

[Report 1949] / Medical Officer of Health, Gloucester R.D.C.

Contributors

Gloucester (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1949

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GLOUCESTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health of the District

For the Year

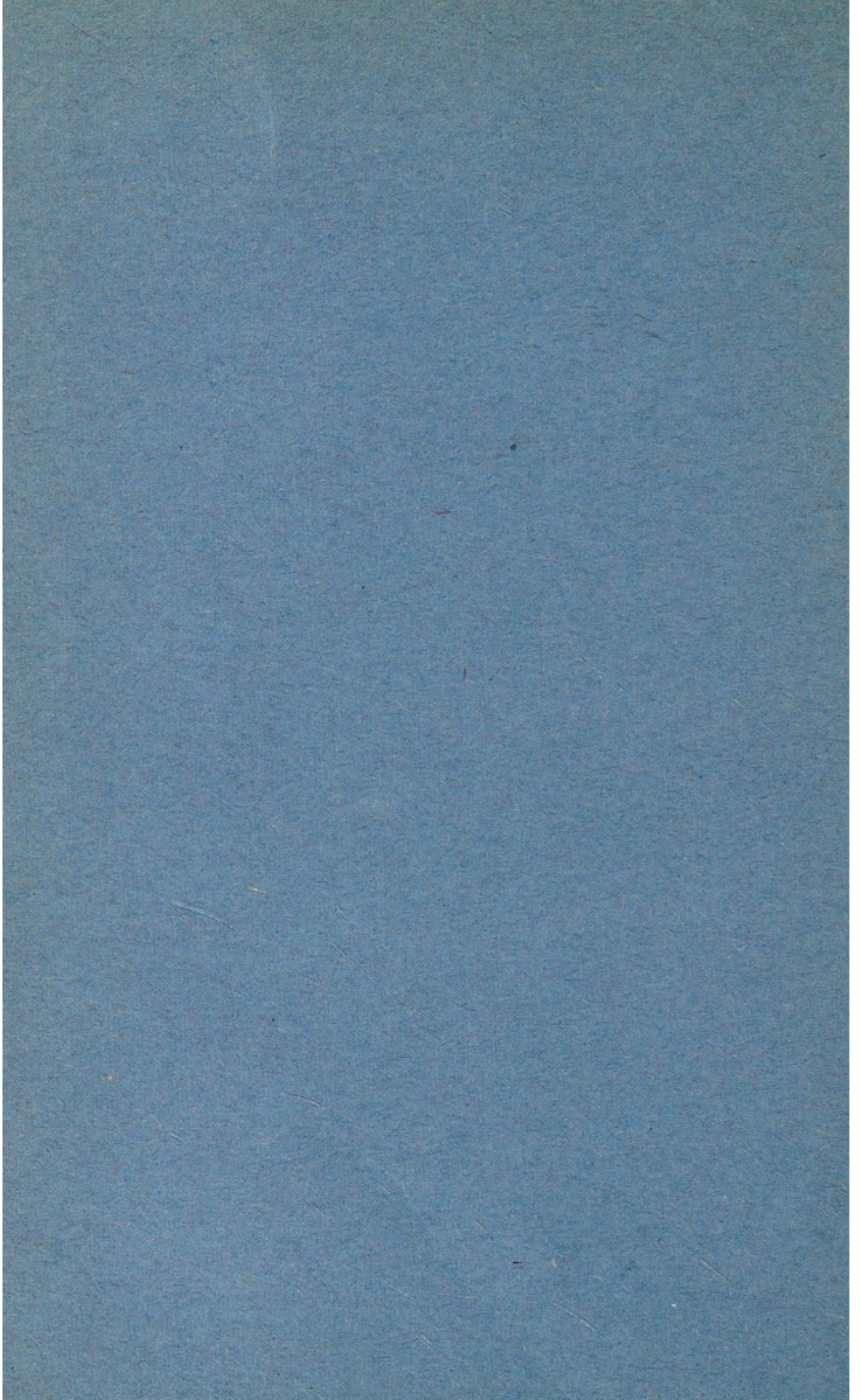
1949

BY

M. E. SUTCLIFFE,
T.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

W. R. WHEELER,
SEVERNSIDE PRESS, NEWNHAM, GLOS



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report on the Hygiene Conditions and Vital Statistics of the District for the year 1949.

It includes the report of the Sanitary Inspectors and is compiled to conform with Articles 6 (3) and 17 (5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and it incorporates the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular 2/50 dated 25th January, 1950. In accordance with para. 13 of the above circular, the distribution of this report is a wide one and includes :

The Ministry of Health.

The County Medical Officer of Health.

The Ministry of Food.

The Ministry of Town and Country Planning.

The Ministry of Labour and National Service.

For several months of the year I was on sick leave owing to a War Disability, and I should like to thank Dr. R. C. Cunningham, Senior Assistant County Medical Officer of Health for kindly carrying out my duties during my absence and also the County Medical Officer of Health for making him available.

During the year there have been major changes in the County Medical Administration following the passing of the National Health Service Act, and on September 1st, 1949, I took over additional duties as Divisional Medical Officer for No. 5 Division, which comprises the same Districts as those for which I am Medical Officer of Health. This has reduced the time I spend as Medical Officer of Health by a half, and consequently considerably more responsibility and work is thrown on the Sanitary Inspectors.

During the year, the health of the District has remained good. The birth and death rates are about the same as that for England and Wales, but it is satisfactory to note that the infantile mortality

rate, which is perhaps the best index as to the health conditions of an area, is considerably below.

There has been a satisfactory increase in the percentage of children under 15 immunised against diphtheria, and the percentage population suffering from tuberculosis shows no increase.

The most unsatisfactory feature of this report, and which appears to be universal through the country, is with regard to insufficient new housing, and this is impossible for a Local Authority to remedy so long as it suffers from controls and restrictions imposed by higher Authority.

Very great strides have been made in connection with the provision of main water supplies in the District, a total of over 22 miles of main having been laid during the year. This is dealt with fully in the report. Out of 38 parishes in the District 37 now have main supplies compared with 14 in 1939.

I should like to thank the Council for their consideration and support of my recommendations, and also the Council's officials and staff for their assistance, mentioning especially the Surveyor's report on Sewerage and Refuse collection.

Finally, this report deals very largely with the work of your Sanitary Inspectors on whose co-operation and keenness is dependant the efficiency of the District Public Health Service.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

MAURICE L. SUTCLIFFE,

June, 1950.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Staff of the Authority.

- M. L. SUTCLIFFE, T.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.P.M., Medical Officer of Health. Medical Officer of Health to the Tewkesbury Borough, Gloucester Rural and Newent Rural (Medical Officer of Health) Committee and Assistant County Medical Officer of Health for Gloucestershire. Divisional Medical Officer to Gloucester Area Sub-Committee.
- O. M. HALE, C.R.S.I., Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Meat and other Foods.
- S. W. D. HARRIS, C.R.S.I., Sanitary Inspector and Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the District.

Area (in acres) 71,490.

Population (Registrar General's estimate of resident population mid 1949) :

(a)	Civilian	33,700
(b)	Service	2,650

Total	36,350
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Number of Inhabited Houses (December 31st, 1949), according to rate books : 8,612.

Rateable Value (December 31st, 1949), £203,942.

Sum represented by a penny rate, £798.

Industry in the District.

There have been no major changes during the year and in the periphery of the District, agriculture is the main industry, as is shewn by the fact that there are 481 milk producing farms in the District.

Other large employers of labour are as follows :

Gloster Aircraft Co., Brockworth (Aircraft)	..	..	..	4761
Gloster Aircraft Co., Moreton Valence (Aircraft)	..	..	..	277
A. W. Hawkesley Ltd., Hucclecote (Aluminium houses)	..	..	..	1081
Rotol Ltd., Churchdown (Aircraft Components)	..	..	..	1818
Rotol Ltd., Moreton Valence (Aircraft Components)	..	..	..	22
No. 7. Maintenance Unit, R.A.F. (as at 1.1.50)	..	..	..	2300

There has, during the year been an increase of 1,200 in the number of employees of Gloster Aircraft Co., and a reduction of 1,900 in the number of employees of Messrs. A. W. Hawkesley.

It is an unhappy sign of the times that fighter aircraft production goes up while housing production goes down.

A considerable proportion of the workers in the above factories live outside the District owing to the impossibility of obtaining housing near their work.

The proposed erection in 1950 of 75 aluminium bungalows at Brockworth and 50 at Longlevens should do much towards easing the housing problem for industrial workers; as the bungalows are primarily intended for occupation by employees of the Gloster Aircraft Co., and Messrs. Rotol.

In the rural village of Ashleworth the saw-mills and ancillary works controlled by Messrs. L. T. and R. Vowles, Ltd., although employing relatively small numbers, are providing a rural industry

and the firm have under consideration the provision of a rural community centre for their employees.

Adoptive Legislation in force in the District.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, so far as not repealed by the Public Health Act 1936.

Public Health Act 1925 (part ii, Sections 13, 14, 15, 26 and 29).

Slaughter of Animals Act 1933, Section 1 (adoptive).

Byelaws as to :

1. New buildings and certain matters in connection with buildings (adopted 1.4.37).
2. Streets (adopted 1.4.37).
3. Tents, Vans and similar Structures (adopted 1.9.38).
4. Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air (M.O.F. Series 1) (adopted 24.1.50).

Vital Statistics.

These statistics give particulars as to the births and deaths in the District, together with certain rates which are compared, where possible, with those for England and Wales.

A detailed list of the cause of death will be found in Table 27.

Table 1 **Infantile Births and Deaths.**

	Legitimate			Illegitimate			Combined
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Total
Live Births	255	278	533	20	13	33	566
Still Births	6	4	10	—	1	1	11
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	4	9	13	—	2	2	15

Table 2. **Deaths.**

Total Deaths	Male	Female	Total
	197	199	396
Deaths included in the above from :			
Measles (all ages) ...	...	...	—
Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	...	...	—
Diarrhoea under two years of age ...	...	...	1
Puerperal Sepsis ...	...	...	—
Other Maternal causes ...	...	...	1

Table 3.

Birth and Death Rates.

	Gloucester Rural District	England and Wales
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population ...	16.7	16.7
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population ...	0.32	0.39
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population ...	11.8	} 11.7
*Corrected Death Rate per 1,000 population	11.6	
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births	26.5	32
Death Rate of Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live births	24.4	} Not available
Death Rate of Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate live births	60.6	
Death Rate from Puerperal Causes per 1,000 total births	1.7	0.98

*NOTE.—The corrected Death Rates is obtained by multiplying the Crude Death Rate by the factor 0.98. This factor is supplied by the Registrar-General and serves to make the Crude Death Rate for the District comparable, from the mortality point of view, with the Death Rate for the country as a whole, or with the mortality of any other area, the Crude Death Rate of which has been similarly modified.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

Laboratory Facilities.

During the year arrangements for analyses of Public Health samples have been altered as from November 1st owing to the expansion of facilities available at the Gloucester Royal Infirmary under the Medical Research Council Scheme.

Milk, Ice cream and pathological specimens are now all sent to the Pathological Laboratory, Royal Infirmary and no charge is incurred by this District. Previously, milk and ice cream analyses were carried out by the County Analyst and charged for.

The only analyses now carried out by the County Analyst are those of water and sewage.

This new scheme will result in a financial saving to the Council.

Hospitals.

The Council have now no responsibility for hospital treatment. Infectious disease cases are now all admitted to Over Isolation Hospital and arrangements have been perfectly satisfactory during the year.

Child Welfare Centres.

These Centres are not under the control of this Council, as their day to day administration is the responsibility of an Area Health Sub-Committee of the County Council.

As however this Sub-Committee is largely composed of members of this Council, together with Tewkesbury Borough and Newent Rural District councillors, it is felt that the following particulars of the Child Welfare Centres in this District will be of interest.

Table 4.

Centre	No. of sessions in 1949	No. new children in 1949		No. children on register at end of year		Total No. attendances during the year	
		Under 1	Over 1	Under 1	Over 1	Under 1	Over 1
Brockworth and District ...	25	60	17	39	144	681	738
Churchdown ...	33	64	16	64	259	1046	257
Dymock and District ...	24	17	8	10	48	149	210
Eastington ...	21	16	10	15	44	100	410
Frampton ...	23	40	9	32	70	214	170
Longlevens ...	26	78	18	56	157	845	739
Newent ...	24	47	16	37	158	343	522
Norton and District ...	24	22	27	210	443	232	470
Quedgeley ...	12	35	6	32	159	208	291
Tewkesbury	30	104	27	144	73	1005	583
Upton St. Leonards	18	11	4	12	64	90	371

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supplies.

MAIN SUPPLIES IN THE DISTRICT.

GLoucester Corporation Waterworks.

In accordance with the Gloucester Corporation Water Act, 1945, the Corporation lays mains as required by this Council, subject to sanction for major extensions being given by the Ministry of Health and the County Council for the purposes of loans and grants.

EXTENSIONS DURING 1949 :—

Arlingham	..	..	7033 yards
Brookthorpe	..	..	1100 „
Elmore	..	..	3962 „
*Frampton-on-Severn	..	..	3000 „
Fretherne-with-Saul	..	..	2080 „
Hardwicke	..	..	293 „
Longlevens	..	..	730 „
Quedgeley	..	..	513 „
Westbury-on-Severn	..	..	1100 „
Whitminster	..	..	1004 „
Total			12 1/3 miles

*Trunk mains for supply to this District and also to the Thornbury, Stroud and Dursley areas, contribution towards the cost being payable by these Local Authorities.

EXTENSIONS AUTHORISED BY THE COUNCIL :

Ashleworth	..	..	2120 yards
Brookthorpe	..	..	1650 „
Down Hatherley	..	..	165 „
Elmore	..	..	2850 „
Harescombe	..	..	2110 „
Hempsted	..	..	275 „
Highnam	..	..	850 „
Hucclecote	..	..	350 „
Longlevens	..	..	1150 „
Maisemore	..	..	45 „
Moreton Valence	..	..	145 „
Minsterworth	..	..	2580 „
Newnham	..	..	2890 „
Quedgeley	..	..	275 „
Twigworth	..	..	165 „
Westbury-on-Severn	..	..	14610 „
Total			18 1/2 miles

WATER SUPPLIES ARE OBTAINED FROM :

- i. Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board reservoir at Churchdown where the supply is obtained from the River Severn with purification works at Tewkesbury.
- ii. Witcombe reservoir.
- iii. Two pumping stations in the Newent Rural District.

All supplies are treated chemically and are perfectly pure for human consumption. The supplies however from the Newent area are hard and according to the 1949 report of the Ministry of Health Sub-Committee of the Central Advisory Water Committee are classified as "very hard." Softening of these supplies would be of value to both domestic and industrial consumers ; in the former it would mainly result in a considerable saving of soap, which at present is rationed, and in the latter it would result in a saving of fuel from reduced scale formation in boilers, heating systems, etc.

STROUD DISTRICT WATER BOARD.

The parish of Eastington and a few houses in Frocester are provided with water from this Undertaking. Further consideration has been given to extending the mains in Frocester, but as there is a private estate supply fit for drinking purposes, provided for most of the houses in the parish, the matter was not considered of great urgency. The 14in. Gloucester Corporation main to Thornbury and Dursley has now been completed and from it the Stroud Water Board's supply can be augmented as required. This has stopped complaints that at times pressure was inadequate.

All analyses received from the Water Engineer shewed the supplies to be of excellent quality.

CHELTENHAM CORPORATION WATERWORKS.

Supplies from this source come from the River Severn at Tewkesbury via the Joint Board reservoir at Churchdown.

EXTENSIONS DURING 1949 :

Chaceley	..	..	2934 yards
Down Hatherley	..	..	1781 "
Forthampton	..	..	6272 "
Hasfield	..	..	1873 "
Norton	..	..	1760 "
Tirley	..	..	3014 "
Total			10 miles

EXTENSIONS AUTHORISED BY THE COUNCIL : —

Down Hatherley	..	..	677 yards
Forthampton	..	..	1077 "
Norton	..	..	3856 "
Total			3 1/5 miles

NEWNHAM WATERWORKS.

This supply has not been used since Gloucester Corporation water supplies became available in January, 1948.

WELL SUPPLIES.

Wells in the District are of the surface type and are fed by the percolation of rain and subsoil water. The water supplied is not satisfactory as will be seen from Table 5. The only solution is the provision of main supplies. The availability of main supplies is increasing very rapidly, but people dependant on well supplies are warned by this Department to boil well-water before drinking it.

Bacteriological and Ohemical Analyses of Water Supplies serving the District.

Table 5.

Source of Supply.	Total No. of Analyses.	Bacteriological.		Chemical.	
		Satis.	Unsatis.	Satis.	Unsatis.
Gloucester Corporation (City Analyst.)	126	125	1	125	1
STROUD DISTRICT Malvern U.D.C. water- works (Works Analyst) GLoucester City	9	9	—	—	—
Wells, etc. ... (Council Analyst)	22	3	19	3	15

I have to acknowledge with thanks the reports on the Corporation and Stroud water analyses which are sent to this Department by the courtesy of the City Water Engineer and the Stroud Water Company's Engineer respectively.

Table 6 is submitted in accordance with the requirements of Ministry of Health circular 2/50 and shews the number of houses and population with main water supplies available.

It will be seen that a total of over 22 miles of main were laid during the year. This is about double the length laid in 1948 and may be considered exceedingly satisfactory. During the year 4 further parishes have been provided with main supplies making 37 with main supplies and only 1 without. In this latter parish, Harescombe, mains are being laid early in 1950.

Owing to the increase in mains during the year, a further 244 houses have been provided with main water supplies in addition to a number of farms. The programme for further extensions is most satisfactory and the Council has authorised the Gloucester and Cheltenham Corporations to lay over 21 miles of main, a large proportion of which it is hoped to have completed in 1950.

In addition to the population in houses, main supplies are also available for hospitals, R.A.F. Stations, hostels and residential schools as detailed in my Annual Report for 1946, and also for the 9 Ex-Service camps administered by the Council.

Shortage of Water Supplies.

Owing to the very dry spring and summer, there was considerable shortage, especially in connection with farms ; the following parishes being most affected, Westbury, Minsterworth, part of Newnham, Standish, Brookthorpe, Hasfield, Tirley, Chaceley and Forthampton.

In all these parishes, main extensions have either been made during the year or have been sanctioned by the Council. Isolated cases of domestic shortages occurred and water was carted to them in the Council's Water Tank Trailer.

Main Water Supplies in the District showing the Number of Houses and Population Served.
Table 6.

Parish.	Main Water Supply.	Main Supply in House.	Pop.	Stand Pipes Main	No. of Houses.	Pop.
Arlingham	Glos. Corporation	24	96	—	—	—
Ashleworth	"	26	104	—	—	—
Barnwood	"	245	980	—	—	—
Brockworth	"	428	1712	—	—	—
Brookthorpe	"	40	160	1	15	60
Chaceley	Chelt. Corporation	1	4	—	—	—
Churchdown	Glos. Corporation	1216	4864	—	—	—
Down Hatherley	"	3	12	1	12	48
	Chelt. Corporation	26	104	—	—	—
Eastington	Stroud District Water Board	336	1344	—	—	—
Elmore	Glos. Corporation	10	40	—	—	—
Forthampton	Chelt. Corporation	2	8	—	—	—
Frampton-on-Severn	Glos. Corporation	122	488	2	10	40
Fretherne with Saul	"	95	380	1	6	24
Frocester	Stroud District Water Board	8	32	—	—	—
	Private Estate	40	160	1	2	8
Hardwicke	Glos. Corporation	93	372	—	—	—
Harescombe	Nil. Supply Auth'd.	—	—	—	—	—
Haresfield	Glos. Corporation	8	32	—	—	—
Hasfield	Chelt. Corporation	2	8	—	—	—
Hempstead	Glos. Corporation	105	420	2	18	72
Highnam	"	52	208	1	—	—
Hucclecote	"	623	2492	—	—	—
Longford	"	201	804	—	—	—
Longlevens	"	659	2636	1	4	16
Longney	"	52	208	1	1	4
Maisemore	"	3	12	—	—	—
Minsterworth	"	58	232	—	—	—
Moreton Valence	"	53	212	—	—	—
	Glos. County Council	1	4	—	—	—
Newnham-on-Severn	Glos. Corporation	210	840	—	—	—
Norton	Chelt. Corporation	9	36	1	10	40
Quedgeley	Glos. Corporation	148	592	1	4	16
Sandhurst	"	45	180	—	—	—
Standish	Glos. County Council	3	12	1	5	20
	Glos. Corporation	70	280	1	5	20
	Chelt. Corporation	6	24	—	—	—
Tirley	"	1	4	—	—	—
Twigworth	Glos. Corporation	23	92	—	—	—
Upton St. Leonards	"	106	424	—	—	—
Westbury-on-Severn	"	50	200	—	—	—
Whitminster	"	44	176	2	14	56
	Glos. County Council	9	36	—	—	—
Wotton Vill	Glos. Corporation	4	16	—	—	—
	Total	5260	21040	15	97	404

SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND REFUSE COLLECTION.

REPORT BY THE SURVEYOR :—

(1) Refuse Collection.

During the year under review the refuse collection organisation has continued to operate efficiently and it has been possible to improve the service by introducing a weekly, instead of a fortnightly collection, in the Parishes of Arlingham, Fretherne with Saul and Frampton-on-Severn.

It is pleasing to note that few complaints have been received and these are mainly concerned with the fact that the bins are not collected from the rear of the premises. It is clear that with present labour strength it is not practicable to alter the existing arrangement of collecting from the front entrances of the houses and the additional cost on the rates would be considerable. When this reason is explained to the complainants it is usually understood and the circumstances appreciated.

The type of vehicles used has proved to be admirably suited for the peculiarities of the District and after two years wear the lorries are in good condition and operating at economical running costs. In this connection there have been few mechanical breakdowns and nothing of sufficient magnitude to disorganise the daily collections or to necessitate the hire of auxiliary vehicles.

In the period under review the vehicles have operated without being involved in any road accidents with the exception of one incident where our lorry suffered some damage. No persons were injured and the Council's driver was not in any degree to blame.

Disposal of refuse is now dealt with at the tips in the Parishes of Arlingham, Frampton-on-Severn and Sandhurst and it has been possible to dispense with the use of the Corporation tip in St. Oswalds Road, although this is still available for use in an emergency. The cost of tipping is thus reduced to a minimum and the main expenditure is for general maintenance and the periodic covering of refuse with soil or other suitable material.

The arrangements made with the County Council for keeping the tips free from vermin have been carried out during the year and our own staff has dealt with the treatment of the refuse with D.D.T. and similar preparations.

The engagement of suitable labour is still a major problem and the combined Sewerage and Refuse Collection Department continues to function with a staff well below the agreed establishment. The last month of the year has shown a slight improvement in this direction which if maintained should enable the organisation to operate more efficiently.

(2) Drainage and Sewerage.

General speaking, sewerage conditions in the District show little change since my last report but it is apparent that with the rapid extension of piped water supplies in the District the need and the demand for improved drainage facilities will increase. Some demands have been received and considered during the year but the financial restrictions laid down by the Ministry of Health have prevented any major scheme being considered at the present time, and it would seem that these limitations will preclude the provision of sewerage amenities in any Parishes truly rural in character. In the few cases where there is a fairly dense grouping of houses it may be possible to prepare schemes acceptable to the Government Departments concerned but there can be few places or Parishes in our District likely to qualify at the present time.

The schemes for the Parishes of Fretherne-with-Saul, Frampton-on-Severn and Eastington which have already received general approval have not yet been given final clearance, but all preparatory work has been completed. In the case of the Eastington scheme, where the sewage will be pumped to the Stroud and District Sewerage Joint Committee's Works at Leonard Stanley, negotiations with the Committee are proceeding satisfactorily and final agreement is anticipated in the very near future.

The main purification works at Longford are operating satisfactorily and the effluents are consistently good and well within the standard set by the Royal Commission on Sewage Purification. The normal D.W.F. is difficult to assess as there is obviously a considerable amount of infiltration water which persists long after the cessation of a spell of wet weather. The lowest D.W.F. reached is about 750,000 gallons per day and in spite of the fact that this is about 50,000 gallons in excess of the designed capacity of the works, the effluent, as previously stated, is good. The maintenance of such a high standard has been assisted by the complete exclusion of trade waste from one of the factories in the area. The Company concerned has installed a special treatment plant and no longer discharges the waste into the public sewers. Now that the works have reached theoretical maximum capacity and bearing in mind that the infiltration water tends to inflate the D.W.F. figure even in dry weather, it has been necessary to be particularly vigilant in observing the response of the plant to the increasing load as at any time now symptoms may appear indicating that an extension of the works is necessary. The new repeater station at the old works at Longford is very satisfactory in operation and its efficiency in rapidly clearing the low level sewers at Longford is another factor bearing on the increased flows at the new works. Some slight reduction in the quantity of sewage may be achieved in the future

as the result of the scheme, now being negotiated, for the more exact division of the flows from the Elmbridge and Wotton Estate areas where some of the properties are in the Rural District and others within the City boundary.

During the period under review much more maintenance work on old sewers has been necessary than in past years ; this is to be expected as many of the sewers have been in use for approximately 60 years. It can be foreseen that more repair work will be required from now on, and at any time it may be necessary to relay certain sewers as their condition deteriorates beyond repair.

The remarks in the last paragraph apply equally to Newnham the only other part of the District where there is a sewerage system of any size.

In this scheme no pumping stations or works are involved. With the development of housing estates in the District the Department has taken over the maintenance of a number of small sewerage plants some of which include pumping units. Other plants will be taken over from time to time as the housing programme expands. In addition to these a complete sewerage works, constructed in connection with a private housing estate, is likely to become the responsibility of the Council in the near future.

It will be observed that the activities of the Department cover a wide and varied range of duties and it is still very difficult to recruit enough of the right type of labour to carry out the work. These activities are expanding steadily and eventually, probably very soon, it will be necessary to increase the personnel, plant and equipment of the department in order to cope with the additional burden of responsibility.

H. F. FREEMAN, C.R.S.I.
Surveyor.

Drainage and Sewerage in areas without Main Sewers.

Sewage disposal of many houses and villages where there are no main sewers is often unsatisfactory, as house sewage usually discharges untreated or only inadequately treated into adjacent ditches.

This is clearly shown by the fact that about 16 miles of sewer-ditches are cleansed by one of the Council's full-time workmen who spends all his time on this work. The possibility of additional labour in the near future will have to be considered. On the whole this work is adequately done and although complaints arise, every effort is made to deal with them expeditiously. Under no cir-

cumstances however, can these sewer ditches be considered anything but unsatisfactory. Unfortunately the provision of main sewage schemes is, at the present time at any rate, financially prohibitive. The increasing provision of main water supplies undoubtedly adds to the difficulties of sewage disposal.

Pollution of Rivers, Streams, etc.

The responsibilities of this Council and of the County Council under the Rivers Pollution Prevention Act of 1876 are being taken over by the River Severn Board on 31st March, 1950, a newly created authority under the River Boards Act 1948.

During 1949 unsatisfactory samples were reported from a brook in Westbury Parish and the matter was taken up with a neighbouring Local Authority from whose District the pollution was considered to arise; considerable improvement was noted on subsequent sampling.

The new trade waste treatment plant for Messrs. Rotol reported on last year was completed during the year.

Another factory temporarily caused a good deal of pollution of Wotton Brook owing to the bursting of an oil-fuel storage tank and this was promptly dealt with by the firm concerned.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

A summary of the work carried out in the Public Health Department is tabulated below :—

Table 7.

	No. of Inspections	Notices served.		Defects remedied after notice.	
		Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Dwelling houses ...	541	91	—	78	—
Cow Sheds and Dairies	557	56	—	51	—
Factories, etc. ...	95	31	—	30	—
Bakehouses ...	86	7	—	7	—
Food Premises ...	294	34	—	29	—
Slaughterhouses ...	—	None in use since 1939			
Water Supplies ...	472	43	2	32	2
Drainage and Sewerage	711	75	—	61	—
Infectious Disease ...	181	Disinfection carried out when necessary			
Miscellaneous ...	799	18	—	12	—
Total ...	3736	355	2	300	2

The above figures show the very satisfactory number of visits and inspections carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors, and was an increase of 143 on 1949.

Since September 1st, 1949, the Public Health Department has had part-time clerical assistance from my Divisional clerk. This was agreed to by this Council and the County Council, in exchange for the County occupying accommodation in the Public Health Department. This agreement has worked very well and has enabled the Sanitary Inspectors to spend more time on their Statutory duties and less on routine clerical work.

Shops Acts, 1912-1945.

Most of the provisions of these Acts are administered by the County Council. No action was taken by this Department during the year.

Offensive Trades.

Under the Public Health Act 1936 (Section 107) the only designated offensive trades are two Knacker's Yards situated at Sandhurst and Longlevens, well away from human habitation.

59 inspections were carried out during the year and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

Petroleum (Consolidation) Acts, 1928-1936).

90 licences have been issued during the year for the storage of petroleum spirit and one for the storage of calcium carbide.

Outworkers.

Notifications of 4 outworkers were received during the year, 11 visits were made and conditions were satisfactory.

Camping Sites.

i.	Number of sites in the District used for camping purposes in 1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
ii.	Number of licences for camping issued by this Authority								31
iii.	Estimated maximum number of Campers resident in the District at any one time	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	400—500

The number of caravan dwellers is increasing in the District and is an inevitable result of the housing shortage.

The modern type of caravan is very different from the old gipsy type and probably is healthier for a small family than living under over-crowded conditions in rooms. Almost invariably it is this type of caravan which is now being licensed by the Council.

Service Camps occupied by Council Tenants.

The following camps are now occupied by Council tenants :—

Table 8

Camp	Parish	No. of families	Services.			
			Water	Lighting	Refuse Removal	Latrines
i. Belmont ..	Upton St. Leonards ..	37	Main	E.L.	Yes	W.C.'s
ii. Moreton Valence	Haresfield ..	78	"	"	"	W.C.'s and Bucket
iii. Long's Orchard	Churchdown	14	"	"	"	Bucket
iv. Parton ..	Churchdown and Longlevens	36	"	"	"	W.C.'s
v. Woodfield ..	Churchdown	30	"	"	"	W.C.'s
vi. Drymeadow ..	Longlevens ..	26	"	"	"	Bucket
vii. Brockworth Court	Brockworth ..	23	"	"	"	W.C.'s
viii. West Camp ..	Churchdown	43	"	"	"	W.C.'s
ix. Kings Orchard ..	Churchdown	28	"	"	"	W.C.'s
Total		315				

All Bucket latrines are emptied by the Cocksworth Conservancy Co., under contract.

It will be seen from the above table that the services provided compare very favourably with those available in many other "rural" parts of the District, where for instance electric light is often not available and where the Council have no conservancy arrangements.

These camps are now under the administration of the Housing Manager and every effort is made to keep the hutting reasonably fit for habitation. Many of the huts, however, are worn out and it is hoped that they will be demolished as soon as alternative housing becomes available for the occupants.

Canal Boats Acts and Regulations 1877-1936.

The Gloucester Port Health Authority is the Registration Authority and inspections are not normally carried out by this Department.

Smoke Abatement, etc.

Only a few minor complaints were received during the year. The factory reported on in 1948 as causing grit and smoke nuisance has ceased the work which caused the grit nuisance and an improvement in the quality of fuel available has also had a beneficial effect.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public swimming baths in the area. There are natural facilities in the River Severn, notably at 'Wainlode' Norton, and at Rodley Sands, Westbury. Neither of these sites is particularly safe, and the water is unlikely to be of a satisfactory degree of purity owing to the discharge of sewage effluents from a number of towns into the river.

Considerable numbers of bathers use these facilities during the summer.

Disinfestation (Bed Bugs, etc.).

Ten houses were reported as being infested and were disinfested by this Department with D.D.T. (powder and liquid) and Gammaxane.

Rodent Control.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act 1919. Infestation Order 1943.

The County Pests Department carried out the work on behalf of the Council.

During the year the following work was carried out.

Private dwellings treated for a nominal charge	..	..	156
Payment Service to business premises	..	..	128

Sewer treatments. Sewers at Barnwood and Brockworth were treated in February and August, 1949. Test-baiting was undertaken at Newnham-on-Severn and Churchdown in February 1949 and both systems were found to be clear.

Refuse Tips. The Tips at Frampton and Walham were treated as required.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

This Act comes into force on 1st April, 1950, and gives this Council considerable responsibilities in connection with rodent control. On this date, the County Pests Department ceases to exist and the Council will be responsible for ensuring that owners/occupiers carry out their duties under the Act.

SCHOOLS

Your Medical Officer of Health carries out medical inspections of school children in most of the Primary Schools in the District, and sanitary defects are reported to the County Medical Officer of Health.

A further three schools have been provided with main water supplies during the year and there are only four schools dependant on well supplies, of which three have main water available. It is to be hoped that these three will shortly be provided with main water.

The general sanitary arrangements with regard to wash basins and latrines cannot be considered satisfactory in most of the old type of schools and certainly do not set examples of reasonable standards of hygiene to the school children attending them.

Health education of children should surely start at school, but I am afraid that the standard of hygiene in many schools is not a good example, although it is admitted that to improve many old schools presents very difficult problems.

Table 9. Water Supplies and Latrine Accommodation in Schools.

School	Water Supply	Remarks re Water Supply	Type of Latrine
Arlingham	Well	Unsatis. Main supply available.	Bucket
Ashleworth	Main	Glos. Corporation	W.C.'s
Barnwood	"	"	W.C.'s
Brockworth	Well	Unsatisfactory. Main supply available.	Bucket
Churchdown	Main	Gloucester Corporation ...	W.C.'s
Down	"	Chelt. Corporation (connected to mains May, 1949)	Bucket
Hatherley	"	Stroud District Water Board	W.C.'s
Eastington	"	"	W.C.'s
Elmore ...	Well	Unsatis. Main supply available.	Bucket
Frampton	Main	Glos. Corporation ...	"
Saul Council	"	"	"
Saul C.E.	"	"	"
Hardwicke	"	"	"
Haresfield	"	Local piped supply ...	"
Hempstead	"	Glos. Corporation ...	"
Highnam	"	"	"
Hucclecote	"	"	W.C.'s
Longlevens	"	"	"
Primary	"	"	"
Longney	"	"	Bucket
Maisemore	"	"	W.C.'s
Minsterworth	"	"	Bucket
Newnham	"	"	W.C.'s
Norton ...	"	Glos. Corporation (connected to mains August, 1949)	Bucket
Quedgeley...	"	Glos. Corporation ...	Elsan
Sandhurst	Well	Unsatis. Main supply available	Bucket
Standish ...	Main	Gloucester C.C.	W.C.'s
Tirley ...	Well	Chelt. Corporation (connected to mains August, 1949)	E.C.'s
Twigworth	Main	Glos. Corporation ...	W.C.'s
Upton St.	"	"	Bucket
Leonards	"	"	"
Westbury-on-Severn ...	"	"	"
Walmore	"	"	Privy
Hill ...	"	"	"
Whitminster	"	"	Bucket

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

By the Local Authority :

Frampton-on-Severn	..	..	..	6
Westbury-on-Severn	..	..	..	6
By A. W. Hawkesley, Ltd.	..	..	..	2
By Private Enterprise	..	..	..	17
By Gloucester Corporation	..	..	..	6
By Royal Air Force	..	..	..	37
				—
Total	..	..	..	74
				—

The total number of houses owned by the Council at the 31st December, 1949, was 570, this includes the 310 bungalows on the Ministry of Supply Estates at Churchdown which were taken over in 1949. The number of requisitioned houses remains the same at 32.

For particulars of Service Camps administered by the Council see page 18.

The Council's immediate proposals for 1950 are as follows :

i. Completion of houses under construction :

Churchdown	..	..	16
Eastington	..	..	20
Frampton-on-Severn	..	..	16
Hardwicke	..	..	30
Maisemore	..	..	10
Westbury-on-Severn	..	..	14
Whitminster	..	..	12
			—
Total	..	..	118
			—

ii. Erection of houses in the following parishes :

(a) Traditional :

Arlingham	4	These have all been sanctioned by the Ministry of Health with the exception of the Forthampton houses.
Brookthorpe	..	..	12
Forthampton	..	..	8
Quedgeley	..	..	16
Sandhurst	..	..	12
Tirley	..	..	14
			—	
Total			66	
			—	

(b) Non-traditional :				
Hucclecote	..	..	34	(Unity Sanctioned
Longlevens	..	..	30	type) by
Brockworth	..	..	75	(Aluminium Ministry
Longlevens	..	..	50	bungalows) of
			—	Health
Total	..		189	

During 1949 the Ministry did not hold a Zonal Conference but allocated to the Council for their 1950 housing programme 30 non-traditional houses of Unity type and 18 traditional houses.

A private enterprise quota was granted in September, 1949, but was withdrawn in November, 1949, but the Ministry later allowed a 10 per cent. allocation for private development provided this was taken out of the Council's own allocation of 48 houses.

Following the "screening" of Council house applicants in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 171/48 there was a slight reduction of 'live' applications, which at the end of the year was 1,664.

From the above figures it will be noted that although not many houses have been completed during the year, the programme for 1950 is more promising, although it is still inadequate for the rehousing needs of the District.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year.

(a)	(i)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	387
	(ii)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	541
(b)	(i)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (a) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 etc.	17
	(ii)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	21
(c)		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. (This No. is in addition to those previously reported).	5
(d)		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.	339

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

- (a) Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. 73

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year.

- (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936. Nil.
- (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—
- (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied. 91
- (ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
- (a) By Owners Nil.
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil.
- (c) Proceedings under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 138 and the Water Act, 1945, Section 30.
- (i) Number of houses in which a main water supply was provided after service of formal notices.
- (a) By Owners 9
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owners Nil.
- (d) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—
- (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. 2
- (ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Order. Nil.

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

It has been impossible to re-house any number of cases of overcrowding owing to the limitation on new housing.

Exceptional cases are reported to the Tenants Selection Sub-Committee which does its best with its limited housing available.

National Assistance Act 1946, Section 47.

This Section deals with the removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention. It is an unpleasant Section to have to administer ; as although removal of an old infirm person from his home to an institution may be of benefit to him physically, it may be definitely harmful mentally and psychologically.

During the year one case was removed as the result of formal action by the Council and two cases as the result of informal action by this Department.

Informal action is undoubtedly the kinder, as in these cases the patient consents to removal, whereas with formal action, the patient is removed against his will.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supplies.

A detailed report on the new legislation with regard to milk production and distribution is submitted by Mr. Harris, Sanitary Inspector on page 25.

It will be seen that three Ministries share this responsibility, the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Ministry of Food and the Ministry of Health, with inevitable overlapping of duties, i.e. the sampling of milk from the cow to the consumer is at various stages the responsibility of all three Ministries. The tendency seems to be to consider milk primarily as an agricultural product rather than as an essential food. As it can be a most dangerous food in the spread of disease especially Tuberculosis it is a pity that the least important of the three Ministries in connection with safe milk production is the Ministry of Health.

Milk Producers in the District.

Table 10 shows the number of milk producers in the District on October 31st, 1949 (when this Council ceased to have any official interest in milk production) classified according to the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1936-1946.

Figures for the previous two years are given for comparison.

Table 10.

	1947	1948	1949
Non-Designated Milk	353	367	359
Accredited Milk	52	53	45
Tuberculin Tested Milk			
(a) From Attested herds	26	33	49
(b) From non-Attested herds	29	29	23
Pasteurised Milk	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Total	460	482	481

It will be seen that there are a large number of milk producers in the District and it is satisfactory to note the increase in T.T. producers during the year. Of the total milk production a considerable amount is retailed outside the District; or processed at Messrs. Cadbury's factory at Frampton-on-Severn which has a capacity of 50,000 gallons per day and during 1949 dealt with an average of 25,700 gallons per day.

Milk Sampling.

School Milks.

68 samples were taken by the County Sampling Officers of which 50 were satisfactory.

There are 31 primary schools and one secondary school in the District and the milk supplies are as follows :

T.T.	..	..	..	..	14
Pasteurised milk	..	..	..	..	16
Non-designated milk	..	..	..	..	2

Designated Milk and Non-Designated Milk.

Samples up to 31.10.49 were taken by the County Sampling Officers and also by the G.C.A.E.C. under the National Milk Testing and Advisory Scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Report by Mr. S. W. D. Harris, Sanitary Inspector, on Milk and Dairies Legislation which came into operation during 1949.

Control of the production and distribution of milk has in the past been primarily the concern of the Ministry of Health and Local Authorities.

A wealth of new regulations governing both the production and distribution of milk came into force on 1st October, 1949. These are of interest to the Council, as some of the duties of Local Authorities have been transferred to the Central Government and will be administered by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries. The changes follow closely those outlined in the Medical Officer of Health's Annual Report for 1948; and new regulations have been made under the following Acts and Order :—

- (i) The Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1944.
- (ii) The Milk (Special Designations) Act, 1949.
- (iii) The transfer of Functions (Food and Drugs) Order, 1948.

(a) The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Briefly, the Council will no longer be responsible for methods of production or for the condition of milk premises on dairy farms; these matters are now the responsibility of the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries. The Council are, however, responsible for the registration of milk distributors (except producer-retailers) and of dairies other than those at dairy farms.

One noteworthy feature of these regulations is that the Council's powers for preventing the spread of milk-borne infection have been increased, and it becomes the duty of anyone concerned in the handling of milk to notify the Medical Officer of Health if he, or any of his household, is suffering from infectious disease. The Medical Officer of Health may prohibit such person, for a specified period, from handling milk and may divert infected milk for heat treatment. Extreme caution is indicated in operating these provisions as compensation for loss or damage sustained is payable in certain circumstances.

(b) **The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949.**

The Council are responsible for the issue of dealer's licences under this regulation whilst "Tuberculin Tested" and "Accredited" licences formerly issued by the County Council will now be issued by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries. No new "Accredited" licences will be issued after September 1952, and after 5 years this designation will cease. No "Tuberculin-Tested" licence will be renewed after 5 years unless the herd is attested by that time.

(c) **The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.**

The Food and Drugs Authority (which for Gloucester Rural District is the County Council) are responsible for the issue of licences to pasteurise or sterilise milk at premises in the Council's District. There were none in operation during 1949. A distributor who wishes to sell in the Council's District milk which has been pasteurised or sterilised in another area must first obtain from this Council a supplementary licence authorising him to do so.

Appeals against licensing decisions of a local authority lie to the Ministry of Food which is the responsible Ministry for this part of the regulations.

Summary of the Council's duties under the new legislation.

- i. Issue of Dealer's Licences for T.T. and Accredited milk.
- ii. Issue of Supplementary Licences for T.T. and Accredited milk.
- iii. Issue of Dealer's Licences for Pasteurised and Sterilised milk.
- iv. Issue of Supplementary Licences for Pasteurised and Sterilised milk.
- v. Registration of milk distributors and of all dairies within the District which do not form part of a dairy farm.
- vi. Sampling milk from dairies and distributors in the District for prescribed tests which include turbidity, methylene blue, and phosphatase tests for heat treated milk and biological and methylene blue tests for raw milk. Samples are analysed at the Gloucester Royal Hospital Laboratory free of charge.
- vii. Prevention of the spread of milk-borne disease by exercise of increased powers given to the Council through the Medical Officer of Health.

Conclusion.

These changes in the law are designed to implement the policy defined by the Government in 1943 in the White Paper "Measures to Improve the Quality of the Nation's Milk Supply." The new

regulations are more specific than those they replace and the Council's duties are clearly defined. A weakness in the old legislation, division of responsibility between various authorities, has, however, been perpetuated. It is obvious that if the aims of the White Paper are to be realised the utmost co-operation between these authorities and the industry will be necessary.

The provisions cancelling the special designation "Accredited" after 5 years are without doubt in the public interest as housewives naturally consider such milk safe, whereas there is no guarantee that it is so.

A current trend towards heat treatment of milk is emphasised by official approval of the special designation "Sterilised." There is still controversy between the exponents of heat-treated versus raw milk. One fact, however, remains, the eradication of tuberculosis from our dairy herds is, mainly for economic reasons, a long term programme and the only insurance against the spread of tuberculosis by consumption of tuberculous milk is adequate heat treatment.

The Minister of Food now has power to define specified areas within which only designated milk may be sold, and ultimately the only milk which may be retailed in this country will be designated milk in properly sealed containers.

S. W. D. HARRIS, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

Sanitary Inspector.

Anthrax Order, 1938.

Eight suspected cases were notified during the year and two were confirmed.

Foot and Mouth Disease.

No cases occurred during the year.

Swine Fever Order, 1938.

One suspected case was notified during the year but it was not confirmed.

Bakehouses.

There had been no change in the number (14) of bakehouses registered with the Ministry of Food.

86 visits of inspection were made and 7 minor defects remedied.

Most of the bakehouses in the District are not of modern construction and it is likely that baking will, with the increasing demand for "wrapped" bread, become more centralised.

Slaughtering of Home-fattened Pigs

Where a permit is issued by the Food Office for the slaughter of a pig for home consumption, the owner reports the time of slaughter to this Department in order that the Sanitary Inspectors may have the opportunity to inspect the carcass for disease. Table 11 is included in accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 2/50.

Table 10. Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.

	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	4	14	1294
Number inspected	—	—	832
DISEASES EXCLUDING T.B.			
(a) Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	2
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	27
(c) Percentage of number inspected affected with disease	—	—	3.48%
TUBERCULOSIS.			
(a) Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—
(b) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	3
(c) Percentage of number inspected affected with disease	—	—	0.37%

It is satisfactory to note that there was an increase of 105 in the number of home-fattened pigs compared with 1948, and that a comparatively small number were diseased. Of the total number of pigs slaughtered 12 were sold to the Ministry of Food, the remainder being retained for home-consumption.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924-1948.

Transport and Handling of Meat.

Conditions have definitely improved and modern special purpose lorries are now in use. No complaints were received during the year and periodic inspections of the vehicles and equipment are carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors during the course of meat deliveries.

MEAT.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Slaughterhouses in the District have not functioned since 1939 and slaughtering for District requirements is centralised at abattoirs at Gloucester and Cinderford, both of which are outside this District. 15 private slaughterhouses continue to be licensed and licenses have been issued to 40 slaughtermen.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Condemnation of Foodstuffs.

This Department is notified when shops, canteens and individuals suspect that articles of food are unfit for human consumption. Table 12 shows the articles of food condemned during the year.

Table 12.

Article	Non-Preserved lbs.	Preserved lbs.
Meat	131	29
Fish	78	8
Milk	—	22
Butter and Margarine ...	54	—
Cheese	16	—
Eggs	14 doz.	1
Flour and Cereals	2016	3
Bread	450	—
Jam	—	16
Vegetables	11	8
Miscellaneous	69	—

The total weight of foodstuffs condemned was about $1\frac{1}{4}$ tons which is a very small amount when compared with the amount consumed in the District during the same period.

Ice Cream.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947 and 1948.

During the year no retailers have manufactured their own ice cream ; this is largely due to the cost of the apparatus required.

There are 21 licenced retailers in the District all of whom retail ice cream manufactured by wholesalers whose factories are outside the District.

9 samples were taken during the year of which 2 were unsatisfactory. These latter were reported to the Health Authority concerned and subsequent samples were satisfactory.

Adulteration.

The relevant Sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 are administered by the County Council.

Outbreaks of Food Poisoning.

There was one outbreak during the year, which occurred at the R.A.F. Camp, Innsworth on the evening of July 27th and 19 cases were detained in Station Sick Quarters.

On investigation, the cause was in all probability a cooked ham of which all the patients had partaken, but unfortunately none of it was left for laboratory investigation. The outbreak was fortunately not of a serious type, and all the patients quickly recovered.

A detailed report on the outbreak was submitted to the Ministry of Health in accordance with their Memo. 188 dated 1949.

Med.

Administration of the Factories Act, 1937 and 1948.

Table 13.

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	Number of premises in Register	Number of inspections	Number of Written Notices	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.A.'s	33	51	16	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	77	104	5	—
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers) ..	9	26	2	—
Total	119	181	23	—

Table 14.

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases where defects were found.				Number of Cases in which Prosecutions were Instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H.M.I.	by H.M.I.	
Want of Cleanliness(S.1)	9	9	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	1	1	—	—	—
Unreasonable temp.(S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate vent. (S.4)	3	2	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	3	3	—	—	—
Latrines (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) defective	5	5	—	3	—
(c) not sep. for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences (not including Homework)	2	2	—	1	—
Total	23	22	—	4	—

Table 15. Outwork (Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No.out-workers in Aug. list as reqd.	No. of cases of default in sending lists	No.prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Cases of work in Unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel (making)	4	—	—	—	—	—
Total	4	—	—	—	—	—

Infectious Disease.

Tables 24 to 26 shew the incidence of notifiable infectious diseases during the year, divided into parishes and age groups.

The total number was 574 compared with 542 in 1948. Of this total measles accounted for 363 cases.

Diphtheria and Immunisation.

The statistics submitted by this Department to the County Medical Officer of Health are fully dealt with in Tables 17 to 20.

During the year 423 children were immunised for the first time and 484 received a boosting or maintenance dose. This unfortunately is a considerable drop in the previous year's figures and new propaganda methods are being tried in 1950.

Small Pox and Typhoid.

No contacts of these diseases were notified during the year as coming into this District.

Infantile Paralysis (Acute polio-myelitis).

Only two cases were notified during the year and both were of a mild type.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

Table 16 shows the schools in which 12 or more cases of the same infectious disease occurred in 1949. It will be seen that measles, mumps and chicken pox caused a considerable amount of illness ; they are very infectious illnesses, and difficult to control.

Table 16.

School.	Average No. on register	Scarlet Fever	'Flu	Measles	Mumps	Chicken Pox
Barnwood ...	284	—	14	60	—	61
Brockworth ...	44	—	—	12	—	—
Churchdown ...	625	15	—	25	49	—
DownHatherley	59	—	—	24	—	—
Frampton	108	—	—	—	23	—
Hardwicke ...	99	—	—	—	16	—
Highnam ...	37	—	—	17	16	—
Hucclecote ...	226	—	13	—	40	48
Longlevens	470	—	—	50	—	14
Primary						
Standish ..	35	—	—	27	—	—
Upton St.	74	—	—	22	—	—
Leonards						

In accordance with the recommendations of the Joint Memorandum issued by the Ministries of Health and Education, it was not considered necessary to close any schools because of Infectious Disease.

Disinfection of Premises following Infectious Disease.

The policy of the Council, inaugurated in March 1947, to issue free soap, for cleansing purposes in cases of major infectious disease has been continued during the year and is much appreciated. Premises are also sprayed with disinfectant as a routine measure.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Table 17. Child Population immunised during 1949.

Number of children who completed a full course of immunisation during 1949	Age at date of final injection.		Total under 15 years
	0-5 years	5-14 years	
During half-year ending 30.6.49 ...	193	29	222
During half-year ending 31.12.49 ...	172	29	201
TOTAL	365	58	423

Table 18. Child Population receiving a maintenance dose during 1949 (i.e., a re-inforcing dose a few years after the primary immunisation).

During half-year ending 30.6.49	156
During half year ending 31.12.49	328
Total	484

Table 19. Immunisation in relation to Child Population.

Children aged 0-15 years immunised up to 31st December, 1949.

Age 31.12.49 i.e. born in year	0 + 1949	1 + 1948	2 + 1947	3 + 1946	4 + 1945	5-9 1940-44	10-14 1935-39	Total under 15
No. Immunised ...	19	255	362	291	366	2327	1970	5590
Est. Mid-year pop. 49	3022					4738		7760
Percentage Immunised	42.4%					90.7%		72%

Table 20. Diphtheria notifications and Deaths in relation to Immunisation (Children under 15 years only).

Notifications.		Deaths.	
Cases notified	Cases Immunised	Immunised	Not Immunised
3	1	—	—

Table 21.

TUBERCULOSIS.
New Cases and Deaths in 1949.

Ages	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1—	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1 +	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1
5 +	1	2	...	3	...	...	...	...
10 +	...	1	2	1	...	...	...	...
15 +	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
20 +	5	9	...	1	1	2	...	...
25 +	7	5	1	2	2	1	...	1
35 +	8	1	...	2	2	...	...	...
45 +	3	...	...	...	2	1	...	...
55 +	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
65 +	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Age N.K.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	29	22	4	10	7	6	...	3

Table 22. Number of Cases on Tuberculosis Register as at 31st December for the last three years.

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	Per 1000 Population
	M	F	M	F		
1947	86	76	18	25	205	6.4
1948	86	73	19	23	201	6.0
1949	92	72	16	25	205	6.0

Table 23. Number of New Cases and Deaths in the last three years.

Year	NEW CASES				Total	DEATHS				Total
	Pulmonary		Non. Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		
	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	
1947	26	27	4	6	63	8	3	2	2	15
1948	25	17	6	6	54	10	10	1	—	21
1949	29	22	4	10	65	7	6	—	3	16

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.
 Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 172).

Action was taken by the Council under the above Regulations in one case. The man, a case of notified infectious Tuberculosis,

was engaged in retail milk distribution, and he was given formal notification to discontinue this employment, which he did.

Rehousing of Tuberculosis Cases.

This Department is notified by the Health Visitor if she consider their housing unsatisfactory. The family is then revisited by the Medical Officer of Health or Sanitary Inspector and if conditions are bad or likely to spread infection, the case is reported to the Tenants Selection Sub-Committee, who make every effort to provide satisfactory re-housing.

Rehousing for a number of families has been carried out during the year.

Table 24.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases.
(NORTHERN AREA).

Infectious Diseases	Total																							Removed to Hospital	Deaths	
	Ashleworth	Barnwood	Brockworth	Brookthorpe	Chaceley	Churchdown	Down Hatherley	Forhampton	Harescombe	Hasfield	Hempsted	Higbam	Huclecote	Longford	Longlevens	Maisemore	Norton	Quedgeley	Sandhurst	Tirley	Twiggworth	Upton St. Leonards	Wotton Vill			
Scarlet Fever	...	4	4	...	...	24	...	...	...	...	1	2	5	5	12	...	2	...	...	...	...	2	...	61	27	...
Whooping Cough	1	...	...	...	...	21	2	1	...	...	...	...	2	1	10	1	...	...	14	2	8	4	...	67	6	...
Ac. Polio-myelitis	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...
Ac. Polio-enceph.	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Measles (excl. G.M.)	...	3	17	...	...	168	16	9	...	...	...	7	18	18	26	...	2	5	6	...	...	5	24	324	6	...
Diphtheria	...	1	...	...	...	7	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	1	...	...	2	...	...	2	4	...	3	2	...
Ac. Pneumonia	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	24	8	15
Dysentery
Small-Pox
Ac. Inf. Enceph.
Enteric Fever
Para-typhoid fever
Erysipelas	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	...
Cerebro-spinal fever
Puerp. pyrexia
Ophth. Neontorum
Malaria (contr. E.W.)
Food Poisoning	19	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19	19	...
Total	1	15	21	1	...	242	19	1	9	...	1	10	27	24	50	2	4	7	20	4	13	34	...	505	70	15

Table 25.

Notifiable Infectious Diseases by Parishes.
(SOUTHERN AREA).

Infectious Diseases	Parishes															Total	Removed to Hospital	Deaths
	Arlingham	Eastington	Elmore	Frampton-on-Severn	Fretherne with Saul	Procester	Hardwicke	Haresfield	Longney	Minsterworth	Moreton Valence	Newnham-on-Severn	Standish	Westbury-on-Severn	Whitminster			
Scarlet Fever	...	1	1	...	5	3	3	3	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	15	8	...
Whooping Cough	...	1	...	1	6	...	1	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	13	...	...
Ac. Polio-myelitis
Ac. Polio-enceph.
Measles (excl. G.M.)	...	6	...	2	1	1	2	6	...	...	6	...	13	1	1	39	...	...
Diphtheria	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Ac. Pneumonia
Dysentery
Small-Pox
Ac. Inf. Enceph.
Enteric Fever
Para-typhoid fever	1	...	...	...	1	...	...
Erysipelas
Cerebro-Spinal fever
Puerp. pyrexia
Ophth. Neonatorum
Malaria (contr. E.W.)
Food Poisoning
TOTAL	...	8	1	3	12	1	5	10	...	...	10	3	13	1	2	69	9	...

Table 26. Notifiable Infectious Disease in 1949 by Age Groups.

DISEASE	0 +	1 +	3 +	5 +	10 +	15 +	25 +	45 +	65 +	Age N.K.	Total	Cases to Hosp.	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	4	20	45	2	2	2	1	...	...	76	35	...
Whooping Cough	7	28	21	20	3	1	...	...	...	...	80	6	...
Ac. Polio-myelitis	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...
Ac. Polio-enceph.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Measles (excl. G.M.)	8	89	75	166	11	10	4	...	...	...	363	6	...
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	3	2	...
Ac. Pneumonia	1	...	1	1	1	5	7	4	5	...	25	8	15
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ac. Inf. Enceph.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Para-typhoid fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	...	5	1	...
Cerebro-spinal F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerp. pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophth. Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Malaria (contr. E.W.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	17	2	...	...	...	19	19	...
										Total	574	79	15

Table 27.

CAUSES OF DEATH 1949

(Classified according to the Registrar-General's Short List of Causes).

CAUSES OF DEATH					Male	Female
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers	...	...		—	—
2.	Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	—	—
3.	Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	...	...	...	5	3
7.	Other forms of tuberculosis	...	...	...	—	3
8.	Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	—	—
9.	Influenza	...	...	...	2	3
10.	Measles	...	...	...	—	—
11.	Acute polio-myel. and polio-enceph.	...	...	...	—	—
12.	Acute infective encephalitis	...	...	...	—	—
13.	Cancer of buc. cav. and Oesoph.	M	uterus	F	3	2
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...		6	3
15.	Cancer of breast	...	...	...	—	6
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	25	15
17.	Diabetes	...	...	...	—	4
18.	Intra-cranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	18	26
19.	Heart Disease	...	...	...	67	65
20.	Other diseases of circ. system	...	...	...	13	11
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	10	7
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	6	9
23.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	2	1
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	4	2
25.	Diarrhoea under 2 years	...	...	...	1	—
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	1	1
27.	Other digestive disorders	...	...	...	1	1
28.	Nephritis	...	...	...	5	5
29.	Puerperal and post-abort. : sepsis	...	...	...	—	—
30.	Other maternal causes	...	...	...	—	1
31.	Premature births	...	...	...	2	2
32.	Con. : Mal. : birth inj. : infantile diseases	...	...	...	2	7
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	3	2
34.	Road traffic accident	...	...	...	6	2
35.	Other violent causes	...	...	...	4	4
36.	All other causes	...	...	...	11	14
TOTAL					197	199

