

**[Report 1947] / Medical Officer of Health, North Cotswold R.D.C.**

**Contributors**

North Cotswold (England). Rural District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1947

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ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To The



RURAL DISTRICT OF NORTH COTSWOLD

FOR THE YEAR 1947.



PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:


Stephen Knight, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

A. Ede, Certified Sanitary Inspector.  
Certified Meats and Food Inspector.  
Sanitary Science Certificate.

Additional Sanitary Inspectors:

E.A. Panks, Certified Sanitary Inspector.  
(to July 1947).  
B. McCutcheon, Certified Sanitary Inspector.  
(to July 1947).  
H. Bramwell. Certified Sanitary Inspector.  
(from September 1947).



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To the Chairman and Members of  
THE NORTH COTSWOLD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the health of the District for 1947 together with the report of the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. A. Ede, on the sanitary inspection of the District.

In the face of difficulties considerable progress has been made in the provision of water supplies, sewerage and housing.

The National Health Service Act 1947 comes into force on 5th July 1948. This Act limits the sphere of activity of the Council to environmental hygiene, all matters relating to personal hygiene becoming the concern of the Local Health Committee of the Council.

I desire to express my thanks to the Staff for their loyal co-operation at all times.

Your obedient Servant,

.....  
STEPHEN KNIGHT.

Medical Officer of Health.

July 1948.



NORTH COTSWOLD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) . . . . . 86,218.

Registrar-General's estimate of -

Resident population - mid 1947	17,350
Number of Inhabited houses (end of 1947) according to Rate Books	5,324
Rateable Value March 1948	£99,367
Sum represented by a penny rate	£367

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The people of the District are engaged for the most part in agriculture, market gardening, fruit growing and associated occupations.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE  
YEAR

<u>LIVE BIRTHS.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
Legitimate	362	183	179
Illegitimate	17	7	10
Total	379	190	189

Birth Rate per 1000 of the population.....21.9

STILL BIRTHS.

	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
Legitimate	8	4	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-

Still Birth Rate per 1000 of the population.....0.5.

<u>DEATHS.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
	206	92	114

Death Rate per 1000 of the population.....11.9

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

	<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births</u>
No. 29 Puerperal Sepsis	NIL	NIL
No. 30 Other Maternal causes	NIL	NIL

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.  
(Infantile Death Rate.)

	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>
Legitimate	8	5	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	8	5	3

ALL INFANTS per 1000 Live Births.....21

## DEATHS from Cancer

	32
	(2.0 per 1000 of the population)
" Measles	Nil
" Whooping Cough	1
" Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	1
" Tuberculosis (all forms)	3
	(0.2 per 1000 of the population)

## POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate of the population - 17,350 again shows a slight increase for the year.

## BIRTH RATE.

The Birth Rate 21.9 is somewhat higher than that for the country as a whole, it is greater and higher than last year, there are indications that it has reached a peak in the post-war years.

## DEATH RATE.

The Death Rate 11.9 for the District is approximately the same as the general rate.

## INFANT MORTALITY.

Only eight of the 379 children born died during the year giving an infantile mortality rate of 21 per 1000 live births compared with the national rate, 41.

The rate is one of the lowest ever recorded and is very welcome since it reflects the healthy state of the community.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

### Causes of death.

The principal causes of death were:-

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Typhoid and Para. Fevers	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-
Diphtheria	-	-
Tuberculosis - Respiratory System	-	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	-
Syphilitic Diseases	-	1
Influenza	1	4
Measles	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis &c.	-	-
Polio-Encephalitis	-	-
Acute Infect. Encephalitis	-	-
(Bucc. Cav.)	-	-
Cancer (Oesophagus (M)	1	3
(Uterus (F))	-	-
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	4	1
Cancer of Breast	-	3
Cancer of other Sites	14	7
Carry forward	22	21



	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females</u>
Brought forward	22	21
Diabetes	-	-
Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions	8	10
Heart Disease	29	44
Other Diseases of Circulatory System.	-	6
Bronchitis	3	2
Pneumonia	3	6
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	-
Diarrhoea under two years of age	-	1
Appendicitis	1	1
Other Digestive Diseases	-	1
Nephritis	6	5
Puerperal and Post Abortion Sepsis	-	-
Other Maternal Causes	-	-
Premature Birth	1	-
Congenital Malformation - Birth Injuries, Infantile Disease, etc.	4	1
Suicide	-	-
Road Traffic Acc.	2	2
Other Violent Causes	3	2
All other Causes	6	11
Total	92	114
Total both Male and Female...	206.	

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

	<u>1942.</u>	<u>1943.</u>	<u>1944.</u>	<u>1945.</u>	<u>1946.</u>	<u>1947.</u>
Birth Rate (Per 1,000 population)	17	20.2	20.1	22	19.8	21.9
Death Rate (Per 1,000 population)	11.3	10.9	12.4	12.7	14.2	11.9
Infantile Mortality Rate (Per 1,000 Live Births) (Deaths of infants under one year).	41.5	21.8	35.5	24	35	21

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

	<u>England</u> <u>and</u> <u>Wales.</u>	<u>126 C.B.'s</u> <u>and Great</u> <u>Towns.</u>	<u>County</u> <u>of Glou-</u> <u>cester-</u> <u>shire.</u>	<u>North</u> <u>Cots-</u> <u>Wold</u> <u>R.D.</u>
Live Births	20.5	23.3	20.0	21.9
Still Births				
(per 1,000 population)	0.5	0.6	-	0.5
Death Rate				
(per 1,000 population)	12.0	13.0	12.5	11.9
Infantile Mortality Rate				
(Deaths of infants under 1 year)	41	47	34	21
(Per 1,000 Live births)				
Deaths under 2 years of age	5.8	8.0	2.7	2.7
from Diarrhoea and Enteritis.				
(Per 1,000 Live Births)				



PREVALANCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS  
DISEASE.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1947  
(Excluding Tuberculosis)

<u>Diseases.</u>	<u>Under</u> <u>1 year.</u>		<u>1 to 5</u>		<u>5 to 15</u>		<u>15 - 25</u>		<u>25 and</u> <u>Upwards</u>		<u>Total</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	2	22	8	1	3	-	-	38	
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Whooping Cough	-	-	10	15	8	12	-	1	1	-	47	
Measles	1	-	20	22	40	34	2	-	1	1	121	
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	2	6	4	3	3	18	
Erysipelas	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	2	1	3	9	
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	
Poliomyelitis	-	-	1	-	3	1	-	-	-	-	5	

Scarlet Fever.

The disease was more prevalent than in the previous year, there being 38 cases, giving a rate of 2.2 per 1000 compared the rate for England and Wales of 1.31. No deaths occurred, this disease has come to be of a mild character and in keeping with recent views efforts are made, where possible, to isolate the cases at home. No increased spread of infection could be said to have resulted in adopting this course. Extra soap and disinfectant is issued to the affected household.

Diphtheria.

There were no cases, a benefit of the immunisation scheme.

Whooping Cough.

47 cases were notified with 1 death, the local notification rate being 2.7 per 1000 of the population compared with the national rate of 2.8.

Measles.

121 cases were notified, a rate of 5.0 per 1000 as against 5.29 for the country as a whole. There were no deaths. Saving in hospital beds, due to changed policy with regard to scarlet fever, are useful for severe measles cases often complicated with broncho-pneumonia. Admission for hospital nursing is a means of saving life in such cases.

Poliomyelitis.

During the summer and autumn when poliomyelitis was prevalent throughout the country there were 5 cases in the District. In addition to these which were confirmed, a number of other cases were seen in consultation with patient's own Doctor.

The infection of poliomyelitis in times of epidemics is not limited to the actual cases. It is probably that many persons transmit the infection by alimentary or respiratory means. Only in rare instances is the nervous system invaded, so giving rise to symptoms, leading to the notification of the case.



### Smallpox.

There were several outbreaks of smallpox in different parts of the country in the early part of the year. Although, no cases occurred in the District, the disease is controlled by vaccination and follow up of every contact. Surveillance of several contacts coming into the District was kept up.

### IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA

Responsibility for diphtheria immunisation passes to the Local Health Committee of the County Council under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1947.

The Council started their immunisation scheme in 1937, later in 1941, the National Campaigns got under way. The net result of the combined effort is that 3,013 of the 4,300 children under fifteen years in the District have been immunised. The percentage of treated children is now 70 compared with 65 last year. Year by year there has been a steady improvement in the figures and we are now reaping the benefit in the elimination of diphtheria from the District.

In order to maintain and improve on this figure a constant effort is required to persuade mothers to bring their babies for immunisation at the age of eight months. 341 children were treated in this manner during the year.

When the child enters school meeting with increased risks of infection it is necessary to give a single injection of prophylactic as a boosting or reinforcing dose. 240 children had this maintenance dose at their first medical examination this year.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December 1947:-

Age at 31/12/47.	Under							Total
e.g. born in year.	1 year	1	2	3	4	5 to 9	10 to 14	under
	1947.	1946	1945	1944	1943	1938/42	1933/37	15.

Number immunised	{	12	173	190	193	186	{	1202	1059	3013
------------------	---	----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	------	------	------

Estimated mid-year population 1947.				1820		2480	4300
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Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths in relation  
to Immunisation

<u>Notifications</u>			<u>Deaths</u>		
Number of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of immunisation.			Number of cases included in preceding column in which the child had completed a full course of Immunisation.		
Age at date of notification.	Number of cases notified		Age at date of Death.	No of Deaths.	
<u>Totals.</u>	NIL	NIL	<u>Totals.</u>	NIL	NIL

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following new cases were notified during the year:-

<u>Males.</u>	<u>Pulmonary.</u> <u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u> <u>Males.</u> <u>Females</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>All Forms.</u> <u>Total</u>
3	3	6	3	1	4
					10

The Age Group at notification:-

	<u>0 - 5</u>		<u>5 - 15</u>		<u>15 - 25</u>		<u>15 and Upwards.</u>	
	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>
Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	3
Non-Pulmonary	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	1

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

<u>Males.</u>	<u>Pulmonary</u> <u>Females.</u>	<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u> <u>Males.</u> <u>Females.</u>
-	2	1

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register 31st December 1947, was as follows:-

<u>Pulmonary</u>			<u>Non-Pulmonary</u>		
<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
24	21	45	22	13	35
<u>All Forms - TOTAL - 80.</u>					

Early diagnosis and treatment of cases are essential for both cure and prevention of infection. Bad housing and overcrowding are contributory factors in the spread of tuberculosis. It is, therefore, important that housing accommodation be found



where necessary for the family of a person suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis so that the patient on his return from a sanatorium is able to sleep in a separate room.

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR HEALTH SERVICES.

##### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) Infectious cases. The ambulance is provided by the Delancey Hospital, Cheltenham.

(b) Other cases. The Council maintained an ambulance service which operated throughout the district. There were two ambulances and one sitting base car, stationed at Moreton-in-Marsh and Blockley.

The service may be obtained through telephone Moreton-in-Marsh 159, an arrangement which is to be continued now that the services has been taken over by the County Council.

In the year 1st April 1947 to 31st March 1948 190 cases were dealt with and 9,184 miles travelled.

##### NURSING IN THE HOME.

The whole area is covered by the District Nursing Association, which will be under the Control of the County Council from 5th July 1948.

##### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Blockley	...	Alternate Wednesdays
Bourton-on-the-Water	...	2nd and 4th Tuesdays
Chipping Campden	...	2nd Monday
Mickleton	...	2nd Tuesday
Moreton-in-Marsh	...	2nd Tuesday
Stow-on-the-Wold	....	1st and 3rd Mondays
Willersey	...	2nd Thursday.

##### HOSPITALS.

- (a) General. Moreton District Hospital.  
(Maternity, Medical and Surgical).  
Bourton-on-the-Water Cottage Hospital  
(Medical and Surgical).
- (b) Infectious The Delancey Isolation Hospital,  
Cheltenham.



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

### WATER SUPPLY.

The Council's Comprehensive Water Scheme, to afford a piped supply to every centre of population in the district is being carried out in sections.

The schemes for Todenham, Evenlode and Westcote were completed during the year. A contract for £71,000 has been entered into for further works and extensions of mains in the parishes of Blockley, Ebrington, Saintbury, Aston Subedge and Icomb.

The Consulting Engineers have now drawn up the list of works to be included in the second section of the comprehensive scheme. These include development of the Seven Springs Course, electrification of Upper Swell Pumping Station and extensions of the Council water supply to Upper Swell, Lower Swell, Lower Lemington, Dorn, Upper Slaughter, Lower Slaughter and Clapton-on-the-Hill.

64 samples of water from the Council supply were submitted for analysis and found to be satisfactory.

In keeping with modern practice the supply is chlorinated as an extra safeguard.

15 samples were taken from private supplies and when found to be bad appropriate action was taken.

The following table sets out the position with regard to water supply in the various parishes.

Parish	Total No. of houses.	Number of houses supplied by Public mains.		Number of houses without Public Supply.
		a.	b.	
		direct into house.	by stand pipe.	
Adlestrop	63	-	-	63
Aston Subedge	31	-	-	31
Batsford	54	11	-	43
Bledington	105	87	-	18
Blockley	448	334	66	48
Blockley Remainder	183	55	-	128
Bourton-on-the-Hill	101	59	7	35
Bourton-on-the-Water	519	335	45	139
Broadwell	95	19	43	33
Campden	540	479	-	61
Clapton	28	-	-	28
Condicote	30	27	-	3
Cutsdean	34	-	-	34
Donnington	36	29	-	7
Ebrington	178	12	-	166
Evenlode	62	4	30	28
Great Rissington	91	15	70	6
Guiting Power	116	20	69	27
Icomb	44	-	-	44
Little Rissington	46	-	-	46
Longborough	126	58	30	38
Lower Slaughter.	73	3	-	70



Parish	Total No. of houses.	Number of Houses supplied by Public mains.		Number of Houses without Public Supply.
<u>Continued.</u>		a. direct into house	b. by stand pipe.	
Maugersbury	53	18	-	35
Mickleton	226	182	6	38
Moreton-in-Marsh	496	484	-	12
Naunton	124	-	-	124
Oddington	129	81	29	19
Saintbury	35	1	-	34
Sezincote	27	-	-	27
Stow-on-the-Wold	512	421	79	12
Swell	130	72	12	46
Temple Guiting	123	12	5	106
Todenham	76	3	61	12
Upper Slaughter	82	-	-	82
Westcote	58	50	8	-
Weston Subedge	92	67	5	20
Wyck Rissington	47	1	-	46
Willersey.	152	143	-	9
	5365.	3082.	565.	1718

#### SEWERAGE.

The Minister of Health has approved the Council's scheme for provision of a sewerage system for parishes of Mickleton, Willersey and Weston Subedge.

The main sewer for this scheme passes through the parishes of Saintbury and Aston Subedge, but approval has not yet been given for sewerage to be provided in these villages.

The provision of a new scheme to serve Bourton-on-the-Water and Lower Slaughter is under consideration by the Minister, while the scheme to serve Stow-on-the-Wold is in course of preparation.

#### HOUSING.

##### Rural Housing Survey.

The survey was completed in November 1947, the final figures being as follows:-

No. of Houses under rateable value £16 p.a. Inspected.	Satisfactory in Minor all respects.	Minor Defects	Suitable for Re- conditioning	Unfit for habitation.
3826	1183 41%	387	1634 42%	622 16%

84 houses were overcrowded according to the standard laid down by the Housing Act 1936 and in 14 cases two families were found to be sharing a house.

The Rural Housing Survey was undertaken by Government direction so that the housing conditions and needs of the District might be made known. When the acute need for new homes has been met, the next phase in the Housing programme must be the improvement of existing conditions.



Details of defects found during the Survey and the standard to which houses must be raised were dealt with in the last Annual report.

It will be noted that the Survey shows that 42% of the unfit houses are considered fit for reconditioning but the Housing of the Rural Workers Act is no longer in force. This Act was the only one which enabled financial assistance to be provided for reconditioning houses. However, there are indications that legislation to facilitate reconditioning is being considered.

The terms and conditions of a reconditioning Act will determine the proportion of unfit houses which are reconditioned.

Reconditioning without financial assistance is not an economic proposition unless the house is subsequently to be sold with vacant possession; unfit houses brought forward for consideration would come, in default, into the demolition category.

At the present juncture salvaging houses is very much in the national interest since there is saving in cost, labour and material.

Under the obsolete Act, the onus for reconditioning was with the owner. The Council had no power to take over a property and use the Act in default, the only course open was by way of demolition.

Until such legislation is in force and its terms known it is difficult to assess the Rural Housing Survey and take action on the findings.

#### TEMPORARY HOUSING - CAMP SITES.

The three former camp sites released for local housing needs are, unfortunately, all Nissen Huts.

Improvements have been carried out in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 20/46 when the life of the huts is estimated at two years. The ends of the huts were felted and the huts partitioned, cooking ranges and separate Elsan closets provided, electric light connected and water supply laid on to stand pipes.

16 families are in occupation at Mengersbury; 7 Cinque Foil, Blockley; 4 Kings Arms, Mickleton.



## REPORT OF CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

1947.

Complaints received	169
Informal Notices	102
Statutory Notices served	6
Nuisances abated	82
Premises disinfected after infectious disease	23
Premises disinfected for other causes.	8
Shops visited	87
Bakehouses visited	24
Factory inspections	12
Outworkers premises visited	2
Tents, Vans, and Sheds visited	58
Cowshed and dairy inspections	154
Drains inspected	212
Water samples taken for analysis	51
Total number of visits for all purposes.	2,430.

### PUBLIC CLEANSING AND SALVAGE COLLECTION.

The collection of household refuse has been maintained and improved in the past year.

This service was carried on in the first quarter of the year under very difficult conditions. Arctic weather made roads almost unusable and dangerous, but the team worked on and collections were only missed when roads became impossible, a period of only three days was lost for this reason as roads to the tips were entirely blocked. Owing to the men being prepared to work through arduous and dangerous periods, the collection was kept in hand, and I was able to reconstitute the time table in May, giving an improved service to twenty two villages.

These had been served by monthly collections which were replaced by collections every two weeks.

#### Salvage Collection.

The weights of salvaged materials have fallen, but should have by now reached the low point, indeed some improvement should be made if the public will co-operate.

An account of Salvage takings for the year follows:-

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Mixed Paper and Card	51.	12.	0.	331.	17.	5.
Scrap Iron	5.	16.	2.	9.	4.	1.
Rags	1.	6.	1.	13.	2.	6.
	58.	14.	3.	354.	4.	0.

Far too much paper continues to be wasted by admixture with refuse in the bins.

The trailer now used for this service has, I think, improved matters.



### Refuse Tips.

These places still continue to be misused by various people and are difficult to keep tidy and useful. Uncontrolled tipping by unauthorised users is difficult to stop as the offenders are careful to avoid being caught.

The Honeybourne unit of the R.A.F. have given considerable trouble through the past year. As repeated appeals to the Adjutant brought no lasting improvement, I addressed a letter to the Air Ministry advising them to find another tip for their refuse. This they have evidently done for I received a notification from the Ministry that the Honeybourne unit would discontinue using the North Cotswold R.D.C. tip at Blockley.

### Refuse Tips and Rats.

The refuse tips have been treated by the County Pest Officer and there has been no serious complaint of rats at the tips this year.

### Vehicles.

Two vehicles only are in use for household refuse collection, both in whole time operation. The only available time for adjustment and servicing being two Saturday mornings a month. This is not sufficient.

In addition to greasing and minor repairs these so called free mornings are utilised for any emergency or extra work.

A second special duty lorry is needed i.e. a properly constructed refuse lorry, for preference a steel, low sided vehicle of 10 cubic yards capacity. This size is big enough for the district. The large Bedford Eagle vehicle is proving unhandy and too cumbersome for service in some parts of the villages, also too big to be housed anywhere but in its present garage. Further it cannot enter the Council's large garage for servicing or major repairs.

The small Bedford tipping lorry is almost due for major overhaul and should be relegated to position of spare. It has done good work in the past as a make do until something better was available. Provision of Tarpaulins for covers is becoming an expense which would be better expended on a purpose built vehicle.

I had hoped that the Dennis vehicle would have been reconditioned and returned to duty but decay was so rapid during the last two years of use that this would not now be economic.

This is one reason for asking consideration of a third vehicle, as proper painting and repair would have prolonged the life of the Dennis body and made reconditioning worth considering.



### Military Sanitation.

There is at present no problem arising from Military Sanitation owing to practically all camps with temporary latrines closing down.

### Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Early in the year one family were removed to the Public Assistance Institute.

This was a family of casual workers at Westington who were caught in the very severe winter, and practically destitute.

Complaints are received from time to time by people who do not employ these casual workers but very often the workers have moved on before any pressure can be brought to bear on them.

The place which is causing most complaints is at Westington where numbers of wandering farm workers have made temporary camps for years. The owner of the copse where the tents are put, has been warned that he must provide suitable sanitary accommodation for his lodgers or keep the ground free of these people.

No rent is paid for this site and the users are really trespassers.

### Camping Sites and Moveable Dwellings.

Seven licences were granted to station moveable dwellings during the year.

In each case these caravans are in use because of abnormal conditions and the difficulty of getting reasonable living accommodation.

These stations have given rise to no problem or complaint as the caravans are properly fitted and well kept. In most cases the occupants are only too anxious to acquire houses to live in.

Some of the caravans are used for accommodation by Officers attending special courses at Little Rissington Aerodrome.

It is a great pity that the Air Ministry do not make provision for housing these young people in a more natural way, or provide proper camping sites on government ground which in this part provides ample room.

### Cowsheds and Dairies.

154 visits were made to cowsheds and Dairies which were generally found to be kept in a clean condition.

There is no doubt that generally speaking milk producers are anxious to keep up the standard of milk supplied.

There is a tendency for the Milk Marketing Board to take supplies without regard to the suitability of premises for production. In spite of all Acts and Regulations this is a retrograde step as profit motive is still the greatest incentive to improvement. Whereas a Council must register any applicant as a milk producer any improvement takes time meanwhile doubtful supplies are distributed for consumption.



The foregoing is not a general condemnation of all poor premises as good cattle and careful work can still produce pure milk from old and out of date buildings.

#### School Milk Samples.

25 reports on samples of School Milk were received from the school Medical Officer.

5 of these failed to reach the designated standard.

This percentage 20% is much better than last year.

Warning is given to producers of milk adversely reported on.

#### Pastuerised Milk.

3 samples of patuerised milk were taken at the United Dairies Depot, Moreton-in-Marsh. The first just failed to satisfy requirements. A defect in the pasteurising plant was remedied and later samples have been satisfactory.

#### Food Inspections.

Meat is still issued from Government depots at Cheltenham and Evesham.

There has been no cause for complaint leading to condemnation of supplies from these sources.

Milk and Vegetables mentioned in the following list appeared to be goods salvaged from or badly stored in service depots.

The amount of wet fish condemned is high. This food is very subject to deterioration if delayed on the railway, especially during the hot months of the year. In each case consignments arrived quite free of the ice it would be packed in when dispatched.

The table jelly crystals, Cake, Flour and Custard Powder were damaged by accident during carriage by rail owing to the breaking of a carboy of chemical.

I naturally complained of the practice of packing foodstuffs and dangerous chemicals in the same van, and was told this was done against orders, and the person responsible had already been reprimanded.

Foods surrendered and destroyed or otherwise disposed of as being unfit for human consumption:-

Fruit	46 tins
Meat	78 tins
Milk	261 tins
Vegetables	314 tins
Dried Prunes	72 lbs.
Christmas Pudding.	1 lb.
Soup	27 tins
Mince Tart	3 lbs.
Fish	76 tins
Fish Cakes	48
Wet Fish	406 lbs.
Ham	5½ lbs.
Bacon	¾ lb.
Sausage	2½ lbs.



Flour	36 lbs.
Argentine Chilled Beef	91 lbs.
Sausages	20 tins
Rabbit	5 tins
Preserves	120 jars or tins
Macaroni and Cheese	2 tins
Golden Syrup	4 tins
Tea	1 lb.
Cake	40 lbs.
Eggs	60
Cereals	9 tins
Table Jelly Crystals.	41 packets.
Cake Flour	29 packets.
Mustard Powder	17 packets.
Paste	4 jars
Cooked Meat	3 lbs.
Fruit Juice	18 tins
Margarine	11 lbs.
Cheese	428 lbs.

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Butchers Meat and Cheese was returned to Government Stores for salvage.

Where possible foodstuffs unfit for human consumption is utilised for animal feeding.

The remainder is buried in some part of the refuse tip where fire rapidly destroys it, in order to prevent such food being made available to rats.

#### Vermin.

8 premises have been treated for fleas with gammexane powder, which has proved effective.

#### Rats and Mice Destruction Act 1919.

14 visits have been made to premises infested by rats and information passed to the County Pest Officer.

I have been notified that treatment of private houses free of cost will cease at the beginning of the new year and occupiers will have to pay the cost of any work done by the County rat catchers from the 1st January 1948.

#### Ice Cream.

4 premises are registered for manufacture and sale of ice cream and 10 premises for sale only.

Most of these manufacturers deal with small quantities only so probably the new regulations will lead to manufacture of ice cream being suspended in this area. The expense of the new plant required by law will render the business uneconomic.

#### Food Factory.

One new registration for manufacture of Pickles was made during the year.

Public Conveniences.

These premises provided for the convenience of the general public still continue to attract hooligans on mischief bent. Wilful damage adds considerably to cost of these buildings.

The Police did succeed in finding the culprit in one case of wilful damage at the Moreton-in-Marsh convenience, this offender was mulcted £22 in damages, fines and costs during May 1947.

There has been an improvement at Bourton-on-the-Water since a caretaker who lives near, was appointed.



