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Contributors

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NORTH COTSWOLD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1953



PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF:

Medical Officer of Health:

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

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

A.EDE - Certified Sanitary Inspector
Certified Meat & Foods Inspector
Sanitary Science Certificate

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

G.I.JONES - Certified Sanitary Inspector

Pests Officer

R. T. WOOLCOMBE

REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE

FOR THE YEAR 1881

IN RESPONSE TO A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PASSED MAY 12, 1880

AND BY THE SENATE

PASSED MAY 12, 1880

AND BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PASSED MAY 12, 1880

AND BY THE SENATE

PASSED MAY 12, 1880

AND BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PASSED MAY 12, 1880

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

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the Rural District for the year 1953.

Mr. A.Ede, Chief Sanitary Inspector, has completed a section dealing with his work during the year and I am indebted to the Surveyor, Mr. G.E.Knight, and other officers of the Council for many of the particulars contained in the Report.

The vital statistics as in previous years are favourable and reflect on the well-being of a thriving community.

The Council's Comprehensive Water Scheme has been fully developed and a piped water supply provided in all parts of the District. The mains reach out to the boundaries of the District; neighbouring authorities have been able to take advantage of the position and contract for bulk supplies.

Now that the economic position of the Country has improved it is anticipated that the Ministry of Housing and Local Government will give the Council permission to proceed with various sewerage schemes which have been held in abeyance.

My thanks are due to the Members of the Council for their kind consideration and to my colleagues for their help and loyal co-operation during the year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

STEPHEN KNIGHT

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1954.

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NORTH COTSWOLD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres)	86,218
Registrar-General's estimate of mid-year population (including members of the Armed Forces)	21,400
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1953)	5,736
Rateable Value (at 31.3.1954)	£116,185
Sum represented by a penny rate (at 31.3.1954)	£462

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR

LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	401	193	208
Illegitimate	14	9	5
Total	415	202	213

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	...	19.9
Area Comparability Factor (Births)	...	1.11
Corrected Birth Rate (19.9 x 1.11)	...	21.1

STILL BIRTHS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	6	3	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	6	3	3

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	...	0.28
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	...	.14

DEATHS

<u>DEATHS</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
	212	113	99
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population	...	9.9	
Area Comparability Factor (Deaths)	...	.91	
Corrected Death Rate (9.9 x 0.91)	...	9.0	

NO. 30 DEATHS FROM PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH, ABORTION

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Deaths per 1,000 total (live and still) births.</u>
0	Nil

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE (Infantile Mortality)

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	8	5	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	8	5	3

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	19.
-----------------------------------	-----	-----

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER FOUR WEEKS OF AGE (Neonatal Mortality)

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	5	3	2
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total	5	3	2

Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births ... 12.

POPULATION

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population, 21,400, is 120 less than the previous year although the natural increase, the excess of births over deaths, is no less than 203. An increase rather than a decrease in the population of the District might have been anticipated since the birth rate is higher and the death rate lower than the rates for the country as a whole; moreover there has been little evidence of people moving out of the District and many new houses have been built. It may be that the difference is accounted for by the movement of Service personnel.

BIRTH RATE

Births numbered 415, which is 14 more than in 1952, making the local Birth Rate 19.9 as compared with 15.5 for England and Wales. Even so for purposes of comparison the corrected Birth Rate, 21.1, should be used, in this rate allowance is made for high proportion of elderly people in the age distribution of the population in the District.

DEATH RATE

212 people died, making the local Death Rate 9.9, a rate which compares well with the national rate 11.4. Here again the Corrected Death Rate, 9.0, is even more favourable to the District.

INFANT MORTALITY

Again the infant mortality in the District is extremely low; only eight babies died before they were a year old; the local infantile mortality being at the rate of 19 deaths per 1,000 live births as against the rate of 26.8 for the country as a whole.

Infant mortality reflects on the medical care, social services, and housing conditions in the locality. It is, therefore, to be watched very carefully and it is gratifying to note how, year after year, the infant mortality is so low in this District.

Even so it will be noted that five of the eight infants died in the neonatal period, within four weeks of birth. The death rate of infants in this period has not declined so steeply as the infantile mortality rate as a whole. Four of the five deaths were due to prematurity. Care of the mother in pregnancy and confinement is the most important factor in preventing the death of the infant in this period.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no maternal deaths.

CANCER

Deaths from cancer numbered 35, one fewer than last year. Three men died from cancer of the lung. Only two women died from cancer of the breast. In accessible sites such as this a painless lump is usually noticed at a very early stage and if only people would seek medical advice at the earliest opportunity many lives would be saved.

CAUSES OF DEATH

The causes of death in the following table are classified under the Abbreviated List of International Statistical Classification:

	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	1
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-
10. Malignant neoplasms, stomach	5	2
11. Malignant neoplasm, lun, bronchus	3	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	12	10
15. Leukaemia, aloukaomia	-	-
16. Diabetes	1	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	12
18. Coronary disease, angina	12	12
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	3
20. Other heart disease	27	27
21. Other circulatory disease	2	1
22. Influenza	3	3
23. Pneumonia	2	6
24. Bronchitis	3	1
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	1	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	14	10
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	1
34. All other accidents	10	1
35. Suicide	1	3
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
ALL CAUSES	113	99

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

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	20.0	17.2	17.1	18.6	19.9
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	11.5	11.3	12.3	11.4	9.9
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)(Deaths of Infants under 1 year)	18.0	28.2	24.0	5.0	19.0
Neonatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)(Deaths of Infants under 1 month)			21.0	5.0	12.0

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

	<u>England & Wales</u>	<u>160 C.Bs. & Great Towns</u>	<u>County of Glos.</u>	<u>North Cotswold R.D.</u>
Live Births	15.5	17.0	15.74	19.9
Still Births	(0.35	0.43	0.33	0.28
(per 1,000 population)	(22.4 (a)	24.8 (a)		14. (a)
Death Rate	11.4	12.2	11.19	9.9
(per 1,000 population)				
Infantile Mortality Rate	26.8	30.8	23.10	19.0
(Deaths of Infants under 1 Yr.)(Per 1,000 Live Births)				
Neonatal Mortality Rate			13.71	12.0
(Deaths of Infants under 1 Month)(Per 1,000 Live Births)				

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1953.
(Excluding Tuberculosis)

	<u>Under 1 Yr.</u>		<u>1-5</u>		<u>5 - 15</u>		<u>15-25</u>		<u>25 & over</u>		<u>Age Not Known</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>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Scarlet Fever	-	-	2	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	3	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	4
Measles	3	3	64	58	98	113	2	2	4	2	3	2	174	180
Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	11	16	-	-	11	18
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	6	9	-	1	6	11
Meningococcal Infection	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	3
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

SCARLET FEVER

The incidence of Scarlet Fever was again light, only 8 cases were notified a case rate of 0.4 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 1.39 cases per 1,000 of the population of England and Wales.

Not only are the cases few but the disease itself is mild, complications unusual and fatalities rare.

The practice of isolating cases at home was continued, there was no spread of the disease and the patients made excellent, rapid recoveries.

DIPHTHERIA

No case was notified.

WHOOPING COUGH

No epidemic occurred in this District during the year and only twelve cases were notified although elsewhere the incidence was much heavier. The local case rate per 1,000 of the population was only 0.6 as against the national rate of 3.58.

In young infants whooping cough may be a severe and fatal condition.

Immunisation against whooping cough affords a measure of protection to young infants.

MEASLES

Measles has a biennial incidence, an epidemic in one year, leaving enough immunes to prevent an outbreak the following year. 1951 was an epidemic year, there were 354 notifications as compared with only 66 in 1952. Locally the cases were at the rate of 17 per 1,000 of the population as against 12 for the country as a whole.

There were no deaths.

POLIOMYELITIS

Only one case of the paralytic type was notified. The patient was a youth of developed symptoms within a few days of coming to the district for a camping holiday.

FOOD POISONING

Only one person was notified as suffering from food poisoning.

(a)	Total number of outbreaks	...	1
(b)	Number of cases	...	1
(c)	Number of deaths	...	-
(d)	Organisms or other agents responsible with number of outbreaks attributable to each	...	Nil
(e)	Foods involved, with number of outbreaks associated with each food	...	Tinned cream.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

247 babies under one year of age were vaccinated, this represents an acceptance rate for infants of 59%. Pre-war the average rate for England and Wales was 40%, it is now only 34%. The rate that has been achieved in this District is among the best for any local authority.

Vaccinated people are the chief barrier to spread of smallpox when outbreaks occur.

The following table sets out the details of the records of vaccination received during the year:

	<u>Under</u> <u>1 Yr.</u>	<u>1.</u>	<u>2 - 4</u>	<u>5 - 14</u>	<u>15 or</u> <u>over</u>	<u>Total</u>
Vaccination	247	9	8	10	21	295
Re-vaccination	1	-	2	8	39	50

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION (in relation to child population)

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1953:

Age at 31.12.1953
i.e. born in year

Number immunised
Total number immunised

<u>Under 1 Yr.</u> <u>1953</u>	<u>1.</u> <u>1952</u>	<u>2.</u> <u>1951</u>	<u>3.</u> <u>1950</u>	<u>4.</u> <u>1949</u>	<u>5 - 9</u> <u>1944-48</u>	<u>10 - 14</u> <u>1939-43</u>	<u>Total</u>
(16	207	259	273	290	(1,292	1,070)	3,407
	1,045				2,362		

Estimated mid-year
population, 1953

1,851

3,165

5,016

Number of children immunised in 1953. 1952. 1951. 1950. 1949. 1948. 1947. 1946.

Primary	267	292	460	263	320	362	341	407
Maintenance	168	262	258	260	278	238	240	109

Children immunised against diphtheria for the first time numbered 267 as compared with 292 the previous year, a further 168 children received a maintenance or boosting injection. The percentage of immunised children under fifteen years of age remains the same as last year, 68. Actually 415 children were born during the year, 267 were immunised and of these only 16 were under one year of age.

The community has been free from diphtheria for a number of years solely because of the good response to the campaign for immunisation and the consequent high level immunity in the population.

Unfortunately there are still many carriers of the disease and as soon as the level of immunisation falls outbreaks of this dread disease will re-occur.

The campaign for immunisation against ^{this} disease still needs the enthusiastic support which it has had in the past.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases

	<u>Children</u>		<u>All Persons</u>
	<u>0 - 4</u>	<u>5 - 14</u>	
Pulmonary	1	-	5
Non-pulmonary	-	-	2

Deaths

Pulmonary	-	-	2
Non-pulmonary	-	-	1

Tuberculosis Register

The number of cases on the register, 31st December, 1953, was as follows:

<u>Pulmonary</u>			<u>Non-pulmonary</u>			<u>All Forms Total</u>
<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	
43	35	78	12	12	24	112

Seven new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year, although this number is much smaller than the previous year when there were 19 new cases the incidence of this disease generally has not fallen. Modern treatment has had a most beneficial effect on the death rate from tuberculosis, in this District only three deaths occurred.

Measures to prevent spread are of the greatest importance, persons in contact with cases are kept under medical surveillance. The Council, if necessary, rehouse afflicted families so that the infectious patient is able to have a separate bedroom.

The Mass Radiography Unit visits the district from time to time but because in this Rural District the number of people who can make use of this Service is small the visit of this Unit is infrequent.

Vaccination against Tuberculosis

In many countries vaccination against tuberculosis has been carried on for a number of years. The results have been most beneficial. There is much evidence to show that people can be protected against infection when they are most likely to contract the disease.

B.C.G. vaccination against tuberculosis is already offered for infants and young children in close contact with an adult suffering from active pulmonary tuberculosis. The County Council have decided to extend the scheme to school children who are thirteen years of age. Children of this age are peculiarly susceptible to tuberculosis, they are undergoing development as adolescents and will soon be at work and subject to more strain and greater risk of infection.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 Clean Food

As noted above only one case of food poisoning occurred in the District. The position for the year is most satisfactory particularly since a considerable amount of catering is carried on in this District which attracts large numbers of tourists.

Food shops and similar establishments are inspected regularly to ensure that the food for sale and the premises comply with requirements.

The trade is most co-operative and anxious to keep to the highest standard.

The most effective measure in prevention of food poisoning is one which is in the hands of the general public. If the public insist on clean methods in the preparation and handling of food their demands will be met and food poisoning will become extremely rare.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949 Section 20

A notice under this section remains in force, it requires all milk produced on a farm to be heat treated before being sold for human consumption.

The organisms causing Undulant Fever were found in a sample of milk from this farm and as yet no clearance can be given.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936. SECTION 20

Accommodation for Pea-Pickers and Seasonal Workers

Measures undertaken by the Council to secure adequate accommodation for seasonal agricultural workers have proved effective. The requirements are not onerous and the farms concerned have co-operated with the Council.

The Council's byelaws merely call for the simplest necessities to which a human being shall be entitled; clean buildings, different sleeping places for men and women, wholesome water supply, adequate cooking facilities and latrines.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948. SECTION 47 Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in Need of Care and Attention

No application was made to the Court for a Removal Order under this Section.

A number of old people living alone and in failing health have been visited from time to time. A little regular help, often from the Home Help Service, has enabled them to carry on living in their own homes and has prevented insanitary conditions developing.

The Old People's Clubs look after their members and are useful in reporting individual cases in which help is required.

GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR HEALTH SERVICES

Ambulance Service

The Ambulance Service is operated by the County Council. There is a control station at Cheltenham and a sub-station at Moreton-in-Marsh. The Ambulance Service may be obtained by telephoning Cheltenham 3112 and in emergency dialling "999" or "0" to the local Exchange and asking for "Ambulance Service".

A Hospital Car Service is operated; 48 hours notice should be given of the requirements, and requests for this Service made to the Control Station at Cheltenham. The Service is available for taking patients to and from appointments in connection with the National Health Service when the use of public transport is not possible.

Home Help Service

This Service is organised by the County Council and a charge is made according to a scale of assessment.

The Home Help takes over the running of the home where the housewife is temporarily incapacitated through illness.

As noted elsewhere, the Service is very useful to old people who can no longer manage because of infirmity.

Appeals for assistance from the Home Help Service should be made to the Divisional Health Office, North East Area, Council Offices, Charlton Kings, telephone number Cheltenham 55746.

Nursing in the Home

The area is covered by the District Nursing Association under the control of the County Council. Information is available from the Divisional Health Office, North East Area, Council Offices, Charlton Kings, telephone number Cheltenham 55746.

Child Welfare Centres

Blockley	.....	Alternate Wednesdays
Bourton-on-the-Water	.....
Chipping Campden	.....	2nd & 4th Wednesdays
Little Rissington	.....	2nd & 4th Wednesdays
Mickleton	.....	2nd Tuesdays
Moreton-in-Marsh	.....	2nd Tuesdays
Stow-on-the-Wold	.....	1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Willersey	.....	2nd Thursdays

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

HOUSING

The Council continued to make good progress in the provision of new houses. 412 houses have been built since the war and 77 are in the course of construction.

FORMER CAMP SITES

The various sites are now occupied by the following families:

Cinque Foil, Blockley	1.
Maugersbury	2.
Honeybourne. Site 3	1.
" " 5	1.
" " 8	3.

with the exception of Maugersbury all these families will shortly be provided with more suitable accommodation on Site 12 now owned by the Council.

HOUSING ACT, 1949. SECTION 20

Houses Requiring Re-conditioning.

Repairs and reconditioning of old and out of date houses is a very important aspect of the housing problem. It costs much less to renovate older houses than to build new ones.

Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1949 provides for generous grants to be made where the reconditioning of houses is carried out. Local Authorities may make grants to private owners for the provision of dwellings, by conversion of houses or other buildings and for the improvement of existing houses.

The houses must have an estimated life of 30 years, and the standard of accommodation provided must approximate to that of a new Council house after the improvements have been carried out.

Grants may be made of up to £400 where the improvement works are between £100 and £800; where a dwelling has not been let at a rent during the past five years the Council fix a rent; where it has been so let the rent must be that of the past rent plus 6% of that part of the cost of the improvement works borne by the owner.

By Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 36/54 local authorities were authorised to deal with applications and to decide the amount of grant, without reference to the Ministry. The circular also revises and simplifies the requirements specified for a dwelling in respect of which an improvement grant is to be made.

At the time this circular was issued the Minister gave much publicity to the provisions of the Act, in consequence there was an immediate increase in the number of enquiries and consequently the number of applications received.

To date 30 applications for grant have been considered and of these, three were subsequently withdrawn; three were refused by the Ministry; four were refused by the Council; 15 were granted in a sum totalling £6,1000 and five are still under consideration.

If full use is made of these grants there will be a great improvement in the general standard of housing in the Rural District.

WATER SUPPLY
(Statistics Relating to the Council's
Comprehensive Water Scheme)

Population served	21,000
Area served in square miles	90
Average daily consumption (domestic)	25 gallons per head.
Average daily consumption (trade)	18 gallons per head.
Total storage capacity	1,650,000
Length of mains	112 miles
Total capital expenditure	£334,108
Total consumption	900,000 gallons per day.

The Rural Districts of Evesham, Stratford-on-Avon and Chipping Norton take bulk supplies from the Council's system.

Works are in hand to enable a supply of 500,000 gallons per day to be provided for the Shipston-on-Stour Rural District. A new reservoir at Donnington which holds 210,000 galls. has been completed.

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government has under consideration the Council's Schemes to replace the existing 60,000 gallon reservoir at Wyck Beacon with one of 300,000 gallons capacity and for the provision of a new ^{and} pumping station and headworks at Dovedale to augment the source pumping capacity at Mill Cottage, Blockley

At Upper Swell works were carried out to protect the springs from pollution. A new drainage system was provided for three cottages situate above the springs. The site of the disposal works and outfall for the cottages is now below the gathering ground of the springs.

87 samples were taken from the Council's water supplies and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford for analysis, 78 of these samples were highly satisfactory and fell in Class I of the Ministry of Health's grading, 7 samples were satisfactory (Class II) and 2 fell in Class III.

In addition 34 samples were taken from various private supplies. Such action as was necessary was taken and in consequence a number of houses were connected to the public water mains.

Chlorination, a requirement of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, is carried out as a safeguard in the Council's Comprehensive Water Scheme. This supply was satisfactory in quality and quantity throughout the year.

The following table sets out the position with regard to water supply in the various Parishes:

	<u>Total No. of houses</u>	<u>No. of Houses supplied by Public Mains:</u>	<u>No. of Houses without Public Supply</u>
		(a) <u>Direct into House.</u>	(b) <u>By Stand- pipe.</u>
Adlestrop	65	-	65*
Aston Subedge	31	3	28*
Batsford	55	26	29*
Bledington	124	110	14
Blockley	674	613	43
Bourton-on-the-Hill	112	86	22
Bourton-on-the-Water	485	436	19
Broadwell	96	27	31
Campden	623	589	34
Clapton	31	27	-
Condicote	34	33	1
Cutsdean	33	-	33*
Donnington	36	30	6
Ebrington	183	96	87
Evenlode	77	61	10
Great Rissington	93	69	10
Guiting Power	119	32	24
Icomb	50	39	11
Little Rissington	45	40	5
Longborough	133	104	9
Lower Slaughter	78	44	34
Maugersbury	56	33	23
Mickleton	263	229	30
Moreton-in-Marsh	539	535	4
Naunton	123	74	12
Oddington	134	105	9
Saintbury	36	8	28
Sezincote	32	4	28
Stow-on-the-Wold	551	481	4
Swell	131	117	14
Temple Guiting	123	31	87
Todenham	74	48	2
Upper Slaughter	82	78	-
Westcote	56	56	-
Weston Subedge	116	87	24
Wyck Rissington	47	38	9
Willersey	172	164	8

* Private Piped Supplies to a number of these houses.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Bourton-on-the-Water

The renewal of the sewerage system has been held up for several years owing to the Government's policy of financial restriction. The Minister of Housing and Local Government, however, has given permission for work to start in February, 1954; the sewers will be relaid, a pumping station and new disposal works provided.

Bledington

The sewerage scheme for Bledington also has been held up up for the same reason. Permission to carry on with the work was not given during the year.

Moreton-in-Marsh

The Council were awaiting Ministerial approval of the scheme to provide a new storm water pumping station and a new pumping main. These works when completed will prevent pollution taking place in the Evenlode brook adjoining the Moreton-in-Marsh pumping station.

The statutory notice served by the Thames Conservators remains in force and requires the Council to abate a nuisance caused by the discharge of sewage into the River Evenlode at Moreton-in-Marsh pumping station. The Conservators have agreed to extend the period during which the nuisance must be abated.

Stow-on-the-Wold

Although the Ministry of Housing and Local Government approve the Council's scheme for providing sewers and sewage disposal works for the town, no starting date for the work was given during the year owing to the financial restrictions.

Stow-on-the-Wold has no main sewerage system, drainage from the properties discharges into convenient rock fissures or "swillies".

The site of the swilly determines the point at which the drainage is discharged, it may be adjoining the house, below a larder window or even in the cellar.

A drainage system must have a sedimentation tank for separation of solids, in time many of the swillies become choked with solids and a fresh swilly has to be found.

A third of the houses in the town have no sinks and hand flushed water closets, the pans are sited usually directly over evil smelling fissures. No improvement can be made in these conditions until a public sewer is provided.

In various places water mains run through this polluted rock adding to the risks and dangers.

Naunton

Now that a piped water supply has been provided in Naunton conditions due to the lack of a sewerage system have been greatly aggravated. The level of the subsoil water is high and where the houses have any drainage system at all there are several shallow cesspits which soon fill to ground level.

A sewerage scheme for the village is to be submitted to the Ministry.

Blockley

The Severn River Board has made complaints of the pollution which is taking place from the Blockley disposal works, only a small amount of land is available for land treatment and it is entirely inadequate.

Numerous complaints are made of the sewer ditches in Draycott and Paxford.

The only effective means for dealing with these problems is proper sewerage and disposal systems. A scheme is to be submitted to the Ministry to provide a new disposal works for Blockley which will also serve Draycott and to which a sewer may be laid from Paxford.

Sludge Composting

The practice of composting sludge at the Chipping Campden disposal works was continued. There have been numerous enquiries from other authorities and many of them have put into operation similar schemes.

The process converts the useless sludge into a valuable manure and so overcomes the great difficulty of its disposal.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

1953.

Complaints received	381
Informal notices	157
Statutory notices	24
Nuisances abated	108
Premises disinfected	26
Premises disinfected (Beetles, fleas etc.)	35
Food shops and catering premises visited.	438
Bakehouse visits.	37
Visits to cowsheds and dairies.	95
Camping and Caravan sites visited	181
Visits to slaughterhouses	17
Drains inspected	470
Houses inspected	498
Visits under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.	1,853
Visits made for all purposes	5,926

Refuse Collection

The collection of household refuse is a growing responsibility. The public generally are rightly demanding a share of the service they pay for, this leads to requests for collection of refuse from the more out of the way hamlets. New construction also contributes to the expansion.

In spite of holidays and illness among the men, the collection has been up to date throughout the year.

This speaks well for the efforts of the men in a service that is failing in many parts of the country.

Refuse Tips

Refuse disposal has been a difficult job at some periods due to lack of labour, covering material and mechanical means of earth removal.

We have relied on a free supply of covering material which for some months ceased entirely, and other times there was heavy dumping of soil to waste owing to proper means of handling not being available.

Fires have been the cause of some complaints. The only effective means of preventing fire is shallow tipping and heavy covering of soil, in quantities that are not obtainable in this area.

Food Inspection

The following goods were surrendered and destroyed as being unfit for human consumption:

Tinned meat	95 tins
Tinned beef	15 lb. loose sliced.
Tinned ham	110 lb. 12 oz.

Home killed beef	110 lb. 7 oz.
Vegetables	30 tins.
Preserves	3 tins.
Fruit	236 tins.
Fruit juice	22 tins.
Milk	47 tins.
Fish	18 tins.
Cereal	2 tins.
Soup	54 tins.
Plum pudding	1 tin.
Sponge pudding	1 tin.
Wet fish	98 lb.

The method of disposal adopted is by incineration at the refuse tips, excepting for 81 lb. of home killed beef which was returned to wholesaler for salvage.

This is our usual method of disposal as tinned food is not safe for resale, and it is not economical to treat small quantities of tinned food in any way which would ensure its use for animals only.

Food Premises

Premises where food is handled in this area comprise of 48 grocers, 20 general shops, 14 greengrocers, 18 bakers, 14 butchers, 13 confectioners, 117 catering premise and 6 fish shops.

Registered premises number 61 as follows:

67 for sale of ice cream, 5 for fried fish, 2 as sausage makers, and 7 dairies.

179 visits were made to registered premises, and the total visits to all food premises was 438.

Defects remedied include 25 premises cleansed; 8 walls and ceilings repaired; 3 drains cleared; sanitary accommodation improved 7; new roof 1; ventilation improved 4; hoods provided 3; water supplies improved 2; ventilated lobby to W.C. 1. Hot water supplies provided 5 and a dairy provided with new sanitary accommodation.

Ice Cream.

67 premises are registered for the sale of ice cream in the area; only one continued to make cold mix ice cream but promised to discontinue and purchase from a wholesaler.

The wholesale trade is in the hands of about half a dozen firms of repute.

Only one sample in a dozen failed to reach a high grade, this failure was a cold mix which did not reach the high standard of the rest.

Fried Fish.

5 premises are registered for the sale of fried fish; there were no additions during the year. No nuisance has arisen from the trade.

Milk Retailers.

1 milk retailer ceased to operate during the year and I am pleased to say the premises have gone out of use in this trade. This was an old registration and the buildings did not reach the standard of the remaining modern premises.

A producer retailer, can establishment, not normally subject to local control, received considerable attention during the period. Of the 51 samples submitted for analysis a great proportion came from these two premises.

Caravans

20 caravan sites were on the register during the year. 2 registrations were refused for public health reasons. The licenced sites were well kept and no nuisance arose.

The unsatisfactory caravan site on Crown property in Tottenham Road still exists.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Premises inspected 461.

Premises treated 190 comprising 103 dwellinghouses 35 Agricultural properties, 44 business premises and the refuse tips and sewerage works of the Council.

In addition testing and treatment of sewers was carried out at Campden, Moreton-in-Marsh, Blockley, Bourton-on-the-Water and Upper Slaughter.

Estimated number of rats killed 4,800. This estimate of killed is based on bodies recovered and cannot include many where conditions preclude discovery of the dead.

Public Conveniences

There is little improvement in the behaviour of a minority of people towards these very necessary places provided for the comfort of the public.

I have to thank the Medical Officer and the members of my staff for their loyal co-operation.

A.EDE.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

