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## NORTH COTSWOLD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



## ANNUALREPORT

OF THE

#### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

#### FOR THE YEAR 1957

0-0-0



#### PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF:

## Medical Officer of Health

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

## Chief Public Health Inspector

A.EDE
Certified Public Health Inspector
Certified Meat and Other Foods
Inspector
Sanitary Science Certificate

#### Additional Public Health Inspectors

G.I.JONES. Certified Public Health Inspector Certified Meat and Other Foods Inspector

J.L.KELL. Certified Public Health Inspector Certified Meat and Other Foods Inspector

PEST OFFICER

R.T.WOOLCOMBE



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

Mr.Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report on environmental hygiene and vital statistics of the Rural District for the year 1957.

I am indebted to Mr.G.E.Knight, Engineer and Surveyor and to Mr.Ede, Chief Public Health Inspector, for contributions to the report.

The Health Statistics generally are favourable to the District, the somewhat high infantile mortality is offset by the low still birth rate.

The world wide outbreak of Asian Influenza spread into the District during the autumn and although it was a mild form of influenza, it was widespread particularly amongst children. In some of the senior schools as many as one third of the children were away at one time.

Inoculation or vaccination is available against such diseases as tuberculosis, diphtheria, poliomyelitis and whooping cough; each year more and more parents avail themselves of the facilities to have their children protected against these diseases.

Owing to the restricted Exchequer subsidies now available Council houses are built only for families from unfit dwellings or for old people. Even so difficulty is experienced in obtaining tenders within the Ministry's price range.

The scheme for the provision of sewers and sewage disposal for Stow-on-the-Wold was completed during the year.

I am glad to take this opportunity of sincerely thanking the Staff and the Members of the Council for their help and support during the year.

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

> STEPHEN KNIGHT, Medical Officer of Health.

August, 1958.

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## NORTH COTSWOLD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (in acres) Registrar-General's estimate of mid-year population (including members of the Armed Forces) Number of Inhabited Houses(end of 1957) Rateable Value (at 31.3.58) Sum represented by a penny rate	20 £229	,420 ,901 ,280 £925.	15.4.
EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YE			
LIVE BIRTHS	Total	Male 1	Female
Legitimate Illegitimate	326 12	172 7	154 5
Total	338	179	159
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population 16.5 Area Comparability Factor (Births) 1.08 Corrected Birth Rate (16.5 x 1.08) 17.8			
STILL BIRTHS			
Legitimate Illegitimate	2	- 5	2 -
Total	2	1007	2
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population0.1 Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births6		etno e ono e 1 t 20 est	
DEATHS	197	100	97
Death Rate per 1,000 of the population 9.6 Area Comparability Factor (Deaths)99 Corrected Death Rate (9.6 x .99) 9.5			
DEATHS FROM PREGNANCY, CHILDBIRTH, ABORTION	NIL		
INFANTILE MORTALITY  (Deaths of Infants under ONE year of age)  Legitimate  Illegitimate	9 -	7 -	2 -
Total	9	7	2
All infants per 1,000 Live Births26.6			
NEONATAL MORTALITY (Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age)			
Legitimate Illegitimate	7	5 -	2
Total	7	5	2
Neonatal Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births 2	20.0		

#### POPULATION

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population 20,420 for 1957 shows an increase of 120 over the previous year.

The natural increase in population, excess of births over deaths was 141.

## BIRTH RATE

There were 338 births, 15 more than in 1956, the Birth Rate being 16.5, much the same as that for England and Wales.

## DEATH RATE

The number of deaths fell to 197, a decrease of 25 from the previous year, making the Death Rate 9.6 per 1,000 of the population more favourable than the rate 11.5 for the County as a whole.

## INFANTILE MORTALITY

There were nine infant deaths making the infantile mortality rate 26.6 per 1,000 live births as compared with the lower rate 23 for England and Wales.

Seven of these deaths took place in the neonatal period (i.e. within four weeks of birth). The neonatal death rate being 20 per 1,000 births, again considerably higher than the national rate 16.5. Deaths in this period are bound up with the health of the mother in pregnancy and confinement.

It should be noted that while the Infantile Death Rate is unfavourable to the District, the Still Birth Rate is favourable. There were only 2 stillbirths, making the local rate 6 stillbirths per 1,000 (live and still) births, as compared with the national rate 22.4 The neonatal death rate should be considered in conjunction with the still birth rate, this the peri-natal mortality for the district is only 26 as compared with 36 for the country as a whole. All seven deaths in the neonatal period took place in hospital. Three deaths were due to congenital deformities and four were due to prematurity, and it is this latter cause which gives rise to the high infantile mortality rate.

The deaths of the two older infants were due to accidental causes at home.

CANCER

Sixteen men and thirteen women died of cancer as compared with twentyseven people the previous year.

W	ale	Female
Stomach Lungs Breast Uterus Other malignant neoplasms	46-	1 6 1
	-	
	16	13

All the men who died of cancer of the lung were over sixty years of age.

## CAUSES OF DEATH

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

Classification :-		
	Male	Female
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory 2. Tuberculosis, other 3. Syphilitic disease 4. Diphtheria 5. Whooping cough 6. Meningococcal infections 7. Acute poliomyelitis 8. Measles 9. Other infective & parasitic diseases 10. Malignant neoplasms, stomach 11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus 12. Malignant neoplasm, breast 13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus 14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms 15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia 16. Diabetes 17. Vascular lesions of nervous system 18. Coronary disease, angina 19. Hypertension with heart disease 20. Other heart disease 21. Other circulatory diseases 22. Influenza 23. Pneumonia 24. Bronchitis 25. Other disease of the respiratory system 26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum 27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea 28. Nephritis and nephrosis 29. Hyperplasic of prostate 30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion		
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion 31. Congenital malformations 32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases 33. Motor vehicle accidents	- 3 10	1 7 -
34. All other accidents 35. Suicide 36. Homicide and operations of war	3 -	2
Total	100	97
BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES IN THE DISTRICT FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS	3	
1953 1954 1955	1956	1957
Birth Rate(per 1,000 population) 19.9 16.9 17.2	15.9	16.5
Death Rate (per 1,000 population) 9.9 11.1 12.3	10.8	9.6
Infantile Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) (Deaths of infants under 1 year) 19.0 22.0 22.7	21.7	26.6
Neonatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) (Deaths of infants under 1 month) 12.0 11.0 17.0	15.5	20.0

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

	England & Wales	County of Glos.	
Live Births	16.1	16.4	16.5
Still Births (per 1,000 total- live and still births) Infantile Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under 1 year) (per 1,000 live births) Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths of infants under 1 month)(per 1,000 live births) Perinatal Mortality Rate (still- births and deaths of infants under	22.4	21.78	6.0
	23.	22.32	26.6
	16.5	16.38	20.0
l week of age)(per 1,000 total - live & still- births)	36.2		26.4
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	11.5	10.41	9.6

## PREVALENCE of, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1957 (excluding Tuberculosis)

	1	nder yr. F.		- 4 F	5 · M.	- 14 F.		- 24 F	0	and ver F		tal F.
Scarlet Fever Whooping Cough Poliomyelitis	9	2	2 16	25	7 18	12 31	=	1	=	-	9 43	16 59
Paralytic Non-paralytic Measles Diphtheria	5	5	58	73	83	70	1	3	2	2	149	1 153
Dysentery Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	_
	5	nder yrs F			15-/ M.		45-6 M. F		65 an	r	Tota	
Pneumonia Encephalitis Infective	Res-	1	-	-	1	2	3 3		1	2	5	8
Post-infectious Erysipelas Puerperal pyrexia	C. 201 -	-	-	-	ī	1 4	- 3		5		6	4 4

## Scarlet Fever

Twenty five cases of scarlet fever were notified as against five in 1956. Even so the incidence of this disease is light; the disease mild and the cases are isolated at home.

## Diphtheria

There were no cases and have been none in the District since 1950.

#### Whooping Cough

Whooping cough was of an epidemic character during the year, 102 cases were notified compared with only 9 in 1956. No deaths occurred.

230 children were vaccinated against whooping cough either by their own doctor or at a Child Welfare Centre.

## Measles

Measles also gave rise to an epidemic, 302 cases being notified but no deaths were caused.

#### Poliomyelitis

One case of non-paralytic poliomyelitis occurred in the district.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis was extended and offered to expectant mothers and children born in the years 1943 to 1957. Owing to the amount of vaccine available the number of such vaccinations was limited.

## Food Poisoning

No cases of food poisoning occurred. The absence of outbreaks reflects credit on the standard of cleanliness and hygiene in the food trade in the district.

## VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX

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

- de control Lia	Under 1 yr.	1 yr	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 yrs. & over	To tal
Vaccination	169	10	9	4	8	200
Re-vaccination			2	3	10	15

Proportion of children vaccinated under one year of age, expressed as \*percentage of the number of births during the year :-

1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
46	58	61	43	34	66	50

A total of 200 persons were vaccinated against Smallpox in 1957 as compared with 238 in 1956.

Of those vaccinated 169 were babies under one year of age which is approximately 50% of the babies in this age group.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Number of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st.December, 1957:-

Under 1 1 2 3 4 5 - 9 10 - 14 1957 1956 1955 1954 1953 1952748 1947/43

Number immunised 26 184 212 260 283 1559 1229

Total No. immunised ... 3753

1954 1952 1956 1955 Number of children immunised in 1957 292 267 230 326 329 394 Primary 262 346 255 168 382 365 Maintenance ...

A considerable increase took place in the number of children immunised against diphtheria during the year, 394 in 1957 as against 230 in 1956. Actually the number of immunisations exceeds the number of births 30 that there is a general improvement in the state of immunity. 219 babies had completed the course of immunisation before they were one year old, representing an acceptance rate of 74%. It is most gratifying to note that this figure approximates to the aim of the Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign that 75% of babies should be immunised before their first birthday.

## TUBERCULOSIS

## New Cases

Laight and di	Child 0 - 4.	ren 5 - 14	All persons
Respiratory Meninges & C.N.S. Other Forms	9 9 -01	1691	notice lossy-
Table and rebny bedent	DEATHS	he tolda	NIL

## Tuberculosis Register

The number of cases on the register, 31st.December 1957, was as follows :-

Male	Respirat Female	ory Total	C.N.S. Male	Ot: Male	her Form	Total	All Forms Total
53	38	91	1 1	9	11	20	112

Four new cases of tuberculosis occurred in 1957, four fewer than in 1956, and no one died of the disease. Preventive and curative measures are bringing the problem of tuserculosis under effective control. B.C.G.Vaccination of 13 year old school children is an important instrument in the prevention of tuberculosis and more and more parents are asking for their children to be vaccinated. In this way the adolescent is protected at a time of life when he is likely to fall a victim of the disease.

The Council are able to help in preventing the spread of pulmonary tuberculosis by ensuring that every patient is properly housed. If such a person has a separate bedroom the risk of spread to other people in the house is cut to a minimum. FOOD and DRUGS ACT, 1938, - CLEAN FOOD FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955. Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, are in force for securing hygienic methods in the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food, and Sale of Food in the open air. Food shops and similar establishments are inspected regularly to ensure that the food is wholesome and that the premises comply with requirements. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948 Section 47: Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in need of Care and Attention. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951. Section 1. These Acts give the local authority powers for the compulsory removal of aged or sick people in need of care and attention which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people. The compulsory powers were not used during the year but a number of old people living alone and in failing health have been visited from time to time. A little regular help often enables them to carry on living in their own homes and prevents inscribery conditions. living in their own homes and prevents insanitary conditions arising. This assistance is usually given by the Home Help Service. The Old People's Clubs are most useful; they look after their members and report instances in which help is required. OLD PEOPLE'S WELFARE COMMITTEE The Council have set up an Old People's Welfare Committee to co-ordinate efforts on behalf of old people throughout the whole of the Rural District. GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR HEALTH SERVICES Laboratory Facilities Samples of water, milk and ice-cream and pathological specimens are sent for bacteriological analysis to the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford. The laboratory is part of the Public Health Laboratory Service of the Ministry of Health, and no charge is made for making use of its services. Chemical examination of specimens is undertaken by Messrs. Ellis & Turner, Public Analysts, Gloucester. - 8 -

#### 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 this 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, Charlton Kings.

## CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

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

#### MOBILE CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

Ebring ton		3rd.Tuesday
Great Rissington		4th.Monday
Guiting Power	,,,,	3rd.Friday
Longborough		3rd.Wednesday
Naunton		3rd.Thursday
Snowshill		3rd .Monday
Temple Guiting		3rd.Friday
Upper Slaughter		3rd.Wednesday
Weston-sub-Edge		3rd. Tue sday

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

## HOUSING

Clearance Orders have been confirmed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government at Stow-on-the-Wold and Oddington involving 7 houses. Individual action under Section 16 of the Housing Act 1957, was taken against 73 houses resulting generally in the acceptance by the Council of undertakings not to re-let the houses once vacated until they have been made fit.

Improvement Grants again enabled a large number of sub-standard houses to be brought up to a modern standard. During the year grants were made in respect of alterations and improvements to 77 dwellings.

## Action taken during 1957

## Houses demolished or closed in the period.

- (1) Housing Act, 1957.
  - (a) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure ... Nil
  - (b) Houses affected by undertakings given by owners ... 73
  - (c) Farts of buildings closed ... Nil
- (2) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953

Closed as a result of Closing Orders under Sections 10 (1) and 11 (2) ...

## Repairs in the Period

- (3) Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts
- (4) Public Health Acts Action after service of formal notice
  Houses in which defects were remedied ... 1

## NEW HOUSES

Completed in 1957 :-

Council Houses ... 71

Private enterprise .. 28

## VOID PREMISES

A survey was made of the void dwelling houses in the district and these houses lay empty for the following reasons :-

- 1. Premises under repair or renovation: 5 houses
- 2. Premises offered for sale or sold: 17 houses
- 3. Premises not suitable for improvement as separate dwelling:
  2 houses

4. Premises which are Agricultural Properties: 9 houses

5. Premises where suggestion might be made to owner re Improvement Grants: 6 houses

6. Premises subject to undertaking under
Housing Act: 4 houses

7. Premises unsuitable for improvement by reason of extreme dilapidation and/or being inaccessible: 16 houses

## WATER SUPPLY

## Statistics relating to the Council's

## Comprehensive Water Scheme

Population of statutory area
Population served
Area served in square miles
Daily average consumption (domestic)
Total storage capacity
Length of mains
Capital expenditure
Total consumption (Direct and Bulk)

20,300
19,000
19,000
18 "
1812,000 "
1,812,000 "
118 miles
£351,400
1,100000 gallons per day

200 samples were taken for analysis from the Council's supply, of which 157 were satisfactory and 43 unsatisfactory. The cases of unfit samples were investigated and the causes eliminated.

13 samples were taken from private sources of which 5 were satisfactory and 8 unsatisfactory, appropriate action was taken where the samples were unsatisfactory.

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

## Stow-on-the-Wold

During the year the new sewerage scheme was completed.

## Blockley

A scheme was in preparation for a new sewage disposal works to replace the old and obsolete works, and for new sewers at Draycott and Paxford.

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

	Total No. of Houses	No.of Ho suppli Public M (a) Direct into House	ed by	No. of h withou Public	
Adlestrop Aston Subedge Batsford Bledington Blockley Bourton-on-the-Hill Bourton-on-the-Water Broadwell Chipping Campden Clapton-on-the-Hill Condicote Cutsdean Donnington Ebrington Evenlode Great Rissington Guiting Power Icomb Little Rissington Lower Slaughter Maugersbury Mickleton Moreton-in-Marsh Naunton Oddington Saintbury Sezincote Stow-on-the-Wold Swell Temple Guiting Todenham Upper Slaughter Westcote Weston Subedge Wyck Rissington Willersey	65 31 55 126 688 113 509 1154 654 78 124 136 137 142 151 184	-36 112 647 994 107 333 -31 117 897 345 127 47 346 121 329 47 131 47 132 132 132 132 132 132 132 132 132 132		65 28 29 14 18 15 73 1 - 23 66 80 24 9 - 94 29 48 9 7 82 48 1	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *

<sup>\*</sup> Private piped supplies to a number of these houses.

## REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Complaints received	179
Informal notices	173
Statutory Notices Public Health Act	4
Statutory Notices Housing Act Notice of Survey	233
Nuisances Abated	126
Premises disinfected	6
Premises disinfested (Insect)	12
Premises disinfested (Rats)	131
Food Shops and catering premises visited	672
Bakehouse visits	24
Slaughterhouse visits	325
Drains inspected and/or tested	431
Animal carsass inspected	1088
Samples taken	40
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act visits	1365
Visits for all purposes	5952

-0-

## REFUSE COLLECTION

The collection of household refuse has been maintained throughout the year with no serious interruptions. This happy condition will not continue if the department has much longer to rely on the worn out Bedford Eagle vehicle.

## REFUSE TIPS

Generally speaking these tips have been kept reasonably tidy with supplies of free covering material.

Two tips only are in use, one at Fish Hill the other near Naunton.

The small tip at Westcote was given up owing to fire, this was unfortunate as a few more weeks tipping would have filled it. When the fire was found to be uncontrollable, the place was fenced with barbed wire and a warning notice posted as the surface was caving in. It is impossible to avoid this fire hazard as in addition to spontaneous combustion, we have to put up with the mischief of local lads, to whom a fire seems to be a tempting delight.

## PAPER SALVAGE

1

In spite of the fact that the position in the waste paper market has shown only very slight improvement Messrs Ainsworth & Co. (Bolton) have continued to collect from us.

The weight sold was 107 tons 15% cwt. and this brought in the sum of £754. 8. 6.

## FOOD INSPECTION

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

## Tinned Food

Vegetables 40 tins: Fruit 195 tins: Fruit juice 5 tins: Meat 39 tins: Milk 16 tins: Soup 18 tins: Preserves 20 tins: Cereal 3 tins: Fish 23 tins: Xmas Pudding 1 tin:

## Miscellaneous Food

Biscuits 9% lbs: Flour 2 lbs: Cereals 1½ lbs: Cheese 5 lbs: Sausages 12 lbs: 1 Pork Pie.

#### Home Killed Meat

Offals 418% lbs: Heads 194 lbs: 2 Pig carcass 293 lbs: 3 Lamb carcass 73 lbs: Lemb 5 lbs: Beef 91 lbs.

UNSOUND FOOD is destroyed by burying or burning, as there is no other economical method of disposal for small quantities.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES

All meat slaughtered in proper slaughterhouses is inspected, in course of this duty 325 visits were made and 1,088 carcass examined.

There are four slaughterhouses and one knackers yard in this area.

## FOOD FREMISES

Shops and premises where food is handled are as follows:-

Grocers: 53, Greengrocers 14: Bakers 15: Butchers 14: Confectioners 23: Caterers 135: Fish shops 7: General shops 17.

112 Premises are registered as follows :-

99 for the sale of ice-cream, 4 for preparation and frying of fish, 2 for sausage making and 7 as dairies.

696 Visits were made to premises where food is prepared or sold under the Food Hygiene Regulations. The following improvements have been made :-Handwashing facilities provided Hot water provided Utensil washing facilities "Water closet accommodation " Clothing stores provided Food stores 4 12 Improvements to equipment Drainage improvements Lighting improvement 12 Ventilation improvements Structural " 23 cases Repairs and cleansing in 3 Grocers shops at the Polish Hostels were closed as not suitable or not being economic to make suitable. 32 Certificates of Exemption were granted under the Food Hygiene Regulations. Many of these Certificates were not strictly speaking necessary as often facilities were reasonably accessible. The remaining cases should come under review from time to time. The regulations are not too clear in some matters and far from definite. Various Authorities are asking for strengthening of some sections. Generally speaking co-operation has been good with the trade in the matter of suggested improvements, some are rather slow, usually the larger undertakings where headquarters are elsewhere. There is no widespread avoidance of responsibilities. HOUSING Requests for Certificates of Disrepair under the new Rent Act, 1957, are not numerous. FREVENTION OF DAMAGE DY PESIS ACT Work under this important Act has been heavy during the year and the estimated kill is 11,290 rats and mice, over twice last years total. In course of this work 747 surveys were made i.e. 326 dwelling houses business premises 208 agricultural " 197 Council depots. 15

Infestations were found in 70 dwelling houses (treated free of cost to occupiers) 30 business premises, 20 farms and 11 council depots.

The only outstanding contract is for work at Chipping Campden Grammar School.



