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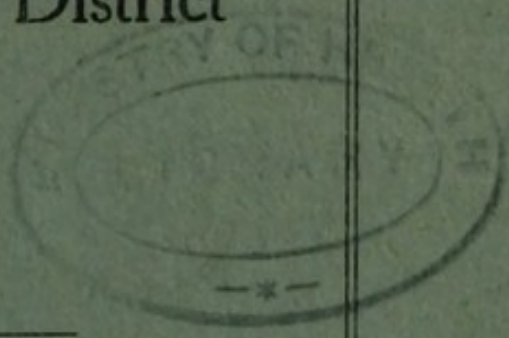
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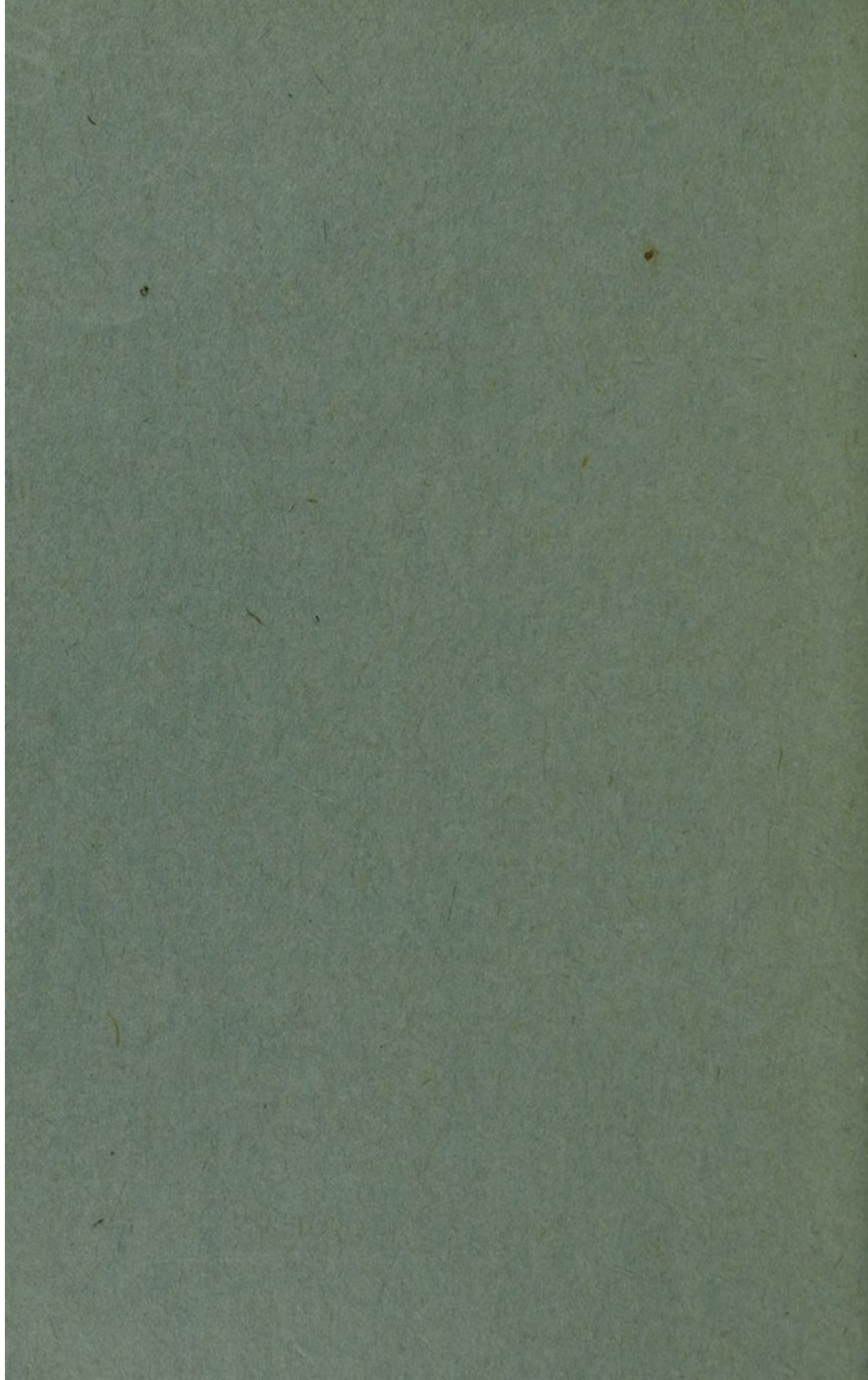


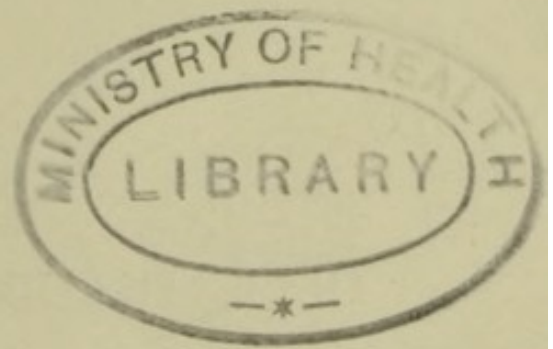
ANNUAL REPORT

— OF THE —

Medical Officer of Health.

1925.





Cirencester Rural District.

ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health, 1925.

DR. H. F. W. ADAMS.

I. GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	80,991
Population (1925)	11,950
Number of inhabited houses (1922) ...	3,253
Rateable Value	£82,853
Sum represented by a penny rate	£226

Cirencester Rural District is a large area surrounding the Urban District of Cirencester. With the exception of Fairford, a small market town, and the villages of Stratton and Siddington, which are virtually suburbs of Cirencester Town, it consists of isolated villages, employed chiefly in farming.

There are no industries of any importance.

II. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

BIRTHS—

		Total	M.	F.
Legitimate	...	210	93	117
Illegitimate	...	10	6	4
Birth Rate (R.G.) 19.2				

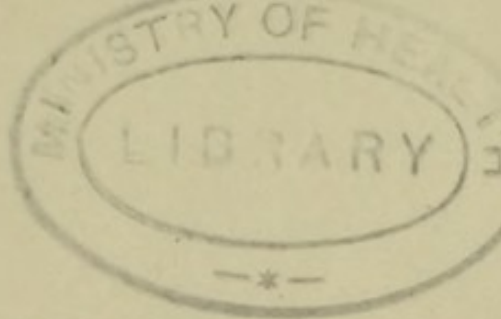
DEATHS—	135	65	70
Death Rate (R.G.) 11.2			

Number of women dying in, or
in consequence of childbirth ... from sepsis, Nil
from other causes, 1

Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000
births :—

Legitimate 19 ; Illegitimate 3. Total 22.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	Nil



CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1925.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Males.	Females.
Diphtheria	1	1
Influenza ... ..	...	2
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...	2	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	8	13
Rheumatic Fever ... ..	...	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	3	6
Heart Disease	13	18
Arterio-Sclerosis	2	3
Bronchitis	4	5
Pneumonia (all forms)	1	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	1
Appendicitis and Typh ^o ntis	1	...
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	4	1
Other Accidents and Diseases of Preg- nancy and parturition ... ..	...	1
Congenital Debility and malformation, premature birth	1	1
Suicide ... ..	...	1
Other deaths from Violence	2	1
Other defined Diseases	20	13
Total	65	70

From the foregoing tables and figures it will be seen that no unusual or excessive mortality occurred during 1925.

Cancer again showed the large number of 21 deaths. In the last five years 103 people have died of Cancer in the district. A very grave sign indeed of the prevalence of this scourge.

A third of the death rate exactly is due to diseases of the Circulatory System.

Influenza caused two deaths as against four in 1924, three in 1923, eight in 1922 and one in 1921.

The most prevalent diseases in the district are diseases of the Circulatory System, Cancer and Rheumatism (chronic). There is also a certain amount of simple goitre.

DEATH RATE:—11.2. This is very satisfactory, being below that for England and Wales, 12.2. and indeed is the lowest for the past five years, except 1921 when it was 10.8.

BIRTH RATE:—19.2 is also satisfactory, the figure for England and Wales being 18.3. It is also about the average for the past five years, although it must be noted that the birth rate in the district, as indeed in most others in England and Wales, shows a steady decrease since 1920.

INFANT MORTALITY:—This figure, 22, is excellent, both in comparison with that for England and Wales of 75, and also for the past five years. This is the best figure since 1920 in the district which has had a low infant mortality during that period.

POOR LAW RELIEF.

Year ended 31st Dec., 1925.

1. Average number of Persons in receipt of—

(a) Domiciliary Relief	...	...	277
(b) Institutional Relief	...	...	98
2. Total sum expended on Domiciliary Relief
during the year £3,912
3. Average number per 10,000 of population
in receipt of relief 142

NOTE.—The average per 10,000 of population of the "non-populous" Unions in England on the 26th December, 1925, was 231. It will accordingly be observed that the percentage of persons in receipt of relief in the Cirencester Union is below the average.

3. MEDICAL RELIEF ONLY. The number of persons in the Union who receive Medical relief only is small. The recipients of such relief are chiefly confined to agricultural workers with large families and aged persons (including old age pensioners) who have not the means to enable them to engage a medical attendant privately.

These figures are given for both the Urban and Rural Districts of Cirencester.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

GENERAL.

Cirencester Memorial Hospital, 20-30 beds (about), with the Apsley Memorial Hall (X-ray, laboratory, etc).

FEVER.

Cirencester Joint Hospital, 14 beds. These are available for the Cirencester Rural and Urban Districts.

There are no hospitals in the district for Tuberculosis, Maternity Cases or Smallpox.

A Hospital at Elmstone, near Hardwicke, is provided for Smallpox cases.

A motor ambulance is provided for non-infectious and accident cases, and a horse ambulance for infectious cases.

The nursing is carried out by the Nurses of the District Nursing Association under the supervision of a full-time County Nurse. Very valuable work is done, in various ways, by these nurses.

Pathological and Bacteriological Examinations are carried out in the laboratories of the Bristol University. Outfits for the taking of specimens can be supplied to practitioners by the Medical Officer of Health.

The out-station for the treatment of school children is now being more used.

A Tuberculosis Clinic is held once a week at the Cirencester Hospital.

It is to be noted that neither of the Hospitals are actually in the Rural District, but they are included as serving alike both the Urban and Rural Districts.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

Infectious Diseases Notifiable Act, 1889.

Infectious Diseases Prevention Act, 1890.

Public Health Amendment Act, 1890.

Building Bye-laws.

Dairies and Cowsheds Regulations.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES of the AREA.

WATER.

Out of 36 Parishes, one, viz. : Stratton, has the excellent water supply of Cirencester Town, and 19 parishes, viz. : Fairford, Hatherop, Kemble, Rodmarton, Ampney Crucis, Ampney St. Mary, Bagendon, Barnsley, Coates, part of Colesborne, Daglingworth, Edgeworth, Harnhill, North Cerney, Poulton, Preston, Quennington, Rendcomb and Syde have private supplies by mains.

This water is of excellent quality, non plumbo-solvent.

The other sixteen parishes draw their supply from springs and wells, many of which are of the surface variety.

The water, although hard, is of good quality and there is no deficiency. It is not plumbo-solvent.

Six new connections were made with the public supply, 23 wells were sunk.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Two complaints were received from the Thames Conservancy Board respecting alleged pollutions, at Fairford and in Preston. Neither of the complaints were serious and were easily dealt with.

SEWERAGE.

No alteration has taken place. The Sewerage System in use at Fairford and Hatherop continues to work well.

The drainage of the Croft, Fairford, which has given considerable trouble in the past has been improved and now works satisfactorily.

The system at Poulton has been overhauled and the systems there and at Stratton are satisfactory.

The rest of the district is served by privies and earth-closets.

40 W.C's have been newly supplied with flushing cisterns.

26 earth closets, pail closets, or improved privies have been constructed.

12 notices were served to empty "Privy Vaults."

9 privy vaults were abolished.

There is no system of Refuse disposal except on the land.

NUMBERS INSPECTED OF EACH OF THE
FOLLOWING :

	No. on Register.	No. Inspected.	Total No. of Inspections.
(a) Common Lodging Houses	0	0	0
(b) Slaughter Houses ...	8	8	154
(c) Bakehouses ...	12	12	14
(d) Daries, Cowsheds, Milk-shops ...	119	95	102
(e) Canal Boats ...	0	0	0
(f) Workshops ...	78	35	35
(g) Residences of out-workers	0	0	0

SCHOOLS.

The Sanitary conditions of the Schools are all satisfactory. Great improvements have been made at one, viz. : Siddington.

Water is laid on to the schools in Coates, Sapperton, Fairford and Hatherop. The other schools have to depend on pump water either on the premises or near by.

HOUSING.

There is a shortage of houses in almost every parish in the district.

In 1923 it was estimated that 100 houses were required in the district to be let at a rental of 5/- or 6/- per week. Although since then 67 have built the need still remains.

The need is being met by the erection of Subsidy Houses.

In response to the Council's offer of an increased Subsidy from £100 to £150, applications were received from 24 persons for the grant, and plans for the erection of 56 houses were submitted and approved.

The erection of seven was abandoned, one being condemned in consequence of bad workmanship.

The 49 other houses are being erected in the following parishes :—Coates 2, Colesboure 1, Daglingworth 2, Fairford 4, Harnhill 1, Kemble 2, Kempsford 5, Maisey Hampton 1, North Cerney 2, Preston 10, Rodmarton 2, Siddington 1, South Cerney 6, Stratton, 10.

HOUSING (Financial Provisions) ACT, 1924.

FAIRFORD HOUSING SCHEME.

Messrs. Yells Bros., the Contractors for the erection of 10 non-parlour type Cottages, have made marked progress with the scheme, in spite of the bad weather experinced since the commencement of the Contract. Each house is to have one-quarter acre ground attached.

The tender for these houses is £4,920, including £20 per house for contingencies.

STRATTON HOUSING SCHEME.

One acre of ground was purchased abutting the Mill Lane, Stratton, for the erection of 8 non-parlour type Houses, and plans for same approved.

At the time of writing this report the Tender of Messrs. Yells Bros. has been accepted subject to the approval of the Ministry of Health. The accepted Tender is £4,240, including £20 per house for contingencies.

In addition to the 49 Subsidy Houses, four others have been erected, while plans were approved for Alterations and Additions to nine other houses.

HOUSING INSPECTION.

Nine houses were represented to the Council as being unfit for habitation in the following parishes:—Coates 2, Daglingworth 3, Fairford 2, Maisey Hampton 2.

Closing orders were in made in respect of each, and five have been demolished. Three new houses have been built on practically the same sites.

Two other condemned houses have been demolished, following Closing Orders of previous years.

Only four cases of overcrowding exist in the district. This overcrowding is largely due to the poverty of the agricultural labourers.

The property generally throughout the district is old and difficult to repair, in many cases demolition would seem to be called for, which is impracticable at the present time.

There is no definitely unhealthy area.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

49 Subsidy, 4 others (53)

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	53
(b) As part of a municipal housing scheme	...	...	...	...	...	10

1. UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)

9

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910

— 9

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation

9

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation

Nil

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.

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

25

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

(A) Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	}	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit:—		
(a) by owners		
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners...		
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close ...	}	

(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	141
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied:—	
(a) by owners	120
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

(C) Proceedings under sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1909:—

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	9
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	9
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	7
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	7

INSPECTION and SUPERVISION of FOOD.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

There have been changes in the registered premises, and the register at the end of the year records 94 producers of milk and 25 retail purveyors, making a total of 119.

Notice was served to remedy one defective cowshed, two notices for the removal of manure, and two notices to limewash premises.

The milk supply in the district is good.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES, ETC.

All Slaughter Houses in use on the 1st January this year have been registered in accordance with the Rural District Councils (Slaughter Houses) Order, 1924.

Altogether there are eight premises in the district, including one Knacker's Yard. Only four of the premises are used regularly, the other three very occasionally.

The principal Slaughter Houses are visited once every week and the others at various times.

There are five premises to which the Meat Regulations, 1924, apply, and generally there is no cause for complaint.

Eighty-six pounds of meat were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed.

One application for a license was refused, in consequence of the premises being unsuitable for the purpose.

BAKEHOUSES.

There has been no change as to the number of Bakehouses, the number on the Register being 12, the same as last year. They have been frequently inspected and only in one case was it necessary to call attention to the limewashing of the premises.

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Frequent inspections have been made, but there are very few of any importance and are of the type usually found in an agricultural district. One notice was received from H.M. Inspector of Factories in respect of the non-provision of proper sanitary convenience and was attended to. No other action has been necessary in relation to these premises.

No case of food poisoning has been reported in the past five years.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The rural district of Cirencester has been tolerably free from notifiable diseases in the past five years. The respective numbers notified have been :—

Small Pox	...	...	2
Diphtheria	...	...	36
Scarlet Fever	...	...	61
Enteric	...	...	3
Puerperal Fever	...	...	1
Pneumonia	...	...	13
Erysipelas	...	...	9
Arterio-Poliomyelitis	...	...	5
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	...	1
Sleeping Sickness	...	...	2

SMALLPOX.

The two cases occurred in 1923 at the time of the epidemic in Gloucester City. They were both removed to Hospital. One was a direct contact from Gloucester City and the other indirectly from the same source. One of the cases was severe.

DIPHTHERIA.

The biggest incidence of the disease occurred in 1922, 20 cases being notified during that year. Of these nine occurred in one group of houses, eight being discovered by swabbing.

Six also were notified from one large house, the infection being brought from London.

The other cases in that year, and in the other four years, under consideration, were scattered throughout various parishes and occurred at various times.

SCARLET FEVER.

The 61 cases were scattered throughout the five years. They were isolated and nothing in the nature of an epidemic occurred.

ENTERIC.

The three cases occurred in three different years, they were all mild. No deaths occurred.

PNEUMONIA.

Only 13 cases were notified in the period under review. As 34 deaths occurred during the same period, it seems obvious that the notification of Pneumonia is not being thoroughly carried out.

SLEEPING SICKNESS.

Two cases were notified both occurring in 1925. They were both severe but have now made complete recoveries, no unpleasant sequelae have yet been noticed.

The other diseases enumerated call for no special comment.

No return cases of Scarlet Fever occurred.

No use, so far, has been made of the Schick or Dick Tests.

The number of vaccinations in the district is very low, a strong prejudice against it existing, as indeed throughout most of the County.

No epidemic of Influenza occurred. Indeed only 18 deaths from the disease occurred in the last five years. No special enquiry in connection with this disease was undertaken.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES during the YEAR.

DISEASE.			Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	...	...	5	3	2
Scarlet Fever	...	...	13	5	0
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)			0	0	0
Puerperal Fever	...	...	0	0	0
Pneumonia	...	...	3	0	2
Other diseases generally noti- fiable (specify disease):					
	Erysipelas		3	0	0
Other diseases notifiable locally (specify disease):					
	Arterio-Poliomyelitis...		3	0	1
	Encephalitis Lethargic		2	0	0
Tuberculosis :—					
(a) Pulmonary	M		4	2	2
	F		3	1	1
	Total		<hr/> 7	<hr/> 3	<hr/> 3
(b) Non-pulmonary	M		1	1	1
	F		0	0	0
	Total		<hr/> 1	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1925.

DISEASES.	Total Cases.	Under 1 year. 1 year. 2 years. 3 4 5 10 15 20 35 45 65 years and over.	Total Deaths.	Under 1 year. 1 year. 2 years. 3 4 5 10 15 20 35 45 65 years and over.
Diphtheria ...	5	0 0 0 0 1 2 0 1 1 0 0 0	2	0 0 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 0
Scarlet Fever ...	13	0 0 1 0 0 4 3 2 2 1 0 0	0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Pneumonia... ..	3	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 2	2	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2
Erysipelas ...	3	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 2 0	0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
Arterio-Poliomyelitis ...	3	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 2 1 0 0 0	1	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0
Sleeping Sickness ...	2	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0	0	0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

None of these diseases call for any special comment. For the Sleeping Sickness cases see under Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
15	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	2	1	0	0	2	1	0	0
45	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
55	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...	4	3	1	0	2	1	1	0

The notification of Tuberculosis throughout the district is good.

No cases occurred where there was any overcrowding.

Each case when notified is visited by the Sanitary Inspector and by a nurse, also, if deemed necessary, by the Medical Officer of Health.

MATERNITY. AND CHILD WELFARE.

Nothing is attempted on this line in the district.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Notified.	Treated		Deaths.
		At home.	In hospital.	
	1	1	0	
Vision unimpaired.	Vision impaired.	Total Blindness.		
1	0	0		0

