 1945	..	..	1,540	..	..	2,360	..	3,900

Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths in relation to immunisation:—

NOTIFICATIONS				DEATHS		
Age at date of notification	Number of cases notified	Number of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation		Age at date of death	Number of deaths	Number of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation
5 to 9	1	Nil				
Totals	1	Nil		Totals	Nil	Nil

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

HOUSING

In spite of the post-war difficulties with materials and labour the Council were able to build during the year 4 Swedish timber and 8 permanent traditional type houses as well as 35 prefabs. At the end of the year there were under construction 54 permanent houses and 8 prefabs.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY

Good progress was made during the year with the inspection of houses under the Rural Housing Survey.

No. of houses to be inspected (under Rateable Value of £16 per ann.)	No. of houses inspected to 31st Dec., 1946	CLASSIFICATION CATEGORIES					5b Subject to demolition or clearance area before war
		1 Satisfactory in all respects	2 Minor defects	3 Requiring repair	4 Appropriate for reconditioning	5 Unfit for habitation	
3,668	1,630	296	572	304	118	330	8

Eighteen per cent. are fit in all respects, 35 per cent. have minor defects, 25 per cent. require repair or reconditioning, and 21 per cent. are unfit for habitation.

Thirty-five houses were found to be overcrowded.

The unfit houses are in a deplorable state of disrepair. Sinks do not exist, the houses are without proper drainage systems. Water taps

are outside the houses and there is often a standpipe serving several houses. A shallow well inadequately protected against surface contamination is quite common. There are no larders and cooking facilities are bad.

Usually a steep winding staircase opens on to a draughty landing bedroom from which another bedroom opens, making privacy impossible.

Dampness is a common and serious feature. Against these conditions we are to set shortly the target standard of fitness published by the sub-committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee, a standard which the Minister of Health intends to make legal at an early date.

The Sub-Committee's standard is that the dwelling should :—

- (i) be in all respects dry ;
- (ii) be in a good state of repair ;
- (iii) have each room properly lighted and ventilated ;
- (iv) have an adequate supply of wholesome water laid on for all purposes inside the dwelling ;
- (v) be provided with efficient and adequate means of supplying hot water for domestic purposes ;
- (vi) have an internal or otherwise readily accessible water closet ;
- (vii) have a fixed bath preferably in a separate room ;
- (viii) be provided with a sink or sinks and with suitable arrangements for the disposal of waste water ;
- (ix) be provided with facilities for domestic washing including a copper, preferably in a separate room ;
- (x) have a proper drainage system ;
- (xi) be provided with adequate points for artificial lighting in each room ;
- (xii) be provided with adequate facilities for heating each habitable room ;
- (xiii) have satisfactory facilities for preparing and cooking food ;
- (xiv) have a well-ventilated larder or food store ;
- (xv) have a proper provision for the storage of fuel ;
- (xvi) have a satisfactory surfaced path to outbuildings and convenient access from a " street " to the backdoor.

(Application varying as to where the public services are available).

It is likely, therefore, that the number of houses in category five will increase. Reconditioning of houses under the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts is in abeyance.

Reconditioning does not require nearly so much material as a new house and the labour to do the job is usually available in the village, but unless assistance from the Government is resumed little reconditioning will be attempted.

Reconditioning, even to the target standard of Central Housing Advisory Committee, is practicable in the case of many of our unfit

houses but a considerable sum of money will be involved in each case. Without a financial grant the work is not an economic proposition since the letting rent is controlled.

Even though the Council might acquire such properties there would be no form of assistance available to them for this method of improving the housing conditions in the district.

SQUATTERS

We witnessed during the autumn a forcible demonstration of the acute housing shortage when a number of vacant service camps were seized and occupied by squatters; people preferring the bleak conditions of the camps to the accommodation they had, mostly rooms or being in a house on sufferance with another family.

Steps were taken to have the camps handed over to the Council in order to obtain a measure of control.

One camp was required by the Service Department, and the Council was able to find alternative accommodation and persuade the squatters to move.

Another camp because of lack of water supply, sewerage and the dilapidated state of the huts was found to be totally unfit for occupation. Steps were taken to close and free it for derequisition.

Measures in the interest of general health, electric light, water supply and sewerage were brought into operation as soon as possible, although owing to damage a considerable amount of repair had to be done before the services could be turned on. Cooking facilities had to be provided at short notice for although some families were fortunate enough to find bathrooms, cooking ranges were few and far between.

The next phase in orderly development was to encourage the families to move to those parts of the camps where the services could be more economically provided and then, where a hut was found suitable, to bring it up to the standard of a temporary dwelling.

1. Northway Grounds, Ashchurch.

This camp was found to be suitable only for first aid and urgent repairs in accordance with M. of H. Circular 20/46 para. 7.

The lavatories used are of a communal double battery type and water is obtained from the ablution buildings. About 60 persons are now living in this camp.

2. The Park, Stoke Orchard.

The huts are of a much better type and fit for conversion into temporary dwellings for 10 years in accordance with paras. 3 and 4 of the Circular.

About half of the families already have a water supply and a water closet in their huts. The remainder are using the battery lavatories but each is partitioned off.

There are about 150 people in this camp.

3. Chargrove Grounds, Shurdington.

The huts are mostly Nissens, decayed and worn out: however, there are some timber and concrete buildings to which alterations are being carried out in accordance with paras. 3 and 4 of the Circular, temporary dwellings with a life of ten years.

Water is obtained from the ablution blocks, and the lavatories are of the battery types, partitions were erected to separate male from female.

4. Witcombe Grounds.

A portion of the camp was vacated by the War Agricultural Executive Committee under pressure exerted by the R.A.F. Authorities to provide accommodation for 23 families transferred from the R.A.F. Camp at Bamfurlong, Staverton.

The buildings on this site are of varied construction such as brick, plasterboard, felt and corrugated iron. The essential services were maintained and most of the buildings are equipped with their own water closets and water supply.

Conversion works to the better buildings are being carried out in accordance with para. 6 (five years) of the Circular.

WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE

The water supply in the area supplied by the Council has been satisfactory both in quantity and quality.

Small local springs at Teddington and Bushcomb Lane were found to be unsatisfactory. Works are approved at both places to link up with the area water scheme and so disconnect these small local sources.

All the Council's water supplies are chlorinated. Sixty-seven samples were taken of public and private water supplies and submitted to the Public Analyst. Reports on those of Council supplies were satisfactory except in the instances mentioned above where appropriate action was taken.

Seventeen samples from the Council's various sewerage works also were submitted for analyses.

Difficulties in the supply of materials, labour and rising costs as well as the emphasis on building new houses have restricted progress in the water and sewerage schemes which have been approved in principle by the Council.

WATER SUPPLIES

	Estimated Cost.
C Badgeworth 4,000 yards of main to connect main at Bentham to main at Air Balloon	£ 4,350
C Great Witcombe. Small length of Water main to Little Witcombe	300
C Great Witcombe. Extension of Gloucester Corporation main to Great Witcombe	2,200

Water Supplies—continued

		Estimated Cost
C	Bishop's Cleeve. Extension of mains	£2,100
C	Coberley. Extension of main from Water Tower, Ullenwood to Coberley	3,150
B	Cowley. Extension of main from Ullenwood to Birdlip and District boundary	5,236
C	Deerhurst. 4,400 yards of main	4,850
C	Dumbleton. Incorporation in Area Scheme ..	?
C	Hawling. Purchase of local springs abandoned, extension of main from Winchcomb	?
C	Leckhampton. Extension of mains	2,500
C	Oxenton. Improvement of springs at Oxenton ..	500
C	Oxenton. Extension of mains from Gotherington to Woolstone	1,975
C	Shurdington. Extension of mains to Little Shurdington	1,100
B	Snowhill. Provision of mains and reservoir, ex- tension from Evesham Borough Supply	4,000
C	Swindon. Extension of main from Swindon to Brockhampton	1,300
C	Twynning. Extension of mains	8,250
C	Winchcomb. Relaying of mains	5,000
C	Woodmancote. Extension of mains	350
C	District Generally. Provision of covered reservoir at Stanton Head Works. New pumps and new mains at Winchcomb Pumping Station	10,000

SEWERAGE

C	Ashchurch. Connection to scheme for Army Depot	
C	Badgeworth, Leckhampton, Shurdington, Staverton. New Works and extension of main sewers	
C	Bentham. Separate small works or connect to R.D.C. sewer at Brockworth	3,250
C	Bentham. Crickley Hill, 4,000 yards of sewer ..	4,350
C	Little Witcombe. New sewer to connect with Brockworth Sewer	1,300
C	Bishop's Cleeve. Extension to Brockhampton Works	14,250
C	Boddington. Utilisation of existing system or new sewers to Cheltenham Corporation Works	2,600
C	Buckland and Laverton. New Sewerage works ..	4,950
C	Coberley. Joint scheme with Cowley	4,150
C	Birdlip. New works and sewers	3,250
C	Deerhurst. Sewering of Parish	6,000
C	Dumbleton, Wormington and Great Washbourne. New scheme for area	6,750
C	Elmstone Hardwicke. New Scheme	2,100
C	Gotherington and Oxenton. New Scheme	8,950

Sewerage—continued		Estimated Cost
C	Great Witcomb. Connection to Glos. R.D. sewer at Brockworth	£ 1,850
C	Hawling. New Works and Sewers	2,500
C	Leigh. Scheme for Parish	1,000
C	Prestbury. Modernising of existing works or connection to Brockhampton works	10,000
C	Snowhill. Scheme for sewerage	2,700
C	Southam. Connection to Brockhampton Works	2,700
C	Stanway. New Sewers and Works	7,600
C	Stoke Orchard. New Sewers and Works	1,200
C	Sudeley. New Sewers and Works for Charlton Abbots	1,200
C	Swindon. Connection to Brockhampton	4,050
C	Toddington. Sewers and New Works	4,650
C	Teddington. Sewers and New Works	2,500
C	Twynning. Sewers and New Works	14,475
C	Uckington. Sewers and New Works	3,500
C	Up Hatherley. Connection to Cheltenham Corporation sewer	3,050
B	Winchcomb. Sewers for Greet, storm water tanks at existing works	8,200
C	Woodmancote. Connection to Brockhampton	6,800
A Schemes already completed.		
B Schemes under construction.		
C Schemes not yet completed.		

Particulars of the number of dwelling houses supplied from water mains *a.* direct into the houses. *b.* by means of standpipes.

Parish	Number of houses	Number of houses supplied by water mains.	
		<i>a.</i> direct to the houses	<i>b.</i> by means of standpipes
Alderton	136	119	7
Ashchurch (includes Aston Cross, Aston-on-Carrant, Fiddington, and Pamington)	170	133	1
Badgeworth (includes Bentham, and The Reddings)	319	170	20
Bishop's Cleeve	396	377	3
Boddington (includes Hayden)	73	70	—
*Buckland (includes Laverton)	68	60	8
Coberley	75	—	—
*Cowley (includes Birdlip)	96	49	—
Deerhurst (includes Apperley and Walton Hill)	197	74	11
*Dumbleton (includes Great Wash- bourne and Little Washbourne)	263	255	—

Elmstone Hardwicke	60	50	6
Gotherington.. .. .	107	65	17
*Great Witcombe	32	15	4
*Hawling	40	25	10
Leckhampton	205	112	24
Leigh (includes Coombe Hill) ..	99	76	—
*Oxenton (includes Woolstone) ..	49	7	10
*Prescott	30	20	—
Prestbury	592	561	—
Shurdington	152	111	6
*Snowhill	61	8	—
Southam.. .. .	125	122	—
*Stanton	80	70	7
*Stanway	134	130	—
Staverton	119	87	8
Stoke Orchard (inc. Tredington)	76	74	21
*Sudeley (inc. Charlton Abbotts)	43	43	—
Swindon (inc. Brockhampton) ..	92	71	2
Teddington (includes Alstone) ..	48	34	8
Toddington	131	131	—
Twynning.. .. .	244	4	8
Uckington	71	71	—
Up Hatharley	47	47	—
Walton Cardiff	15	15	—
Winchcomb (includes Gretton and Greet).. .. .	805	786	—
Woodmancote	236	229	—

*Private piped supplies.

	Whole District	Supplies from public water mains	
		a. Direct to houses	b. By means of standpipes
Number of houses.. .. .	5,338	3,768	121
Number of population	18,910	13,188	423

POLLUTION OF STREAMS

The pollution of the stream at Toddington continued, but as a result of representations by the Council canning at the factory has now ceased until such time as an adequate sewerage disposal plant is built.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during 1946.

- 1 (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 1,414
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. 1,743

2	(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	0
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ..	0
3.	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	289
4.	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	395

II. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their Officers	39
---	----

III. Action under Statutory Powers during Year

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936	0
(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(ii) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	0
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ..	1
(ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	1
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ..	0
C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Acts, 1936 :—	
(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0

- D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
- (i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made 0
 - (ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit 0

IV. Housing Act, 1936. Part 4—Overcrowding.

- (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 6
- (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases .. 45

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

Nuisances discovered or reported	122
Complaints not justified	21
Number of Visits	294
Informal notices sent	78
Statutory notices sent	20
Nuisances abated	80
Summons issued	10
Convictions obtained	10
Premises disinfected	18
Premises disinfested	13
Number of visits	35
New drainage system	31
Number of visits	155

INSPECTION OF FOODS

Owing to centralisation no regular slaughtering has been carried out in this area.

Twenty-six inspections were made in connection with food supplies, and the following quantities found to be unfit for human consumption :—

Consumption :—						Cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Tinned fruit and vegetables	..	..	..	..	..	—	2	11
Tinned meat	..	..	..	..	..	—	1	7
Fresh meat	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	16
Bacon	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	1½
Jam	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	17
Tinned milk	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	27
Tinned fish	..	..	..	..	..	—	1	3½
Cheese	..	..	..	..	..	—	1	2½
Mustard	..	..	..	..	..	—	1	17
Cereals	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	2½
Raisins	..	..	..	..	..	—	—	27
Prunes	..	..	..	..	..	1	—	11
Eggs	..	..	..	..	..	Number ; 360		

MILK AND DAIRIES

One hundred and twenty visits were paid to dairy premises in the district, the majority being at the time of milking; twenty samples were taken.

In sixteen cases improvements were made by structural alteration and in the provision of new cowsheds and dairies.

One retailer was required to attend on the Council to show cause why his registration as a retailer should not be cancelled. Certain undertakings were given by the retailer and his registration was allowed to continue.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

Over a number of years a nuisance has existed in Elmstone Hardwicke owing to the presence of numerous gypsy encampments on narrow strips of land on the roadside verge between the carriage way and ditch.

There was no wholesome water supply and the ditches became obstructed with refuse and filth.

Proceedings were taken under Sec. 268 of the Public Health Act, and a Court Order was obtained prohibiting these caravans in Elmstone Hardwicke and neighbouring parishes.

BAKEHOUSES

Ten visits were paid to bakehouses, and conditions were satisfactory in all cases.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS

Twenty-eight visits were paid to factories and workshops in the district, and when necessary notices were served.

REFUSE AND SALVAGE

A house-to-house collection of house refuse is made throughout the district. In the parishes of Leckhampton, Prestbury and Winchcombe, a weekly collection is made. In other parts the collection is made once per month.

A new vehicle is on order so that a fortnightly collection may be made in the larger villages and to cope with the extension of the service to the various camps.

During the year the amount of salvage sold weighed 67.25 tons. There has been a considerable drop in the amount of salvage collected; this is due to the fact that materials formerly put out as salvage are now being mixed in with the house refuse.

The refuse is deposited on tips at Cleeve Hill, Winchcombe and Prestbury. Arrangements have been made with the County Council for regular treatment for the destruction of rats.