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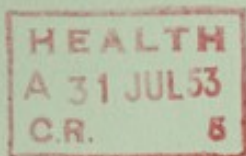
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ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR
1952.





ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1952, in accordance with Article 17, sub-section 5 of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations 1935, and Circular 2/53 of the Ministry of Health.

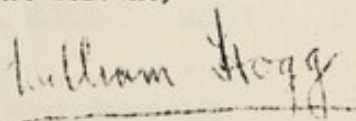
My thanks are due to Colonel N. Blake for information respecting the water supplies provided within the area by the Ross Water Undertaking.

Also I have to acknowledge assistance most willingly given me, not only in the preparation of this Report, but throughout the year, by my colleagues, Mr. D.H. Thomas, Clerk to the Council; Mr. G.E. Hardy, Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor; and Mr. E.O. Christopher, Rating Officer.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity of placing on record my appreciation of the support which the Chairman and Members of the Council have given me in the discharge of my duties.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,



Medical Officer of Health.

26th July, 1953.

ROSS AND WHITCHURCH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

William Hogg, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., M.R.S.I.

CLERK TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Miss A.O. Gale

Telephone:-

Ross 214

County Offices,
Alton Street,
Ross-on-Wye.

SANITARY INSPECTOR, SANITARY SURVEYOR AND HOUSING
DESIGNATED OFFICER

+ Mr. G.E. Hardy, L.R.I.B.A., A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTOR

+ / Mr. C.W.J. Manley, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H.

+ Certificate as Meat Inspector.

/ Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

CLERK TO THE SANITARY INSPECTORS

Mr. C.H. Scruby.

Telephone:-

Ross 511

Woodside,

Ross-on-Wye.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL AND PARISHES REPRESENTED

Chairman - Major H.S. Allfrey, J.P.

Vice-Chairman - Mr. B.C. Hackett.

Mrs. I. Harding.	...	Aston Ingham.
Mr. L. Drayson Russill.	...	Ballingham.
Mr. H.E. Sainsbury.	...	Brampton Abbots.
Mr. B.C. Hackett.	...	Bridstow.
Mr. G.L. Clay, J.P.	...	Brockhampton.
Mr. G.G. Bevan.	...	Foy.
Brigadier R.P. Waller.	...	Ganarew.
Mr. A.N. Cole.	...	Garway.
Mr. A.C. Morris.	...	Goodrich.
Mr. H.W. Badger.	...	Harewood and Llandinabo.
Mrs. M.J. Williamson.	...	Hentland.
Mr. R.D. Margrett.	...	Hope Mansel.
Major H.S. Allfrey, J.P.	...	How Caple and Sollershope.
Mr. R.J. Jenkins.	...	Kings Caple.
Mr. G. Savidge.	...	Lea.
Mr. W. Morris.	...	Linton.
Mr. J.B. Sainsbury.	...	Linton.
Mr. J.F. Maclean, J.P.	...	Llangarron.
Mr. F.G. Scudamore.	...	Llangarron.
Mr. J.R. Ravenhill.	...	Llanrothal.
Mr. J.J. Rosser.	...	Llanwarne.
Mr. G.W. Banfield.	...	Marstow.
Mr. S.R. Garner.	...	Pencoyd.
Mr. H.C. Teague.	...	Peterstow.
Mr. H.T. Allen.	...	Ross Rural.
Mrs. M. Allen.	...	Ross Rural.
Mr. J. Bowen.	...	St. Weonards.
Mr. E.P.C. Whittall.	...	Sellack.
Mr. T.W. Dew.	...	Tretire and Michaelchurch.
Mr. A.T. Powell.	...	Upton Bishop.
Mr. A.E. Thompson.	...	Upton Bishop.
Mr. R. Pashley, J.P.	...	Walford.
Mrs. D. Trafford.	...	Walford.
Mr. H.C. Mesurier.	...	Welsh Bicknor.
Mr. H.R. Biggs.	...	Welsh Newton.
Mr. S.W. Sharpley.	...	Weston-under-Penyard.
Mr. G.A. Biggs.	...	Weston-under-Penyard.
Mr. H.S. Cumbley.	...	Whitchurch.
Mr. J. King.	...	Whitchurch.
Mr. R.F. Cotton.	...	Yatton.

SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The Ross and Whitchurch Rural District lies in the south of the County of Hereford, surrounding the Urban District of Ross-on-Wye. The area is purely rural in character. The scenery and the reputation of the Wye attracts visitors. Limestone quarries are worked at Whitchurch and Linton.

Extracts from the Vital Statistics of the Year.

Area in acres.	...	72,105
Registrar General's estimated mid-year population.	...	11,730
Number of inhabited houses (31.12.52).	...	3,515
Rateable Value.	...	£43,595
Sum represented by a penny rate.	...	£174
Live Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated resident population (crude).	...	17.8
Corrected live Birth Rate per 1000 of estimated population.	...	20.3
Still Birth Rate per 1000 total (live and still) births.	...	27.9
Death Rate per 1000 of estimated population (crude)....		11.4
Corrected Death Rate per 1000 of estimated population.	...	9.0
Area Comparability Factor (Births).	...	1.14
Area Comparability Factor (Deaths).	...	0.79

Deaths from Maternal Causes.

	<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Rate per 1000 total births.</u>
Heading No.30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion.	Nil	Nil

Death Rates of Infants under One Year of Age.

All Infants per 1000 live births.	...	23.9
Legitimate Infants per 1000 legitimate live Births.	...	25.6
Illegitimate Infants per 1000 illegitimate live Births.	....	Nil

Population.

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population is 11,730. The natural increase in population (the excess of live births over deaths) is 75.

This population is contained in 3515 dwellings, giving an average number of persons per inhabited house of 3.34. The gross density of dwellings for the district is 0.048 dwellings per acre. The average number of dwellings per acre is 0.163.

The largest parish is Llangarron with 5,411 acres, whilst the smallest is Llandinabo with 500 acres. There are 28 parishes each exceeding 1000 acres. The parish with the largest population is Walford.

Births.

live

The number of births registered as having occurred within the Rural District during the year is 209 (111 male and 98 female), and the unadjusted live birth rate is 17.8 per 1000 of the estimated population. The area comparability factor is 1.14 and applying this to the crude birth rate, the adjusted live birth rate is 20.3 per 1000 population. The live birth rate for England and Wales for the year is 15.5 per 1000 population. The ratio male/female births is 1.13.

The number of illegitimate live births which occurred is 14 (9 male and 5 female). The illegitimate live births form 6.7% of the total live births. The corrected legitimate live birth rate is 19.0 per 1000 population.

Stillbirths.

Six stillbirths occurred (4 male and 2 female), and the still-birth rate is therefore 27.9 per 1000 total births.

Using the estimated population as the basis, the corrected still birth rate for the Rural District is 0.58 per 1000 population, whilst the England and Wales stillbirth rate for the year is 0.35 per 1000 population. No stillbirths occurred out of wedlock.

Deaths.

The number of deaths recorded as having occurred in the District during the year is 134 (84 male and 50 female). This total is obtained after deducting the number of deaths of non-residents which occurred within the District and adding the number of deaths of residents which took place in other areas. The ratio of male/female deaths is 1.68

The crude death rate for the Rural District for the year is 11.4 per 1000 population, and applying the Area comparability factor of 0.79, the corrected death rate is 9.0 per 1000 population. The death rate for England and Wales for the year is 11.3 per 1000 population.

Table of Causes of Death
according to Sex and Mortality Rates.

No.	Cause.	Male.	Female.	Persons.	Corrected D.R. per 1000 Population.
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory.	1	-	1	0.07
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	2	-	2	0.14
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast.	-	2	2	0.14
13.	" " uterus.	-	2	2	0.14
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	9	3	12	0.80
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia.	1	-	1	0.07
16.	Diabetes.	-	1	1	0.07
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system.	10	8	18	1.21
18.	Coronary disease, angina.	5	4	9	0.60
19.	Hypertension with heart disease.	1	3	4	0.27
20.	Other heart disease.	22	9	31	2.08
21.	Other circulatory disease.	6	-	6	0.40
23.	Pneumonia.	2	1	3	0.20
24.	Bronchitis.	6	1	7	0.47
25.	Other diseases of respir- atory system.	1	-	1	0.07
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum.	4	-	4	0.27
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea.	-	1	1	0.07
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis.	1	1	2	0.14
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate.	1	-	1	0.07
31.	Congenital malformations.	1	1	2	0.14
32.	Other defined and ill defined diseases.	6	10	16	1.08
33.	Motor vehicle accidents.	3	-	3	0.20
34.	All other accidents.	1	2	3	0.20
35.	Suicide.	1	1	2	0.14
All Causes.		84	50	134	9.04

Analysis of deaths by cause shows that the greatest number is due to heart diseases (headings 18, 19 and 20), accounting for 44 deaths. The death rate calculated from these causes is 3.75 per 1000 population (crude) or 2.96 per 1000 population (corrected).

Vascular lesions of the nervous system accounted for 18 deaths (10 male and 8 female) and the corrected death rate from this cause is 1.21 per 1000 population.

Cancer Deaths.

This year 18 deaths are attributed to cancer of all types (11 male and 7 female), giving a corrected death rate from cancer of all sites of 1.21 per 1000 population.

Infant Mortality.

The number of babies under the age of one year who died is 5 (3 male and 2 female). All were legitimate infants, and the infant mortality rate is 23.9 per 1000 live births; this rate for England and Wales is 27.6 per 1000 live births.

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.

Three of the 5 infant deaths occurred within the first four weeks of life; the neo-natal mortality is 14.35 per 1000 live births.

Deaths from Notifiable Infectious Disease.

The only acute notifiable infectious disease recorded as cause of death is pneumonia, which caused 3 deaths (2 male and 1 female). The corrected death rate from this cause is 0.20 per 1000 population. The rate for England and Wales is 0.47 per 1000 population.

Tuberculosis Deaths.

Only one death is attributed to tuberculosis. The adjusted death rate from this disease is 0.07 per 1000 population and the tuberculosis death rate for England and Wales is 0.24 per 1000 population.

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREAPublic Health Laboratory.

The facilities available to the District at the Public Health Laboratory, Hereford, remained unchanged.

The following table gives the number of investigations undertaken on behalf of the Department during the year:-

Swabs	...	8
Sputum	...	5
Urine	...	1
Faeces	...	2
Ice Cream.	...	30
Milk for organisms.	...	2
Milk for tuberculosis..	...	9
Milk (methylene blue test).	...	36
Water (Bacteriological).	...	56

In addition, 2 samples of water were submitted to the Public Analysts, Ellis & Turner, for chemical examination.

Public Mortuary.

The Council has facilities for reception of bodies from the Rural District at the Public Mortuary, Homs Road, Ross-on-Wye. During the year 4 bodies were removed from the Rural District to the Public Mortuary.

Hospitals.

There are no hospitals situated within the District, which is served by hospitals at Hereford, Ross-on-Wye, Gloucester and Monmouth.

Ambulances.

Ambulances are provided in the adjacent towns for the use of persons residing within the Rural District.

Disposal of the Dead - National Assistance Act 1948, Section 50.

No burials were carried out by the Council under this section during the year.

Care of Aged and Infirm - National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47.

Two investigations were made under this section; in both cases formal action was unnecessary.

SECTION C - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREAGeology.

The District is formed of Old Red Sandstone rocks of the Devonian System, with an outcrop of Silurian limestone along the south eastern boundary from Upton Bishop to Gorsley and Aston Ingham. In the parishes of Walford and Whitchurch, along the southern boundary of the District, there is an outcrop of carboniferous limestone.

The Old Red Sandstone is represented chiefly by red and green sandstones and marl with outcrops of Old Red Conglomerate in some areas.

Water Supplies.

In the area immediately surrounding the Urban District, the mains of the Ross Water Undertaking provide a constant supply of wholesome water at adequate pressure in the parish of Ross Rural, and in part of the parishes of Bridstow, Walford and Weston-under-Penyard.

The number of dwelling houses supplied from the Ross Water Undertaking's mains in these parishes are:-

Bridstow	...	149
Ross Rural	...	108
Walford	...	43
Weston-under-Penyard.	...	5

All these supplies are by means of service pipes to the dwellings with the exception of 7 dwellings in Bridstow supplied by standpipes.

The water of the Ross Water Undertaking is obtained from boreholes at Alton Court Works; the water is of good potable quality, though somewhat hard. It requires no preliminary treatment other than chlorination, this being applied to the rising main. Facilities exist for obtaining samples of the water before treatment, and tests show that the number of organisms per 100 c.cs. of untreated water is very low.

The Rural District Council has provided piped water supplies in the parishes of Brampton Abbots, Llangarron, Garway and Harewood. These give a constant supply of potable water.

Brampton Abbots Supply.

Brampton Abbots is supplied with water purchased in bulk from the Ross Water Undertaking. This scheme supplies 53 dwellings by services from the mains. Reservoir capacity is 25,000 gallons in two reservoirs.

Garway Supply.

This scheme makes use of a spring on high ground. The yield of the spring is subject to variation according to rainfall, but is adequate for the present demand. The water is put into supply without treatment. The number of dwellings supplied by service is 81, and 3 are supplied by means of standpipes.

Llangarron Supply.

This supplies part of Llangarron parish and utilises spring water pumped to the reservoirs. The water is passed into supply without treatment, and is sufficient for present demands. The scheme supplies 157 dwellings by service, and 11 dwellings are supplied by standpipes.

The power for the pump is furnished by a water wheel with a diesel set as a reserve. Flooding of the river is liable to interfere with this supply. An improvement scheme has been given Ministerial approval, but work has not yet commenced. The work consists of laying 395 yards of 3" main and 414 yards of 2" main in place of existing $\frac{3}{4}$ " and $\frac{1}{2}$ " mains

Llancloudy Supply.

This is a separate scheme serving the Llancloudy area of Llangarron parish. Spring water is collected and piped to 21 dwellings. There is one standpipe on this supply. Chlorination treatment is provided.

Harewood End Supply.

This small water scheme was purchased by the Council in 1944. The original works had a shallow well and pump driven by water wheel and auxiliary engine. To meet increased demand an improvement scheme was carried out during the year. A new lined borehole was constructed, 6" diameter to a depth of 180 feet, and a submerged electric pump provided. The original features of the scheme are retained for emergency use. This scheme supplies 30 dwellings.

All public schemes of the Council give supply to 342 dwellings, or 10% of the inhabited houses. The number of dwellings supplied by the Ross Water Undertaking is 305 or 8.6% of the inhabited houses.

In addition to the piped supplies provided by the Statutory Undertakers and the Local Authority, there are small piped schemes in the ownership of private individuals. These private mains give supplies in the parishes of Bridstow, Brockhampton, Foy, Ganarew, Goodrich, Hentland, Hope Mansel, How Caple, Lea, Marstow, Pencoyd, Weston, Upton Bishop, Whitchurch, Walford, St. Weonards and Welsh Newton. These schemes utilise water from a variety of sources. The number of dwellings supplied in each case varies from 2 to 73 in the largest. The total dwellings supplied from these private mains is estimated to be 463.

During the year a new scheme was carried out to supply the Coughton Housing Site at Walford. This involved sinking a 6" lined borehole 100 feet deep and fitting a submerged electric pump, to pump to an elevated reservoir with a capacity of 3,332 gallons. The scheme is to supply 42 new Council houses.

The remaining dwellings are supplied from wells, and a number depend upon the collection of rainwater. The wells are usually of the shallow type and many cannot be regarded as satisfactory sources of potable water.

During the year, Ministerial consent was given to the Council's Comprehensive Water Scheme, and it is hoped that work on the first stage of the scheme will be commenced during the present year.

Consent was also obtained to the St. Weonards and Llanwarne interim water scheme, and it may be possible to commence work on this scheme shortly.

The very large number of separate sources of supply renders control of potable water difficult. The number of samples submitted for bacteriological examination was 56, and the number of samples submitted for chemical examination was 2. Of these samples submitted for examination, 20 showed the water not to be of potable quality.

Regular inspections and proper maintenance of Local Authority schemes were carried out during the year. No instance of any drinking water having a significant solvent action upon metals was found during the year.

Drainage and Sewerage.

There are now three lengths of public sewer within the District, in Upton Bishop, in Goodrich and at Hildersley. No extensions of public or private sewers were made during the year. The sewage disposal works for Goodrich sewer now appear to be working more satisfactorily.

A sewage disposal works was constructed in connection with the site for new Council houses at Coughton, in Walford parish. This will treat the effluent from 42 dwellings.

During the year the Sanitary Inspectors made 135 drain tests. The number of new drains provided in connection with dwelling houses was 78, and 16 new drains were provided for other premises. The number of existing drains found to be defective and reconstructed or repaired was 19. It was found necessary to make 178 inspections in connection with drainage.

The Council does not undertake the emptying and cleansing of cesspools and septic tanks other than those on the Council's own property.

Rivers and Streams.

The River Wye divides the District into eastern and western parts, these being approximately equal in area. The River Garron runs through the western part, receiving its tributary the Gamber at Llangarron, and finally joins the Wye at Goodrich. These rivers and streams are clean and no action by the Department or by the Council to prevent or abate river pollution was necessary during the year. The deposit of refuse in water courses has ceased since the introduction of a regular refuse collection by the Council.

Closet Accommodation.

The commonest type of closet in use in the District is the pail closet, and it is estimated that 65% of the inhabitants use this type. A further estimated 10% are still obliged to use privies and it is considered that the remaining 25% have the use of water closets. The reason for the continued wide use of conservancy systems is chiefly the lack of piped water supplies.

During the year 10 privies and 22 pail closets were converted to water closets. In addition, 12 privies were converted to pail closets. Fairly satisfactory progress continued to be made in the provision of closet accommodation. Apart from conversions, 39 new water closets were provided.

The Council does not undertake the emptying and cleansing of privies and pail closets other than those on the Council's property. No public conveniences are provided by the Council, but need of provision in the Whitchurch area exists. This parish has a significant influx of day visitors during the holiday season.

Public Cleansing.

Throughout the year, a collection of domestic refuse was made in all parts of the District by the Rural District Council. The collection is carried out by a motor collection vehicle, provided with adjustable covers. With a single vehicle it has not been found possible to make a collection more frequently than once a month from all accessible dwelling houses.

The domestic refuse is tipped on two sites, one situated at Deep Dean, Walford parish, and the other at Tre-essey in Llangarron parish. The use of two tips reduces mileage. During the year, the vehicle with its crew of two men travelled 10,200 miles, conveying 484 loads. The average mileage per load is 21 miles. These figures show a reduction on the corresponding figures of the previous year owing to the vehicle being out of service for overhaul. The domestic refuse collected has a low organic content, being chiefly composed of tins, bottles and other incombustible articles. The risk of spontaneous combustion on the tips is, therefore, low, but nevertheless the Deep Dean tip was burning at one time during the year.

The Council has no duties in connection with street cleaning, and there are no public baths or washhouses within the area.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no swimming baths or pools open to the public within the District.

Shops and Offices.

The number of shops and offices within the District is very small, and no action was taken under the Public Health Act, 1936, in connection with shops. The number of inspections of shops was 12.

Camping Sites.

The number of licensed camping sites in the area during the year was 14. It is estimated that the maximum number of campers resident in the area at any one time was 75. All sites were inspected during the season, 18 inspections being made, and attention was given to water supply, refuse disposal and closet accommodation.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No dwellings were found to be infested with bed-bugs, and disinfection was not required.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are no common lodging houses within the Rural District.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

I am indebted to Mr. G.E. Hardy, Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor, for the following tabular statement for the year 1952, furnished in accordance with Article 27 (sub-section 18) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

Inspections.

Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	25
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	20
Camping Sites	...	...	...	...	...	18
Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	29
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	16
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	178
Drain Tests	...	...	...	...	...	135
Factories (without mechanical power).	...	...	...	...	...	48
Factories (with mechanical power)	...	...	...	...	...	45
Food Handling Byelaws....	...	...	...	...	...	57
Houses (Consolidated Regulations 1925)	...	...	...	...	...	215
Housing (Other)	...	...	...	...	...	594
Hotel and Restaurant Kitchens..	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ice Cream (Registered Premises)	...	...	...	...	...	42
Infectious Disease	...	...	...	...	...	11
Diseases of Animals Act (Anthrax Order 1938).	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rats and Mice.	...	...	...	...	...	433
Schools.	...	...	...	...	...	16
Sewers (Private)...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Shops.	...	...	...	...	...	12
Unsound Food.	...	...	...	...	...	40
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	216

Notices Issued.

Informal.	...	...	...	...	...	47
Statutory re housing	...	...	...	...	...	8
Statutory under other Acts	...	...	...	...	...	1

Summary of Defects Remedied.

Accumulations removed.	17
Cesspools and septic tanks cleansed ...	92
Drains and Gullies cleared.	23
Drains repaired.	9
Drains reconstructed.	18
New drains provided.	94
Defective floors repaired... ..	27
Defective roofs repaired	49
Defective eaves gutters repaired..	37
Defective brickwork repaired.	29
Defective Coppers remedied.	4
Disinfections after Infectious Disease.	11
Defective windows repaired.	23
Defective chimneys repaired.	14
Dampness of Walls and Floors remedied.	26
Cisterns cleansed or repaired.	4
Closets repaired.	10
Inspection chambers repaired.	2
Privies converted to Water Closets.	10
Rainwater pipes provided or repaired....	41
Staircases repaired.	16
New Sinks provided.	48
Soil pipes repaired.	12
Sanitary Fittings provided..	53
Stoves repaired.	34
Ventilation improved.	11
Wells cleansed or repaired..	19
Water Supplies provided.	17
Miscellaneous Defects remedied....	149

Factories Acts 1937 and 1948.

There are 43 factories within the area registered with the Local Authority, 21 of these being factories with mechanical power. Altogether 93 inspections were made. One building erected for agricultural purposes was found to be used as a factory. As all provisions of the Act were not fulfilled, production ceased until a new building is provided.

Factory Form 572 (revised).

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the year 1952, for the Rural District of Ross and Whitchurch in the County of Hereford.

Part I of Act.

1. Inspections made for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	Number on Register.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities.	22	48	Nil	Nil
Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	21	45	Nil	Nil
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	43	93	Nil	Nil

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Sanitary Conveniences (a) Unsuitable or defective	1	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	1	1	-	-	-
Total	2	1	-	-	-

There are no outworkers on the Register.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The Council employs a part time Pests Control Officer in conjunction with the Hereford Rural and Ledbury Rural District Councils.

(a) Infestations.

	Total.	Notified by Occupier.	Otherwise discovered.	Rats		Mice.
				Major	Minor.	
Local Authority's Properties.	6	-	6	-	6	-
Dwelling Houses.	10	2	8	-	10	-
Business Premises.	7	-	7	-	7	-
Agricultural Properties.	86	-	86	10	76	-
Total	109	2	107	10	99	-

(b) Measures of Control.

	Property inspected.	No. of inspections.	Informal Notice served.	Notices served under Section 4.	Treatment carried out.
L.A. Properties.	8	15	-	-	4
Dwelling Houses.	68	70	-	-	-
Business Premises.	19	25	-	-	-
Agricultural Properties.	278	313	7	-	-
Total	373	423	7	-	4

SECTION D - HOUSING

Progress in the erection of new dwellings by the Local Authority continued to be fairly satisfactory, as 29 new houses were completed and occupied, whilst a further 52 houses were under construction, but incomplete at the end of the year.

The completed dwellings were situated at Brampton Abbots (8), Bridstow (2), Brockhampton (2), Garway (1), Lea (2) and Walford (14). These houses brought the total number of dwellings provided by the Council to 202, located according to parish as shown in the following table:-

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Occupied.</u>	<u>Under Construction.</u>
Brampton Abbots.	14	-
Bridstow.	30	-
Brockhampton.	14	-
Garway.	12	-
Hentland.	8	-
How Caple.	4	-
Kings Caple.	8	-
Lea.	16	24
Linton.	6	-
Llangarron.	26	-
Marstow.	8	-
Peterstow.	3	-
Ross Rural.	2	-
Upton Bishop.	4	-
Walford.	24	28
Welsh Newton.	1	-
Weston-under-Penyard.	4	-
Whitchurch.	14	-
Yatton.	4	-
	<u>202</u>	<u>52</u>

As there were 3515 occupied dwellings within the Rural District at the end of the year, the proportion owned by the Council is 5.8%

Planning approval has been given for the following sites for Council houses:- Weston-under-Penyard (28 houses), Llanwarne (12 houses), St. Owen's Cross (16 houses), Bridstow (12 houses) and Goodrich (36 houses).

In addition to dwellings completed by the Council, private persons completed 10 dwellings, whilst 13 houses were under construction but incomplete at the end of the year. The following table shows the location of these according to parish.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Occupied.</u>	<u>Under Construction.</u>
Aston Ingham.	1	-
Brampton Abbots.	1	-
Bridstow.	-	1
Llandinabo.	-	4
Marstow.	-	2
Ross Rural.	1	-
St. Weonards.	1	-
Walford.	1	2
Hentland.	-	2
Goodrich	-	1
Llangarron.	2	-
Peterstow.	3	-
Upton Bishop.	-	1
	<u>10</u>	<u>13</u>

Overcrowding.

Overcrowding is almost absent within the Rural District and showed little change. At the beginning of the year two houses were known to be overcrowded and three cases were found during the year. Two cases were relieved during the year, and at the end of the year three overcrowded dwellings were known to the department.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	...	517
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the above purpose.	...	594
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head 1a above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932.	...	215
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the above purpose.	...	288
3.		Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	...	10
4.		Number of dwelling houses exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	...	166

Remedy of Defects during the Year without service of Formal Notices.

	Number of defective dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.	...	78
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Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

1.		Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
	(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	...	4
	(b)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-		
		(i) By Owners.	...	4
		(ii) By Local Authority in default of Owners.	...	Nil
2.		Proceedings under Public Health Acts.		
	(a)	Number of dwellings in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	...	Nil
	(b)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:		
		(i) By Owners.	...	Nil
		(ii) By Local Authority in default of Owners.	...	Nil

3. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- (a) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. ... Nil
- (b) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. ... Nil
4. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- (a) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. ... Nil
- (b) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. ... Nil

Housing Act 1936 - Part IV - Overcrowding.

- (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year. ... 3
- (b) Number of families dwelling therein. ... 3
- (c) Number of persons dwelling therein. ... 34
- (d) Number of cases of overcrowding reported during the year. ... 3
- (e) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year. ... 2
- (f) Number of persons concerned in (e) above. ... 18

Proceedings under the Housing Act, 1949.

No action was taken under this Act during the year.

Housing Survey.

Analysis of Inspections carried out during period 1.1.52. - 31.12.52.

Parish.	Classification.				Total Inspected.	Remarks.
	1.	2.	3/4.	5.		
Llanrothal.	1	8	22	3	34	} Inspection of these parishes completed.
Upton Bishop.	11	5	18	1	35	
Yatton	2	3	20	2	27	
Garway.	24	23	39	2	88	} Inspections not yet completed.
St. Weonards.	1	2	26	2	31	
Totals	39	41	125	10	215	
Add total inspections in 1945/51	197	489	1555	266	2507	
Grand Total.	236	530	1680	276	2722	

Classifications:

- Group 1. Houses fit in all respects for habitation.
- " 2. Houses requiring minor repairs and/or alterations.
- " 3.) Houses requiring major repairs and/or alterations.
- " 4.) alterations.
- " 5. Houses scheduled for demolition.

The Housing Survey has now been completed in all Parishes except Garway and St. Weonards.

SECTION E - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk.

The number of milk distributors registered with the Council at the end of the year was eight. The number of dairy inspections made was 16.

Four samples of milk were sent for biological examination for tuberculosis. The tuberculosis bacillus was absent in all samples submitted. One sample of milk was submitted for bacteriological examination for pathogenic organisms and was found to be satisfactory. In addition, 36 samples of ungraded milk were sent for methylene blue test. Of these, 12 samples failed to conform to the test. These samples were obtained from four separate sources, seven originating from one source.

There are no pasteurising plants or milk sterilising plants within the area. One supplementary licence for the sale of pasteurised milk and three supplementary licences for the sale of tuberculin tested milk, were issued by the Council during the year.

There was no evidence at any time during the year that milk consumed in the area had caused any acute disease in man.

Ice Cream.

The number of premises registered with the Local Authority for the manufacture of ice cream was 2, and the number registered for storage and sale increased from 11 to 14 during the year. The number of inspections made of registered premises was 42. Conditions were satisfactory and no action was required to be taken by the Department.

The number of samples of this food submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination at various times during the season was 30, and 13 of these were classified as falling within provisional grade 1, and 13 within provisional grade 2, one sample was provisional grade 3, and in three instances the test was invalid. This is fairly satisfactory, but shows no improvement on the results of the previous year. There was no reason to suspect this food of causing acute disease in the population.

Water Cress.

This food grows under natural conditions in a number of places in the District. There are no commercial beds within the area and the sale of water cress during the year is very small. No action was required by the Department regarding this food and no illness was attributed to the consumption of infected water cress.

Shell Fish.

No action by the Department was necessary in connection with shell fish. The sale of shell fish appears to be very small. No action by the Department was necessary and no case of illness was attributed to consumption of this food.

Meat.

There are no slaughterhouses in operation within the area, as these have remained closed since the early war period. All meat is obtained by traders from the Regional Abattoirs of the Ministry of Food.

During the year, the Council issued 9 licences to slaughtermen under Section 3 of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Carcases inspected and condemned

	Cattle excluding Cows.			Sheep and Lambs.		Pigs.
	Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Lambs.		
Number killed (if known).	-	-	-	-	-	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis.						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	-	-	-	-	-	-

Unsound Food.

<u>Quantity.</u>	<u>Food.</u>	<u>Cause of unsoundness.</u>
4 tins x 14½ oz.	Tomatoes.	Decomposition & blown tins.
1 tin x 16 oz.	Pineapple	Blown tin.
1 tin x 13 oz.	Plums	" "
2 tins x 14 oz.	Cherries	" tins.
1 tin x 15½ oz.	Beef Soup.	" tin.
28 lbs.	Cheese.	Maggots and decomposition.
8½ lbs.	Bacon	Mould and decomposition.
8 x 2 lb. cans	Plums.	Blown tins.
1 tin x 12 oz.	Luncheon Meat.	" tin.
15 tins x 7 oz.	" "	" tins.
5 tins x 3 lb. 3 oz.	Cooked Pork.	" "

Byelaws as to the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food, and Sale of Food in Open Air.

There are no markets held within the Rural District, and the sale of food from stalls is very limited. Since the adoption of the Byelaws more attention has been given to vendors' delivery vans and vehicles. During the year 57 inspections were made under the Byelaws.

One factory is registered with the Local Authority for the manufacture of preserved food.

Food Poisoning.

Only one suspected food poisoning notification was received during the year. Whilst the symptoms and onset were suggestive, no confirmation could be obtained bacteriologically. It was possible that the symptoms were caused by the drinking water, which had temporarily been contaminated by some toxic substance.

SECTION F - PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE

The incidence of acute notifiable disease in the population of the Rural District was low - only 52 notifications were received against 128 notifications in the previous year. The District was free from dysentery apart from a single case, and diphtheria, erysipelas, enteric fevers and meningococcal infection did not occur. The incidence of measles, whooping cough and pneumonia was low.

The first and third quarters of the year showed a higher incidence of infectious disease than the second and final quarters.

Confirmed Cases of Infectious Disease
in each Quarter.

Disease.	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Year.
Dysentery.	1	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever.	1	-	1	8	10
Measles.	7	4	11	-	22
Pneumonia.	4	2	1	-	7
Whooping Cough.	8	-	1	-	9
Poliomyelitis (non-paralytic).	-	-	1	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	2	-	2
All Diseases.	21	6	17	8	52

Anthrax Order 1938.

One notification of anthrax occurring in a pig was received. This was a confirmed case, but no case of the disease occurred in man.

Scarlet Fever.

The total number of cases of this disease notified was 10, and of these 8 occurred in the final quarter. Only four of these cases were connected - three patients lived in the same house whilst another case occurred in a neighbouring dwelling

Measles.

This was the most prevalent infectious disease to occur. One half of the cases occurred in the third quarter; there were no cases in the final quarter.

Other Diseases.

The incidence of whooping cough and pneumonia was insignificant. Only one case of acute poliomyelitis was notified. This occurred in the third quarter of the year and was non-paralytic.

Analysis of notified cases according to certain
Age Groups.

Disease	0+	1+	3+	5+	10+	15+	20+	35+	45+	65+	Age N.K.
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	2	5	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
Dysentery.	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles.	-	1	5	13	1	-	-	1	-	1	-
Pneumonia.	-	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	1	1	-
Whooping Cough.	2	1	1	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis (non-paralytic)	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
All Diseases	2	3	10	23	6	-	2	2	1	2	1

Tuberculosis.

At the beginning of the year there were 86 cases of tuberculosis on the register (59 pulmonary and 27 non-pulmonary). During the year 13 cases were added (12 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary), of these 7 were new cases of respiratory disease and 1 new case of non-respiratory disease. The number of cases removed from the register during the year was 12 (11 pulmonary and 1 non-pulmonary). At the end of the year therefore 88 cases remained on the register (60 pulmonary and 28 non-pulmonary cases). There was one male death attributed to pulmonary disease, giving a corrected death rate from tuberculosis of 0.07 per 1000 population. Two pulmonary cases and one case of non-pulmonary disease were regarded as having recovered.

New Cases and Mortality during 1952.

Age Groups.	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5+	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
15+	2	3	-	1	-	-	-	-
25+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55+	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	2	5	-	1	1	-	-	-

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