

[Report 1951] / Medical Officer of Health, Northampton County Borough.

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Publication/Creation

1951

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NORTHAMPTON
COUNTY BOROUGH
HEALTH REPORTS
1951

INCLUDING REPORT ON THE
SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

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NORTHAMPTON
COUNTY BOROUGH
HEALTH REPORTS
1951

INCLUDING REPORT ON THE
SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Health Report 1951

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INTRODUCTORY LETTER TO HEALTH REPORT AND SCHOOL HEALTH REPORT, 1951

*To the Mayor, Aldermen, Councillors, and Co-opted Members of the
Education Committee of Northampton County Borough.*

I have the honour to present the Annual Health Report for the year 1951. This is the seventy-eighth report of the series and is prepared according to Ministry of Health Circular 42/51 dated 10th December, 1951.

Also included with this Report are :—

- (1) Mental Health Report prepared in compliance with Article 12 of the Mental Deficiency Regulations, 1948, which reads as follows :—

“ The Local Health Authority shall, not later than the thirtieth day of June in every year, make a report to the Minister of Health for the year ending on the thirty-first day of December preceding, on the performance of their duties under the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913 to 1938, as amended by the National Health Service Act, 1946.”

(See page 21 and pages 55 to 61).

- (2) School Health Service Report (forty-fourth of the series) which conforms with the requirements of the Ministry of Education and complies with Regulation 55 of the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations, 1945, which reads as follows :—

“ The Authority shall submit in respect of each calendar year a report by their School Medical Officer on the health and well-being of pupils in his care and of the work of himself and his staff in relation thereto, including a report by the Senior Dental Officer, together with such statistical and other information as the Minister of Education may require.”

(See pages 85 to 104).

It is interesting to note, relative to the vital statistics, that :—

- (1) The birth-rate (14.6) was slightly higher than in 1950 (see page 17) ;
- (2) The death-rate (13.6) was the highest since 1940 (see page 17) ;
- (3) The total tuberculosis death-rate was 0.35, which is the lowest recorded (see page 47) ;
- (4) The infantile mortality (29.7), although well above the record (18.6) of 1950, was the next lowest on record (see page 50).

Some provisional figures in connection with the Census of April, 1951, are given on page 17. Further information will be extracted from the reports to be issued later by the Registrar-General on various subjects, such as occupations, housing conditions, ward populations, age-groups, etc., and reproduced in these annual reports.

At the request of the Children Committee the following work has continued to be undertaken :—

- (1) The Remand Home has been visited each week, when all the boys have been seen, new entrants examined, and special medical examinations carried out as required ;
- (2) Boarded-out children have been examined either at the School Clinic or in their homes, as requested ;
- (3) Children in the Children's Homes have been examined at quarterly intervals.

Statistics are given on page 25.

With regard to infectious diseases, it is noteworthy that no case of diphtheria was notified—the third successive year this has happened since notification began in 1889.

Last year I remarked that infantile paralysis “ appears to be on the increase in this country and affects the highly developed and hygienic section of the population.” This year was the worst so far recorded (*see* page 43).

An outbreak of food poisoning is recorded on pages 39 to 41.

In the previous report mention was made of the arrangements for the examination of contacts of newly notified cases of tuberculosis and I am pleased to say that there is now evidence that 83 per cent. of contacts have availed themselves of the facilities for examination at the Chest Clinic. Keeping in mind that a proportion of contacts very soon becomes untraceable, it is doubtful whether this figure can be improved.

I was very concerned at a report received from the Physician Superintendent of St. Crispin Hospital shewing that 50 mentally defective persons (21 males, 29 females) were accommodated in St. Crispin Hospital. No doubt the admission of many was connected with the lack of adequate accommodation for mental defectives. This undesirable state of affairs was communicated to the appropriate Committee of my Council and the Oxford Regional Hospital Board have been requested to transfer these defectives to suitable institutions.

A report on the year's activities under the National Assistance Act, 1948, is given in Section X.—Welfare, on pages 61 to 65.

The final approval from the Ministry of Health for the erection of the residential accommodation for old persons at Kings Heath, mentioned in the previous report, is awaited and it is hoped that a start may be made on the building operations before the end of 1952.

The “ meals on wheels ” scheme mentioned in the previous report continued throughout the year, when 2,618 meals were supplied (*see* page 64). A similar scheme, also organised by the Women's Voluntary Services under the Darby and Joan Club, supplied 2,320 meals, but ceased on 30th November, 1951. Provision will be made next year to

supply more meals under the "meals on wheels" scheme to compensate for the closure of the Darby and Joan Club.

The School Health Report for 1951 occupies pages 85 to 104.

Whilst routine medical inspections have been completed, a considerable amount of preventive measures has had to be curtailed on account of the lack of sufficient medical staff, as it has not been possible to appoint an assistant medical officer owing to the black-listing of the County Borough. In consequence, re-inspections and follow-up work have suffered and the very useful work of special investigation with the help of the portable ultra-violet lamp, in schools where a case of ringworm has occurred, has not been done. Details of inspections made and defects found are given in Tables I. and II. on pages 89 and 90.

The general condition of pupils inspected, particularly relative to nutrition, is classified on page 90.

Generally speaking, there have been no troublesome epidemics such as was experienced in 1948, when I made a detailed report concerning an outbreak of conjunctivitis. It was very pleasing to note that the report on this outbreak of conjunctivitis had received a special mention by the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Education on pages 33 and 34 of his Report for 1948/49.

I had hoped that my report on this outbreak might have brought some information from my colleagues concerning their experience, but in this respect no communication has reached me, although I am convinced that such outbreaks do occur from time to time and from careful records which have been kept in this Department since the 1948 outbreak it is confirmed that my suspicion was correct that a small reservoir of cases exists throughout the year. I shall endeavour to continue my observations in the hope of finding out the reason which favours the spread of the condition, causing a most troublesome outbreak.

The help given to the depleted school nursing staff by the health visitors has now become an established feature and has worked smoothly and, I am sure, has been of great benefit to the children.

Both school nurses and health visitors have concentrated upon the cleanliness of the children and it is satisfactory to record that the percentage of uncleanliness has again decreased from 4.7 in 1950 to 3.7 this year. In this connection I am satisfied that the standard of inspection has been very high. This feature alone seems to me ample justification for this service. It is now over fifty years since the school medical service was first started and it is interesting to note that uncleanliness was the first major problem to be tackled by the early pioneers, who found that about half the school children were verminous and many of these were very heavily infested, a condition which is seldom seen nowadays.

Uncleanliness and infestation with vermin are detailed in Table III., page 91.

Minor ailments, excluding uncleanliness, are enumerated in Table IV. on page 91.

Table V. on page 101 gives particulars relative to dental inspection and treatment.

It is particularly pleasing to report that a second dentist took up duties on 1st October, 1951, and I hope to report next year that routine dental inspections have been re-commenced after a lapse of over two years.

Under the Civil Defence Act, 1948, I was designated officer in charge of the Ambulance and Welfare Sections on 31st October, 1949. Volunteers for both these services are receiving basic training from the Civil Defence Officer and will then be referred to me for sectional training. It is hoped sectional training will commence early in 1952.

I have to express my thanks to the Chairmen and Members of the various Committees associated with the administration of the Health and School Health Departments for the careful and sympathetic consideration shewn to the recommendations and reports presented to them.

I wish also to thank all members of the staff, professional and clerical, for their excellent service and keen interest.

Finally, I would mention that for health reasons Mr. A. F. Knight was allowed to relinquish the post of Chief Clerk in February, 1951, after thirty-one years service in that capacity and was appointed as Statistical Clerk—a new establishment which is very necessary.

CARRICK G. PAYTON

Medical Officer of Health.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
7A ST. GILES' SQUARE,
NORTHAMPTON.
JUNE, 1952.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Certain information contained in these Annual Reports has been supplied by the following, to whom acknowledgment is made, and the Medical Officer of Health wishes personally to thank them for their co-operation during the year :—

Town Clerk
Borough Treasurer and Chief Rating Officer
Borough Engineer and Surveyor
Borough Architect and Town Planning Officer
Chief Education Officer
Housing Manager
Organisers of Physical Training
Registrar-General
Superintendent, St. John Ambulance Brigade
Superintendent and Secretary, Northampton Branch of the Queen's
Institute of District Nursing
Honorary Secretary, Northampton Infant Welfare Voluntary
Association
Consultant Chest Physician (for "General Remarks" on page 45)
Honorary Secretary, Tuberculosis Care Committee
Local Inspector of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty
to Children
Manager, Northampton Employment Exchange
Messrs. R. H. Primavesi, Ltd.
Women's Voluntary Services

**NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BOROUGH
HEALTH COMMITTEE**

(as constituted on 31st December, 1951)

Ex-officio

His Worship the Mayor
(COUNCILLOR FRANK LEE, J.P., B.A., B.SC.)

Chairman

COUNCILLOR A. WILSON, M.B., CH.B.

Deputy-Chairman

ALDERMAN MRS. H. M. NICHOLLS

Alderman

A. L. CHOWN

Councillors

P. W. ADAMS

W. P. BARNELL

A. S. BAXTER

MRS. G. BROWN

L. D. B. COGAN, D.S.O., L.R.C.S.

J. W. DICKINS

SAUL DOFFMAN

W. A. PICKERING

MRS. E. E. WILKINSON

SUB-COMMITTEES OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Health Services

COUNCILLOR WILSON (*Chairman*); ALDERMAN MRS. NICHOLLS (*Deputy-Chairman*);
COUNCILLORS BAXTER, COGAN, DICKINS, and PICKERING.

Non-Council Members—MESDAMES G. L. CHARLESWORTH, J. MARTIN, J. H. PEACH,
S. STRICKLAND, and E. THOMAS.

Mental Services

COUNCILLOR COGAN (*Chairman*); COUNCILLOR WILSON (*Deputy-Chairman*);
ALDERMAN MRS. NICHOLLS; COUNCILLORS ADAMS, MRS. BROWN, and MRS. WILKINSON.

Non-Council Members—MESDAMES D. L. CAMPBELL and H. MACQUIRE; MISS E.
LACON and MISS E. M. LONGLAND.

Sanitary Services

COUNCILLOR ADAMS (*Chairman*); COUNCILLOR DOFFMAN (*Deputy-Chairman*);
ALDERMAN MRS. NICHOLLS; COUNCILLORS COGAN, DICKINS, and WILSON.

Welfare Services

COUNCILLOR BAXTER (*Chairman*); ALDERMAN MRS. NICHOLLS (*Deputy-Chairman*);
COUNCILLORS ADAMS, BARNELL, MRS. BROWN, and WILSON.

Non-Council Members—MESDAMES P. B. BATCHELOR, G. L. CHARLESWORTH, K. M.
GIBBS, and S. STRICKLAND; MR. H. DUNKLEY.

Each of the above Committees meets monthly.

STAFF OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1951

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Chief Tuberculosis Officer, and Welfare Administrator—

CARRICK G. PAYTON, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H. (Also *Certifying Officer under the Mental Deficiency Acts*)

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy School Medical Officer—

RAYMOND J. DONALDSON, M.B., B.CH., B.A.O., D.P.H. (Also *Certifying Officer under the Mental Deficiency Acts*)

Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare—

MRS. M. MARTIN WILLIAMS, M.B., CH.B.

Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical Officer—

ROBERT T. HICKS, O.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (Also *Certifying Officer under the Mental Deficiency Acts*)

Public Analyst—*

A. PRIDEAUX DAVSON, A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C., F.C.S.

Deputy Public Analyst—*

D. G. ALLEN, B.SC., F.R.I.C.

Dental Surgeons†—

J. P. WILSON, L.D.S.R.C.S. (*Chief Dental Officer*)

MRS. M. CANOVAN, L.D.S. (*Assistant Dental Officer—commenced 1/10/51*)

Sanitary Inspectors—

H. S. DAVIES‡|| (*Chief Inspector*)

T. L. BOAST‡|| (*Deputy Chief Inspector*)

A. C. GOOD‡|| (*Meat and Food Inspector—resigned 31/8/51*)

S. A. TENCH‡

T. A. HARRIS‡|| (*Also Canal Boats and Common Lodging House Inspector*)

M. DE V. MERRIMAN‡

F. R. SMITH‡ (*Resigned 30/11/51*)

J. W. KENDALL‡ (*Resigned 30/11/51*)

Student Sanitary Inspector—

R. PULFORD

Health Visitors—*

MISS S. M. WEEKS§ (*Superintendent*)

MISS R. M. BRADY§

MISS A. E. NORGATE§ (*Resigned 31/1/51*)

MISS E. HOWARD§

MISS A. B. PARKER§ (*Resigned 31/8/51*)

MISS E. J. BUCKINGHAM§ (*Resigned 30/4/51*)

MISS M. E. BOYD§ (*Resigned 31/8/51*)

MISS E. A. WILLIAMS§

MISS S. G. HANSFORD§

MISS D. SYMMONDS§

MISS M. E. GRANT§

MISS E. HACKING§

MISS F. H. COLLIER§ (*Commenced 1/8/51*)

Student Health Visitors—

MISS F. H. COLLIER (2/1/51 to 31/7/51)
 MISS B. D. JUKES (Commenced 8/1/51)
 MISS R. LISTER (Commenced 4/9/51)
 MISS F. H. CHAMBERLAIN (Commenced 4/9/51)
 MISS J. G. LANE (Commenced 4/9/51)

Tuberculosis Visitors—

MISS C. REESE
 MRS. M. A. ALLSEBROOK

Matron, Spencer Day Nursery—

MISS E. A. HUNT (Appointed 1/1/51)

Matron, Kingthorpe Park Day Nursery—

MISS M. A. WESTCOTT

Organiser of Domestic Help—

MRS. M. D. HARDING

Mental Health Officer (Mental Deficiency)—

MRS. K. M. WARD (Also Authorised Officer)

Duly Authorised Officer and Mental Health Officer (Lunacy)—

R. H. JOHNSON

Handicraft Centre Staff—

MRS. M. A. AXFORD (Supervisor)
 MISS I. L. BULLOCK
 MRS. M. E. PAYNE
 MISS M. J. FRYER (Resigned 31/8/51)
 MISS J. LINER (Commenced 12/9/51)

Welfare Officer—

MISS V. M. HARRISON

Assistant Welfare Officer—

J. D. BENOY

Occupational Therapist—

MISS M. LUNN

Clerks—

H. T. BOSWELL (Chief Clerk from 12/2/51; formerly Senior Clerk)
 D. R. GROTHUSEN (Senior Clerk from 11/6/51; formerly Clerk)
 A. F. KNIGHT (Statistical Clerk from 12/2/51; relinquished Chief Clerk post)
 L. BLAKE
 C. ADAMS
 L. W. GARNER
 W. G. TOMALIN
 R. N. RHODES
 G. A. WALLINGTON
 G. E. COOK (Commenced 27/8/51)
 MISS D. E. ADNITT (Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Department)
 MISS J. RICHARDSON (Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Department)
 MRS. T. F. WILLIAMS (Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Department)
 K. M. LINNELL (Mental Health Sub-Department; also Relief Authorised Officer)
 MRS. H. M. ANDREWS (Domestic Help Sub-Department)

General Duties, Health Office—

A. W. BLASON

Motor Driver—

W. G. SMITH (Died 27/2/51)

Disinfestation Officer—

F. J. R. MISSIN

General Manual Assistant and Motor Driver—

W. C. SMITH (Commenced 28/5/51)

Rat-catcher—

W. E. J. DUNKLEY

The following Officers on the staff of the Oxford Regional Hospital Board rendered part-time service to Northampton County Borough Council:—

ERNEST T. W. STARKIE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (*Consultant Chest Physician*)JAMES M. H. McMURRAY, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (*Chest Physician; commenced 15/1/51*)MISS H. S. REDDISH (*Tuberculosis Almoner; commenced 1/2/51*)

* Part-time appointment.

† Mainly for School Dental work; part time devoted to Maternity and Child Welfare work.

‡ Holds Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

|| Holds Certificate for Inspecting Meat and Other Foods.

§ Holds Health Visitor's Certificate.

¶ Health Visitors help with school work under a co-ordinated scheme.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

Latitude.....	52° 14' North	Longitude.....	0° 54' West
Height of Guildhall above general mean sea level (in feet)			252
Area of County Borough (in acres)			6,201
Population :—			
Census 1931 (before extension)			92,341
Census 1931 (including area added 1st April, 1932)			96,546
Census 1951 (provisional)			104,429
Registrar-General's Estimated Home Population (all ages) as at 30th June, 1951, including members of Armed Forces stationed in area			103,700
Number of Inhabited Houses :—			
Census 1931			23,141
According to Rate Books (31st December, 1951)			31,200
Number of Families or Separate Occupiers (Census 1931)			24,966
Rateable Value (31st December, 1951)			£827,867
Estimated Yield of One Penny Rate 1951/52			£3,303

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1951

	TOTAL	M.	F.		
Live Births	Legitimate	1,426	728	698	} Birth-rate 14.6
	Illegitimate.....	88	47	41	
	Total	1,514	775	739	
Adjusted Birth-rate (Area Comparability Factor 1.02)				14.9	
Stillbirths	Legitimate	32	17	15	} Rate 0.32*
	Illegitimate.....	1	—	1	
	Total	33	17	16	
Deaths	1,414	712	702	—Death-rate 13.6	
Adjusted Death-rate (Area Comparability Factor 0.92)				12.5	
Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of, Childbirth				2†	
Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age per 1,000 Live Births :—					
Legitimate.....	30.2	Illegitimate.....	22.7	Total (45 deaths)	29.7
(43 deaths)		(2 deaths)			
				NUMBER	RATE
Deaths from Measles				0	0.00
Deaths from Whooping Cough				3	0.03
Deaths from Diphtheria				0	0.00
Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis				31	0.30
Deaths from Other Tuberculous Diseases				5	0.05
Total Tuberculosis Deaths				36	0.35
Deaths from Cancer				216	2.08
Deaths from Influenza				26	0.25

* 21.3 per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births Registered.

† 1.29 per 1,000 Total Births Registered.

I.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Population. (Table A, page 84). The Registrar-General estimated the home population at all ages of Northampton County Borough as at 30th June, 1951, to be 103,700, or 1,790 below his estimate for mid-year 1950.

The natural increase of the population, *i.e.*, the excess of live births over deaths, for 1951 was 100, or 0.96 per thousand living.

Table A gives the population figures from 1916 onwards.

Census, 1951. The provisional figures in connection with the Census on the night of 8/9th April, 1951, were published in July, 1951. It may be of interest to compare the present population with that at the 1931 Census for the area within the present municipal boundary (making allowance for the additions to the County Borough on 1st April, 1932) :—

CENSUS	MALES	FEMALES	TOTALS
1951	49,274	55,155	104,429
1931	45,733	50,813	96,546
Increase	3,541	4,342	7,883 (8.2 per cent.)

The Census populations from 1801 onwards were given on page 75 of the 1933 Annual Report.

Births. (Table 1, page 66). 1,514 live births (775 males, 739 females) were registered, giving a birth-rate of 14.6 per thousand of the estimated civilian population, compared with 15.5 for England and Wales and 17.3 for the 126 county boroughs and great towns, including the metropolitan boroughs.

Table 1 gives the birth-rates for the last decennium compared with those for England and Wales.

88 (5.8 per cent.) of the births were illegitimate. In England and Wales the percentage was 4.7.

The adjusted birth-rate for Northampton County Borough (calculated by multiplying the crude rate by the Registrar-General's area comparability factor of 1.02) was 14.9.

Deaths. (Table 2, page 66, and Table C at end). 1,414 deaths (712 males, 702 females) were registered, equal to a death-rate of 13.6, compared with 12.5 for England and Wales and 13.4 for the great towns. Table 2 gives the local and national death-rates for the last ten years.

967 (68.4 per cent.) of the deaths related to elderly persons aged sixty-five years and upwards.

Table C at the end of this report, giving the causes of death in age-periods, was compiled from information supplied by the Registrar-General.

The adjusted death-rate for Northampton County Borough (calculated by multiplying the crude rate by the area comparability factor of 0.92) was 12.5.

State of Employment. Employment continued at a high level throughout 1951, little change in the position occurring during the year. Persons unemployed and registered at Northampton Employment Exchange for employment on 10th December, 1951, were :—

Men (aged 18 years and over)	80
Women (aged 18 years and over)	107
	<hr/>
Total	187
	<hr/>

The men's register of 80 included 39 who were over fifty years of age. The number of unemployed disabled persons suitable for ordinary employment was 15 men.

Details of a few severely disabled persons unlikely to obtain work other than under special conditions are excluded from the above figures.

The principal outstanding demands for men were in general engineering, the manufacture and repair of vehicles and aircraft, building and civil engineering, and the railway service. The main demands for women were in the manufacture of clothing and boots and shoes, also in the hospital services.

Meteorology. (Table 4, page 67). The total rainfall for 1951 was 30.26 inches, *i.e.*, 2.51 inches more than in 1950 and 5.35 inches above the average for the past forty-seven years, 1904 to 1950 inclusive. The wettest month was November and the driest October. The heaviest fall occurred on 6th August, when 1.40 inches were registered. The number of days on which 0.01 inch or more rain fell was 209.

The highest shade temperature recorded was 80.0°F. on 1st July. The lowest reading of the thermometer was 25.0°F. on 10th and 12th December. There were 30 cold nights, *i.e.*, nights when the temperature fell to 32°F. (freezing point) or below.

The prevailing wind was south-west on 125 days, north-west on 108, south-east on 69, and north-east on 63.

Other Statistics. The notes on infant and maternal mortality, stillbirths, notifiable and other diseases, housing conditions, and other statistics usually included in the annual report, will be found under the headings referring to these matters.

Attention is also directed to the statistics on page 16, to Table A on page 84, and to Tables B and C at the end of this report.

II.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Health Staff. A list of the officers of the Health Department appears on pages 13 to 15.

The staff employed in the school health service is listed in the Annual Report upon the School Health Service on page 87.

Treatment Centres and Clinics. A complete list is given below of clinics, etc., in Northampton County Borough on 31st December, 1951 :—

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC

St. Giles' Street Infant Welfare Centre. Fridays, 9 a.m.
(As from 1/3/52 changed to Mondays, 3 to 4 p.m., or by appointment).

POST-NATAL CLINIC

St. Giles' Street Infant Welfare Centre. Fridays, 9 a.m.
(As from 1/3/52 changed to Mondays, 3 to 4 p.m., or by appointment).

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

- (1) Abington Avenue (Congregational Church Rooms).
Thursdays, 2 to 4.30 p.m.
- (2) Broadmead (Baptist Church Rooms).
Mondays, 2 to 4.30 p.m.
- (3) Dallington (Spencer-Dallington Community Centre).
Thursdays, 2 to 4.30 p.m.
- (4) Doddridge Memorial (Congregational Church Rooms).
Wednesdays, 2 to 4.30 p.m.
- (5) Far Cotton (St. Mary's Church Rooms).
Mondays and Wednesdays, 2 to 4.30 p.m.
- (6) Kingsley Park (Methodist Church Rooms).
Mondays, 2 to 4.30 p.m.
- (7) Kingsthorpe (Baptist Church Rooms).
Tuesdays, 2 to 4.30 p.m.
- (8) St. David's (Church Rooms).
Fridays, 2 to 4.30 p.m.
- (9) St. Giles' Street (Infant Welfare Centre).
Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 2 to 4.30 p.m.
- (10) St. Sepulchre's (Church Buildings).
Wednesdays and Fridays, 2 to 4.30 p.m.
- (11) Wheatfield Road (Abington Community Centre).
Fridays, 2 to 4.30 p.m.

DIPHTHERIA AND WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION CLINICS

- (1) St. Giles' Street Infant Welfare Centre.
Mondays, 2 to 3 p.m. (Children under five years of age).
- (2) School Clinic, King Street. By appointment. (School children).

MINOR AILMENTS CLINIC

School Clinic, King Street. Weekdays, 9 a.m. to 12 noon, 2 to 4.30 p.m. (Saturdays, 9 a.m. to 12 noon).

DENTAL CLINIC

School Clinic, King Street. By appointment.

EYE CLINIC

School Clinic, King Street. By appointment.

***ORTHOPTIC CLINIC**

Northampton General Hospital. School cases referred by Ophthalmic Surgeon.

***EAR NOSE AND THROAT CLINIC**

Northampton General Hospital. Cases referred from School Clinic and Child Welfare Centres.

***ORTHOPÆDIC CLINIC**

Manfield Orthopædic Clinic, Hazelwood Road. Cases referred through Child Welfare Centres or School Clinic.

REMEDIAL EXERCISES CLINIC

School Clinic, King Street. Tuesday afternoons and Wednesday mornings by appointment.

SUNLIGHT CLINIC

(1) St. Giles' Street Infant Welfare Centre. Cases referred from Child Welfare Centres.

(2) School Clinic, King Street. School children by appointment.

SPEECH CLINIC

28 Billing Road. By appointment.

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC

County Offices, Guildhall Road. By appointment.

***CHEST CLINIC (TUBERCULOSIS)**

Chest Clinic, 11 St. Matthew's Parade.

Routine sessions : Tuesdays and Fridays from 9.30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Session for workers : Mondays from 5.30 p.m.

Session for diagnosis cases, contacts, etc. :—As arranged.

Sessions for artificial pneumothorax treatment :—Mondays and Wednesdays commencing 2 p.m.

***VENEREAL DISEASES**

Treatment Centre, Northampton General Hospital.

Males—Wednesdays 2 p.m. ; Fridays 6.30 p.m.

Females—Mondays 6.30 p.m. ; Fridays 2.30 p.m.

Clinics marked * are under the control of the Northampton and District Hospital Management Committee.

National Health Service. The Northampton County Borough Council's proposals under the National Health Service Act, 1946, were approved by the Minister of Health during 1948, some with modifications mostly of a minor character. A summary of the main proposals was given in the Annual Health Report for 1948.

In the Annual Health Report for 1949, pages 20 to 23, the working of the local arrangements under Part III. of the National Health Service Act, 1946, were reviewed.

A modification was made in 1950 to the proposals under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, for the Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care, by the addition to the section dealing with tuberculosis of a paragraph providing for B.C.G. vaccination to be made available to persons who require protection in view of their known contact with tuberculous infection. (*See* page 21 of 1950 Report).

There were no important developments or changes during 1951 in the services provided by the Local Health Authority.

The report of the Chief Dental Officer on the dental treatment provided for expectant and nursing mothers and for young children is given on pages 54 and 83.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES (Sections 28 and 51)

The following statement concerning these services is included in compliance with paragraph 4 of Ministry of Health Circular 42/51 dated 10th December, 1951. Further reference should also be made to Section IX.—Mental Health, pages 55 to 61.

Administration

- (a) The constitution of the Mental Services Sub-Committee of the Health Committee is given on page 12. Meetings are held monthly.
- (b) The Medical Officer of Health is responsible for the administration and medical direction of the mental health services. The Medical Officer of Health, Deputy Medical Officer of Health, and an assistant medical officer of health are all certifying officers under the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1938. The names and qualifications of these medical officers are shewn on page 13.

The staff of the Mental Health Sub-Department consists of two mental health officers and a clerk, all of whom are designated duly authorised officers under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890-1930. (*See* page 14).

The staff of the Handicraft Centre consists of a Supervisor and three assistant supervisors. (*See* page 14).

- (c) At present, Northampton County Borough has no scheme with any other authority for the joint use of officers. Patients on licence from institutions for mental defectives are supervised by the Mental Health Officer, if this action is requested by the management of the institutions concerned. Cases allowed leave of absence from St. Crispin Hospital, Duston, Northampton, are supervised by the Psychiatric Social Worker attached to the hospital.
- (d) No duties are delegated to voluntary associations.
- (e) No arrangements have been initiated for the training of mental health workers.

Account of work undertaken in the community

- (a) Matters relating to Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are noted on page 61.
- (b) The statistics relative to cases dealt with by the duly authorised officers under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890-1930, are given on page 60.
- (c)
 - (i) Most of the mental defectives are ascertained by the school medical officers and notified under the Education Act, 1944, Section 57, subsections 3 and 5. In addition to this, medical practitioners and social workers and organisations have been made fully aware of the provisions of the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1938, and appropriate cases are referred by them for investigation. Details of mental defectives ascertained during 1951, cases awaiting vacancies in institutions on 31st December, 1951, and other statistics are shewn on pages 55 to 58.
 - (ii) There were two cases under guardianship at the end of 1951 (*see* page 57). Cases under voluntary and statutory supervision and also cases on licence are visited by the Mental Health Officer at regular intervals and the number of visits to the various types of cases is given on page 57.
 - (iii) A full-time Handicraft Centre is in operation and a report on the year's activities is made on page 59.

Home Nursing. This service is provided by the Northampton Branch of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing on behalf of the Council. During 1951, the Queen's Nurses paid 44,848 visits to 1,824 cases. There were twelve whole-time and four part-time nurses on the staff at the end of the year.

Ambulance Services. The St. John Ambulance Brigade have operated the ambulance services on behalf of the Local Authority since 5th July, 1948. This arrangement covers infectious disease cases as well as general ambulance work and accidents.

The following summarises the work during 1951 :—

	AMBULANCES	CARS	TOTALS
Vehicles on 31/12/51	7	2	9
Journeys	5,740	4,802	10,542
Patients carried	7,278	5,265	12,543
Accidents and other emergency journeys included above	408	30	438
Total mileage	49,177	48,683	97,860

Of the total mileage of 97,860, journeys within the County Borough amounted to 63,818 miles and those to destinations outside to 34,042. Journeys of 50 miles or more accounted for 24,648 miles of the 34,042.

The 1951 mileage of 97,860 compares with 97,423 in 1950 and 125,550 in 1949.

The average monthly mileage in 1951 was 8,155, compared with 8,119 in 1950 and 10,463 in 1949.

On 31st December, 1951, the paid whole-time drivers and attendants numbered 12.

Convalescence. In accordance with the Council's scheme under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, seven persons received recuperative convalescence, six of them for two weeks and one for three weeks. They were assessed to contribute towards the cost according to their means. Cases were sent to the following homes :—

Beau Site Home, Hastings	4
St. Joseph's Home, Bournemouth	1
All Saints' Home, Eastbourne	1
" Elmleigh," Dallington	1

Domestic Help. The following information relates to the year ended 31st December, 1951, the third full year of the working of the Domestic Help Scheme inaugurated under Section 29 of the National Health Service Act, 1946 :—

Administrative staff on 31st December, 1951 :—

Organiser	1	} 2
Clerk	1	

Home helps employed on 31st December, 1951 :—

Whole time	6	} 41
Part time	35	

Cases helped during 1951 :—

Maternity (including expectant mothers)	137	} 320
Tuberculosis	6	
Others	177	

(Weekly average of cases helped = 87).

Visits by Organiser :—

To home helps	18	} 69
To homes of patients	51	

Under the approved scheme, help can be provided for households where such help is required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, lying-in, an expectant mother, mentally defective, aged, or a child not over compulsory school age. Applications should be made to the Medical Officer of Health. Charges appropriate to the means of the user will be made. These charges were revised in July (Council minute 2/7/51).

Occupational Therapy. In the previous report it was recorded that an occupational therapist had taken up duties mainly concerned with aged, etc., persons in residential accommodation under Part III. of the National Assistance Act, 1948, and with tuberculous persons under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, and that 26 cases were on prescription at the end of 1950.

54 new cases were admitted to occupational therapy in 1951 ; 13 were discharged ; 5 died ; leaving 62 on prescription on 31st December, 1951. These 62 persons were in the following groups :—

Persons in Part III. Accommodation at St. Edmund's Hospital	24
Tuberculous patients	24
General patients	14
	—
Total	62
	—

A successful sale of articles made by persons in Part III. Accommodation was held at the Handicraft Centre during an Open Day in November, 1951.

Mental Health Services. The Health Committee, acting through the Mental Services Sub-Committee (*see* page 12), are responsible for the administration locally of legislation embodied in the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts and Mental Deficiency Acts, as amended by the National Health Service Act, 1946.

The report for 1951 is incorporated in this volume (*see* Section IX. on pages 55 to 61).

See also remarks under heading of National Health Service on page 21.

School Health Service. The Medical Officer of Health is also School Medical Officer. The Annual Report upon the School Health Service is published on pages 85 to 104 and gives particulars of the staff employed and the work done during 1951.

Welfare Services. In Northampton County Borough the welfare services under the National Assistance Act, 1948, are under the general administration of the Medical Officer of Health, who is also designated Welfare Administrator.

Reference should be made to Section X. on pages 61 to 65.

Children's Homes, etc. The following work was performed by the Health Department for the Children Committee :—

Visits by Medical Officers to Remand Home	51
Number of examinations of boys	696
Examinations by Medical Officers of boarded-out children	43
Visits by Medical Officers to Children's Homes	72
Number of examinations of children	300

Laboratory Facilities. (Table 13, page 77). These facilities remained as in the previous year and were quite adequate, most of the work in connection with food or the control of epidemic diseases, etc., being performed in the Public Health Laboratory at Northampton General Hospital, free of charge to the Local Authority. Table 13 gives particulars of clinical bacteriology.

Water samples for bacteriological examination are submitted each week to the Devonport Pathological Laboratories, Greenwich.

Maternity and Other Nursing Homes. At the end of the year there were 3 nursing homes on the register, *viz* :—

Maternity home	1
Mixed home	1
Home for mothers and babies	1

The last mentioned is St. Saviour's Home, situated in Manor Road, Kingsthorpe, and is managed by a committee of the Peterborough Diocesan Authorities, on which the County Borough Council are represented. This home is for unmarried mothers who are retained, along with their babies, in the institution for about four months, during which period they receive training in domestic duties as well as child management.

These homes contain 51 beds (including 33 for maternity cases). They are regularly inspected by the Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare, the officer appointed by the Local Authority to carry out this duty. (*See* page 53).

One nursing home was exempted from registration under Section 192 of the Public Health Act, 1936, *viz* :—Bethany Homestead Nursing Home.

Legislation in Force. Appended is a list of Local Acts and Orders, General Adoptive Acts, and Byelaws relating to public health in force in the County Borough :—

LOCAL ACTS AND ORDERS

Northampton Improvement Act, 1843.

Northampton Corporation Markets and Fairs Act, 1870.

Northampton Improvement Act, 1871.

The Local Government Board's Provisional Orders Confirmation (Arundel, etc.) Act, 1876.

Northampton Corporation Act, 1882.

Local Government Board's Provisional Orders Confirmation (No. 4) Act, 1892.

Local Government Board's Provisional Orders Confirmation (No. 13) Act, 1893.

Local Government Board's Provisional Orders Confirmation (No. 14) Act, 1900.

Local Government Board's Provisional Orders Confirmation (No. 10) Act, 1907.

Northampton Corporation Act, 1911.

Northampton Corporation Act, 1922.

Ministry of Health Provisional Orders Confirmation (No. 1) Act, 1925.

Northampton Extension Act, 1931.

The Northampton Corporation Act, 1943.

Ministry of Health Provisional Order Confirmation (Northampton) Act, 1948.

In addition, there are 24 Housing Confirmation Orders—*see* list on pages 25 and 26 of the Health Report for 1950.

GENERAL ADOPTIVE ACTS

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890 :—

Parts I., II., and III. (adopted 6th April, 1891) ;
Part IV. (7th December, 1942).

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 :—

Parts II. and VI., except s. 19 in Part II. (adopted 3rd July, 1911) ;
Part X., s. 95 (14th November, 1922).

Public Health Act, 1925 :—

Part II., except ss. 21, 25, 27, and 34 (adopted 8th March, 1926) ;
Part II., s. 21 (15th May, 1926).

Food and Drugs Act, 1938 :—

Part I., s. 16 (1st June, 1949).

BYELAWS UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :—

Tents, Vans, Sheds, and Similar Structures used for Human Habitation (1914 and 1932).

Luggage Porters and Light Porters (1924).

Pleasure Grounds, etc. (1926 and 1933).

- New Streets (1927 and 1932).
- Nursing Homes (1929 and 1932).
- Imposing on Occupier duties in connection with Removal of House Refuse (1932).
- Common Lodging Houses (1932).
- Parking Places (1936 and 1937).
- Baths, Wash-houses, etc. (1937).
- Nuisances from Snow, Filth, Ashes, etc., Keeping of Animals (1939).
- Building (1939).
- Cemeteries (1947).
- Hackney Carriages (1948 and 1951).

BYELAWS UNDER LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1933 :—

- Good Rule and Government (1929, 1944, and 1950).

BYELAWS UNDER FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 :—

- Slaughterhouses (1887, 1929, and 1932).
- Handling, Wrapping, and Delivery of Food ; Sale and Exposure for Sale in Open Air (1950).

III.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water. Particulars relating to the waterworks at Teeton and Hollowell and the sources of the public water supply of Northampton County Borough and district have been given in previous reports. The water is treated with charcoal for undesirable flavour, filtered, and chlorinated, so that it reaches a high degree of bacteriological purity.

This water undertaking is now managed by the Mid-Northamptonshire Water Board, of which Northampton County Borough are a constituent authority.

It must be made quite clear, however, that under Section 28 of the Water Act, 1945, it is the duty of every local authority to take from time to time such steps as may be necessary for ascertaining the sufficiency and wholesomeness of water supplies within their district, etc.

98 samples collected from various points of supply within the County Borough were submitted to Dr. Arthur Davies of the Devonport Pathological Laboratories, Greenwich, and a satisfactory bacteriological report was received in each instance, although two samples had to be repeated.

The average daily consumption of water in the County Borough is estimated to be about 25 gallons per head of the population.

Only a very few houses are not supplied direct from the public mains.

Approximately half the houses are without baths and 9,000 closets lack water-flushing apparatus.

Drainage and Sewerage. Table 6, page 70, gives particulars of house drains reconstructed during 1951.

The sewerage system of the County Borough was described in the report for 1933 after the construction of the new outfall sewer and the works at Ecton, where after screening and sedimentation the sewage is subjected to land treatment and finally discharged into the River Nene. The effluent before discharge is under constant supervision and examination by the resident chemist.

There are still a few properties on the outskirts of the County Borough not connected to the main system, but none of these gave rise to complaints. Sixteen such houses were connected to the main system during the year.

Rivers and Streams. At no time was that portion of the River Nene which flows through Northampton in such a state as to give rise to any nuisance.

Public Cleansing. This continues to be efficiently carried out under the direction of the Borough Engineer. Collections of household refuse and salvage are made twice weekly.

Sanitary Inspection. Table 5, page 68, summarises the work of the sanitary inspectors. 18,054 inspections and visits were made during 1951.

Shops and Offices. During 1951 one shop was referred to the Department by the Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures for action under Section 38 of the Shops Act, 1950.

Smoke Abatement. Owing to the staple industries being of a light character and to the extensive use of electricity and gas as motive power, there is no real smoke problem in Northampton such as is known nationally, but complaints do arise occasionally and during the year 118 observations were made. The premises generally which cause trouble are those which are badly sited, either in low-lying localities or in semi-residential areas. Poor quality fuel is often responsible. Improved methods of stoking and operating boilers, however, seldom fail to effect a remedy.

There are no byelaws in operation in the County Borough relating to the emission of black smoke.

Swimming Baths and Pools. Northampton is well supplied with swimming facilities, both open-air and indoor. The Public Baths, Upper Mounts, is a modern establishment, whilst the open-air swimming pool, known as Midsummer Meadow Baths, is a large sheet of water with pleasant surroundings. In addition, there is a private open-air bath at Franklin's Gardens and an indoor bath at Barry Road School.

The open-air baths are subject to regular inspection during hot weather.

Disinfestation Service. The municipal disinfestation service continued to deal with insect pest problems of all types. Materials used are DDT solutions and Gammexane powders, solutions, and smoke generating compositions. The solutions are applied by 30 lb. pressure and electric sprays. Powders are applied by specially made dust blowers, although in some instances large floor areas have been treated by sweeping powder across the surface. Bedding, etc., is dealt with in a steam disinfector.

Charges : For ordinary dwellinghouses, a flat rate of five shillings per room, with a maximum charge of £2 per house. For infestations of bed bugs and fleas, which are certified by the sanitary inspectors as requiring attention in the public interest, no charge is made.

Treatment of business premises is carried out by contract or after survey and estimate of cost has been prepared for special solutions which may have to be purchased or made up to deal with the particular problem.

The information below regarding the eradication of bed bugs is set out in the form required by the Ministry of Health :—

- (1) During 1951, infestations of bed bugs were found in 9 Council houses and 30 other houses.
- (2) Methods of disinfestation employed—*see first paragraph.*
- (3) The furniture of tenants from bug-infested houses is treated before removal into new houses. 15 such treatments were carried out.
- (4) The work of disinfestation is carried out by the Disinfestation Officer under the supervision of the sanitary inspectors.
- (5) Remedial measures are explained to tenants when premises are treated, so as to prevent re-infestation ; 86 check visits were made.

Schools. The sanitary condition of schools was kept under observation.

Canal Boats. The following is extracted from the annual report under Section 249 (3) of the Public Health Act, 1936, prepared for the Ministry of Health.

The number of boats inspected during 1951 was 84. No registration certificates were produced for 4 boats and the remainder were registered to carry 237 adults. The actual number of occupants was 115 adults and 62 children. Minor repairs were required on 8 boats, 24 required repainting, 8 needed issue or replacement of registration certificates, 7 had indistinct registration markings, 2 were overcrowded, and 1 boat was insufficiently ventilated. No legal proceedings were taken. Letters were sent to the Docks and Inland Waterways Executive respecting these infringements.

No case of infectious disease was notified and no boat was detained for disinfection. No boats were registered during the year ; the number on the register, and believed to be in use, is three.

Common Lodging Houses. At the end of the year there were only two common lodging houses on the register, *viz* :—

PREMISES	ACCOMMODATION (MEN)
38/40 Compton Street	8
5 St. Andrew's Street	34
Total	— 42 —

The Inspector of Common Lodging Houses kept these premises under frequent supervision. He made 90 visits ; 14 contraventions were found and remedied.

Factories. Table 9 (page 72) gives particulars of premises on the register and work done under the Factories Act, 1937, in the form prescribed by the Ministry of Labour and National Service.

Every factory was visited at least once during the year and the complete list checked with the records of H.M. Inspector of Factories. With this exchange of information and notification of new factories being regularly received from H.M. Inspector, the register is complete and up to date.

Offensive Trades. At the end of December, 1951, there were twelve names on the register, *viz* :—

Fat melter	1
Rag and bone dealers	8
Bone dealer	1
Tripe boiler	1
Tripe boiler, fat melter, and gut scraper	1

All these offensive trades were kept under supervision by the district sanitary inspectors. They were conducted satisfactorily and no complaints were received.

Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. There are no tent or shack dwellers permanently in the County Borough. One camping site of twenty-five acres on the outskirts of the town is licensed for use by not more than twelve trailer caravans. Municipal car parks are occasionally used by variety artistes and circus performers.

In two instances, informal action sufficed to clear unlicensed sites of caravans, after a brief stay.

Premises controlled by Byelaws, etc. Particulars of these, excepting the above-mentioned, will be found in Section V. (pages 35 to 42) dealing with food, as they comprise dairies, bakehouses, slaughter-houses, ice cream shops, etc.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials. On 1st November, 1951, the existing legislation of 1911 and 1928 was superseded by the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951. This Act prescribes tests and standards for the various filling materials and requires premises where rag flock is used to be registered and premises in which it is manufactured or stored to be licensed. Eight premises were registered : there are no premises where rag flock is manufactured or stored for distribution. No samples were taken.

Rat Repression. The full-time Rat-catcher works under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector. His advice and help are at the service of the occupier of any dwellinghouse, free of charge, whereas a charge is made in respect of business premises.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries methods of rodent control are used, but, in addition, it is found very advantageous to use dogs as pointers on large premises prior to poison baiting. 1,122 visits were made by the Rat-catcher for this purpose, in addition to 2,035 visits by the sanitary inspectors. There were 61 poison baitings and 1,811 actual rat bodies were picked up. It is not possible to estimate accurately the number of rats killed after a poison treatment, but it is certainly well in excess of the number picked up.

With the co-operation of the Borough Engineer, baiting of sewers was continued in 1951.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs. 10 informal samples were taken during 1951, all of which proved to be genuine. No complaints were received and the few local firms and manufacturers did not warrant formal procedure under the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926, the informal samples being taken merely as checks.

IV.—HOUSING

Council Houses. The present position of the municipal housing schemes is given below :—

Number of Council houses completed during 1951	313
Total number of houses erected for the Corporation up to 31st December, 1951	6,373

The above figures do not include 250 temporary bungalows.

Other Houses. The following private building operations relating to housing, plans for which had been approved by the Council, were carried out during the year :—

Dwellinghouses erected under licence (private enterprise)	58
Conversion of houses into flats (number of family units)	27
New shops with living accommodation	2
Extension and alteration to dwellinghouse to form two dwellings	1
Conversion of house into shop and house	1
Conversion of first floor of shop into flat	1
Conversion of shop and house into shop and two flats	1
Conversion of shop and house into lock-up shop with flat over	1
Conversion of house and shop into shop and store with flat over	1
Conversion of rectory and outbuildings into home for aged persons	1
Conversion of dwellinghouse into home for aged persons	1
Conversion of two dwellings into children's home	1
Conversion of house into nurses' hostel	1
Extensions to dwellinghouses	67
New private garages	149

Housing Acts. (Tables 7 and 8, pages 70 and 71). Steady progress was made during the year in dealing with individual unfit houses. Twenty-six houses were represented under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, as being in such a state as to be unfit for human occupation (*see* Table 7). Table 8 gives the condition at the end of 1951 of 49 houses represented during recent years which had not been finally dealt with. Eleven families from unfit houses were rehoused by the Corporation.

The Housing Committee agreed that a ten per cent. allocation of available accommodation be used for rehousing the occupants from condemned property and, after consultation with the Borough Architect, a five-year programme was prepared to deal with this aspect of the housing problem.

The staff made 32 visits of house-to-house inspection under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932.

Public Health Acts. Table 5 (page 68) gives particulars of the work of the sanitary inspectors under these Acts.

Property repairs are dealt with under the Public Health Acts in preference to Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936. Generally speaking, owners are willing to meet the demands made upon them for repairs to property, but Northampton, in common with other towns, still has the owner who needs the full force of the law used against him before he will carry out essential repairs.

Prosecutions. Legal proceedings were necessary on one occasion to enforce the repair of property.

Other prosecutions are dealt with in paragraphs headed "Grading and Marking of Foodstuffs" on page 37 and "Sampling of Food and Drugs" on page 41.

Overcrowding. Cases of overcrowding continue to be brought to notice. There were 36 known cases, involving 246 persons, at the end of 1951, most of them being of a minor character when measured by legal standards.

A rational standard for overcrowding is long overdue in order that a true picture of the situation can be presented. There are many cases which, although not statutorily overcrowded, nevertheless present very congested living conditions, consequently the number of reported cases of overcrowding does not represent truly how many families are living under conditions far from satisfactory. It is appreciated that with a shortage of houses the cases coming to light under the present standard are a problem in themselves, but a true statement of overcrowding will only be obtained by calculating the permitted number of persons on a sleeping accommodation basis only.

Sufficiency of Supply of Houses. The waiting list for Council houses on 13th December, 1951, comprised 3,236 applicants, classified as follows :—

Living in rooms (local)	1,948
Tenants of houses (local)	609
Resident outside the County Borough	325
Awaiting marriage	20
For flats with one bedroom	262
For single persons' flats	21
For aged persons' dwellings	51
Total	3,236

Housing Statistics. The particulars for 1951 are set out below in the form required by the Ministry of Health :—

1.—*Inspection of Dwellinghouses.*

(1) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	1,425
(2) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	32
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	26

(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	589
2.— <i>Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.</i>	
Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	416
3.— <i>Action under Statutory Powers.</i>	
A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	286
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	292
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	12‡
D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0
4.— <i>Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding.</i>	
A.—(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	36
(2) Number of persons dwelling therein	246*
B.—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	30
C.—(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	36
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	240*

D.—Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil
E.—Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	†

* Equivalent number of units = 204½ and 194½ respectively.

† See paragraph on "Overcrowding" on page 33.

‡ Includes 2 houses not subject to Demolition Orders, although officially represented.

Other Housing Matters. Reference should be made to Section III. "Sanitary Circumstances" for other information bearing on housing.

The estimated number of inhabited houses in the County Borough on 31st December, 1951, was 31,200. For a population of 103,700 this is equivalent to an average of 3.3 persons per house.

It is recorded that 1,280 questionnaires were answered for the Town Clerk's Department under the Land Charges Act, 1925.

V.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk and Dairies. At the end of 1951 the following entries were in the register kept under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 :—

Dairy premises	47
Milk distributors	168

Only three farms are producing milk in the County Borough : the supervision of these premises is the concern of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

A warning letter was sent to a firm for contraventions of the provisions of Regulations 25 and 26 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, regarding the condition of the lids of three churns being used for milk.

Designated Milk. The following licences were in operation at the end of 1951 :—

Tuberculin Tested Milk

Dealer's licence authorising the use of the special designation "tuberculin tested" (including six bottling establishments)	19
---	----

Pasteurised Milk

Dealer's (pasteuriser's) licence authorising the use of the special designation "pasteurised"	7
Dealer's licence authorising the use of the special designation "pasteurised"	53

Sterilised Milk

Dealer's licence authorising the use of the special designation "sterilised"	95
--	----

424 samples of milk were submitted for examination during 1951, viz :—28 tuberculin tested (pasteurised), 336 pasteurised, 51 sterilised, and 9 ordinary raw milk. Seven samples of pasteurised milk failed to pass the methylene blue test.

All the pasteurised and tuberculin tested (pasteurised) samples were submitted to the phosphatase test ; 10 did not reach the required standard. All the samples of sterilised milk were subjected to the turbidity test ; each was satisfactory.

Particulars regarding the defaulting samples were reported to the Area Milk Officer, as requested by the Ministry of Food.

Tubercle Bacilli in Milk. Nine samples of ordinary raw milk were submitted in 1951 for biological examination for the presence of tubercle bacilli. All passed the guinea pig test except one. In this instance, notice was served on the producer in the County area under Regulation 20 (4) of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, and the milk pasteurised. Investigation of the entire herd to determine the source of infection was proceeding at the end of the year by the Divisional Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Meat and Food Inspection. (Tables 10 and 11, pages 74 and 75). All the sanitary inspectors take part in meat and food inspection, but it is primarily the concern of the Meat and Food Inspector, who is responsible for the inspection of meat and offals at the slaughterhouses. Tables 10 and 11 give particulars of food condemned.

Despite the resignation of the Meat and Food Inspector in the midst of the peak period, one hundred per cent. inspection was maintained. This entailed much overtime work, including twelve consecutive Sundays when cattle were killed for export to London.

Three Government controlled slaughterhouses were used throughout the year, in which 39,987 animals were killed. In addition, 59 were killed on cottagers' licences in private slaughterhouses. 661 tons of imported meat and offal passed through the distributing depots, only a small percentage being condemned.

The incidence of *cysticercus bovis* (tapeworm) was less than in 1950, only 23 cases being discovered as compared with 57. In each case one

isolated lesion was found in the masseter muscles and it was not necessary to condemn any carcase meat on this account.

The meat transport vehicles are up to date and well maintained by the drivers, but the meat and offals are unavoidably handled too often before arrival at the butchers' shops. This is due to the operation of three slaughterhouses and two depots and no improvement can be envisaged until a central abattoir and meat market are built.

1 ton 12 cwt. of wet fish were condemned, mainly due to delay on the railway, but considering the throughput this can be considered satisfactory.

Seizure of Unsound Food. A cooked meat pie was seized because the meat and gelatine beneath the crust were covered with green and black mould. A warning letter was sent to the vendor. There were no other seizures in 1951.

Slaughterhouses. At the end of the year there were 11 slaughterhouses on the register. They are licensed annually under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Three of these are operated under Government control, viz :—Cattlemarket, Ransome Road, and 8 Regent Square. Of the remainder, a few are used for the slaughter of goats and cottagers' pigs.

During 1951 the three requisitioned slaughterhouses were in constant use and supplied meat to Birmingham, Coventry, Leicester, London, Northampton, Nuneaton, and several rural districts surrounding Northampton.

Meat Regulations. The Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924 to 1948, amongst other things, lay upon the owner or slaughterer of animals in an emergency out of hours on account of accidents, etc., the onus of giving to the Health Department notice of the slaughter so that the carcase can be examined by the Meat and Food Inspector. 58 such notices were received during 1951.

Slaughter of Animals. At the end of 1951 the names of 60 slaughtermen were on the register kept under the Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933 and 1951.

Grading and Marking of Foodstuffs. The sanitary inspectors continue to carry out the duties imposed by the Merchandise Marks Acts, 1887 and 1926, and the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Acts, 1928 and 1931, and the numerous Orders made thereunder.

A trader was summoned for exposing for sale skinned catfish fillets labelled hake and another tradesman for labelling haddock fillets as hake. Each was fined £2.

Sale of Food Regulations. The labelling requirements and standards prescribed by various Orders of the Ministry of Food are kept in mind by the sanitary inspectors when sampling under the Food and Drugs Acts.

Bakehouses. At the end of the year there were 45 bakehouses on the register. The inspectors paid 124 visits to these premises, when 10 minor infringements were found and subsequently remedied.

Butter and Margarine. Under Section 34 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, the following registrations were in operation at the end of 1951 :—

Butter factories	2
Wholesale dealers in margarine	24

Ice Cream. At the end of 1951, the following registrations of ice cream premises were in operation :—

GROUP I. Storing and selling prepacked ice cream	231
GROUP II. Storing and selling bulk ice cream	18
GROUP III. Manufacturing, storing, and selling cold mix ice cream	19
GROUP IV. Manufacturing, storing, and selling hot mix ice cream	7
Total	275

87 samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. Visits to premises numbered 220.

Food Premises. Systematic inspection of all food premises is undertaken by the district sanitary inspectors and the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and byelaws made thereunder are enforced. By arrangement with the Local Executive Officer of the Ministry of Food, prior inspection is made of all premises in respect of which application is made for a catering licence.

Persistent inspection has resulted in a general improvement and many traders avail themselves of the facilities provided by the municipal disinestation service for anti-fly treatment of premises.

Licensed Premises. The survey of licensed premises was completed during 1951 and it was found, generally speaking, that a high standard of cleanliness was being maintained. The brewers were very co-operative in attending to matters of a structural nature ; consequently, it was only necessary to take informal action for the remedy of contraventions.

An analysis of the complete survey is as follows :—

Licensed premises inspected :—

Full licence	69
Beer licence only	100

Premises where contraventions existed	169
	109

NATURE OF CONTRAVENTIONS		NUMBER FOUND	NUMBER ABATED	STILL OUT- STANDING
(1)	No water supply to bar	17	—	17
(2)	No sink in bar	13	1	12
(3)	No hot water supply to sinks	50	3	47
(4)	Sinks defective	2	2	—
(5)	Sinks without waste pipes	13	5	8
(6)	Utensils dirty	—	—	—
(7)	Structural defects in rooms and cellars (walls, floors, ceilings)	20	6	14
(8)	Dirty cellar walls, etc.	57	24	33
(9)	Sanitary conveniences :—			
	(a) dirty	10	3	7
	(b) defective	47	24	23
	(c) insufficient	7	2	5
Totals		236	70	166

At 49 premises an approved detergent or sterilising agent was used for washing glasses and at 3 premises glass-washing machines have been installed. The necessity for using a sterilising agent of some sort was stressed in every case and it is anticipated that on re-inspection it will be found there will be very few premises where this is not done.

Lead pipes have been replaced by modern fittings voluntarily by licensees in several instances and only in three premises did obsolete lead fittings exist. The remainder are either stainless steel or monel metal, with the exception of a few where plastic pipes have been installed.

One licensed premises has been completely rebuilt and during alterations relics of historic interest were found dating back to the Twelfth Century. The premises had originally been a hospital for lepers at or about that time, according to information following the discovery of a carved stone head of a leper in the brickwork.

Food Poisoning. 64 cases of food poisoning were notified under Section 17 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, in Northampton County Borough during 1951. This is equal to an attack-rate of 0.60 per thousand of the population, compared with 0.13 for England and Wales.

61 of these occurred in an outbreak during the last five days, followed by a further 27 cases in the first five days of 1952.

This outbreak of 88 cases during the course of ten consecutive days is more appropriately dealt with as a whole for the purpose of this report.

DATES OF RECEIPT OF NOTIFICATIONS	MALES	FEMALES	TOTALS
Thursday, 27th December, 1951	4	6	10
Friday, 28th December, 1951	14	17	31
Saturday, 29th December, 1951	6	6	12
Sunday, 30th December, 1951	—	—	—
Monday, 31st December, 1951	6	2	8
Tuesday, 1st January, 1952	1	—	1
Wednesday, 2nd January, 1952	—	1	1
Thursday, 3rd January, 1952	8	11	19
Friday, 4th January, 1952	2	3	5
Saturday, 5th January, 1952	1	—	1
Totals	42	46	88

The outbreak was really part of a larger one affecting several hundred persons who were notified in the surrounding areas of Northamptonshire and Buckinghamshire. Many more persons must have escaped notification because they were not sufficiently ill to consult their doctors.

The ages of the persons notified in Northampton County Borough ranged from 11 months to 78 years.

No case is known to have been admitted to hospital from a residence within Northampton County Borough. (Several cases were admitted from outside areas and there were two deaths).

At the time of investigation, the suspected sources of infection were stated to be :—

Meat and pork pies	65
Steak and kidney pies	13
Pork	3
Pork slab	1
Sausage	1
Irish stewed steak	1
Veal and egg pie	1
Unknown	3
Total	88

The cause of the outbreak was eventually traced to meat pies infected by *Salmonella minnesota*. These pies were manufactured a few miles outside the County Borough. Steps were taken early in the outbreak to stop their sale, thus limiting the outbreak.

The organism, which is one of the rarer *Salmonella* infections, was recovered from faeces on six occasions.

The Medical Officer of Health kept registered medical practitioners informed during the course of the outbreak, made statements to the press, and was in close touch with the county health authorities and others concerned.

Every help and co-operation was readily given in the investigations by doctors and the proprietors and managers of all food establishments involved.

The outbreak was the subject of a special report to the Health Committee and to the Ministry of Health.

The last large outbreak of food poisoning in Northampton County Borough was in March, 1938, when 68 cases occurred, due to imported turkey infected by *Salmonella aertrycke*. This was fully described in the 1938 Report, pages 43 to 48.

The other three cases of food poisoning in 1951 were notified in May, August, and October respectively and there appeared to be no connection between them. *Salmonella typhimurium* was isolated from the faeces in two cases and *Salmonella enteritidis* in the other.

Sampling of Food and Drugs. (Table 12, page 76). 335 samples (including 81 informal) were taken by the sanitary inspectors under the Food and Drugs Acts, 1938 to 1950. The nature of the samples submitted to the Public Analyst is given in Table 12. Eight of them (2·4 per cent.) were found to be not genuine. Two of these were informal samples. The action taken regarding the six formal samples found to be not genuine was as follows :—

Sample No. 65. Milk containing 3·0 per cent. of added water. Warning letter sent to vendor.

No. 79. Milk 8·0 per cent. deficient in milk-fat. Case dismissed.

No. 136. Baking powder containing only 3·0 per cent. available carbon dioxide instead of 8·0 per cent. Warned.

Nos. 224 and 235. Beef sausage meat deficient in meat to the extent of 29·6 and 21·0 per cent. respectively. Vendor fined £3.

No. 234. Malt vinegar, found to be a solution of synthetic acetic acid and not a malt vinegar. Case dismissed.

The average fat content of the 170 samples of genuine milk was 3·56 per cent. and the non-fatty solids 8·73 per cent., both figures being well above the minimum prescribed in the Sale of Milk Regulations, 1939, viz :—3·0 per cent. milk-fat and 8·5 per cent. non-fatty solids.

Preservatives were not detected in any of the milks sent for analysis.

Chemical Work. No change was made in the arrangements for chemical examinations on behalf of the Health Department. This work is done by the Public Analyst to the County Borough, A. Prideaux Davson, Esq., A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C., F.C.S., Public Analyst's Laboratory, The Public Health Centre, Grange Road, Bermondsey, London, S.E.1.

Bacteriological Work. No change occurred in the arrangements for bacteriological examination of food at the Public Health Laboratory, Northampton General Hospital.

See also paragraphs on Designated Milk, page 35 ; Tubercle Bacilli in Milk, page 36 ; Ice Cream, page 38 ; and Food Poisoning, page 39.

Shell-fish. Only mussels from relaying stations under the direct supervision of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries are allowed to be sold in the County Borough. All consignments of mussels arriving in Northampton are notified to the Health Department and all bags inspected to ensure that the seal is intact. No samples were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year.

Watercress. It is estimated that about seventy tons of watercress are sold annually in Northampton. The chief sources of supply are Berkhamsted, Bourne End, and Watford in Hertfordshire, Andover in Hampshire, and Stamford in Lincolnshire. There has been no reason to suspect the purity of the supply.

VI.—PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Measles. 728 notifications of measles were received. The attack-rate for Northampton was 7·02, while for England and Wales it was 14·07. There were no deaths.

Whooping Cough. 400 notifications of whooping cough were received. The attack-rate was 3·86 ; for England and Wales it was 3·87. There were three deaths, giving a death-rate of 0·03 (England and Wales 0·01).

Prophylactic whooping cough vaccine and a combined diphtheria-pertussis prophylactic are available for the use of general practitioners free of charge on application to the Health Office.

Influenza. This is not a notifiable disease, consequently knowledge of its incidence is not very exact. 26 deaths were certified as due to influenza, giving a death-rate of 0·25, compared with 0·38 for England and Wales.

Acute Poliomyelitis. This disease is commonly called "infantile paralysis." Under Regulations operative from 1st January, 1950, the term includes cases formerly notified separately as acute polioencephalitis; furthermore, cases have to be differentiated between paralytic and non-paralytic. "Paralytic" means that there are, or have been, signs of weakness or paralysis of muscles, either permanent or transient. "Non-paralytic" denotes that there have been no such signs.

23 cases were notified (16 paralytic, 7 non-paralytic), equal to an attack-rate of 0.22 (England and Wales 0.05). Three cases died. Two notifications and one death referred to persons not ordinarily resident in Northampton County Borough. The local death-rate was 0.02; for England and Wales it was 0.00.

With three exceptions, these cases occurred during a period of four months from the end of June to the end of October and, in accordance with the usual practice, weekly bulletins were issued to registered medical practitioners acquainting them of the incidence.

The notifications (23) in 1951 compare with the same number in 1947, 6 in 1948, 11 in 1949, and 16 in 1950. Previous to 1947 the annual number of notifications in Northampton County Borough had not exceeded 8 since the disease first became notifiable in 1912. In the peak year of 1947, however, there were no deaths, consequently 1951, with 23 cases and 3 deaths, may be regarded as the worst year locally.

Meningococcal Infection. There were no notifications in 1951.

Typhoid Fever. One case of typhoid fever was notified in Northampton during 1951, relating to a non-resident in whom the diagnosis was not made until after admission to Northampton General Hospital.

Dysentery. 53 cases of dysentery were notified. 50 were described as Sonne dysentery; the other three were probably Sonne also. Twelve occurred in two institutions. Eleven were non-residents of the County Borough.

Erysipelas. Eleven cases of erysipelas were notified. The local attack-rate was 0.11, while for England and Wales it was 0.14.

Smallpox. No suspected cases of smallpox came to the notice of the Health Department during 1951, although several contacts were under observation in the County Borough.

Vaccination. Under the arrangements in accordance with the National Health Service there were 428 vaccinations (including 224 under one year of age) and 207 re-vaccinations during 1951. No cases were specially reported of generalised vaccinia or post-vaccinal encephalomyelitis, nor were there any deaths from other complications of vaccination.

Scarlet Fever. 187 notifications of scarlet fever were received. The local attack-rate was 1.80, while that for England and Wales was 1.11. 137 of these cases were treated in Harborough Road Hospital.

Diphtheria. No cases of diphtheria were notified in the County Borough during 1951. This is the third year in succession that no case has been recorded. The attack-rate for England and Wales was again low—0.02 per thousand.

Immunisation against Diphtheria. The number of children under five years of age immunised against diphtheria was 946 ; similarly, 104 children aged between five and fifteen were dealt with, making a total of 1,050 who completed the course during 1951. 728 children received reinforcing injections.

There is record that 4,192 children under five years of age, of an estimated population of 8,700 in this age group, had completed a full course of immunisation up to 31st December, 1951, equal to 48.2 per cent. In the age-group five to fourteen years inclusive the number immunised was 10,967 out of an estimated population of 13,291 or 82.5 per cent. Total for all children under fifteen years of age :—number immunised = 15,159 out of estimated population of 21,991, a percentage of 68.9.

Immunising material, including a combined diphtheria-pertussis prophylactic, is available to general practitioners free of charge on application to the Health Office.

Pneumonia. 53 notifications of primary or post-influenzal pneumonia were received. The local attack-rate was 0.51, while the corresponding rate for England and Wales was 0.99. 44 deaths were ascribed to pneumonia, giving a local death-rate from this cause of 0.42 ; for England and Wales the rate was 0.61.

Puerperal Pyrexia. 90 notifications of puerperal pyrexia were received. 48 of these related to out-of-town cases not notified in their own areas. The attack-rate per thousand total births was 58.17, compared with 10.66 for England and Wales. Five cases were treated at St. Edmund's Hospital, 81 at the General Hospital, and four in their own homes.

The Puerperal Pyrexia Regulations, 1951, which came into operation on 1st August, 1951, superseded the Regulations of 1926 and 1939 and modified the definition of puerperal pyrexia. "Puerperal pyrexia" is now defined as "any febrile condition occurring in a woman in whom a temperature of 100.4° Fahrenheit (38° Centigrade) or more has occurred within fourteen days after childbirth or miscarriage".

Ophthalmia Neonatorum. No case of ophthalmia neonatorum has been notified in Northampton during the last four years.

Venereal Diseases. The Special Clinic for venereal diseases held at Northampton General Hospital is under the administrative control of the Northampton and District Hospital Management Committee.

The times at which the clinics are held at Northampton General Hospital are now as follows :—

Males—Wednesdays, 2 p.m.; Fridays, 6.30 p.m.

Females—Mondays, 6.30 p.m.; Fridays, 2.30 p.m.

During the whole of 1951, new cases from Northampton County Borough totalled 126 (25 syphilis, 20 gonorrhœa, and 81 other conditions).

Cancer. (Table 3, page 66). The number of cancer deaths in Northampton during 1951 was 216, giving a local death-rate from this cause of 2.08; for England and Wales it was 1.96. Table 3 gives comparable figures for the last ten years.

Bacteriology. Table 13, page 77, gives particulars of clinical bacteriology. No change was made in the arrangements for carrying out bacteriological work for the Department, all of which, with the exception of water analysis, was done at the Public Health Laboratory at Northampton General Hospital.

Disinfection. The number of articles dealt with at the Disinfecting Station, St. Andrew's Road, was 619.

Scabies. Facilities are available for the treatment of scabies, but it was not necessary to use them during 1951.

VII.—TUBERCULOSIS

General Remarks. From year to year the tables shewing the number of new notifications and the deaths from tuberculosis in Northampton County Borough are read with interest by members of the Council and others. To lay members of the Council a slight increase in the notifications is sometimes regarded as a calamity, whilst a decrease in the death-rate is looked upon as a matter for congratulation. The general trend in the incidence of the disease and the death-rate over a period of ten years or more is a much more reliable guide of the efficiency of anti-tuberculosis measures.

The time has been reached when, with the comparatively low notification rate and death-rate, a slight deviation from the average fall may appear as an actual increase in the prevalence of the disease. It is a matter of great importance to our community, therefore, that in the last ten years the death-rate from tuberculosis has been halved. This has been achieved

as a direct result of the preventive measures being employed and also perhaps more particularly as the logical consequence of the great strides made in the treatment of tuberculosis. As an example of this advance in medical treatment may be cited results in tuberculous meningitis and miliary tuberculosis. Ten years ago practically everybody died who contracted the disease in either of these forms. Today a recovery rate of about 70 per cent. may be anticipated for these cases.

The main problem of public health administrators lies in the prevention of disease. It is necessary, therefore, that attention should be focused on the measures that are being taken to prevent those with the germs of tuberculosis in their sputum from spreading the disease to others with whom they come into contact. There is no single measure which can be employed to prevent this spread, which may take place, of course, from either a known infectious patient or one with incipient disease as yet undiagnosed. The need for early diagnosis may be recognised, therefore, as being just as important from the family point of view as from the immeasurably better chance that will be given to the patient to make a complete recovery.

Education of the public is vitally necessary so that they may recognise the earliest symptoms of the disease and seek the necessary medical advice. Whenever a new case is notified a member of the Chest Diseases staff visits the home of the patient and endeavours to advise the family and all close contacts in the best methods of avoiding infection from this case. All the house contacts and other known close contacts are invited to attend at the Clinic for an X-ray examination and skin test. Those who are shown by the skin test to be particularly susceptible are offered vaccination with B.C.G. vaccine, which protects the majority of the vaccinated from the serious consequences of a primary infection. Mass X-ray surveys are playing their part in the discovery of new cases in many of whom the symptoms of the disease are either absent or so negligible as to be disregarded.

So far attention has been mainly focused on diagnosis, but a new step forward was made during the year in the form of home treatment. Chest diseases physicians hold the view, which must be shared by all, that treatment should begin right from the day the diagnosis of tuberculosis is made. It is gratifying, therefore, to place on record here the great help given by general practitioners in bringing this about, for there are but few patients whose home conditions are such that they cannot be nursed at home for a short time whilst awaiting admission to a sanatorium. It is during this period that medical treatment is now being given to patients by their general medical practitioners, who are using the new anti-tuberculosis drugs under the general supervision of the chest physicians, whereas in the past periods up to ten months or even longer have been endured by patients awaiting treatment. In most cases treatment is begun immediately after diagnosis and the period of waiting for admission to a sanatorium has been reduced to a few days in the case of men and to about two to three weeks in the case of women.

It is confidently expected that in the next few years the incidence of tuberculosis will be still further reduced by these measures.

Notifications. (Tables 15 to 17, pages 78 to 80). During the year, 110 persons were notified as suffering from tuberculosis. Of these, 92 cases were respiratory and 18 non-respiratory. Their classification and age-groups are shewn in Tables 15 and 17. In addition, 9 cases already notified in other areas came into the County Borough.

Table 16 gives the occupations of new cases of respiratory tuberculosis.

Deaths. (Table 14, page 78). The number of deaths and the death-rates from tuberculosis per thousand of the population in 1951 were as follows :—

	NO. OF DEATHS	DEATH- RATES
Respiratory tuberculosis	31	0.30
Other forms	5	0.05
Totals	36	0.35

The total rate of 0.35 is the lowest on record for the County Borough.

The death-rate for all forms for England and Wales in 1951 was 0.31 (respiratory 0.27, other forms 0.04), which is also the lowest recorded.

Table 14 gives the total tuberculosis death-rates for Northampton and for England and Wales during the last ten years.

Revision of Register. Under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, the names of 17 notified persons were removed from the register in 1951, these consisting of :—

- (a) 2 in whom the diagnosis had not been established ;
- (b) 15 where the patient might be regarded as having recovered.

On 31st December, 1951, there were 842 names on the Medical Officer of Health's register, 690 relating to respiratory and 152 to non-respiratory patients.

The number on the register of the Chest Clinic on that date was 787.

Extra Nourishment. Extra nourishment in the form of milk was granted by the Health Committee to 27 patients. Additional milk and other extra nourishment were also provided through the funds of the Care Committee.

Park Workers. At the beginning of 1951, four men were employed on light duties under this scheme. Two were taken on and one went off work, leaving a total of five at the end of the year.

Housing. Housing has always been an important factor with respect to the incidence and spread of tuberculosis. In these days, when bed shortage and sanatorium waiting lists are the rule, the risks of unsatisfactory accommodation are increased, though mitigated as far as possible by the willing co-operation of the Housing Committee. In December, 1951, the number of tuberculous persons living in Council houses was 305.

Care Work. The need for care work becomes increasingly apparent and much valuable help is provided by the Care Committee. The Christmas Seal Sale realised the sum of £361 16s. 7d. The Chairman's special Christmas Appeal brought in £32 15s. 0d. The annual grant from the County Borough Council was increased from £200 to £350 ; this was augmented by voluntary donations to the extent of £140 8s. 0d. The money has gone to the assistance of patients and their families in providing clothing, bedding, footwear, extra nourishment, and medical comforts. In addition, the usual gifts were made at Christmas and two patients were provided with convalescent holidays at the seaside.

Almoner's Department. The Almoner at the Chest Clinic now holds a joint appointment between the Clinic and Creaton Sanatorium. She is able, therefore, to keep in touch with County Borough patients while they are undergoing sanatorium treatment and to deal with personal problems for them. She continues to advise on social and domestic difficulties and to help patients and their dependants to obtain financial and other assistance, where necessary, from statutory and appropriate voluntary bodies.

There is need for the further development of social care work to ensure that chronic patients do not slip out of social life and to provide recuperative holidays for those able to enjoy them. It is hoped this development may take place with the help of the Care Committee, who give great assistance to the Almoner.

The Almoner interviewed 440 persons at the Clinic and paid 218 home visits.

Rehabilitation. During the year, one patient who had not worked for ten years went for a rehabilitation course at Roffey Park Rehabilitation Centre, near Horsham, and is now at work. Four went to the Ministry of Labour's Industrial Rehabilitation Unit at Leicester for a six weeks' course and all are now in full work. One patient is taking a full-time course at the Northampton College of Technology at the expense of the Ministry of Labour, whose disablement resettlement officers do their best to help the patients.

In addition, details are given below of the number of patients known to the Chest Clinic who returned to work during the year :—

Work found by Ministry of Labour	11
Work found by patients themselves or resumed with previous employer	42
Work obtained through Almoner	4
Total	57

Appreciation is expressed of the goodwill of local employers, many of whom have not only kept their former jobs for patients undergoing sanatorium treatment but have provided more suitable work when the former job was no longer suited to the patient's needs.

Mass Miniature Radiography. Details were given in the 1949 Report of the fourth survey in Northampton County Borough during the period June to October, 1949.

There was no survey in 1951. The fifth survey commenced on 4th February, 1952.

Chest Clinic. Below are given some statistics of work at the Clinic which have reference to care and preventive work in tuberculosis :—

CHEST PHYSICIAN :—

Visits to patients in their homes	194
Contacts examined	576
(Of these, 13 were subsequently notified)	—

TUBERCULOSIS VISITORS :—

Investigation in cases of :—

Respiratory tuberculosis	97
Other forms	20
Deaths	6
	—
	123
Revisits and other investigations	1,093
Total	1,216

LABORATORY EXAMINATIONS. Specimens for examination were investigated at the Public Health Laboratory at Northampton General Hospital. Data with regard to these are given below :—

Cases investigated	363
Results of examination for tubercle bacilli in sputum, urine, pleural effusions, pus, etc. :—	
Positive	92
Negative	526
	—
	618
Guinea-pig inoculations	7
Cultures	15

B.C.G. Vaccination. The value of B.C.G. vaccination for contacts who have not been infected by the tubercle bacillus is now believed to have been proved beyond doubt. By vaccination of the uninfected members of households where tuberculosis is known to have occurred, a great measure of protection is given against the dangers of the form of disease which may arise when primary infection occurs.

During the year, 107 persons were vaccinated with B.C.G. vaccine.

Tuberculosis Regulations, etc. It was not necessary to take any action under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, which relate to persons suffering from respiratory tuberculosis employed in the milk trade.

There was no case of compulsory removal to hospital, under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

VIII.—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

Infant Mortality. (Tables 18 and 19, pages 80 and 81). There were 45 infant deaths, the infant mortality being 29.7 per thousand live births registered, which is the second lowest rate ever recorded in Northampton County Borough. The corresponding figure for England and Wales was 29.6 and for the great towns 33.9. Table 18 gives the infant mortality for England and Wales and Northampton for the last ten years for comparison.

The infant deaths are classified by cause in Table 19.

Neo-natal Mortality. 31 of the 45 deaths mentioned in the preceding paragraph were of infants under four weeks of age. The neo-natal mortality per thousand live births was thus 20.5, compared with 19 deaths and a rate of 12.6 in 1950.

The neo-natal mortality for England and Wales was 18.8 in 1951 and 18.5 in 1950.

Notification of Births. (Tables 20 and 21, pages 81 and 82). 1,514 live births were registered, the birth-rate being 14.6, compared with 15.5 for England and Wales. 33 stillbirths were also registered.

2,591 live births and 65 stillbirths were notified, making a total of 2,656 (*see* Table 20). Table 21 shews the sources of notification.

1,442 births were investigated by the health visitors; 3 of these were non-notified. They also visited 13 other births but no information was available. The remaining births occurred either in larger houses, or the mothers, resident outside the County Borough, came here for their confinements and returned home later.

529 babies (including stillborn babies) were born of primiparæ.

Stillbirths. 33 stillbirths were registered, giving a rate of 0.32 per thousand of the population, compared with 0.36 for England and Wales. The rate expressed per thousand total births (including stillbirths) registered was 21.3, while for England and Wales it was 22.9.

65 stillbirths were notified, 30 relating to mothers from surrounding areas. The remaining 35 stillbirths were investigated. 12 of these occurred in primigravida. In 19 cases labour was premature.

CAUSES OF STILLBIRTH

Maternal		13
Accidental hæmorrhage	2	
Hypertension	1	
Rhesus factor	4	
Toxæmia	5	
Upper respiratory infection	1	
Fœtal		7
Anencephaly	1	
Hydrocephaly	6	
Accidents of labour		10
Breech extraction	4	
Intra-partum hæmorrhage	1	
Obstructed labour	1	
Post-maturity	1	
Premature rupture of membranes	1	
Prolapsed cord	1	
Very short cord	1	
Cause unknown (3 premature)		5
Fœtus fresh	1	
Fœtus macerated	4	

Health Visiting. Eight whole-time health visitors were on the staff at the end of 1951, which was five below the establishment in the approved scheme under Section 24 of the National Health Service Act, 1946. Their time was also partly devoted to work in the School Health Service under a co-ordinated scheme.

19,601 visits in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare were paid during 1951 :—

To expectant mothers :—	
First visits	462
Total visits	531
To children under one year of age :—	
First visits	1,448
Total visits	8,768
To children between the ages of one and five years :—	
Total visits	9,301
To other cases :—	
Total visits	1,001

Child Welfare Centres. Table 22 (page 82) gives the average attendances and consultations at the fifteen child welfare centres in the County Borough.

The attendances at all centres during the year were :—

(a) By children under one year of age	23,404
(b) By children between the ages of one and five years	13,889

The attendance of children per weekly session at all centres during 1951 averaged 54.

The number of children who attended at the centres for the first time during the year was :—

(a) Children under one year of age	1,064
(b) Children between the ages of one and five years	39

The number of children who were in attendance at the centres at the end of the year was :—

(a) Children under one year of age	989
(b) Children between the ages of one and five years	1,880

Voluntary Work. The Northampton Infant Welfare Voluntary Association report that the infant welfare centres, with their respective leaders and workers, continue to do excellent work.

The Mothers' Club, which started in 1948-49, is now firmly established. It is held on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings each week from September to March and has a membership of 200 mothers, with an average nightly attendance of 90.

A lending library of educational books has been started and no charge is made for this service.

A number of Centre mothers have been given assistance from the Committee's Social Service Fund ; mothers who were ill have been provided with help in the home and others sent away to the sea for a holiday. It is hoped to continue this work.

The Annual Meeting on 8th June, 1951, was addressed by Dr. John Gibbons, Physician in charge of the Children's Department, Poplar Hospital, his subject being " The toddler who goes amiss." Two mothers from each Centre were especially invited to this meeting.

Delegates were sent to the London Conference for Maternity and Child Welfare and the National Baby Welfare Council meetings.

In their Annual Report the Association placed on record their appreciation of the work of their own members and also officers of the Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Department.

The annual grant made by Northampton County Borough Council to the Northampton Infant Welfare Voluntary Association has been increased from £30 to £100 per annum.

Maternity Homes. There are three nursing homes in the County Borough, two of which may admit maternity cases only. One (St. Matthew's Nursing Home) is registered for maternity, medical, and surgical cases. Fifteen visits of inspection were paid to these homes by the Assistant Medical Officer.

Midwives. 38 midwives were employed in Northampton County Borough on 31st December, 1951, as follows:—

Queen's Institute of District Nursing (including 1 administrative staff)	8
St. Edmund's Hospital	7
Barratt Maternity Home	15
Other maternity homes	4
Independent domiciliary midwives	4
Total	38

Medical aid was summoned by midwives under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act, 1918, on 82 occasions.

The Northampton Branch of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing undertake domiciliary midwifery on behalf of the County Borough Council by agreement under Section 23 of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

The Queen's Nurses attended 392 cases as maternity nurses or midwives during 1951.

Administration of Analgesics. 34 of the above midwives held a certificate of competence in the use of gas-air analgesic apparatus. 25 of these were employed in institutions, eight were in the service of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing, and one practised independently.

Out of the 392 cases attended by Queen's Nurses in 1951, analgesics were administered in 268. The Institute had seven sets of apparatus in use.

Pethedine was administered in 112 cases by domiciliary midwives.

Ante-natal Work. The Council provide and maintain one ante-natal clinic at St. Giles' Street Centre. 72 sessions were attended by 129 patients (including 50 still attending from 1950) who made 727 attendances. These figures included 121 patients on behalf of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing. 370 patients attended during 1951 for blood tests.

Another clinic was held at the Queen's Institute of District Nursing where 2,030 attendances were made by 460 expectant mothers in 149 sessions during 1951.

Post-natal Work. A post-natal clinic was held twice a month until the end of May. From 1st June, 1951, onwards, post-natal cases were seen at the ante-natal clinic. 71 women (including 3 still attending from 1950) made 74 attendances. The above figures included 67 patients on behalf of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing.

Maternal Mortality. (Table 24, page 83). According to the tabulation received from the Registrar-General, two maternal deaths were assigned to Northampton County Borough during 1951. The maternal mortality was, therefore, 1.29 per thousand total births, compared with 0.79 for England and Wales. Table 24 gives the rates for the last ten years for comparison.

Dental Treatment. (Table 23, page 83). Children under school age and expectant and nursing mothers may be treated by the dental officers. Two sessions each week are set apart for this work.

Table 23 shews the numbers dealt with during 98 sessions and the forms of treatment.

A qualified radiographer takes all radiographs. The dental officers examine them and on rare occasions seek confirmation from Northampton General Hospital.

Dentures are made at a local prosthetic laboratory.

Ultra-violet Ray Treatment. Ultra-violet ray treatment was continued with the usual exception of the summer months. 53 children under five years of age received 622 treatments.

Facilities for this were provided at the Infant Welfare Centre, St. Giles' Street, on Tuesday and Saturday mornings and Thursday afternoons.

Care of Premature Infants. 98 premature infants (*i.e.*, babies weighing 5½ lb. or less at birth) relating to mothers normally resident in Northampton were notified and were the subject of special investigation. 24 of these were born at home and 74 in hospital or nursing home.

Of the 24 premature babies born at home, 10 were transferred to hospital; the remaining 14 nursed entirely at home survived the first month of life. Of the 10 transferred to hospital, six survived the first month.

Of the 74 born in hospital or nursing home, 59 survived the first month of life.

These figures shew that 80.6 per cent. of the County Borough premature babies survived the first month.

Cots, bedding, blankets, hot water bottles, and clothing are available on loan for such infants nursed at home.

Care of Unmarried Mothers and Their Children. There are no special arrangements, but each health visitor is responsible for those residing in her district and co-operates with voluntary agencies working in this field. Where desirable, the children are admitted to day nurseries.

Otorrhœa. Pre-school children suffering from otorrhœa (discharging ears) continue to receive treatment for this troublesome complaint at the School Clinic through an arrangement with the Education Committee. Two cases made three attendances during the year.

Immunisation. The number of children under five years of age who completed the full course of injections during the year was :—

Diphtheria	623
Combined diphtheria and whooping cough	283
Whooping cough	31

The above figures include those immunised by general practitioners as well as those dealt with at clinics under the maternity and child welfare scheme.

Day Nurseries. There are two nurseries—Spencer and Kingsthorpe Park—for children under two years of age. They have accommodation for 70 children. The average attendance was 55 and at the end of the year there were 67 children on the registers. 102 visits (including five medical inspections) were paid to these two nurseries by the Assistant Medical Officer and, in addition, all children were medically inspected before admission.

62 visits were also paid to residential nurseries managed by the Children Committee—29 to Belmont (until June) and 33 to Rawlings (June onwards).

Nurseries and Child Minders. At the end of 1951, one nursery (providing for 15 children) and five daily minders (52 children) were on the register kept under the Nurseries and Child Minders Regulation Act, 1948. Regular visits were paid by members of the staff.

Fruit Juices and Cod Liver Oil. These vitamin supplements for expectant mothers and children under five years of age are issued from the Food Office, Fish Street, and by voluntary workers from infant welfare centres on the outskirts of the town.

The same arrangements apply to the issue of National Dried Milk.

IX.—MENTAL HEALTH

Mental Deficiency—Ascertainment. During 1951, twenty new cases were notified from the following sources :—

Local Education Authority	13
Other sources	7
	—
Total	20
	—

These were dealt with as follows :—

Placed under statutory supervision	15
Placed under voluntary supervision	1
Admitted to an institution	1
Later found not to be defective	2
Action not taken during 1951	1
	—
Total	20
	—

Statistics. There were 399 cases on the register at 31st December, 1951 ; these were classed as follows :—

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTALS
In institutions and homes	60	57	117
Under Guardianship Orders	1	1	2
Under statutory supervision	90	96	186
Under voluntary supervision	35	28	63
In " places of safety "	1	1	2
	—	—	—
County Borough cases	187	183	370
On licence from institutions (not Northampton County Borough cases)	—	28	28
On licence from Guardianship (not Northampton County Borough case)	1	—	1
	—	—	—
Totals	188	211	399
	—	—	—

Supervision. Local health authorities are responsible for the community care of defective persons, *i.e.*, their ascertainment, supervision, and training.

Most mental defectives known to this Authority continue to live in their own homes and require visits of supervision, when efforts are made to advise parents regarding occupational interests and general treatment. The general behaviour of defectives under supervision has been good. Many of the adults are in some form of employment and it is found that they receive every consideration, both from employers and their fellow workers. Young defectives just making a start in employment often have to try various jobs before settling down into the right one and, in this respect, much help and guidance in choice of employment is given by the Juvenile Employment Officers. Those defectives who prove incapable of holding employment are referred to the National Assistance Board and maintenance allowances are granted.

One youth on licence from Guardianship is living in Northampton and is supervised on behalf of the London County Council. Progress reports concerning him are made at regular intervals. Cases on licence

from institutions and in resident domestic service often require assistance in their financial affairs and every effort is made to encourage them to save a part of their earnings for the provision of clothing and holidays. Where no holiday arrangements had been made by the institution concerned, seaside accommodation was arranged through the Brighton Guardianship Society.

The following interviews were held and visits made during the year :—

Visits to statutory cases	820
Visits to voluntary cases	177
Miscellaneous visits	671
Interviews at office	273
	<hr/>
Total	1,941
	<hr/>

Guardianship. At the end of 1951, two cases were under Guardianship. One was self-supporting and the other was maintained by the Local Authority.

Institutional Accommodation. Six new cases were admitted to the following institutions and home during 1951 :—

Borocourt Institution, Peppard	1
Fountain Hospital, London	1
Manor House, Aylesbury	2
Pewsey Hospital, Pewsey	1
Miss A. Slayton's Home, Bedford	1
	<hr/>
Total	6
	<hr/>

Although local health authorities do not provide and maintain institutions, they are responsible for the initial care, certification, and conveyance to institutions of patients suffering from mental deficiency.

Patients with suitable homes were granted holiday leave at varying times throughout the year. A report on the suitability of the home to which the patient will proceed is usually submitted to the medical superintendent of the institution in which the patient is detained before the patient is granted holiday leave.

One child was admitted to St. Edmund's Hospital, Northampton, on a " Place of Safety " Order ; she was still awaiting a vacancy in a mental deficiency institution on 31st December, 1951.

Two male mental defectives were discharged from Orders under the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, by the authority of the Board of Control.

The presence of a defective child in a family is inevitably a tragedy and often the difficulty of coping with the child at home, perhaps causing other children to be neglected, eventually compels the parents to seek

institutional care. It is a matter for dismay and regret that the child has to take its place on the waiting list for a suitable institution and often there is a delay of months and even years before a vacancy becomes available.

Since there are so many defectives who are better at home, or have to remain there whilst awaiting a vacancy in an institution, the parents must be given as much help as possible. Domiciliary visits are paid by the Mental Health Officers and the mothers encouraged to discuss the various problems as they arise.

Eighteen cases were awaiting institutional care on 31st December, 1951 ; these were classed as follows :—

	URGENT CASES		NON-URGENT CASES		TOTALS
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Children under 16 years	5	4	—	1	10
Adults (over 16 years)	1	3	3	1	8
Totals	6	7	3	2	18

At the end of the year, 117 Northampton County Borough patients were accommodated at the following institutions and homes :—

Borocourt Institution, Peppard	8
Botleys Park Hospital, Chertsey	1
Brentry Colony, Bristol	1
Bromham Hospital, near Bedford	41
Ellen Terry Home, Reigate	2
Hortham Colony, Bristol	1
House of Help, Bath	3
Manor House, Aylesbury	5
Miss A. Slayton's Home, Bedford	1
Mount Tabor Approved Home, Wingrave	1
Old House, Wheatley	1
Pewsey Hospital, Pewsey	2
Princess Christian Farm Colony, Hildenborough	2
Rampton Hospital, Retford	9
Rockhall House, Bath	1
St. Edmund's Hospital, Northampton	18
St. Francis School, Buntingford	1
St. Mary's Home, Alton	1
St. Mary's Home, Buxted	1
St. Mary's Home, Painswick	1
Smith Hospital, Henley-on-Thames	1
Stoke Park Colony, Bristol	9
Totterdown Hall, Weston-super-Mare	1
Whittington Hall, Chesterfield	5
Total	117

Handicraft Centre. The year opened with 9 senior males (over 16 years), 15 senior females, and 22 juniors (under 16 years) on the register, making a total of 46.

During 1951 one senior male was placed in an institution ; one senior male found employment ; one senior girl left because she was needed at home ; one junior boy (who was an evacuee) returned to London ; and two other junior boys were placed in institutions. Three juniors were admitted during the year and two juniors were promoted to the seniors on reaching the age of 16 years.

The year closed with 43 names on the register. This number was composed of 8 senior males, 15 senior females, and 20 juniors.

On 25th May, 1951, a Board of Control Inspector (Miss M. Gordon) spent an afternoon at the Centre and saw all the work and physical activity of the patients. On leaving she said she had spent a very happy afternoon. In her report issued later, she expressed her satisfaction with the work of the Centre and the free happy atmosphere of purposeful activity. She put forward, for further consideration, the fact that there was a waiting list of young children while the accommodation was not fully occupied in the mornings.

The junior outing to Wellingborough Zoo took place on 17th July, 1951. 16 children, 4 mothers, and 3 child visitors were taken by coach in charge of the Supervisor and an assistant. The Handicraft Centre Voluntary Committee defrayed the expenses of the outing, including tea.

A more ambitious outing was undertaken for the seniors. On 27th July, 1951, a party of 53, consisting of the Centre staff, 25 seniors, 5 juniors, and 19 parents and friends, journeyed to Skegness in two coaches. To cover the expenses of this outing, parents and scholars brought threepence per week to the Centre over a period of ten months. Tea for the staff and scholars was provided by the Supervisor. The outing was in every way a great success and so much enjoyed by all that many parents expressed a wish that another such outing be arranged for the following summer.

One change in staff was made in September. Miss M. J. Fryer left to take a one-year training course for staffs of occupation centres under the auspices of the National Association for Mental Health and her post as an assistant at the Centre was filled by Miss J. Liner.

On 8th October, 1951, 42 workers and juniors in charge of the Supervisor, staff, and two helpers visited Chipperfield's Circus at the kind invitation of His Worship the Mayor (Councillor Frank Lee, J.P., B.A., B.Sc.). Tea was taken at the Centre before the visit. The visit was much enjoyed.

In July the Centre heard with regret that the Handicraft Centre Voluntary Committee had decided to disband. The Committee had existed for twenty years and had done much valuable work in the interests of the children. It is learnt with pleasure that individual members

will still continue to be interested in the Centre and visit it occasionally. At an informal gathering on 21st November, 1951, the Voluntary Committee presented the Centre with a suitably inscribed gramophone and a record case as a parting gift.

A very successful Open Day was held on Thursday, 22nd November, 1951. The Centre was honoured by the presence of the Mayor and Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs. Frank Lee). About 50 visitors saw the workers and juniors at work and play. Exhibition work was greatly admired and goods to the value of £11 6s. 0d. were sold; many orders were taken. Tea was served at 4 p.m. to 40 visitors.

The Christmas party ended the Autumn term on 21st December, 1951. The children, decked in paper hats made at the Centre, saw a Punch and Judy show given by Mr. F. Moore, who kindly gave his services. After tea, Father Christmas (Mr. J. Morton) arrived and distributed gifts from the tree which was given by Councillor Dr. L. D. B. Cogan, D.S.O. Oranges, apples, and sweets were also distributed. Carols and games helped to fill the afternoon.

In conclusion, every effort is made to make the Centre a happy hive of industry and excellent relations exist between staff, parents, and children.

Special School After-care Committee. The Voluntary After-care Committee help and advise parents of educationally subnormal children who are not notified to the Mental Health Sub-Department.

Domiciliary visits are paid to see the persons concerned, as well as their parents, and brief records of the visits are kept by the Honorary Secretary (Miss D. R. Harbard).

A representative of the Youth Employment Bureau serves on the Committee and gives practical advice and help in placing young persons in suitable employment.

A benevolent fund provides small gifts in times of sickness.

Lunacy—Statistics. The following summarises the work of this section of the Mental Health Sub-Department during 1951 :—

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTALS
Examined by Doctor and Magistrate	20	33	53
Certified and removed to St. Crispin Hospital	16	27	43
Certified and removed to other hospitals	—	2	2
Not certified	4	4	8
Cases examined by Magistrate	7	20	27
Admitted to St. Crispin Hospital on 14-Day Orders	6	11	17
No Order made	1	9	10

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTALS
Admitted to St. Crispin Hospital on 3-Day Orders	11	5	16
Transfers from St. Andrew's Hospital to St. Crispin Hospital	2	4	6
Transfers from St. Andrew's Hospital to other hospitals	2	10	12

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care. During the year there was greater use of the Mental Health Service and many more calls upon the staff were made by medical practitioners and the public. A twenty-four hour service is maintained throughout the year.

A number of patients was referred to psychiatric out-patient clinics by the Duly Authorised Officers during 1951, some of whom responded to early psychiatric treatment and action under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890-1930, was thus avoided. The Duly Authorised Officers often act as a link between the patient, the medical practitioner, and the psychiatric out-patient clinic.

A great amount of social work has been done by the Mental Health Officers, especially in matters of rehabilitation and the finding of accommodation and suitable employment for patients who have been effectively treated in mental hospitals. In new cases it was necessary for the Duly Authorised Officers to visit the patients' homes to seek information and on all occasions advice and guidance was given to relatives.

X.—WELFARE

Welfare Services. The National Assistance Act, 1948, which came into operation on 5th July, 1948, made provision for comprehensive services falling into two main groups :—

- (1) National Assistance, taking the form chiefly of cash assistance to persons in need ;
- (2) Residential accommodation for the aged, the infirm, and others who require care and attention to be provided in this way, with special welfare services for the blind, deaf and dumb, and other persons who are substantially and permanently handicapped by illness, injury, or congenital deformity.

The assistance to be rendered under heading (1) is the concern of the National Assistance Board.

The Local Authority are responsible for the services under heading (2). The Council's schemes under Section 21 of the National Assistance Act, 1948 (provision of residential accommodation) and under Sections 29 and 30 (provision of welfare services for handicapped persons) were approved by the Minister of Health in May, 1949.

All matters relating to the discharge of the welfare functions of the Council under the National Assistance Act, 1948, stand referred to the Health Committee, who appointed a Welfare Services Sub-Committee (see page 12). These functions are discharged under the general administration of the Medical Officer of Health, who is also designated Welfare Administrator. A Welfare Officer and an Assistant Welfare Officer (who is mainly concerned with the welfare of blind persons) are on the staff of the Health Department.

The Council decided on 5th November, 1951, not to make any schemes at present for welfare services for handicapped persons other than the blind and partially sighted. The Medical Officer of Health had presented a report to the appropriate committees on Ministry of Health Circular 32/51 dated 28th August, 1951.

Blind Persons. At the end of 1951 the number of blind persons registered in Northampton County Borough was 226, classified as follows:—

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTALS
Under school age	1	1	2
At schools for the blind	1	3	4
In homes for the blind	3	4	7
In other homes	—	3	3
In mental hospitals	3	2	5
In other hospitals	2	4	6
In mental deficiency institutions	1	3	4
Mental defectives at home	1	1	2
Employed in open industry	18	2	20
Employed in sheltered industry	19	6	25
Training for sheltered employment	1	3	4
Not capable of work	5	3	8
Not available for employment	48	88	136
Totals	103	123	226

25 of the above cases were newly registered during 1951.

10 were trained at St. Dunstan's and 39 were registered under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944.

Partially Sighted Persons. In the approved schemes under the National Assistance Act, 1948, provision was made for the promotion of the welfare of partially sighted persons. Admission to the register is dependent upon a certificate from an ophthalmic surgeon. A start was made towards the latter part of 1951 in compiling a register and it contained the names of four persons (one male, three females) on 31st December, 1951.

Residential Accommodation On 31st December, 1951, the following persons were residing in Part III. Accommodation for whom the Council had undertaken financial responsibility :—

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTALS
St. Edmund's Hospital	57	32	89
Nazareth House	4	7	11
" Darsdale " Home for the Blind, Raunds	—	4	4
David Lewis Manchester Epileptic Colony	1	1	2
Chalfont Colony for Epileptics	—	1	1
Brackley House, Brackley	—	1	1
British Legion Halsey House, Cromer	1	—	1
Christadelphian Rest Home, Southport	1	—	1
St. Mary's Hospital, Kettering	1	—	1
Salvation Army Home, Wicksted Hall, Whitchurch	1	—	1
Totals	66	46	112

No accommodation is available for the " family unit." This means that the old poor law procedure of separating husband from wife and parents from children is still necessary.

During 1948 to 1951, seventeen properties have been inspected with a view to their use for Part III. Accommodation, but on account of unsuitability or other reasons have not been requisitioned.

Reference was made on pages 58 and 59 of the 1950 Report to the proposed erection at Kings Heath of residential accommodation on hostel lines for aged persons. This would provide accommodation for approximately 32 residents at an estimated cost of £26,800. At the close of 1951 the Ministry of Health had not given final approval to the amended plans. It is hoped, however, to overcome certain difficulties and to commence building operations in 1952.

St. Edmund's Hospital. Until such time as other accommodation is available, most of the cases in Part III. Accommodation are housed at St. Edmund's Hospital.

During 1951, fireside chairs, Dunlopillo cushions, bedside rugs, and mirrors were provided at St. Edmund's Hospital. Much benefit was also derived by the inmates from the services of a chiropodist, who was in attendance each Friday from 17th August, 1951, onwards.

Nazareth House. Arrangements are in operation under Section 26 (1) of the National Assistance Act, 1948, whereby twelve beds at Nazareth House are available for residential accommodation of persons in need of care and attention. The County Borough Council pay a stated sum per head per week (less payments made by the residents). Eleven beds were occupied at the end of 1951.

Registration of Homes for Aged Persons. On 1st November, 1949, in consequence of an Order made by the Minister of Health, Sections 37 to 40 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, came into operation. These provisions relate to the registration and inspection of homes for disabled persons and old persons.

At the end of 1951, five homes (accommodating 80 persons) were on the register and the registration of two more (accommodating 28 and 9 persons respectively) was under consideration.

Two other homes were exempt from registration, viz :—Bethany Homestead and the Methodist Homestead.

Meals for Aged Persons. As from 1st January, 1951, the Council subsidised to the extent of ninepence per meal the "meals on wheels" and threepence per meal the Darby and Joan Club, both schemes being organised by the Women's Voluntary Services. Details for 1951 were :—

	" MEALS ON WHEELS "	DARBY AND JOAN CLUB
Meals supplied during year	2,618	2,320
Average meals supplied weekly	50	48
Cost of subsidy for year	£98	£29

The service to the Darby and Joan Club ceased on 30th November, 1951.

Persons in need of Care and Attention. In order to avoid delay which would be likely to occur in dealing with urgent cases under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, the powers and duties of the Council in this respect have been delegated to the Welfare Services Sub-Committee of the Health Committee. (Council minute 6-12-48).

No new cases were dealt with in 1951.

Burial of the Dead. During 1951 there were only two occasions when it was found necessary for the Local Authority to arrange burials in accordance with Section 50 of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

Temporary Protection of Property. A store at the rear of 87 Newland has been provided to meet the obligations of the Local Authority under Section 48 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, to take reasonable steps to prevent or mitigate loss or damage to movable property of persons admitted to hospital, etc.

These premises are also utilised for the storage of bedsteads, bedding, etc., in connection with temporary accommodation reserved at certain buildings in the County Borough to meet exceptional circumstances, such as flooding, or to provide shelter for other persons in urgent need in circumstances which cannot reasonably be foreseen.

Moral Welfare. The Welfare Officer investigated the circumstances of eleven cases referred from voluntary organisations during 1951. Six of these girls were admitted to homes towards which the Council contributed some part of the cost of maintenance for a period not exceeding sixteen weeks, *i.e.*, approximately four weeks before and twelve weeks after confinement.

XI.—STATISTICAL TABLES

TABLE 1. ENGLAND AND WALES AND NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1942-1951.
BIRTH-RATES IN EACH YEAR OF THE DECENNium.

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
England and Wales	15.8	16.5	17.6	16.1	19.1	20.5	17.9	16.7	15.8	15.5
Northampton	15.7	17.9	20.7	18.1	20.5	21.9	17.5	15.8	14.2	14.6

TABLE 2. ENGLAND AND WALES AND NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1942-1951.
DEATH-RATES IN EACH YEAR OF THE DECENNium.

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
England and Wales	11.6	12.1	11.6	11.4	11.5	12.0	10.8	11.7	11.6	12.5
Northampton	11.5	13.1	12.2	12.9	12.0	12.3	11.5	12.1	12.0	13.6

TABLE 3. ENGLAND AND WALES AND NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1942-1951.
CANCER DEATH-RATES IN EACH YEAR OF THE DECENNium.

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
England and Wales	1.83	1.90	1.90	1.95	1.84	1.85	1.86	1.87	1.99	1.96
Northampton	1.83	2.04	1.73	1.91	1.87	1.58	1.91	1.58	2.04	2.08

TABLE 4. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1951. METEOROLOGICAL DATA.

MONTH	RAINFALL			TEMPERATURE				DIRECTION OF WIND				BRIGHT SUNSHINE*			
	Total inches	Greatest in 24 hours		Mean	Maximum		Minimum	No. of Nights at or below 32 deg. F.	SW. Quadrant including W.	SE. Quadrant including S.	NE. Quadrant including E.	NW. Quadrant including N.	Hours	Mins.	
		Depth	Date		Deg.	Date									Deg.
January	2.38	0.55	5	40.38	52.5	17	26.0	28	9	13	6	3	9		
February	3.29	0.40	16	39.55	50.0	8	30.0	12	4	10	8	4	6		
March	3.61	0.50	18	40.46	57.0	22	31.0	{ 4, 19, 27, 29	7	9	8	8	6		
April	3.04	0.71	8	45.48	73.5	24	33.0	{ 10, 29	0	8	3	6	13		
May	2.63	0.30	3	52.83	72.0	24	34.0	1	0	5	7	15	4		
June	0.81	0.25	9	60.33	76.0	21	44.0	1	0	10	4	7	9		
July	1.05	0.45	11	63.97	80.0	1	49.0	14	0	9	2	2	18		
August	3.84	1.40	6	61.22	79.5	3	46.0	15	0	18	2	0	11		
September	1.81	0.70	27	59.30	76.5	4	41.0	28	0	12	6	5	7		
October	0.79	0.20	21	49.24	62.0	8	29.0	24	4	3	8	11	9		
November	5.15	1.32	5	47.59	58.0	15	31.0	25	1	8	12	2	8		
December	1.86	0.80	28	43.25	54.0	{ 18, 19, 20, 24	25.0	{ 10, 12	5	20	3	0	8		
Year 1951	30.26	1.40	Aug. 6	50.30	80.0	July 1	25.0	Dec. 10, 12	30	125	69	63	108		

* Sunshine records not available locally for 1951.

TABLE 5. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1951.
SUMMARY OF ROUTINE WORK OF THE SANITARY INSPECTORS.

<i>Nature of Visit, Inspection, etc.</i>	Number of Visits, etc.
<i>General Sanitation</i>	
Water supply	105
Drainage	570
Stables and piggeries	54
Offensive trades	41
Common lodging houses	90
Houses let in lodgings	23
Tents, vans, sheds, etc.	30
Factories	1250
Workplaces	116
Outworkers	822
Bakehouses	124
Public conveniences	71
Cinemas, theatres, etc.	12
Accumulations of refuse, etc.	48
Rodent control	2035
Smoke observations	118
Schools	15
Shops	30
Swimming baths	10
Canal boats	96
Rag flock	63
Miscellaneous sanitary visits	1744
<i>Housing</i>	
Under Public Health Acts :—	
Houses inspected	1066
Visits and revisits	3432
Under Housing Acts :—	
Houses inspected	32
Visits and revisits	58
Overcrowding :—	
Houses inspected	49
Visits and revisits	148
New cases of overcrowding discovered	30
Miscellaneous housing visits	503
<i>Disinfestation</i>	
Verminous houses treated	83
Visits and revisits to above houses	264
Anti-fly treatment of shops and other premises	85
Visits and revisits to above premises	160
<i>Notifiable Diseases</i>	
Inquiries into cases	278
Visits <i>re</i> disinfection	422
Miscellaneous visits	138

Continued on next page

TABLE 5—continued.

<i>Nature of Visit, Inspection, etc.</i>	Number of Visits, etc.
<i>Meat and Food Inspection</i>	
Inspection of meat :—	
Visits to slaughterhouses	1642
Visits to shops and stalls	56
Visits to other premises	96
Visits to :—	
Butchers	92
Fishmongers and poulterers	172
Fried fish shops	103
Grocers	235
Greengrocers and fruiterers	78
Dairies and milkshops	259
Ice cream premises	131
Food preparing premises	180
Licensed premises	268
Market stalls	201
Restaurants	161
Street vendors and hawkers	4
Miscellaneous food visits	235
Seizure certificates issued	1
Surrender notes issued	2732
<i>Samples Taken</i>	
Food and drugs	335
Pasteurised milk for phosphatase test	336
Milk for methylene blue test	345
Sterilised milk for turbidity test	51
Milk for tubercle bacilli	9
Ice cream	87
Fertilisers and feeding stuffs	10
Rag flock	0
Swimming bath water	0
Water from Town mains	98
Water from wells	0
<i>Notices Served</i>	
Informal notices :—	
Served	589
Complied with	416
Statutory notices :—	
Served	286
Complied with	292
Outstanding at end of year	73
<i>Summary</i>	
Total number of inspections and visits	18054

TABLE 6. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1951.
RECONSTRUCTION OF DRAINS.

SITUATION OF PREMISES	NO. OF HOUSES
Colwyn Road, 123	1
Hunter Street, 49, 51	2
Turner Street, 59, 61	2
Total	5

TABLE 7. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1951.
HOUSING ACT, 1936. HOUSES REPRESENTED DURING 1951.
SUBSEQUENT ACTION AND CONDITION AT THE END OF 1951.

HOUSES	DATE OF		REMARKS
	Representations	Demolition Orders	
Bath Row, 2	3-10-51	—	Demolished
Bath Street, 97	3-10-51	—	Vacant
Compton Street, 7	7-3-51	*	Occupied
Compton Street, 9	7-3-51	*	Occupied
Compton Street, 57	4-7-51	—	Vacant
Horsemarket, 40	7-11-51	—	Occupied
Horsemarket, 40A/42	7-11-51	—	Vacant and derelict
Horsemarket, 44	7-11-51	—	Vacant and derelict
King Street, 30	7-11-51	—	Vacant
King Street, 32	7-11-51	—	Vacant
King Street, 34	7-11-51	—	Occupied
King Street, 36	7-11-51	—	Occupied
King Street, 38	7-11-51	—	Vacant
King Street, 40	7-11-51	—	Occupied
King Street, 42	7-11-51	—	Occupied
King Street, 44	7-11-51	—	Occupied
King Street, 46	7-11-51	—	Occupied
St. John's Terrace, 11	5-12-51	—	Occupied
St. Katharine's Terrace, 1	3-10-51	—	Occupied
St. Katharine's Terrace, 2	3-10-51	—	Occupied
St. Katharine's Terrace, 3	11-4-51	—	Vacant
St. Katharine's Terrace, 4	11-4-51	—	Vacant
Swan Street, 63	6-6-51	*	Vacant
Swan Street, 67	4-7-51	—	Occupied
Swan Street, 69	4-7-51	—	Occupied
Swan Street, 71	6-6-51	*	Vacant

* Undertaking given by owner not to use premises again for human habitation.

TABLE 8. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1939-1951.
HOUSING ACT, 1936. HOUSES REPRESENTED PRIOR TO 1951.
SUBSEQUENT ACTION AND CONDITION AT THE END OF 1951.

HOUSES	DATE OF		REMARKS
	Representations	Demolition Orders	
Bath Row, 4	3-3-48	3-5-48	Demolished
Bath Street, 16	2-11-49	30-1-50	Demolished
Bath Street, 18	2-11-49	30-1-50	Demolished
Bath Street, 20	2-11-49	*	Vacant
Bearward Street, 17	30-6-48	*	Vacant
Bull Head Lane, 27	3-3-48	26-7-48*	Vacant
Bull Head Lane, 29	3-3-48	—	Occupied. Premises now reconditioned
Bull Head Lane, 31	3-3-48	—	Occupied. Premises now reconditioned
Carlton Place, 3	1-2-50	*	Occupied
Carlton Place, 5	1-2-50	*	Vacant
Carlton Place, 7	4-1-50	*	Vacant
Carlton Place, 9	4-1-50	*	Vacant
Carlton Place, 11	1-2-50	*	Occupied
Carlton Place, 13	1-2-50	*	Vacant
Compton Street, 59	8-11-50	*	Vacant
Francis Street, 2	10-11-48	31-1-49	Vacant
Francis Street, 4	1-12-48	7-3-49	Vacant
Francis Street, 6	1-2-50	*	Vacant
Francis Street, 8	5-1-49	5-4-49	Vacant
Francis Street, 10	2-2-49	25-4-49	Vacant
Francis Street, 12	30-11-49	—	Vacant
Monks Pond Street, 6	1-2-50	*	Vacant
Monks Pond Street, 8	1-2-50	*	Vacant
Monks Pond Street, 10	1-2-50	*	Vacant
Monks Pond Street, 14	2-11-49	30-1-50*	Vacant
Monks Pond Street, 16	1-2-50	*	Occupied
Regent Street, 58	3-3-48	31-5-48	Vacant
St. James' Square (St. James' Road), 3	4-1-50	*	Vacant
St. James' Square (St. James' Road), 4	4-1-50	*	Vacant
Scarletwell Street, 8	12-4-39	—	Occupied
Scarletwell Street, 19	3-3-48	*	Vacant
Scarletwell Street, 20	2-6-48	26-7-48	Vacant
Scarletwell Street, 24	3-3-48	3-5-48	Vacant
Scarletwell Street, 33	4-1-50	3-4-50	Demolished
Scarletwell Street, 35	4-1-50	3-4-50	Demolished

* Undertaking given by owner not to use premises again for human habitation.

Continued on next page

TABLE 8—*continued.*

REMARKS	DATE OF		REMARKS
	Representations	Demolition Orders	
Scarletwell Street, 40	2-6-48	26-7-48	Vacant
Scarletwell Street, 67	16-9-42	—	Vacant and derelict
Scarletwell Street, 71	3-3-48	3-5-48	Vacant
Swan Street, 66	2-11-49	30-1-50	Vacant
Swan Street, 68	2-11-49	30-1-50	Vacant
Wellington Street, 28	1-2-50	3-7-50	Occupied
Wellington Street, 30	1-2-50	3-7-50	Occupied
Wellington Street, 34	1-2-50	3-7-50	Vacant
Willesden's Yard, 5	1-2-50	3-7-50	Demolished
Willesden's Yard, 6	4-1-50	*	Demolished
Willesden's Yard, 7	1-2-50	3-7-50	Demolished
Willesden's Yard, 9	1-2-50	3-7-50	Demolished
Willesden's Yard, 10	1-2-50	3-7-50	Demolished
Willesden's Yard, 11	1-2-50	3-7-50	Demolished

* Undertaking given by owner not to use premises again for human habitation.

TABLE 9. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1951.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1.—*Inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors for purposes of provisions as to health.*

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are enforced by the Local Authority	102	194	2	—
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	656	1038	42	—
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises, but including electrical stations, institutions, and sites of building operations and works of engineering construction)	20	18	2	—
TOTALS	778	1250	46	—

Continued on next page

TABLE 9—*continued.*2.—*Cases in which defects were found.*

Particulars	Number of defects				Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	8	7	—	4	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3).....	1	1	—	1	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	3	3	—	3	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6).....	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	6	6	—	4	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	69	64	—	12	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	88	82	—	24	—

3.—*Outwork (Sections 110 and 111).*

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of outworkers in August list	Cases of default in sending lists	Prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Making, etc., of wearing apparel	517	—	—	—	—	—
Household linen	5	—	—	—	—	—
Making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	4	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.	3	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	529	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE 10. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1951.
UN SOUND FOOD VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED.

NATURE OF FOOD	WEIGHT			
	TONS	CWT.	QR.	LB.
Beef, home killed	23	17	1	1
Beef, imported	—	2	0	26
Mutton, home killed	4	11	1	2
Mutton, imported	—	—	1	24
Offal, home killed	64	15	2	14
Offal, imported	—	8	2	8
Pork, home killed	4	12	2	10
Veal, home killed	1	9	0	16
Bacon	—	1	1	13
Cheese	—	—	3	9
Confectionery	—	1	3	15
Edible fats	—	1	3	21
Egg, liquid	—	—	2	0
Fish, wet	1	12	0	1
Flour and cereals	—	7	0	18
Fruit, dried	—	1	3	23
Mincemeat	—	—	2	20
Poultry	—	2	0	0
Prepared meat products	—	3	2	12
Shell-fish	—	11	3	8
Spices	—	—	1	10
Sugar	—	—	—	8
Tea	—	—	—	27
Vegetables	—	—	—	27
Total	103	3	3	5

Also :—25,168 tins and jars of food ;
250 crabs ;
81 cocoanuts ;
5 boxes of spinach ;
3 rabbits ;
2 boxes of fish cakes.

2,732 surrender notes were issued in connection with the above unsound food.

There was also one seizure (*see* paragraph on page 37).

TABLE 11. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1951.
CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	CATTLE, EX- CLUDING COWS	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP AND LAMBS	PIGS
Number killed	7,449	2,930	7,125	19,369	3,114
Number inspected	7,449	2,930	7,124	19,334	3,094
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis :—</i>					
Whole carcasses con- demned	15	14	81	91	47
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	2,084	1,226	54	1,631	157
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	28.2	42.3	1.9	8.9	6.6
<i>Tuberculosis only :—</i>					
Whole carcasses con- demned	11	25	3	0	11
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	1,110	836	0	0	173
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with tuberculosis	15.0	29.4	0.04	0.0	5.9

TABLE 12. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1951.
FOOD AND DRUGS. SAMPLES TAKEN FOR ANALYSIS.

NATURE OF SAMPLE	FORMAL SAMPLES		INFORMAL SAMPLES	
	TOTAL NUMBER	NO. NOT GENUINE	TOTAL NUMBER	NO. NOT GENUINE
Baking powder	2	1	2	—
Butter	—	—	1	—
Cake mixture, etc.	3	—	5	—
Cocoa	2	—	—	—
Coffee	2	—	3	—
Confectionery	3	—	6	—
Custard powder	2	—	1	—
Dripping	1	—	—	—
Fish pastes, etc.	1	—	2	—
Flavours, essences, etc.	1	—	2	—
Flour, cereals, etc.	10	—	2	—
Gelatine	3	—	1	1
Ground almonds	1	—	2	—
Honey	—	—	3	—
Jam, preserves, etc.	3	—	5	—
Jelly	1	—	5	—
Milk	151	1	—	—
Milk, condensed	—	—	1	—
Milk, sterilised	21	1	—	—
Mincemeat	4	—	—	—
Mineral waters	2	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	10	—	5	—
Prepared meat products	4	—	2	—
Sauces, spices, condiments	8	—	15	—
Sausages, sausage meat	12	2	—	—
Soup	—	—	2	1
Sundry drugs and medicines	3	—	15	—
Tea	1	—	—	—
Vinegar	2	1	1	—
Wine	1	—	—	—
Totals	254*	6	81*	2

* A total of 335 samples, 8 of which (2·4 per cent.) were found not to be genuine.

TABLE 13. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1951.
 CLINICAL BACTERIOLOGY. NUMBER OF SUSPECTED CASES IN WHICH EXAMINATION WAS
 MADE AND THE NUMBER AND NATURE OF THE REPORTS RECEIVED IN CONNECTION WITH THESE.

DIPHtheria— Throat and Nose Secretions	TYPHOID, DYSENTERY, ETC.— Fæces, etc.			TUBERCULOSIS— Sputum, Urine, etc.			OTHER CONDITIONS			TOTALS			
	No. of Suspected Cases	Reports received	No. of Suspected Cases	Reports received	No. of Suspected Cases	Reports received	No. of Suspected Cases	Reports received	No. of Suspected Cases	Reports received	No. of Suspected Cases	Reports received	
		Positive		Positive		Positive		Positive		Positive		Positive	
		Negative		Negative		Negative		Negative		Negative		Negative	
		Total		Total		Total		Total		Total		Total	
87	96	66	96	92	618	7	1	6	7	553	159	750	909

TABLE 14. ENGLAND AND WALES AND NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1942-1951.
TOTAL TUBERCULOSIS DEATH-RATES IN EACH YEAR OF THE DECENNIUM.

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
England and Wales	0.66	0.67	0.62	0.62	0.54	0.55	0.51	0.45	0.36	0.31
Northampton	0.59	0.65	0.65	0.72	0.55	0.51	0.41	0.36	0.36	0.35

TABLE 15. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1951.
TUBERCULOSIS. CLASSIFICATION OF NEW CASES.

CLASSIFICATION	NOTIFIED CASES			DEATHS OF CASES NOT NOTIFIED		
	M.	F.	TOTAL	M.	F.	TOTAL
RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS	46	46	92*	5	1	6*
OTHER FORMS :—						
Meninges and Brain	2	3	5	—	—	—
Peritoneum and Intestines	—	2	2	—	—	—
Bones and Joints	6	2	8	—	—	—
Cervical Glands	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Organs	2	1	3	—	—	—
Totals	56	54	110	5	1	6

* A total of 98 new cases of respiratory tuberculosis.

TABLE 16. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1951.

RESPIRATORY TUBERCULOSIS. OCCUPATIONAL INCIDENCE.

OCCUPATION	NEW CASES	OCCUPATION	NEW CASES
Shoe Operatives :—			
(a) Clicker	1	Laboratory Technician	1
(b) Laster	1	Labourer	2
(c) Finisher	1	Leather Coat Machinist	1
(d) Roughstuff and Pressman	—	Leather Cutter	1
(e) Warehouse and General	5	Leather Dresser	2
(f) Female Worker	7	Licensed Victualler	1
	15	Lorry Driver	1
		Mechanical Engineer	2
		Printer	1
		Radiographer	1
Accountant	1	School Child	4
Billiard Hall Manager	1	Secretary	1
Carpenter and Joiner	1	Shop Assistant	3
Clerk	8	Shop Manager	1
Draughtsman	1	Stoker	1
Dressmaker	1	Tailor	1
Electrical Engineer	1	Telephonist	1
Engineering Student	1	Toy Maker	1
Ex-soldier	1	Upholsterer	1
Gas Fitter	1	Viewer (engineering)	1
Handyman	1	Warehouseman	1
Horse Driver	1	No Occupation	7
Housewife	22	Not Ascertained	5
Insurance Agent	1		
		TOTAL	98

TABLE 17. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1951.

TUBERCULOSIS. AGE GROUPS FOR NEW CASES AND DEATHS.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years	1	1	1	2	—	—	1	2
5-10 years	2	1	1	—	}	—	—	1
10-15 years	—	2	2	1				
15-20 years	9	9	—	2	}	1	3	—
20-25 years	4	15	—	—				
25-35 years	9	9	2	3	}	5	1	—
35-45 years	8	6	1	—				
45-55 years	7	2	—	—	}	11	2	—
55-65 years	6	1	3	—				
65 and upwards	5	1	—	—	8	—	—	—
Totals	51	47	10	8	25	6	1	4

TABLE 18. ENGLAND AND WALES AND NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1942-1951.

INFANT MORTALITY IN EACH YEAR OF THE DECENNium.

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
England and Wales	50.6	49.1	45.4	46.0	42.9	41.4	33.9	32.4	29.8	29.6
Northampton	42.6	39.2	46.3	40.3	45.9	33.3	37.3	29.8	18.6	29.7

TABLE 19. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1947-1951.

INFANT MORTALITY. CAUSES OF DEATH.

CAUSES OF DEATH	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Bronchitis	—	2	4	—	1
Congenital Malformations	23	21	10	6	11
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—
Gastritis, Enteritis, and Diarrhœa	5	6	5	—	1
Measles	1	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	11	16	5	5	5
Tuberculous Diseases	1	—	—	—	—
Violence*	5	1	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	2	—	—	2
All Other Causes, including Premature Birth	29	20	24	17	25
TOTAL DEATHS	76	68	49	28	45
TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS	2283	1825	1646	1502	1514
INFANT MORTALITY	33.3	37.3	29.8	18.6	29.7

* None of these violent deaths was caused by a motor vehicle accident.

TABLE 20. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1951.

LIVE BIRTHS AND STILLBIRTHS REGISTERED AND NOTIFIED.

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTALS
Number of Live Births Registered	775	739	1514
Number of Stillbirths Registered	17	16	33
Total Number of Births Notified	1349	1307	2656
Number of Live Births Notified	1317	1274	2591
Number of Stillbirths Notified	32	33	65

TABLE 21. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1951.
NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS. SOURCES OF NOTIFICATION.

	NUMBER	PER CENT.
Medical Practitioners	4*	0.2
Certified Midwives	2646	99.6
Parents and Others	6	0.2
Totals	2656	100.0

* Includes 3 also notified by Midwives.

TABLE 22. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1951.
CHILD WELFARE CENTRES. STATISTICS.

CENTRE	DAY OF MEETING	AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER WEEK				Average Number seen by Doctor per Session
		Mothers (incl. Expectant Mothers)	Babies	Toddlers	Total Babies and Toddlers	
Abington Avenue	Thursday	68	47	33	80	23
Broadmead	Monday	32	19	19	38	13
Dallington	Thursday	43	39	15	54	22
Doddridge Memorial	Wednesday	67	48	32	80	21
Far Cotton	Monday	48	39	16	55	20
Far Cotton	Wednesday	32	26	10	36	19
Kingsley Park	Monday	39	28	18	46	15
Kingsthorpe	Tuesday	50	35	17	52	27
St. David's	Friday	43	34	23	57	15
*St. Edmund's	Friday	39	25	19	44	18
St. Giles' Street	Wednesday	47	36	15	51	16
St. Sepulchre's	Wednesday	52	40	16	56	15
St. Sepulchre's	Friday	44	31	18	49	16
*Victoria	Tuesday	45	32	17	49	17
Wheatfield Road	Friday	51	29	33	62	17
	Totals	700	508	301	809	274

* Held at St. Giles' Street Infant Welfare Centre.

TABLE 23. NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1951.

SUMMARY OF DENTAL WORK.

	EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS	CHILDREN UNDER 5 YEARS	TOTALS
<i>Number provided with Dental Care :—</i>			
Examined	17	509	526
Needing treatment	17	481	498
Treated	17	424	441
Made dentally fit	1	286	287
Attendances	46	1194	1240
<i>Forms of Dental Treatment provided :—</i>			
Extractions	33	540	573
<i>Anæsthetics :—</i>			
Local	4	143	147
General	7	190	197
Fillings	25	6	31
Scalings or scaling and gum treatment	1	—	1
Silver nitrate treatment	2	1493	1495
Dressings	16	48	64
Radiographs	1	1	2
<i>Dentures provided :—</i>			
Complete	—	—	—
Partial	4	—	4
Dentures repaired	1	—	1

TABLE 24. ENGLAND AND WALES AND NORTHAMPTON C.B., 1942-1951.

MATERNAL MORTALITY* IN EACH YEAR OF THE DECENNium.

	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
England and Wales	2.47	2.29	1.93	1.79	1.43	1.17	1.02	0.98	0.86	0.79
Northampton	4.27	3.30	0.94	—	0.47	0.86	0.54	—	0.65	1.29

* Calculated per 1,000 total (live and still) births registered and including deaths from abortion.

TABLE A.
COUNTY BOROUGH OF NORTHAMPTON
Vital Statistics during 1951 and Previous Years

Year	Total Population estimated to Middle of each Year	Live Births			Total Deaths registered in the District		Transferable Deaths		Nett Deaths belonging to the District			
		Uncorrected Number	Nett		Number	Rate	Non-residents registered in the District	Residents not registered in the District	Under One Year		At all Ages	
			Number	Rate					Number	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Number	Rate
1916	93709	1883	1893	20.2	1206	14.0	116	58	127	67.1	1148	13.3
1917	91932	1466	1471	16.0	1217	14.8	128	86	128	87.0	1175	14.2
1918	90884	1316	1313	14.4	1426	17.6	122	81	121	92.2	1385	17.1
1919	92653	1432	1411	15.2	1301	14.6	137	54	116	82.2	1218	13.7
1920	92950	2318	2248	24.2	1137	12.3	130	40	166	73.8	1047	11.3
1921	92300	1924	1881	20.4	1022	11.1	123	65	124	65.9	964	10.4
1922	92950	1697	1646	17.7	1108	11.9	116	54	86	52.2	1046	11.3
1923	93230	1723	1662	17.8	1177	12.6	140	49	95	57.2	1086	11.6
1924	93800	1591	1534	16.4	1143	12.2	149	42	80	52.1	1036	11.1
1925	93970	1531	1471	15.6	1229	13.1	167	54	98	66.6	1116	11.9
1926	93740	1393	1309	14.0	1163	12.4	174	75	72	55.0	1064	11.4
1927	93260	1362	1281	13.7	1248	13.4	170	46	78	60.9	1124	12.0
1928	94270	1366	1308	13.9	1204	12.8	207	63	70	53.5	1060	11.3
1929	94180	1332	1249	13.3	1269	13.5	226	50	66	52.8	1093	11.6
1930	93460	1334	1224	13.1	1217	13.0	193	48	69	56.4	1072	11.5
1931	92970	1307	1233	13.3	1243	13.4	205	53	87	70.6	1091	11.8
1932	96730	1326	1244	13.0	1265	13.2	207	50	80	64.3	1108	11.6
1933	96630	1236	1152	11.9	1277	13.2	236	50	52	45.1	1091	11.3
1934	96550	1298	1180	12.2	1344	13.9	289	41	54	45.8	1096	11.4
1935	96700	1301	1155	11.9	1311	13.6	298	38	58	50.2	1051	10.9
1936	96300	1419	1204	12.5	1448	15.0	298	59	48	39.9	1209	12.6
1937	96360	1518	1197	12.4	1465	15.2	302	54	57	47.6	1217	12.6
1938	96540	1556	1203	12.5	1294	13.4	283	60	56	46.6	1071	11.1
1939	96440	1704	1190	12.3	1458	14.7	368	65	52	41.7	1155	11.6
1940	103700	1847	1229	11.9	1812	17.5	418	52	69	49.0	1446	13.9
1941	108930	2101	1282	11.8	1776	16.3	450	69	91	52.9	1395	12.8
1942	101800	2133	1597	15.7	1468	14.4	362	61	68	42.6	1167	11.5
1943	98150	2244	1761	17.9	1616	16.5	390	64	69	39.2	1290	13.1
1944	100040	2627	2074	20.7	1583	15.8	416	53	96	46.3	1220	12.2
1945	98520	2412	1788	18.1	1586	16.1	382	69	72	40.3	1273	12.9
1946	102760	2847	2111	20.5	1571	15.3	399	59	97	45.9	1231	12.0
1947	104480	3000	2283	21.9	1606	15.4	363	43	76	33.3	1286	12.3
1948	104380	2518	1825	17.5	1543	14.8	401	54	68	37.3	1196	11.5
1949	104300	2377	1646	15.8	1581	15.2	414	92	49	29.8	1259	12.1
1950	105490	2497	1502	14.2	1547	14.7	397	113	28	18.6	1263	12.0
1951	103700	2510	1514	14.6	1668	16.1	391	137	45	29.7	1414	13.6

This Table is arranged to shew the gross births and deaths in the district and the births and deaths properly belonging to it, with the corresponding rates.

The birth-rate and death-rate for 1932 are calculated on a mean population of 95,670 owing to the Borough extension on 1st April, 1932.

From 1916 to 1931 and also in 1939 the death-rates are based on the estimated civil populations supplied by the Registrar-General for that purpose. The population for death-rate calculation in 1939 was 99,290.

Non-civilian deaths are excluded during the years 1939 to 1949.

NOTE.—Tables B and C are inserted after Page 104.

NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BOROUGH
EDUCATION COMMITTEE



ANNUAL REPORT

UPON THE

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

FOR THE YEAR 1951

BY

CARRICK G. PAYTON, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health
School Medical Officer
Chief Tuberculosis Officer
Welfare Administrator

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**NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BOROUGH
EDUCATION COMMITTEE**
(as constituted on 31st December, 1951)

Chairman :

ALDERMAN W. H. PERCIVAL, J.P.

Deputy-Chairman :

ALDERMAN A. L. CHOWN

Alderman :

C. A. CHOWN, J.P.

Councillors :

P. W. ADAMS
S. E. CLAYSON
J. B. CORRIN
T. H. DOCKRELL, F.R.C.S.
SAUL DOFFMAN
W. A. PICKERING
F. P. SAUNDERS
A. E. SCOTT
MRS. W. V. SLINN
LEN SMITH
F. TOLLIT
E. F. TOMPKINS
A. WILSON, M.B., CH.B.

Co-opted Members :

MISS P. HENNINGS, M.B.E.
MRS. W. H. PERCIVAL
MR. C. H. EDWARDS
DR. E. E. FIELD, O.B.E., B.SC., F.R.G.S.
MR. E. HALL
MR. J. L. PIGGOTT

Primary and Special Services Sub-Committee

COUNCILLOR DOCKRELL (*Chairman*); COUNCILLORS CLAYSON, PICKERING, MRS. SLINN, and TOLLIT; MRS. PERCIVAL, DR. FIELD, MR. HALL, and MR. PIGGOTT.

Chief Education Officer :

H. A. SKERRETT, B.A., A.R.HIST.S.

STAFF OF SCHOOL HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1951

<i>School Medical Officer</i> CARRICK G. PAYTON, M.D., CH.B., D.P.H.
<i>Deputy School Medical Officer</i>	RAYMOND J. DONALDSON, M.B., B.CH., D.P.H.
<i>Assistant School Medical Officer</i>	ROBERT T. HICKS, O.B.E., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.
<i>Part-time Medical Officer</i>	MARGARET O'CONNOR, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.
<i>Chief Dental Officer</i> J. P. WILSON, L.D.S.R.C.S.
<i>Assistant Dental Officer</i>	MRS. M. CANOVAN, L.D.S. (<i>Commenced 1/10/51</i>)
<i>Educational Psychologist*</i>	L. P. STAR, M.A., PH.D.
<i>Psychiatric Social Worker*</i>	MISS E. E. BITCHENOR, B.A.
<i>Part-time Speech Therapist</i>	MRS. B. A. GROSE (<i>Commenced 21/2/51</i>)
<i>School Nurses‡</i> MISS G. E. LANTSBERY MRS. A. J. MAPLEY MISS D. M. BURTON†
<i>Clerks</i> MISS M. E. L. PHILLIPS (<i>Senior Clerk</i>) MISS A. E. SCOTTS MISS P. HOWKINS (<i>Commenced 8/1/51</i>)
<i>Clerks and Chairside Assistants</i>	MISS J. W. SEAMARK MISS J. THURGOOD

* Under a joint scheme with Northamptonshire Education Authority.

† Holds Health Visitor's Certificate.

‡ Health Visitors (see page 13) also gave part-time assistance in school health service under a co-ordinated scheme.

GENERAL INFORMATION, 1951

Home Population at all Ages (estimated at 30th June, 1951) 103,700

Estimated Child Population (30th June, 1951) :—

0-4 years inclusive	8,700
5-14 years inclusive	13,291

PRIMARY SCHOOLS

Number on Rolls

Number of Schools	22
Number of Departments	33
Number on Rolls	8,920
Average Attendance	8,053 (90.3 per cent.)

SECONDARY MODERN SCHOOLS

Number of Schools	8
Number of Departments	9
Number on Rolls	2,782
Average Attendance	2,537 (91.2 per cent.)

GRAMMAR AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

Grammar School for Boys (Town and County)	693
Grammar School for Girls	462
Technical High School—Mixed	398

SPECIAL SCHOOLS

Wellington Place	68
Open Air	104

NURSERY SCHOOLS

Silver Street	88
Bush Hill	39
Delapre	38
Gloucester	38
Victoria Park	37
Wallace Road	39

Total Number on Rolls	13,706
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COST OF SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

	£ s. d.
Total Nett Cost (Year 1950/51)	8,771 15 6

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS

Year ended 31st December, 1951.

TABLE I. (MINISTRY OF EDUCATION)
 MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED
 PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SPECIAL
 SCHOOLS)

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups	
Entrants	1,927
Second Age Group	1,373
Third Age Group	1,022
Total	4,322
Number of other Periodic Inspections	762
Grand Total	5,084

Parents present at the above inspections numbered 3,323 (65.4 per cent.).

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS

Number of Special Inspections	1,780
Number of Re-Inspections	4,334
Total	6,114

C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT
 NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL PUPILS FOUND AT PERIODIC MEDICAL
 INSPECTION TO REQUIRE TREATMENT (excluding Dental Diseases and
 Infestation with Vermin)

Group	For defective vision (excluding squint)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table II.A	Total individual pupils
Entrants	11	452	462
Second Age Group	84	188	263
Third Age Group	59	74	130
Total (prescribed groups)	154	714	855
Other Periodic Inspections	35	62	93
Grand Total	189	776	948

TABLE II.
A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
		No. of defects		No. of defects	
		Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation, but not requiring treatment
4	Skin	46	16	61	1
5	Eyes— <i>a.</i> Vision	189	58	423	18
	<i>b.</i> Squint	37	25	173	—
	<i>c.</i> Other	11	4	28	—
6	Ears— <i>a.</i> Hearing	13	29	10	3
	<i>b.</i> Otitis Media	15	21	12	—
	<i>c.</i> Other	14	10	41	3
7	Nose or Throat	272	195	100	12
8	Speech	17	27	21	3
9	Cervical Glands	9	152	15	2
10	Heart and Circulation	26	97	5	3
11	Lungs	61	206	33	10
12	Developmental—				
	<i>a.</i> Hernia	7	8	4	—
	<i>b.</i> Other	37	130	1	1
13	Orthopædic—				
	<i>a.</i> Posture	34	11	6	—
	<i>b.</i> Flat foot	85	16	5	—
	<i>c.</i> Other	89	64	25	3
14	Nervous system—				
	<i>a.</i> Epilepsy	6	—	1	—
	<i>b.</i> Other	8	28	6	—
15	Psychological—				
	<i>a.</i> Development	2	19	32	4
	<i>b.</i> Stability	13	39	19	7
16	Other	67	96	276	5

B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR IN THE AGE GROUPS

Age Groups	Number of Pupils Inspected	A (Good)		B (Fair)		C (Poor)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	1,927	1,010	52.4	900	46.7	17	0.9
Second Age Group	1,373	721	52.5	646	47.1	6	0.4
Third Age Group	1,022	559	54.7	460	45.0	3	0.3
Other Periodic Inspections	762	491	64.4	265	34.8	6	0.8
Total	5,084	2,781	54.7	2,271	44.7	32	0.6

TABLE III.
INFESTATION WITH VERMIN

(i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the school nurses or other authorised persons	27,259
(ii) Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils examined	12,948
(iii) Total number of <i>individual</i> pupils found to be infested	480
(iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944)	480
(v) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom cleansing orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944)	—

School nurses made 284 surprise visits to schools for the purpose of inspecting children's hair. The percentage of uncleanliness found was 3·7, compared with 4·7 in 1950.

Printed instructions giving detailed methods of cleansing were issued to the parents of those children found to be infested. A DDT preparation was supplied on request.

Facilities are available at the School Clinic for children's hair to be cleansed by a trained nurse. 99 children were treated during 1951, compared with 98 in 1950.

TABLE IV.

TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS (INCLUDING SPECIAL SCHOOLS)

GROUP 1.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table III.)

	Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year	
	by the Authority	otherwise
Ringworm— (i) Scalp	4	4
(ii) Body	28	1
Scabies	5	—
Impetigo	22	1
Other skin diseases	159	43
Total	218	49

GROUP 2.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

	Number of cases dealt with	
	by the Authority	otherwise
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	277	15
Errors of refraction (including squint)	—	842
Total	277	857
Number of pupils for whom spectacles were		
(a) Prescribed	—	606
(b) Obtained	—	440

GROUP 3.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	otherwise
Received operative treatment		
(a) for diseases of the ear	—	4
(b) for adenoids and chronic tonsillitis	—	542
(c) for other nose and throat conditions	—	15
Received other forms of treatment	163	69
Total	163	630

GROUP 4.—ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS

(a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals	67	
	by the Authority	otherwise
(b) Number treated otherwise, <i>e.g.</i> , in clinics or out-patient departments	146	639

GROUP 5.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT

	Number of cases treated	
	in the Authority's Child Guidance Clinics	elsewhere
Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics	34	—

GROUP 6.—SPEECH THERAPY

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	otherwise
Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists	60	—

GROUP 7.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN

	Number of cases treated	
	by the Authority	otherwise
(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments	1,741	16
(b) Heart and circulation	6	23
(c) Lungs	63	38
(d) Developmental—		
Hernia	—	9
Other	—	28
(e) Nervous system—		
Epilepsy	—	7
Other	—	14
(f) Psychological—		
Development	—	—
Stability	2	12
(g) Other conditions	77	37
Totals	1,889	184

TABLE V.—DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

(This Table is printed on page 101).

INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

The table below gives a comparison of the cases of notifiable disease amongst the general population and school children during 1951 :—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED (ALL AGES)	CASES AMONGST SCHOOL CHILDREN
Acute Poliomyelitis :—		
Paralytic	17	6
Non-paralytic	6	3
Dysentery	53	14
Food Poisoning	64	5
Measles	728	272*
Pneumonia	53	5
Scarlet Fever	187	128
Whooping Cough	400	149*
Tuberculosis :—		
Respiratory	92	4
Other Forms	18	4

*Most cases of measles and whooping cough over five years of age were not investigated. The figures given above relate to cases within the age-group five to fifteen years, whether investigated or not.

CAUSES OF DEATH

The following table shews the principal causes of death amongst children of school age (five to fifteen years) for the fifteen-year period ended December, 1951 :—

CAUSE	1937-1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	Total Deaths	Percentage of Total
Tuberculosis	28	2	1	—	1	1	33	17.4
Violence	25	1	2	—	2	—	30	15.8
Heart Disease	15	—	1	—	—	—	16	8.4
Diphtheria	16	—	—	—	—	—	16	8.4
Pneumonia, Bronchitis, and Other Diseases of Respiratory System	12	—	—	1	—	—	13	6.9
Nephritis	4	1	—	—	—	—	5	2.6
Measles	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	1.6
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	0.5
Other Conditions	55	4	2	2	5	5	73	38.4
Totals	158	8	6	4	8	6	190*	100.0

* 1.0 per cent. of the 18,883 deaths at all ages during the fifteen years.

SCHOOL CLINIC ATTENDANCES

Schools	Children	Attendances		
		Treatment	Inspection	Totals
Maintained Primary and Secondary	4,187	10,595	3,533	14,128
Special	91	613	106	719
Nursery	302	503	315	818
Totals	4,580	11,711	3,954	15,665

FOLLOWING-UP

Visits paid to primary, secondary, and special schools by doctors and nurses to follow up children found defective at medical inspection 142

Visits to homes :—

By doctors 11
By nurses 662

Re-examinations made by doctors 3,643

In addition, the school nurses during 233 visits to schools made 3,335 other examinations and carried out 703 treatments.

EAR NOSE AND THROAT CLINIC

546 children (542 primary and secondary and 4 nursery) were operated upon for tonsils and adenoids during 1951. The figure for 1950 was 214.

See also Table IV., Group 3, on page 92.

A children's ear nose and throat clinic is held at Northampton General Hospital each week, to which cases are referred.

EYE CLINIC

The Ophthalmic Surgeon attended the School Clinic once or twice a week as required, by arrangement with the Regional Hospital Board. 785 children were examined, 755 from primary and secondary, 29 from special, and 1 from nursery schools.

See Table IV., Group 2, on page 92.

An Orthoptic Clinic is held at Northampton General Hospital, to which cases are referred, when necessary, by the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

CONJUNCTIVITIS

TABLE 1

YEAR	NUMBER OF CASES
1942	69
1943	86
1944	96
1945	59
1946	65
1947	246
1948	923
1949	267
1950	89
1951	87
Total	1,987

During 1951, the cases noted are shewn month by month :—

TABLE 2

MONTH	NUMBER OF CASES
January	5
February	5
March	1
April	4
May	13
June	27
July	11
August	—
September	4
October	3
November	7
December	7
Total	87

This subject was fully dealt with in the Annual Reports for 1948 and 1949.

It will be noticed that although the number of cases has dropped considerably since 1948, there still remains a small reservoir of conjunctivitis in the schools. This must be regarded as a potential danger calling for constant vigilance, especially as the factor which causes this reservoir of infection to flare up suddenly to epidemic proportions is not fully understood. The measures already taken regarding the provision of paper towels and the supply of adequate hot water should help to minimise the risks.

Further reference is made to this subject in the Introductory Letter on page 9.

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC

This service is shared with Northamptonshire County Council. The Educational Psychologist sees cases which shew any abnormality of behaviour and refers cases to the Psychiatrist when necessary.

43 County Borough school children were referred ; 20 were examined by the Psychiatrist and 9 were awaiting examination.

SPEECH CLINIC

This Clinic is held at 28 Billing Road.

60 children were dealt with under speech therapy arrangements during 1951 and at the end of the year 37 were still under treatment.

SUNLIGHT CLINIC

119 school children made 1,679 attendances in 1951 for ultra-violet light treatment at the School Clinic.

ORTHOPÆDIC TREATMENT

67 Northampton children were under treatment at Manfield Orthopædic Hospital, or the John Greenwood Shipman Convalescent Home, during 1951.

627 local children attending maintained schools were treated at the Orthopædic Clinic as out-patients.

Remedial exercises for flat feet, round shoulders, etc., were given at the School Clinic to 147 children.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

135 children were immunised and 610 received reinforcing doses at the School Clinic.

There is record that 10,967 children in the age-group 5 to 14 years inclusive had been immunised by 31st December, 1951. This is 82.5 per cent. of the estimated population of 13,291 in this age-group.

It is gratifying to record that no case of diphtheria has been notified in Northampton for over three years.

SCABIES

Number of children from maintained schools treated under the Authority's scheme during the last ten years :—

YEARS	NUMBER OF CASES
1942	1,042
1943	802
1944	529
1945	287
1946	229
1947	157
1948	83
1949	52
1950	11
1951	5
Total	<u>3,197</u>

The 5 cases for 1951 received treatment from the School Clinic.

RINGWORM OF THE SCALP

Number of new cases from maintained schools treated under the Authority's scheme during the last ten years :—

YEARS	NUMBER OF CASES
1942	8
1943	19
1944	84
1945	138
1946	104
1947	80
1948	19
1949	13
1950	8
1951	5
Total	<u>478</u>

The 5 children in 1951 attended Northampton General Hospital for radiotherapy, but the preliminary treatment and epilation were carried out at the School Clinic.

MILK-IN-SCHOOLS SCHEME

Number of bottles of milk supplied to scholars 2,015,690

This compares with 1,954,202 in 1950.

Each bottle consisted of one-third of a pint of pasteurised milk.

FREE MEALS

Number of children in receipt of free meals 99

Total number of free meals supplied 14,053

Number of centres where meals were prepared 15

WELLINGTON PLACE SPECIAL SCHOOL

This School is for educationally subnormal children.

69 children were examined at routine medical inspections and the Deputy School Medical Officer paid 14 visits and made 71 special inspections or re-inspections.

There were 38 special inspections or re-inspections at the School Clinic.

16 children were examined by the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

8 visits were paid by school nurses, when 162 examinations were made.

These figures are included in the relative tables throughout this report.

OPEN AIR RECOVERY SCHOOL

26 visits were paid to this School by the Assistant School Medical Officers and 103 routine and 347 other examinations were carried out.

Special inspections and re-inspections at the School Clinic numbered 34.

13 children were examined by the Ophthalmic Surgeon.

117 visits were made by school nurses for general supervision ; 703 treatments were given and 337 other examinations conducted.

The above statistics are included in the relative tables earlier in this report.

NURSERY SCHOOLS

There are six nursery schools :—

Silver Street
 Bush Hill
 Delapre
 Gloucester
 Victoria Park
 Wallace Road

In addition, there is a Nursery Class attached to Bective Infants' and Junior Mixed School.

415 routine examinations, 1 special examination, and 230 re-examinations were done at schools.

43 special inspections or re-inspections were made at the School Clinic.

1 child was examined by the Ophthalmic Surgeon and spectacles prescribed.

4 were operated upon for tonsils and adenoids.

In addition, the school nurses paid 68 visits for general supervision or cleanliness surveys and made 2,031 examinations.

OTHER EXAMINATIONS

There were 283 special examinations at the School Clinic during 1951. These included examinations of handicapped children, candidates for juvenile employment, and children being boarded out.

INQUIRIES BY N.S.P.C.C.

The Local Inspector of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children made inquiries and visits on behalf of the Education Authority into conditions involving 16 families (39 children). These were mostly cases of neglect and appear to have been dealt with satisfactorily.

NON-MAINTAINED SECONDARY SCHOOL

Notre Dame High School for Girls was visited twice during 1951 by an Assistant School Medical Officer.

157 routine examinations and 52 re-examinations were made at school.

HANDICAPPED PUPILS

The several categories of handicapped pupils requiring special educational treatment are defined in Regulation 3 of the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations, 1945, and the numbers on the register at the end of 1951 were as follows :—

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTALS
(1) Blind	1	1	2
(2) Partially sighted	—	4	4
(3) Deaf	4	4	8
(4) Partially deaf	4	—	4
(5) Delicate	25	28	53
(6) Physically handicapped	36	22	58
(7) Educationally subnormal	38	39	77
(8) Maladjusted	11	1	12
(9) Epileptic	—	1	1
Totals	119	100	219

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

The number of half-day sessions allocated in 1951 to the administration of the school dental service and to dental inspection and treatment was 547.

In addition, treatment was provided for patients referred under the maternity and child welfare scheme, amounting to 98 sessions.

NUMBER OF SESSIONS

DEVOTED TO :—

	MR. J. P. WILSON	MRS. A. CANOVAN
(1) Administration	27	0
(2) Inspection (a) At School	3	4
(b) At Clinic	20	2
(3) Treatment	378	113
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>
	428	119
(4) Maternity and Child Welfare Dental Work	86	12
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>
Totals	514	131
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>

Sessions included under administration were those devoted to the preparation of the annual report, the attendance of meetings, etc.

In accordance with Regulation 49 (3) of the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations, 1945, every pupil who is admitted for the first time to a maintained school should be inspected by a dental officer as soon as possible after the date of admission.

The appointment as from 1st October, 1951, of Mrs. A. Canovan as Assistant Dental Officer, has made it possible for routine dental inspections to be restarted. Every effort will be made in 1952 to comply with the Regulation quoted in the previous paragraph and it is expected to complete the necessary inspections within the school year.

TABLE V.—DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT CARRIED OUT BY THE AUTHORITY

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers :—	
(a) Periodic age groups (at School)	253
(b) Specials (at Clinic)	3,437
(c) TOTAL (Periodic and Specials)	3,690
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>
(2) Number found to require treatment	3,472
(3) Number referred for treatment	3,284
(4) Number actually treated	2,963
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	7,214
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(6) Half-days devoted to :	(a) Inspection	29
	(b) Treatment	491
	Total (a) and (b)	520
	(c) Administration	27
	(d) Maternity and Child Welfare Work	98*
	Total (a), (b), (c), (d)	645
<hr/>		
(7) Fillings :	Permanent Teeth	1,912
	Temporary Teeth	42
	Total	1,954
<hr/>		
(8) Number of teeth filled :	Permanent Teeth	1,429
	Temporary Teeth	42
	Total	1,471
<hr/>		
(9) Extractions :	Permanent Teeth	943
	Temporary Teeth	4,485
	Total	5,428
<hr/>		
(10) Administration by Assistant Medical Officers of general anæsthetics for extraction		869
(11) Other operations :	(a) Permanent Teeth	2,798
	(b) Temporary Teeth	1,942
	Total (a) and (b)	4,740
<hr/>		

* The work under the Maternity and Child Welfare Scheme is summarised in Table 23, page 83.

Treatment was also carried out for children attending Nursery Schools :—

Number inspected		25	
Referred for treatment		24	
Treated	{ partly	10 }	22
	{ completely	12 }	
Attendances		56	
Extractions		30	
General anæsthetics		13	
Other operations		51	

The use of silver nitrate for conserving deciduous teeth, and also for treating chalky patches on second teeth, has proved to be a reliable form of treatment, but is not shewn in the above tables. 1,899 deciduous and 293 permanent teeth were treated with silver nitrate during 1951.

It is also interesting to note that whilst there was an increase of over 300 in the number of cases in which a general anæsthetic was given (882 administrations of nitrous oxide in 1951), local anæsthesia had still a large part to play, for 2,785 anæsthetics were used.

SPECIAL DENTAL TREATMENT

Regulation treatment continues to increase. During 1951 it was possible to insert 129 appliances for 92 children, compared with 92 appliances in 1950, 47 in 1949, and 37 in 1948. In addition, several cases were treated by extraction alone.

Fractured front second teeth occur fairly frequently with school children and often the "nerve" is exposed. At one time such fractured teeth in children under twelve years of age were almost invariably extracted, as there was no reliable means of saving them. The operation of vital pulpotomy, where the "nerve" is removed from the crown of the tooth only, has provided the means of saving such teeth, but only when the children have been treated within a few days, preferably within thirty-six hours. Four cases were successfully dealt with during 1951. With older children it is possible to retain these fractured front teeth by removing the whole of the "nerve," filling the root canal, and crowning. In some cases, however, delay in attending for treatment, or fracture of the root itself, has rendered it necessary to extract the damaged tooth and insert a denture.

The services of Mr. A. Vernon Ashford as radiographer have continued to be of great value in helping to diagnose and to treat these special cases.

A new appointment by the Oxford Regional Hospital Board of a Consultant Dental Surgeon has been of inestimable value. Mr. W. S. Matheson has not only been able to give valuable advice on several occasions, but has dealt with cases which hitherto would have been referred to London or Birmingham by the Honorary Dental Surgeons of Northampton General Hospital.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The latest report of the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Education contains the following interesting extract :—

“ It is important that every school should provide a liberal scheme of physical education, with a healthy school environment, the practice of comprehensive schemes of physical activities, instruction in personal and communal hygiene, and the inculcation of ideas of personal efficiency. The school should help to develop poise, vigour, endurance and nervous stability ; it should be a place in which the children gain physical power and vitality as well as academic knowledge.”

Physical education lessons in schools during 1951 were directed towards securing those very qualities and considerable progress was made in establishing a less rigid and formal approach to physical education. It is now accepted that the lesson should cater for the physical, mental, and emotional growth of the child and not merely for one aspect only. Reference has previously been made to the movement which teachers try to get from the children and to its quality and range. Children derive much satisfaction from exploring the possibilities of movement and in creating activities of their own choice. The tendency now is for teachers to give children opportunities for developing their creative abilities and for practising known skills with apparatus selected by themselves. Imagination, creative ability, and desire for movement are given scope with the teacher helping, encouraging, and guiding.

Swimming has been carried out at the Corporation and Barry Road Baths. Of the school leavers during the year up to August, 1951, from secondary modern schools, 181 (42.5 per cent.) out of 426 boys had gained the sixty yards certificate of the Northampton Life Saving Society and of 359 girl leavers 90 (25.1 per cent.) had the certificate. Of the 557 children who left primary schools, 222 (39.9 per cent.) could swim at least fifteen yards. It is interesting to note that at Barry Road Primary School, which adjoins the Baths, 75.7 per cent. of the boys and 72.2 per cent. of the girls leaving school could swim at least fifteen yards.

Mention must be made of the work of voluntary associations connected with school children. Of these, the Schools' Football Association, the Athletic Association, and the Swimming and Netball Associations are doing most valuable work in out of school hours and the contribution and the efforts of teachers who make these associations run so successfully are much appreciated.

TABLE C

COUNTY BOROUGH OF NORTHAMPTON

Causes of Death at Different Periods of Life during the Year 1951

CAUSES OF DEATH	NETT DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES (IN YEARS) OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE DISTRICT										
	ALL AGES			0-	1-	5-	15-	25-	45-	65-	75-
	Total	M.	F.								
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	31	25	6	—	—	—	4	6	13	5	3
2. Tuberculosis, other	5	1	4	—	3	1	—	—	1	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping cough	3	2	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	30	16	14	—	—	—	—	1	9	10	10
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	37	30	7	—	—	—	—	3	18	13	3
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	22	—	22	—	—	—	—	1	8	8	5
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	8	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	3
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	119	65	54	—	—	1	—	1	46	35	36
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	4	2	2	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—
16. Diabetes	6	3	3	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	209	93	116	—	—	1	—	1	33	67	107
18. Coronary disease, angina	170	105	65	—	—	—	—	3	47	51	69
19. Hypertension with heart disease	78	35	43	—	—	—	—	—	14	24	40
20. Other heart disease	272	108	164	—	—	—	—	9	29	74	160
21. Other circulatory disease	32	12	20	—	—	—	—	—	5	12	15
22. Influenza	26	12	14	—	—	—	—	1	5	13	7
23. Pneumonia	44	21	23	5	1	—	—	3	10	10	15
24. Bronchitis	99	68	31	1	—	—	—	2	20	31	45
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	5	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	16	12	4	—	—	—	—	1	10	2	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhœa	4	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	15	6	9	—	—	—	—	2	5	3	5
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	13	6	7	11	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	107	46	61	25	1	2	3	6	20	17	33
33. Motor vehicle accidents	9	7	2	—	1	—	2	2	2	1	1
34. All other accidents	17	10	7	—	1	—	—	5	5	3	3
35. Suicide	18	9	9	—	—	—	—	3	11	4	—
36. Homicide and operations of war	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	1414	712	702	45*	12	6	9	55	320	393	574

*31 of these 45 infants were under four weeks of age.

The above Table was prepared from information supplied by the Registrar-General.



