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**Contributors**

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# Annual Report

of the

**Medical Officer of Health**

FOR THE YEAR 1950




Report on the  
**WATER SUPPLIES**  
FOR THE YEAR 1950

Report of the  
**CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR**  
FOR THE YEAR 1950

Report of the  
**SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER**  
FOR THE YEAR 1950

Report on the  
**SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICES**  
FOR THE YEAR 1950

Copy of Report of the  
**AREA MEDICAL OFFICER**  
FOR THE YEAR 1950



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**BOROUGH OF SWINDON**  
**COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE AND STAFF**  
**as at 31st December, 1950**

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**HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE**

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (Alderman James Bond, J.P.)			
Alderman	A. M. BENNETT	Councillor	Mrs. L. R. LOCK
"	H. W. GARDNER	"	Mrs. M. LOWE
"	G. H. SELMAN	"	Mrs. P. M. MacPHERSON
	(Chairman)	"	Miss E. C. MILLIN
Councillor	W. T. G. BENNELL	"	L. J. NEWMAN
"	F. E. BISHOP	"	Mrs. E. M. SIMPKINS
"	A. CHAPPELL	"	Mrs. H. M. TOMKINS
"	W. J. DAVIS	"	N. V. TOZE
	(Vice-Chairman)	"	M. WEBB
"	T. J. GAY		
"	R. S. J. HONEY		
"	R. A. JONES		

**TOWN CLERK**

D. MURRAY JOHN, Esq., O.B.E., B.A.

**PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF**

**31st December, 1950**

Medical Officer of Health	-	JAMES URQUHART, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	-	A. H. GRIFFITH, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.
Assist. Medical Officer of Health	-	S. B. S. SMITH, L.M.S.S.A., D.T.M. & H.
Senior Sanitary Inspector	-	H. A. BANWELL
Senior Additional Sanitary Inspector	-	R. A. LAW
Additional Sanitary Inspectors	-	P. M. DALE
		R. E. MOORE
		A. E. WARMINGER
		H. WHEELER
Dental Surgeons	-	W. KENYON BERRIE, L.D.S., R.F.P.S.G.
		S. BARNETT, L.D.S.
Consulting Speech Therapist		Miss G. A. JANSSON, Associate of The British Society of Speech Therapists.
Senior Health Visitor and School Nurse	-	Miss G. K. WHITEWAY



Health Visitors and School Nurses - -			Mrs. B. E. BELL
			Mrs. E. A. BUTT
			Mrs. L. M. DAY
			Miss A. HAWKINS
			Miss W. PARKINS
			Miss C. J. THORN
			Mrs. J. D. WALL
Social Welfare Worker -	-		Miss A. J. ORR
Domiciliary Midwives -			Mrs. V. K. D. ARNOLD
			Mrs. J. BROOKS
			Mrs. M. DUTTON
			Miss A. MacDONALD
			Miss M. McHUGH
			Mrs. H. M. MORTIMORE
			Miss N. NEAL
Matron, Broad Street Nursery			Mrs. H. V. T. WILLIAMS—LEWIS, S.R.N.
Matron, Pinehurst Nursery -			Mrs. A. DAVIES, S.R.N.
Chief Clerk -	-		Mr. J. W. DAY
Senior Clerks -	-		Miss G. L. NORRIS
			Miss L. M. RAWLINGS
Assistant Clerks -	-		Mr. G. BOWMAN
			Mr. F. C. MOSS
			Mr. W. H. PAUL
			Mr. T. C. POPE
			Miss E. H. BARNES
			Miss W. E. COUSINS
			Mrs. E. E. C. FURLEY
			Miss J. MORSE
			Mrs. E. M. ROBINSON
			Mrs. M. E. SHARPE
			Mr. P. A. HOLMES—(H.M. Forces)
Dental Attendants -	-		Miss M. MILLS
			Mrs. C. J. DOBSON
Needlework Demonstrator -			Mrs. A. M. STAGG
Disinfectors -	-		Mr. A. C. MOLE

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
of the  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (1950).**

**To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the  
Borough of Swindon**

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the work of the Health Department for the Year 1950.

The Report has been prepared on the lines suggested by the Ministry of Health Circular 170/47.

Dr. Thomas Ross resigned his appointment as Borough Medical Officer of Health on his being appointed to a similar position in Walsall on May 15th, 1950. From this date until October 1st when I took up duty, Dr. A. H. Griffith, Temporary Deputy Medical Officer of Health acted as Medical Officer of Health. It is therefore, with some diffidence that I present the report covering the whole year's work while I have only had personal knowledge of it during the last quarter.

The report does, however, show that the work of the department was well maintained in spite of staffing difficulties and due credit for this must go to Dr. Griffith and his medical and nursing colleagues and to Mr. John Day, the Chief Clerk and the members of the clerical staff.

This report deals with the work carried out by the Health Department in connection with its functions in a non-County Borough. I thought, however, that it would be of interest to you to append for your information a copy of my report to the Wiltshire County Council as Area Medical Officer for the Borough of Swindon. I am indebted to Dr. J. Burman Lowe, Medical Officer of Health to the Wiltshire County Council for his permission to do this.

In previous years it has been the practice for the Medical Officer of Health to comment on the various sections of the report in the preamble. This year I have made these comments under the various headings of the report.

I trust that the graphs and histograms that I have included in this report will demonstrate to you more clearly and dramatically the statistical data which they represent.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

**JAMES URQUHART**

Medical Officer of Health.

**CIVIC OFFICES,  
SWINDON.**



### EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS 1950.

Area of the Borough, (acres) -	-	-	-	6,062
Estimated total population mid year 1950	-	-	-	68,790
Live Births—Legitimate	-	-	-	993
Illegitimate	-	-	-	48
Total	-	-	-	1,041
Birth rate per 1000 population	-	-	-	15.1
Stillbirths	-	-	-	31
Stillbirth rate per 1000 total births	-	-	-	28.9
Deaths at all ages—Males	-	-	-	422
Females	-	-	-	419
Total	-	-	-	841
Death Rate per 1000 population	-	-	-	12.2
Deaths from Cancer	-	-	-	135
Deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis	-	-	-	31
Deaths from vascular and heart diseases	-	-	-	437
Deaths of Infants under the age of 1 year	-	-	-	25
Deaths from all other causes	-	-	-	213

### GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The population of the Borough of Swindon in 1901 was 50,771. At the 1931 census it was 62,401. The 1950 mid-year estimated population of Swindon was 68,790 which is 400 greater than the corresponding 1949 mid-year estimation of 68,390.

### BIRTHS AND BIRTH RATES

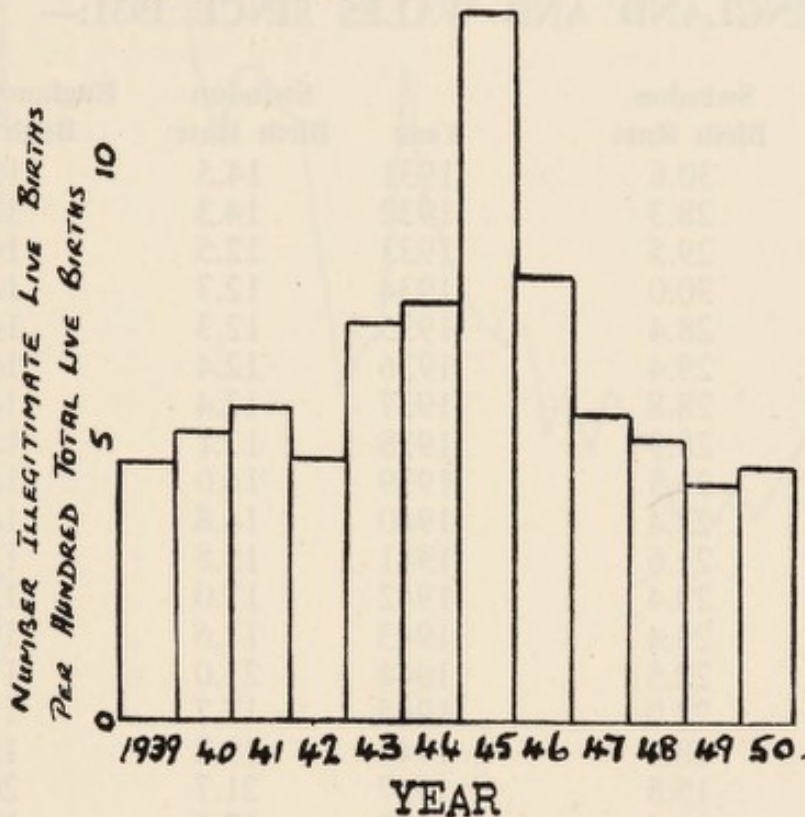
During the immediate post war years the number of births was unusually high in Swindon as in the rest of England and Wales. It fell during 1948 and 1949, and by 1950 the birth rate was comparable with the pre-war figures.

The following tables gives the number of legitimate and illegitimate live births in Swindon during 1949 and 1950.

		1949			1950		
		Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	-	547	522	1069	514	479	993
Illegitimate	-	26	22	48	15	33	48
Totals	-	573	544	1117	529	512	1041

The illegitimate births formed 4.6% of the total live births in Swindon during 1950 and 4.3% during 1949.

*HISTOGRAM SHOWING SWINDON  
ILLEGITIMATE BIRTH RATES  
SINCE 1939.*



The Swindon birth rate per 1000 population was 15.1 during 1950 as compared with 16.3 during 1949. The birth rates for Swindon and England and Wales for the last 5 years are given in the following table:—

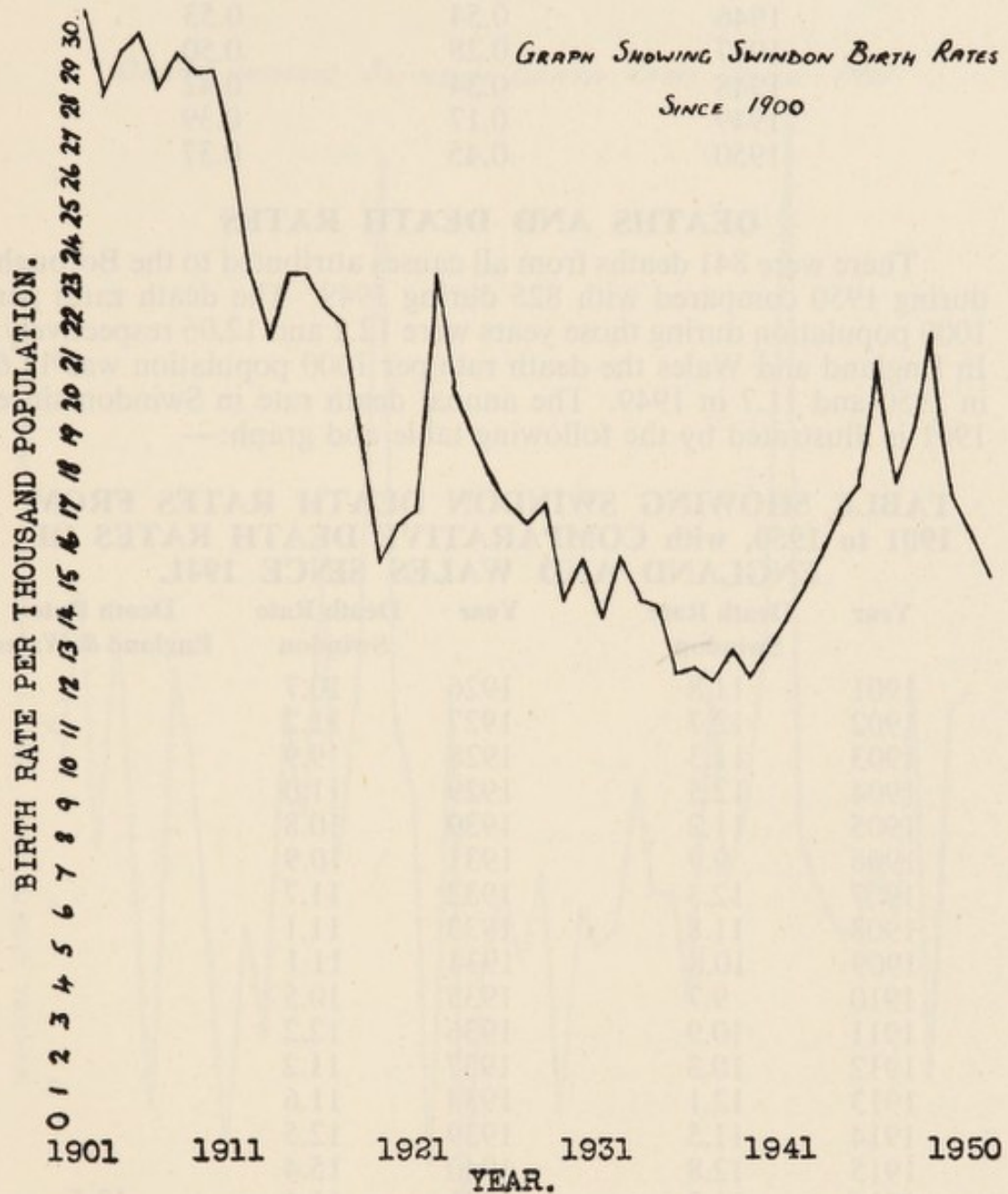
Year	Birth Rate per 1000 population	
	Swindon	England & Wales
1946	19.2	19.1
1947	21.7	20.5
1948	17.7	17.9
1949	16.3	16.7
1950	15.1	15.8



The trend in birth rates in Swindon since 1901 is illustrated by the following table and graph:—

**TABLE SHOWING SWINDON BIRTH RATES FROM 1901 to 1950, with COMPARATIVE BIRTH RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES SINCE 1931:—**

Year	Swindon Birth Rate	Year	Swindon Birth Rate	England & Wales Birth Rate
1901	30.6	1931	14.5	15.8
1902	28.3	1932	14.3	15.3
1903	29.5	1933	12.5	14.4
1904	30.0	1934	12.7	14.8
1905	28.4	1935	12.3	14.7
1906	29.4	1936	12.4	14.8
1907	28.8	1937	12.4	14.9
1908	28.9	1938	13.1	15.1
1909	26.5	1939	14.0	15.0
1910	23.4	1940	14.8	14.6
1911	21.6	1941	15.8	13.9
1912	23.4	1942	17.0	15.6
1913	23.4	1943	17.6	16.2
1914	22.5	1944	21.0	17.7
1915	22.0	1945	17.7	15.9
1916	18.9	1946	19.2	19.2
1917	15.5	1947	21.7	20.5
1918	16.5	1948	17.6	17.9
1919	16.9	1949	16.3	16.7
1920	23.3	1950	15.1	15.8
1921	20.3			
1922	19.0			
1923	17.8			
1924	17.1			
1925	16.6			
1926	17.1			
1927	14.5			
1928	15.6			
1929	14.0			
1930	15.7			



Stillbirths numbered 31 in Swindon during 1950 compared with 12 during 1949. They were made up as follows:—

Stillbirths	1950			1949		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	- 21	9	30	7	4	11
Illegitimate	- 1	—	1	—	1	1
Total	- 22	9	31	7	5	12



The stillbirth rates per 1000 population for the last five years in Swindon and in England and Wales are:—

Year	Stillbirth rate per 1000 population	
	Swindon	England & Wales
1946	0.54	0.53
1947	0.28	0.50
1948	0.34	0.42
1949	0.17	0.39
1950	0.45	0.37

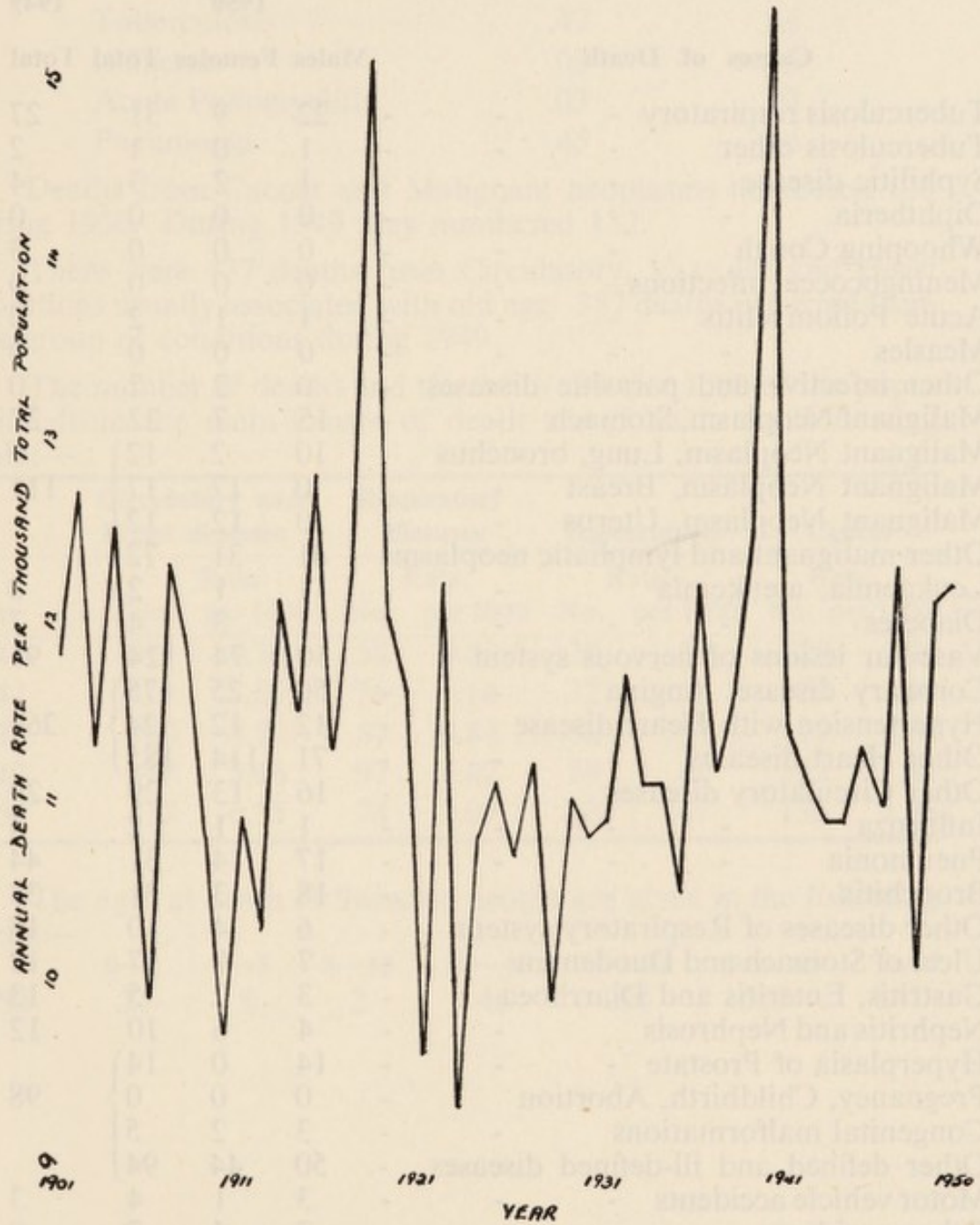
### DEATHS AND DEATH RATES

There were 841 deaths from all causes attributed to the Borough during 1950 compared with 825 during 1949. The death rates per 1000 population during those years were 12.2 and 12.06 respectively. In England and Wales the death rate per 1000 population was 11.6 in 1950 and 11.7 in 1949. The annual death rate in Swindon since 1901 is illustrated by the following table and graph:—

**TABLE SHOWING SWINDON DEATH RATES FROM 1901 to 1950, with COMPARATIVE DEATH RATES OF ENGLAND AND WALES SINCE 1941.**

Year	Death Rate Swindon	Year	Death Rate Swindon	Death Rate England & Wales
1901	11.8	1926	10.7	
1902	12.7	1927	11.2	
1903	11.3	1928	9.9	
1904	12.5	1929	11.0	
1905	11.2	1930	10.8	
1906	9.9	1931	10.9	
1907	12.3	1932	11.7	
1908	11.8	1933	11.1	
1909	10.8	1934	11.1	
1910	9.7	1935	10.5	
1911	10.9	1936	12.2	
1912	10.3	1937	11.2	
1913	12.1	1938	11.6	
1914	11.5	1939	12.5	
1915	12.8	1940	15.4	
1916	11.3	1941	11.4	13.5
1917	12.3	1942	11.1	12.3
1918	15.1	1943	10.9	13.0
1919	12.0	1944	10.9	12.7
1920	11.6	1945	11.3	12.6
1921	9.6	1946	11.0	12.0
1922	12.2	1947	12.3	12.0
1923	9.3	1948	10.1	10.8
1924	10.8	1949	12.0	11.7
1925	11.1	1950	12.2	11.6

GRAPH SHOWING SWINDON DEATH RATES SINCE 1901





# AN ANALYSIS OF THE CAUSES OF DEATH IN SWINDON During 1950 and 1949

Causes of Death	1950			1949	
	Males	Females	Total	Total	
Tuberculosis respiratory - - -	22	9	31	27	
Tuberculosis other - - -	1	0	1	2	
Syphilitic disease - - -	1	2	3	4	
Diphtheria - - -	0	0	0	0	
Whooping Cough - - -	0	0	0	3	
Meningococcal infections - - -	0	0	0	0	
Acute Poliomyelitis - - -	1	1	2	0	
Measles - - -	0	0	0	0	
Other infective and parasitic diseases - - -	0	2	2	0	
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach - - -	15	7	22	27	
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, bronchus - - -	10	2	12	111	
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast - - -	0	17	17		
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus - - -	0	12	12		
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms - - -	41	31	72		
Leukaemia, aleukemia - - -	1	1	2	0	
Diabetes - - -	1	3	4	7	
Vascular lesions of nervous system - - -	50	74	124	91	
Coronary disease, Angina - - -	50	25	75	266	
Hypertension with Heart disease - - -	12	12	24		
Other Heart diseases - - -	71	114	185		
Other Circulatory diseases - - -	16	13	29	29	
Influenza - - -	1	1	2	5	
Pneumonia - - -	17	14	31	44	
Bronchitis - - -	18	13	31	38	
Other diseases of Respiratory system - - -	6	4	10	15	
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum - - -	7	0	7	12	
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea - - -	3	2	5	13	
Nephritis and Nephrosis - - -	4	6	10	12	
Hyperplasia of Prostate - - -	14	0	14	98	
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion - - -	0	0	0		
Congenital malformations - - -	3	2	5		
Other defined and ill-defined diseases - - -	50	44	94		
Motor vehicle accidents - - -	3	1	4	3	
Other accidents - - -	3	4	7	9	
Suicide - - -	1	3	4	9	
Homicide and Operations of War - - -	0	0	0	0	
TOTALS	422	419	841	825	

The following table gives the death rates per thousand population from various causes, in Swindon and in England and Wales during 1950:—

Cause of Death	Death rate per 1000 population	
	Swindon	England & Wales
All causes	12.2	11.6
Tuberculosis	.47	.36
Influenza	.03	.10
Acute Poliomyelitis	.03	.02
Pneumonia	.45	.46

Deaths from Cancer and Malignant neoplasms numbered 135 during 1950. During 1949 they numbered 132.

There were 437 deaths from Circulatory, Vascular and Heart conditions usually associated with old age. 387 deaths occurred from this group of conditions during 1949.

The number of deaths and the death rate per 1000 of the population from the main causes of death are given in the following table:—

Year	Circulatory and Heart diseases		Respiratory diseases		Tuberculosis		Cancer	
	No.	Rate per 1000	No.	Rate per 1000	No.	Rate per 1000	No.	Rate per 1000
1946	311	4.70	59	0.89	26	.39	128	1.94
1947	389	5.85	76	1.14	32	.48	120	1.8
1948	320	4.73	57	0.84	36	.53	111	1.64
1949	387	5.66	97	1.42	29	.42	132	1.91
1950	437	6.35	74	1.07	32	.47	135	1.96

The ages at death of Swindon people are given in the following table:—

	0—1	1—5	5—15	15—45	45—65	Over 65	Total
1950	25	8	2	46	201	559	841



### MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no deaths attributable to pregnancy in Swindon during 1950 and 2 during 1949.

The maternal mortality rate per 1000 total births for Swindon and England and Wales since 1946 are shown in the following table:—

Year	Maternal deaths in Swindon	Rate per 1000	Rate per 1000
		Total Births Swindon	Total Births England & Wales
1946	2	1.53	1.43
1947	1	0.68	1.17
1948	2	1.64	1.02
1949	2	1.77	0.98
1950	0	0	0.86

### INFANT MORTALITY

25 Infants under the age of one year died in Swindon during 1950 giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 24.0 per 1000 live births. The corresponding number and rate for Swindon during 1949 was 23 and 20.6.

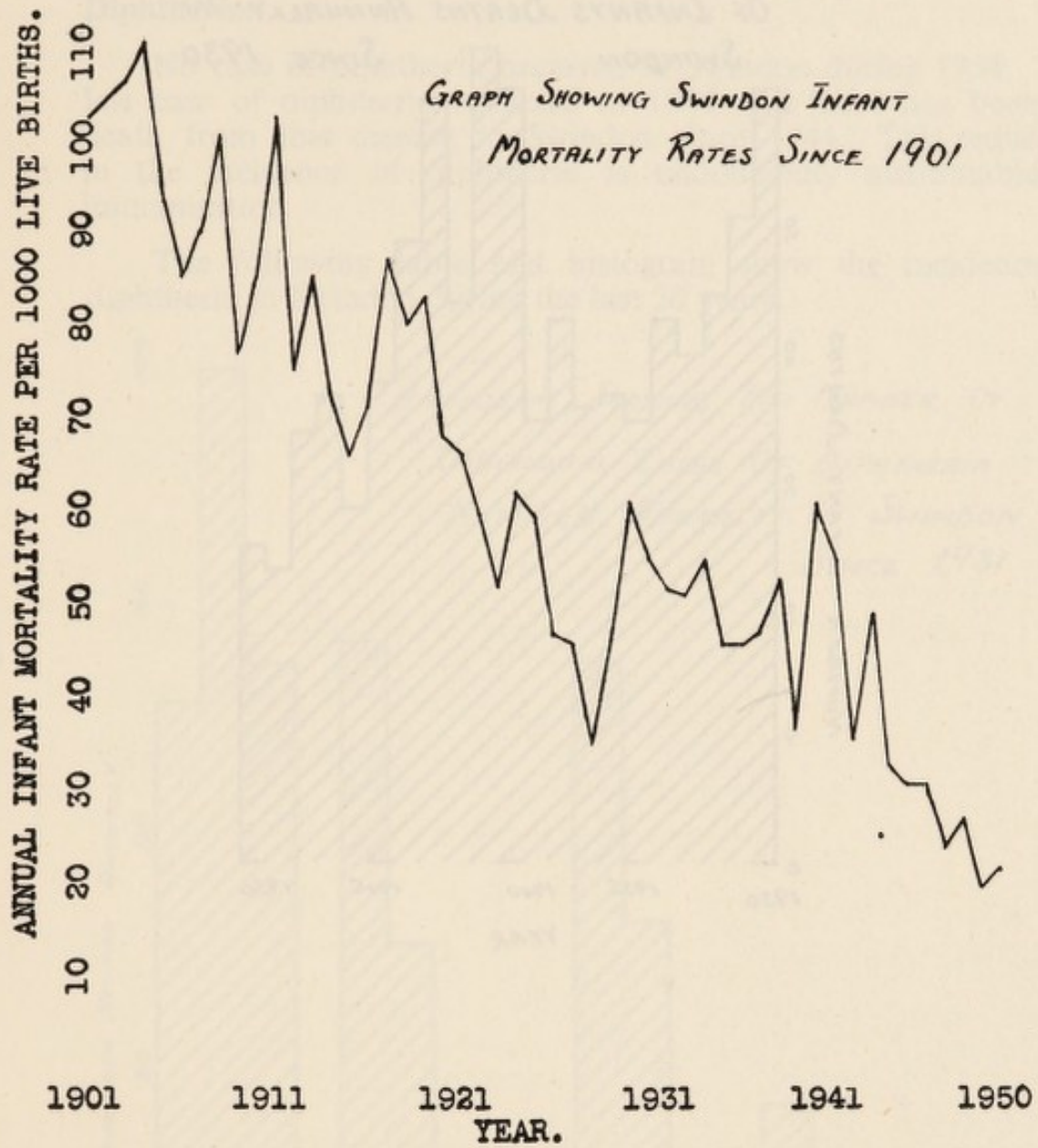
The causes of deaths in infants under one year of age during 1950 and 1949 were:—

	1950	1949
Bronchitis, Pneumonia and other respiratory diseases	9	11
Diarrhoea, Enteritis and other intestinal disorders -	—	3
Congenital defects, Malformations and Prematurity -	13	9
Other causes - - - - -	3	—
	—	—
TOTALS	25	23
	—	—

The table below gives figures of Infant Mortality during the last five years for Swindon and England and Wales:—

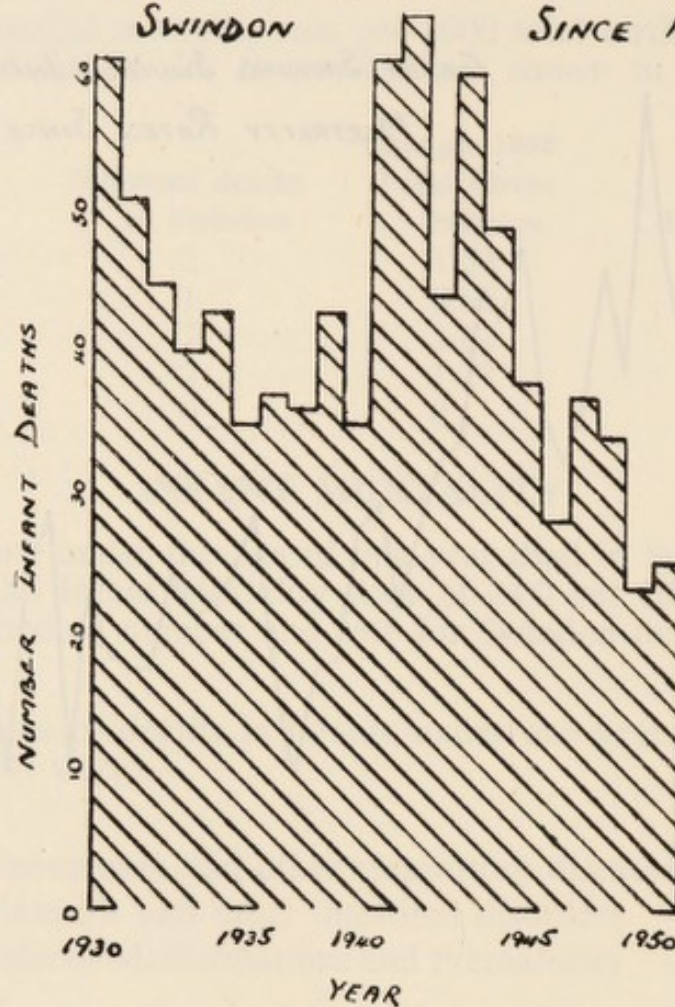
Year	Rate per 1000 live births			
	Neonatal Rate	Swindon	England & Wales	
		Rate—Age 4 wks.—1 yr.	Mortality Rate	Mortality Rate
1946	14.9	7.1	22.0	43.0
1947	11.0	14.6	25.6	41.0
1948	14.2	14.2	28.4	34.0
1949	8.9	11.7	20.6	32.0
1950	17.3	6.7	24.0	29.8

As will be seen from these figures, the Infant Mortality in Swindon compares very favourably with that for England and Wales.





HISTOGRAM SHOWING THE NUMBER  
OF INFANTS DEATHS ANNUALLY IN  
SWINDON SINCE 1930



## INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### Diphtheria.

No case of diphtheria occurred in Swindon during 1950. The last case of diphtheria occurred in 1949 and there has been no death from this disease in Swindon since 1944. This reduction in the incidence of diphtheria is undoubtedly attributable to immunisation.

The following table and histogram show the incidence of diphtheria in Swindon during the last 20 years.

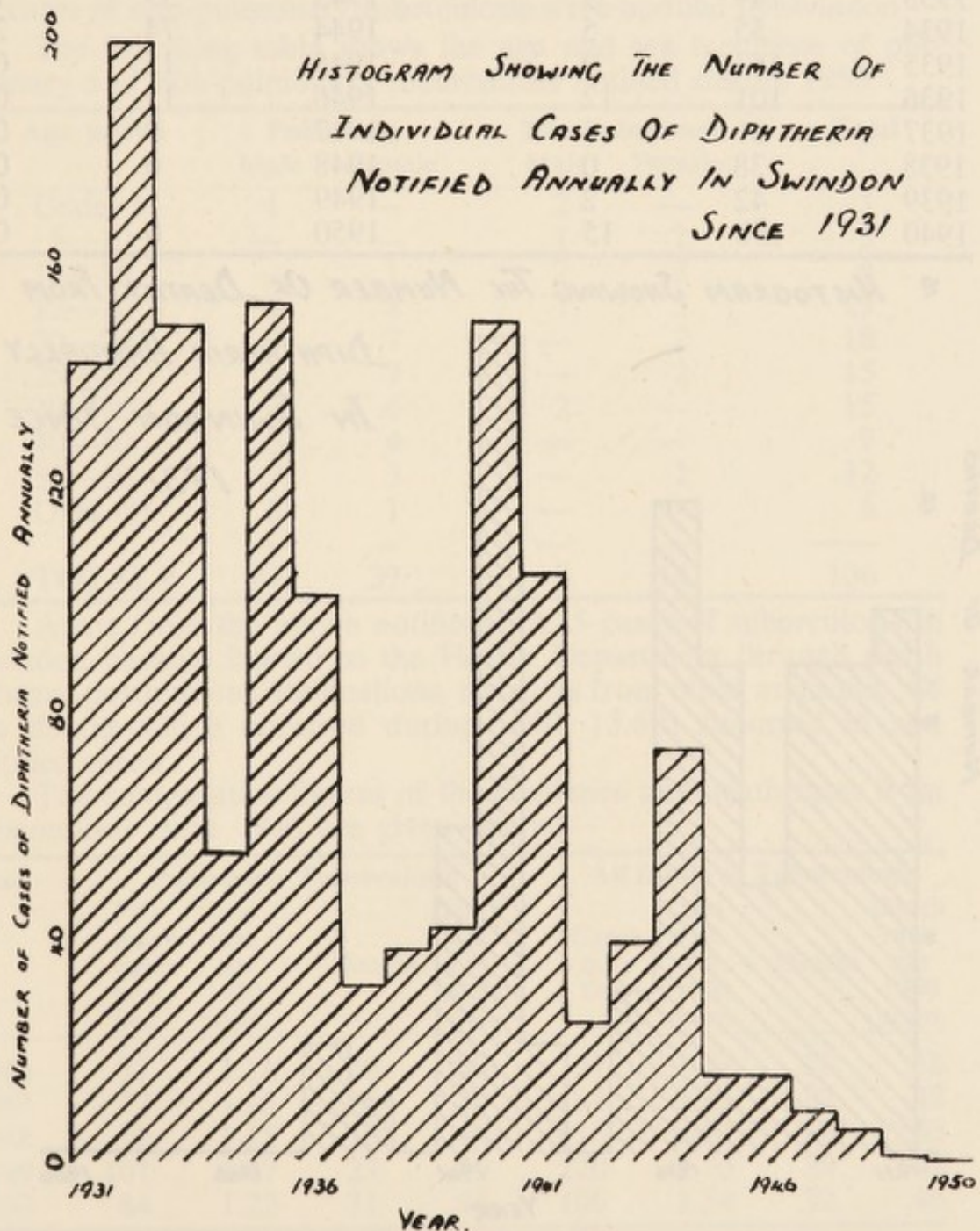
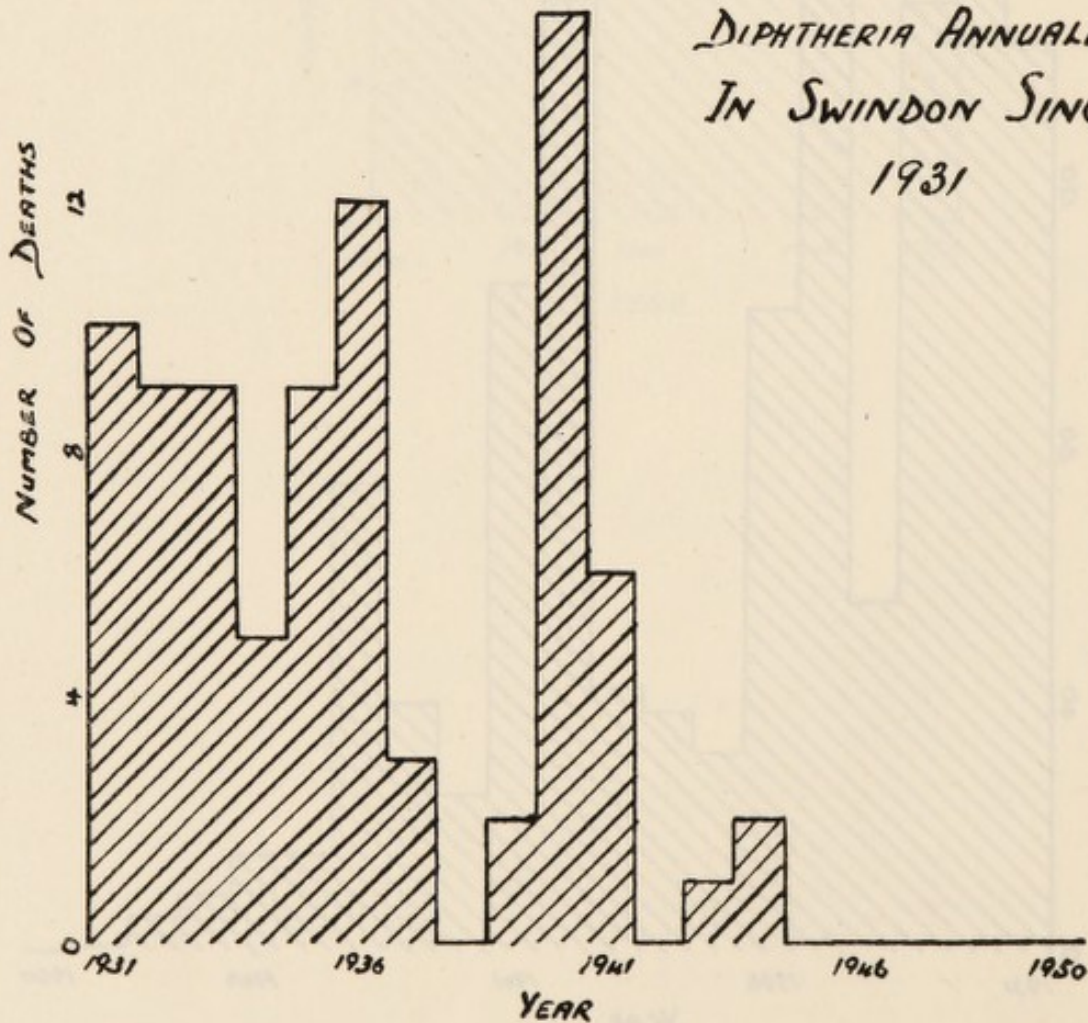




TABLE GIVING THE INCIDENCE OF DIPHTHERIA IN SWINDON AND THE NUMBER OF DEATHS DURING THE LAST TWENTY YEARS.

Year	No. of cases of Diphtheria	No. of deaths from Diphtheria	Year	No. of cases of Diphtheria	No. of deaths from Diphtheria
1931	142	10	1941	105	6
1932	199	9	1942	25	0
1933	149	9	1943	39	1
1934	55	5	1944	74	2
1935	153	9	1945	15	0
1936	101	12	1946	15	0
1937	31	3	1947	9	0
1938	38	0	1948	6	0
1939	42	2	1949	1	0
1940	150	15	1950	0	0

HISTOGRAM SHOWING THE NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM DIPHTHERIA ANNUALLY IN SWINDON SINCE 1931





### Dysentery and Food Poisoning.

No cases of dysentery, and only 7 sporadic cases of food poisoning were notified during 1950. The cause of food poisoning was investigated in each case. All the cases were of a mild nature and no deaths resulted.

### Erysipelas.

The severity of erysipelas has greatly diminished during recent years due to its response to modern methods of treatment. Three cases of erysipelas were notified during 1950 and 5 during 1949.

### Tuberculosis.

During 1950, 84 primary cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 22 cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified in Swindon.

The following table shows the age and sex incidence of pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis notified during 1950.

Age period	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Under 5	1	—	2	—	3
5—10	—	—	1	2	3
10—15	—	1	2	3	6
15—20	7	8	1	3	19
20—25	9	7	—	2	18
25—30	6	7	—	2	15
30—40	7	6	2	—	15
40—50	5	4	—	—	9
50—60	7	3	—	2	12
Over 60	5	1	—	—	6
TOTALS	47	37	8	14	106

Apart from the above notifications, 5 cases of tuberculosis in Swindon became known to the Health Department through death returns, posthumous notifications, transfers from other areas etc. Of the deaths which occurred during 1950, 15.6% occurred in non notified cases.

The comparative figures of the incidence and death rates from tuberculosis since 1946 are given below:—

Year	Pulmonary Tuberculosis				All forms of Tuberculosis			
	Pri- mary cases noti- fied	Case rate per 1000 popn.	Deaths	Death rate per 1000 popn.	Cases noti- fied	Case rate per 1000 popn.	Deaths	Death rate per 1000 popn.
1946	77	1.16	20	.30	97	1.47	26	.38
1947	77	1.15	26	.39	94	1.41	32	.48
1948	78	1.15	30	.44	113	1.67	36	.53
1949	101	1.47	27	.39	120	1.75	29	.42
1950	84	1.22	31	.45	106	1.54	32	.46



### Cerebrospinal Fever.

No case of Cerebrospinal Fever was notified in Swindon during 1950 and in fact no cases have been confirmed in the town since 1947.

### Whooping Cough and Measles.

The following table gives the incidence of Whooping Cough and Measles during the past five years. Although the incidence of these diseases was fairly high in 1950 the type of disease was generally mild and no deaths occurred.

Year	Measles		Whooping Cough	
	Number notified	Number of deaths	Number notified	Number of deaths
1946	211	0	219	0
1947	354	0	66	2
1948	573	0	295	1
1949	964	0	191	3
1950	353	0	233	0

### Scarlet Fever.

Over the past number of years Scarlet Fever has declined in its virulence, the last death from this cause in Swindon occurred in 1930.

The following table shows the incidence of Scarlet Fever over the past five years:—

Year	Number of Cases notified	Number of Deaths
1946	63	0
1947	64	0
1948	81	0
1949	40	0
1950	32	0

### Acute Poliomyelitis or Infantile Paralysis.

In recent years the incidence of poliomyelitis has been increasing and in 1949 the different clinical types of it became notifiable as separate entities.

In 1950 there were 13 cases of poliomyelitis notified with 2 deaths, the highest incidence since the disease became notifiable.

A comparative table showing the incidence of this disease since 1941 is set out below.

In none of the cases was there a history of recent inoculations or tonsillectomy.

Year	Number of Cases notified	Number of Deaths
1941	1	1
1942	3	0
1943	2	0
1944	0	0
1945	2	1
1946	1	0
1947	8	1
1948	5	1
1949	5	0
1950	13	2

### Infectious Diseases.

The incidence of notified infectious diseases in Swindon during recent years is given in the following table:—

Disease	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Acute Pneumonia - - -	110	57	41	39	32
Acute Poliomyelitis - - -	1	7	5	5	13
Acute Polioencephalitis - - -	—	1	1	—	—
Cerebrospinal Fever - - -	1	2	—	—	—
Diphtheria - - -	15	9	6	1	—
Erysipelas - - -	12	15	5	5	3
Dysentery, food poisoning - - -	2	—	—	1	7
Measles - - -	211	354	573	964	353
Ophthalmia Neonatorum - - -	5	3	3	—	—
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers - - -	1	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia - - -	30	15	12	24	11
Scarlet Fever - - -	63	64	81	40	32
Smallpox - - -	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary - - -	77	77	78	101	84
Tuberculosis—Non-Pulmonary - - -	20	17	35	19	22
Whooping Cough - - -	219	66	295	191	233

Deaths from infectious diseases show a decline and excluding deaths from tuberculosis numbered 37 during 1950.

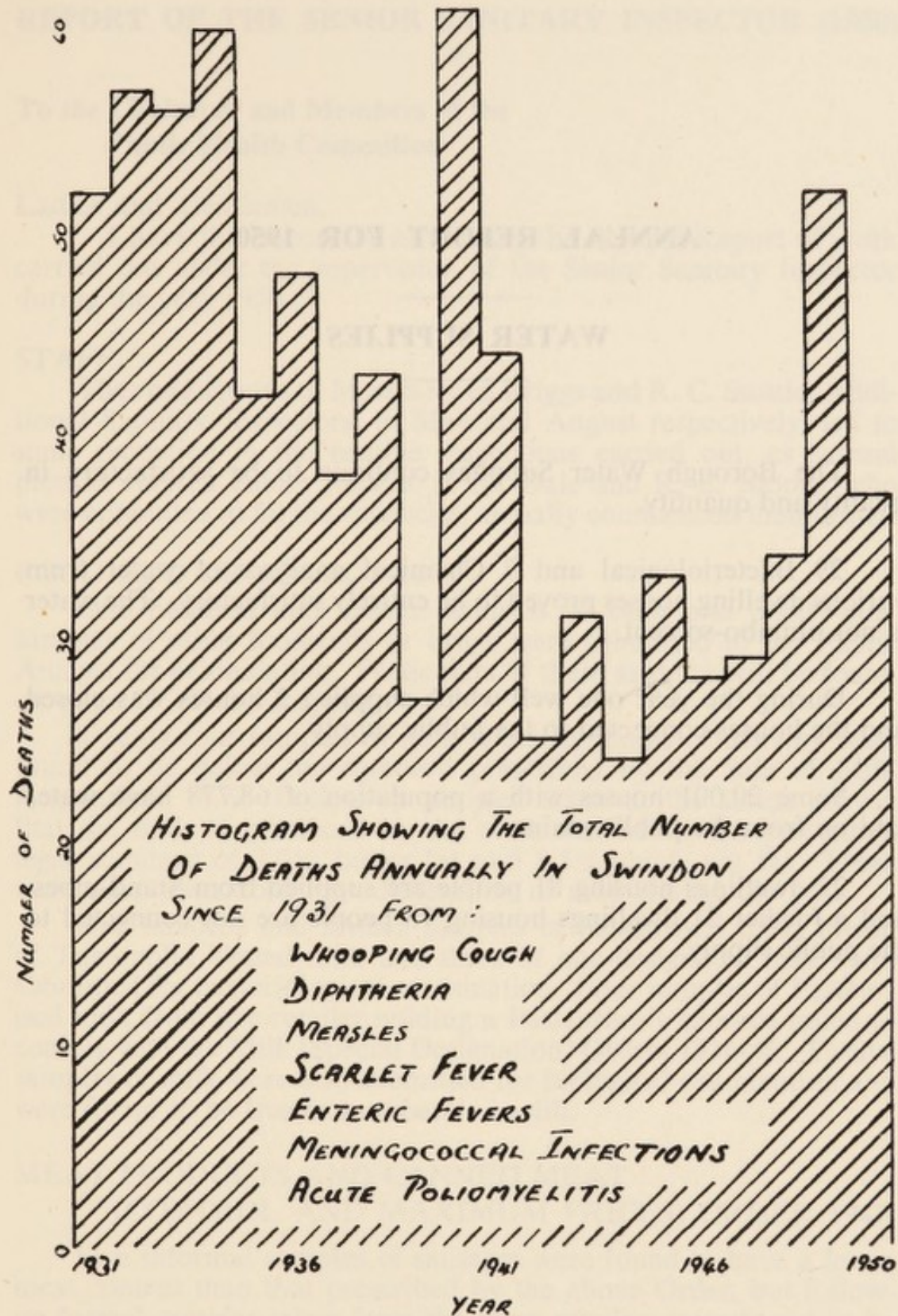


The trend in deaths from infectious diseases is shown in the following table and histogram.

**Number of Deaths from:**

Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Enteric Fevers, Meningococcal infections and Acute Poliomyelitis.

Year	Number of Deaths	Year	Number of Deaths
1931	52	1941	44
1932	57	1942	25
1933	56	1943	31
1943	60	1944	24
1935	42	1945	33
1936	48	1946	28
1937	38	1947	29
1938	43	1948	34
1939	27	1949	52
1940	61	1950	37





## **ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1950**

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### **WATER SUPPLIES**

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The Borough Water Supplies continue to be satisfactory in quality and quantity.

29 Bacteriological and 7 Chemical analyses of water from various dwelling houses proved to be entirely satisfactory. The water is not plumbo-solvent.

During the year one well which supplied 3 houses was closed and the houses connected to the public supply.

Some 20,001 houses with a population of 68,778 have water laid on from the public mains.

27 dwellings housing 81 people are supplied from Stand-pipes, and a further 21 dwellings housing 73 people are not connected to the public supply.

## REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR (1950)



### To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report of work carried out under the supervision of the Senior Sanitary Inspector during the year 1950.

### STAFF

The resignations of Messrs R. E. Briggs and R. C. Stuttle, Additional Sanitary Inspectors, in May and August respectively, led to some reduction in the routine inspections carried out, as several months elapsed before Messrs. P. M. Dale and R. E. Moore, who were appointed to fill the vacancies, actually commenced their duties.

### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938

One hundred and sixteen samples of milk and eighty-nine samples of other foodstuffs or drugs were submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. Particulars of these samples will be found on page 29 of this Report.

Twenty-four samples of milk taken in course of delivery were found to be below the standard prescribed by the Sale of Milk Regulations 1939. Follow-up samples taken at the farms proved that the milk as produced by the cows was below the prescribed legal standard of 3.0% butter fat and 8.5% solids not fat. There were no prosecutions for adulteration of milk during the year.

One hundred and sixteen samples of Pasteurised milk, fifteen of Tuberculin Tested milk and three of non-designated milk were submitted for bacteriological examination. Four samples of Pasteurised milk from one retailer holding a Pasteuriser's Licence failed to comply with the Milk (Special Designation) Orders 1936-46. Twelve samples of milk were also submitted for biological examination and were found to be free from tubercle bacilli.

### MEAT PRODUCTS AND CANNED MEAT

#### (CONTROL AND MAXIMUM PRICES) ORDER 1947.

Five informal samples of sausages were found to have a lower meat content than that prescribed by the above Order, but follow-up formal samples taken from the same retailers were found to be satisfactory.

### ICE CREAM

Eight samples of ice cream were submitted for chemical analysis, and these showed a varying fat content of from 5.0 per



cent to 9.5 per cent. There was a considerable improvement in the quality of ice cream compared with previous years.

Twenty-two samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination and four were found to be of a low grade. Samples taken from well-known ice cream manufacturers were found to be of good quality, but ice cream from some smaller local firms have not been of such high standard.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938 (section 9)

One local tradesman was prosecuted for selling a milk shake which contained a slug, and was fined £2-0-0 and £2-2-0 Advocate's Fee. One baker was fined £2-0-0 and £2-2-0 Advocate's Fee for selling a loaf of bread which contained a cockroach.

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT INSPECTIONS

1,632 visits were made by Inspectors to premises where food was being sold or prepared for sale, to ensure that these premises complied with the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act. A higher standard of personal cleanliness is being demanded from all people engaged in handling food. The provision of adequate washing facilities, with hot and cold water laid on and soap and clean towels, is essential in all places where food is handled. In the majority of the shops in the Borough these facilities have been provided. The adoption of Bye-laws for the Observance of Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions in connection with the Sale and Delivery of Food should lead to a better standard of cleanliness. The Bye-laws do not require anything that is not already being practised by the better class of food retailer.

#### MEAT INSPECTION

Centralised slaughtering for the Borough of Swindon and surrounding Rural Districts is still carried out at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse in Shrivenham Road. As has been stated in previous Reports, the provision of a modern abattoir is long overdue.

14,358 carcasses were inspected during the year, and 70 tons of diseased meat were condemned. Meat inspection is carried out under difficult conditions at the Slaughterhouse, but the figures show that the inspection is systematically and efficiently done. The tables on page 32 show the number of animals slaughtered and the percentages found affected with tuberculosis and other diseases. The graph on page 33 shows the percentages of animals found, on inspection after slaughter, to be affected with tuberculosis in some degree during the years 1938 to 1950. It will be noted that for practically the whole of this period at least 30 per cent of the cows showed some evidence of tuberculosis, and that during 1944 the percentage reached the high figure of 47.



### DRAINAGE WORK

The drains of 275 premises were relaid or overhauled under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors during the year.

### HOUSING REPAIRS

Housing repairs were carried out at 810 houses during the year. Although every effort is made to get these repairs done without taking legal proceedings, statutory notices were served in respect of eighteen houses whose owners had not done the required work. In two instances the owners failed to comply with the statutory notices served on them, and the work was carried out by the Corporation at a cost totalling £237, which sum is being recovered from the owners.

### OVERCROWDING

The records of the department showed that, at the beginning of the year there were 23 instances affecting 170 persons, outstanding from 1949; 7 new instances affecting 58½ persons were recorded; 2 instances affecting 17½ persons were abated during the year, leaving 28 instances affecting 211 persons unabated at the end of 1950. The overcrowding standard of the Housing Act is very low. For example, 7½ persons are permitted to occupy a four-roomed house which contains only 2 bedrooms, without it being overcrowded. Any children under 10 years of age count as half-units.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

Under this Act it is the responsibility of the Local Authority to carry out the burial or cremation of any person who has died in their area, where no suitable arrangements have been made for the disposal of the body. During the year under review, arrangements were made for the burial of one person.

### PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

Systematic treatment of the sewers and refuse tips in the town was carried out, and baiting was also carried out at 645 houses during the year.

### RAG FLOCK ACT 1911

Four samples of Rag Flock were examined by the Public Analyst, and all were found to satisfy the requirements of the Act.

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In concluding my Report, I wish to thank all the Officers of the Corporation for their assistance and ready co-operation throughout the year.

H. A. BANWELL,  
Senior Sanitary Inspector



## INSPECTIONS AND REVISITS 1950

Premises	Primary Inspections	Revisits
<b>PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936</b>		
Dwelling houses on complaint	592	345
Dwelling houses on complaint no nuisances found	6	—
Other premises	188	38
Caravans	24	—
Marine Stores	1	—
Smoke observations	24	6
Stables and piggeries	8	5
Theatres, Cinemas etc.	78	2
Public Sanitary Conveniences	7	2
Common Lodging houses	5	—
Verminous premises	13	—
Drainage work under supervision	1217	46
Infectious disease enquiries	176	3
<b>HOUSING ACT 1936</b>		
Dwelling houses on complaint	444	1474
Dwelling houses on complaint no defects found	2	—
Houses inspected and recorded	161	3
Overcrowding	53	10
<b>FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938</b>		
Bakehouses	26	7
Dairies	65	3
Milk samples—bacteriological	134	—
Milk samples—chemical	116	—
Milk samples—biological	12	—
Ice-cream samples—bacteriological	22	—
Food and Drugs samples	89	—
Water samples—bacteriological	29	—
Water samples—chemical	7	—
Water samples—sewage effluent	4	—
Ice-cream premises	50	—
Restaurants, cafes etc.	44	27
Fish shops and fish friers	91	10
Markets and food stalls	204	1
Food preparation and storage premises	23	—
Butchers' shops	110	1
Slaughterhouses	470	3
Food shops	549	98

**(INSPECTIONS AND REVISITS 1950—Continued)****FACTORIES ACT 1937**

Factories—mechanical	-	-	-	141	18
Factories—non-mechanical	-	-	-	112	3
Outworkers	-	-	-	120	—

SHOPS ACT 1934, section 10	-	-	-	5	5
----------------------------	---	---	---	---	---

RAG FLOCK ACT 1911	-	-	-	4	—
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NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948, section 50	-	-	-	8	—
---	---	---	---	---	---

**PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY**

PESTS ACT 1949	-	-	-	2002	1131
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MISCELLANEOUS	-	-	-	2120	17
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TOTALS				9556	3258
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## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936 and HOUSING ACT 1936

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### NUISANCES ABATED AND HOUSING DEFECTS REMEDIED

Defective ceilings	-	-	-	-	148
„ walls	-	-	-	-	258
Damp walls	-	-	-	-	111
Dirty or Verminous Rooms	-	-	-	-	474
Defective floors	-	-	-	-	129
„ firegrates	-	-	-	-	73
„ windows	-	-	-	-	218
„ doors	-	-	-	-	44
„ stairs	-	-	-	-	13
„ coppers	-	-	-	-	12
„ sinks	-	-	-	-	22
New sinks provided	-	-	-	-	16
Water services provided or repaired	-	-	-	-	12
Defective chimneys	-	-	-	-	38
„ roofs	-	-	-	-	167
„ eavesgutters and/or rainwater pipes	-	-	-	-	124
„ yard paving	-	-	-	-	19
„ forecourt paving	-	-	-	-	2
„ water-closets repaired	-	-	-	-	59
New pedestal pans fixed	-	-	-	-	97
Defective flushing cisterns repaired	-	-	-	-	44
New flushing cisterns fixed	-	-	-	-	26
Additional water-closets provided	-	-	-	-	19
Choked drains	-	-	-	-	86
Defective drains	-	-	-	-	305
„ traps	-	-	-	-	11
Drains tested	-	-	-	-	411
New baths fixed	-	-	-	-	10
Offensive accumulations removed	-	-	-	-	16
„ animals	-	-	-	-	8
Overcrowding abated	-	-	-	-	2
Dust-bins provided	-	-	-	-	2
Rents Books made to comply with the Housing Act 1936	-	-	-	-	29
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	588
TOTAL					3593

**Matters requiring attention and remedied  
following inspection, in 1950**

Shops Act 1934	-	-	-	-	5
Milk and Dairies Order 1926	-	-	-	-	2
Food and Drugs Act 1938	-	-	-	-	83

On the Registers of the department are:—

**Food and Drugs Act, 1938**

Premises registered for the Preparation or Manufacture of Sausages, or Potted, Pres- sed, Pickled or Preserved Food	-	-	-	-	82
Premises registered for the Manufacture, Sale or Storage of Ice-cream	-	-	-	-	172
Butchers' Shops	-	-	-	-	74
Wholesale Meat Stores	-	-	-	-	2
Fish Shops and Fish Friers	-	-	-	-	33
Bakehouses	-	-	-	-	28
Other Food Shops	-	-	-	-	372

**Swindon Corporation Act, 1947**

Premises registered as Accommodation for Food intended for sale from vehicles etc.	-	-	-	-	11
Hawkers registered for the Sale of Food from vehicles etc.	-	-	-	-	28

**Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949**

Dairies	-	-	-	-	27
Distributors of Milk	-	-	-	-	25

**Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) and (Pasteurised and  
Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949**

Licences in force within the Borough, issued by the Town  
Council of Swindon:—

Dealers' licences authorising the use of the Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested"	12
Supplementary licence authorising the use of the Special Designation "Tuberculin Tested"	1
Dealers' licences authorising the use of the Special Designation "Pasteurised"	8
Dealers' (Pasteurisers') licences authorising the use of the Special Designation "Pasteurised"	3



### Milk (Special Designation) Regulations

Samples of Milk submitted for Bacteriological Examination to the Public Analyst or the Pathological Laboratory, Gorse Hill.

Designation	No. of Samples taken	No. Satisfactory	No. Unsatisfactory
Tuberculin Tested -	15	14	1
T.T. Pasteurised -	27	24	3
T.T. Nursery -	22	20	2
Pasteurised -	67	54	13
Non-designated -	3	2	1
<b>TOTALS - -</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>20</b>

### SAMPLES SUBMITTED TO THE PUBLIC ANALYST FOR CHEMICAL EXAMINATION

Samples taken	Formal	Informal	Genuine	Not genuine
Milk - -	87	29	92	24
Beef sausages -	5	12	12	5*
Pork sausages -	—	2	2	—
Jam - -	—	12	12	—
Butter - -	8	—	7	1**
Olive Oil - -	—	5	5	—
Aspirin Tablets -	—	5	3	2***
Epsom Salts -	—	3	3	—
Zinc Ointment -	—	2	2	—
Mincemeat -	—	1	1	—
Doughnuts -	9	—	9	—
Pastilles - -	—	1	1	—
Beer - -	5	—	5	—
Whisky - -	4	—	4	—
Ice-cream - -	—	8	8	—
Plain Flour -	—	2	2	—
Self-raising Flour -	—	5	5	—
<b>TOTALS - -</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>32</b>

\* Of 12 informal samples of Beef Sausages taken, 5 were found deficient in meat content. 5 formal follow-up samples were taken and found genuine.

\*\* The formal sample of butter taken and found not genuine contained slight excess of moisture. No legal proceedings taken, on recommendation of Public Analyst.

\*\*\* 2 informal samples of Aspirin Tablets taken from two retailers. Each sample failed to comply with the British Pharmacopoeia Test for Free Salicylic Acid. No legal proceedings taken, on recommendation of Public Analyst.

# **ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT ETC.) REGULATIONS 1947**

☆

## **Samples of Ice-Cream submitted for bacteriological examination**

Samples taken	Number in Grade 1	Number in Grade 2	Number in Grade 3	Number in Grade 4
22	11	3	4	4

Standards:—Grade 1—Methylene Blue reduced in  $4\frac{1}{2}$  hours or more.  
 Grade 2—     "     "     "     "      $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 4 hours.  
 Grade 3—     "     "     "     "      $\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 hours.  
 Grade 4—     "     "     "     "     0 hours, (i.e., reduction at the end of the pre-incubation period).

As there is no statutory test for the bacteriological examination of ice-cream, the above samples are graded in accordance with the Advisory Bulletin of the Ministry of Health and the Public Health Laboratory Service, 1947.

In every case where samples examined failed to reach a satisfactory grade, the manufacturers or vendors concerned were visited and advised as to the steps to be taken to raise the quality of the product to a satisfactory level.



**PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS 1924**  
**The following table shows the number of carcasses inspected**  
**during 1950**

☆

	Cattle		Calves	Pigs	Sheep and Lambs
	Cows	Others			
<b>TOTALS</b> - -	1500	2369	61	208	10220
<b>Disease other than Tuberculosis</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned -	70	10	7	16	36
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned -	709	963	12	113	1663
Approximate percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis -	52	41	31	62	16.6
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>					
Whole carcasses condemned - -	55	10	—	6	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned -	440	326	—	10	—
Approximate percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis -	33	14.18	—	7.7	—

**UN SOUND FOOD CONDEMNED BY SANITARY**  
**INSPECTORS DURING 1950**

☆

		<b>Tons</b>	<b>cwts.</b>	<b>qrs.</b>	<b>lbs.</b>
Unsound Meat and Offal	-	70	17	3	21
Other Unsound Food	-	6	11	1	23

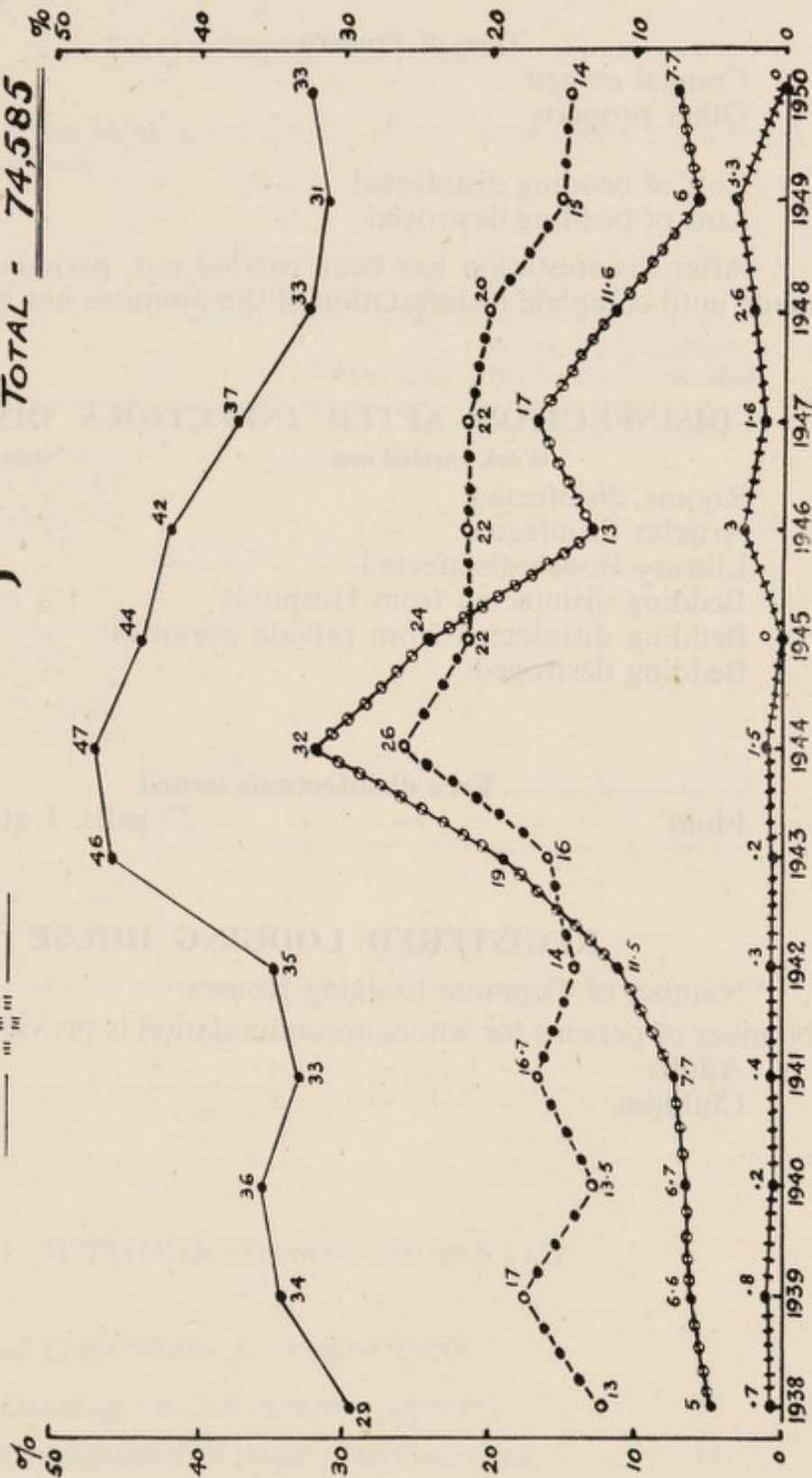
# GRAPH SHOWING PERCENTAGE OF CATTLE & PIG CARCASSES FOUND TO BE INFECTED WITH TUBERCULOSIS FROM 1938 TO 1950

GRAPH KEY:  
 — COWS  
 - - - OTHER CATTLE  
 + + + CALVES  
 + + + + PIGS

INSPECTED  
 1938-1950:

COWS 29,460  
 OTHER CATTLE 21,616  
 CALVES 11,868  
 PIGS 11,641

TOTAL - 74,585





## DISINFESTATION OF VERMINOUS PROPERTY

☆

Type of Property	No. of Rooms Disinfested
Council owned - - - -	177
Other property - - - -	197
Lots of bedding disinfested - - - -	6
Lots of bedding destroyed - - - -	5

After disinfestation has been carried out, periodical visits are made until complete disinfestation of the premises has been effected.

## DISINFECTION AFTER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Work carried out	Number disinfected
Rooms disinfected - - - -	128
Articles disinfected - - - -	5
Library Books disinfected - - - -	60
Bedding disinfected from Hospitals - - - -	66
Bedding disinfected from private premises - - - -	51
Bedding destroyed - - - -	24

### Free disinfectants issued

Fluid - - - -	22 galls. 1 qt. 1 pint.
---------------	-------------------------

## REGISTERED LODGING HOUSE

Number of Common Lodging Houses -	1
Number of persons for whom accommodation is provided:—	
Adults - - - -	87
Children - - - -	4

## FACTORIES ACT 1937

1. The following table gives details of the inspections carried out during the year.

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1, 2, 3 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities. -	134	115	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which section 7 applies (a) subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Order 1938 - -	159	159	7	—
(b) Others - -	—	—	—	—
(iii) Other premises under the Act, (excluding outworkers premises) - -	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTAL - -</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>—</b>

## OUTWORK (sections 110 and 111)

★

Number of Outworkers at August 1950:—

Making, cleaning etc., of wearing apparel -	35
Making of receptacles of paper, cardboard etc. -	14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>49</b>



# **FACTORIES ACT 1937—Continued**

## 2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (s.1) - -	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (s.2) -	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (s.3) -	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (s.4) - -	—	1	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (s.5) -	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (s.7) - -					
(a) insufficient -	1	1	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective -	5	3	—	3	—
(c) not separate for sexes - -	1	1	—	1	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to Homework) -	3	9	—	—	—
TOTALS - -	10	15	—	4	—

## HOUSING STATISTICS

☆

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936 and HOUSING ACT 1936

☆

Houses inspected	-	-	-	1044
„ found to be defective	-	-	-	1036
„ rendered fit by informal action	-	-	-	810
„ „ „ formal „	-	-	-	11
Informal notices served	-	-	-	648
„ „ complied with	-	-	-	322

## Statutory Notices, Public Health Act:—

Served	-	-	-	5
Complied with	-	-	-	3

## Statutory Notices, Housing Act:—

Served	-	-	-	13
Complied with	-	-	-	8
Complied with by owners	-	-	-	6
Complied with by Corporation in default of owners	-	-	-	2

## HOUSING ACT 1936, Section 58

☆

## Overcrowding

☆

Houses overcrowded at end of 1949	-	-	23
Number of persons affected	-	-	170
New cases of overcrowding found in 1950	-	-	7
Number of persons affected	-	-	58½
Cases of overcrowding abated during 1950	-	-	2
Number of persons affected	-	-	17½
Cases of overcrowding not abated at end of 1950	-	-	28
Number of persons affected	-	-	211



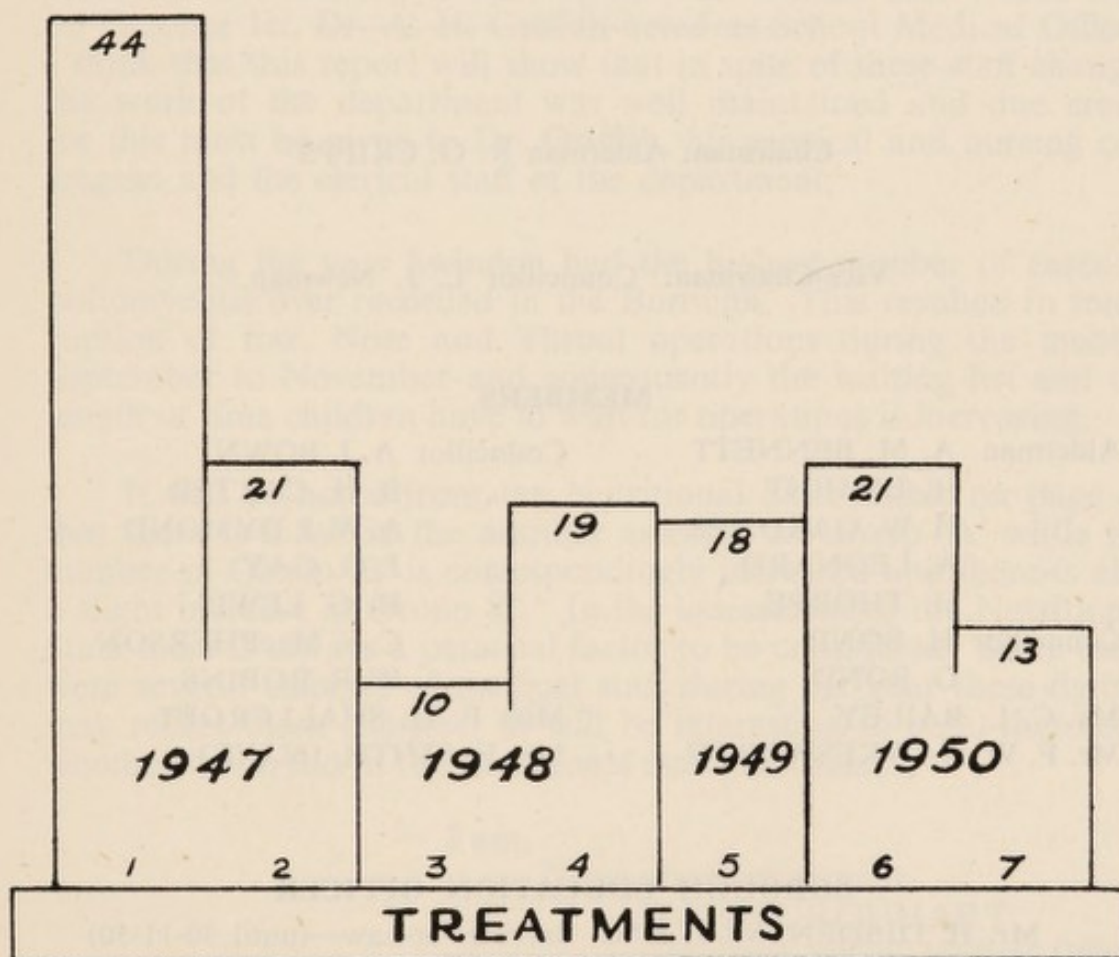
# **PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949**

## **Premises baited in 1950**

Type of Premises				Number baited
Council owned premises	-	-	-	55
Business premises	-	-	-	164
Private premises	-	-	-	420
Other premises	-	-	-	6
Sewer manholes	-	-	-	1651

Baiting				
Non-poisonous baits laid	-	-	-	3164
Poisonous baits laid	-	-	-	10136
„ „ taken	-	-	-	2880

***RAT INFESTATION of SEWERS***  
***Percentage of Sewer Manholes***  
***showing evidence of rat infestation***





## BOROUGH OF SWINDON

☆

**EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

as at 31st December, 1950

**Chairman:** Alderman R. G. CRIPPS**Vice-Chairman:** Councillor L. J. Newman.**MEMBERS**

Alderman	A. M. BENNETT	Councillor	A. J. BOWN
"	H. DIMENT	"	B. H. CARTER
"	H. W. GARDNER	"	A. W. J. DYMOND
"	A. LEONARD	"	J. G. GAY
"	H. THORPE	"	H. G. LEWIS
Councillor	H. BOND	"	C. S. MacPHERSON
"	G. BOND	"	W. R. ROBINS
Mr.	C. L. BAILEY	Miss	F. H. SHALLCROFT
Mr.	F. W. HAWKESWORTH	Mr.	F. SMITH, (N.U.T.)

**BOROUGH EDUCATION OFFICER**

Mr. H. DIBDEN, M.A., B.Sc., Barrister-at-Law—(until 30-11-50)

**To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee  
of the Borough of Swindon**

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting a report of the school medical work for the Borough of Swindon for the year 1950.

As will be seen from page 55 of the report there were several changes of medical staff during the year. From May 15th 1950 when Dr. T. Ross left to take up duty in Walsall until I took over on October 1st, Dr. A. H. Griffith acted as School Medical Officer. I think that this report will show that in spite of these staff changes the work of the department was well maintained and due credit for this must be given to Dr. Griffith, his medical and nursing colleagues and the clerical staff of the department.

During the year Swindon had the highest number of cases of poliomyelitis ever recorded in the Borough. This resulted in interruption of Ear, Nose and Throat operations during the months September to November and consequently the waiting list and the length of time children have to wait for operations is increasing.

It will be noted from the Nutritional State Table on page 44 that there is a fall in the number assessed as Group 'A' while the number in Group 'B' is correspondingly increased and there is also a slight increase in Group 'C.' In the assessment of the Nutritional State there is always a personal factor to be considered. Since there were several changes of medical staff during the year these figures may reflect these changes. It will be interesting to note, therefore, whether this trend in the nutritional state continues.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

**JAMES URQUHART,**

Borough School Medical Officer.

**CIVIC OFFICES,  
SWINDON.**



## SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

### SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

A summary of the principal statistics for the year 1950 with comparable figures for 1949, is given below:—

	1950	1949
Number of primary and secondary school children on register at end of year - - -	9901	9617
Number of children examined at routine medical inspections - - - -	2319	2897
Number found to require treatment for diseases and defects - - - -	585	602
Number of dental inspections - - -	2255	1756
Number referred for dental treatment - -	1535	1315
Number of children examined for part-time employment - - - -	144	

### SCHOOL POPULATION

The Borough of Swindon is an excepted district under the Education Act, 1944. The estimated population of the Borough at mid-year 1950 was 68790. There were, at the end of 1950, 9901 children on the registers of the primary and secondary schools of Swindon (including the Central Primary School). There was an increase of 284 children on the school registers at the end of 1950 over the 1949 figure.

The following table shows the number of primary and secondary schools in Swindon during recent years, and the number of children on the school registers at the end of each year:—

Year	Number of primary & secondary schools	Number of children on the registers
1947	34	8770
1948	34	9336
1949	34	9617
1950	34	9901

### STAFF

1. **Medical**—During the first two months, the Medical Staff consisted of a School Medical Officer and three Assistants (two being in part time employment). The two part time assistants were then replaced by one full time assistant. From May to October the work was done by the two full time assistants, but after October 1st, on the new School Medical Officer taking up his appointment, the medical staff has been up to normal establishment.

2. **Dental**—The normal establishment is three full time dental officers but only two were in the employment of the Authority during 1950.



3. **School Nurses**—It is the practice in Swindon for the Health Visitors to undertake the duties of School Nurse. The same person is therefore responsible for the domiciliary care of all the children in a family during a visit. Eight health visitors are employed equivalent to four full time school nurses. There was no change in the personnel during 1950.

4. **Dental Attendants**—Two dental attendants were in the full time employment of the Authority during the year.

### ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Under the Handicapped Pupils and School Health Service Regulations of 1945 the arrangements as regard medical inspection of pupils are:—

- (1) Every pupil who is admitted for the first time to a maintained school shall be inspected as soon as possible after the date of admission.
- (2) Every pupil attending a maintained primary school shall be inspected during the last year of attendance at such a school.
- (3) Every pupil attending a maintained secondary school shall be inspected during the last year of attendance at such a school.
- (4) Every pupil attending a maintained school or county college shall be inspected on such other occasions as the Minister may from time to time direct, or the Authority, with the approval of the Ministry, may determine.

The requirements of these regulations were carried out during the year. In addition pupils were examined on admission to the secondary grammar school.

### DISEASES AND DEFECTS

The following gives the number of primary and secondary school children examined in the routine age groups and the numbers found to be suffering from diseases and defects (excluding dental caries and uncleanness) sufficiently serious to require some form of treatment.

	1950	1949	1948	1947
Number of children examined -	2319	2897	3271	2345
Number of children found to have defects - - -	585	602	707	505
Percentage of children examined in need of treatment - -	25.3	20.7	21.6	21.5

Of the 2319 children examined at routine medical inspections there were 239 (or 10.3%) defects of vision and 363 (or 15.6%) defects of the ear, nose and throat. The increase in percentage of



children found in need of treatment during 1950 in comparison with previous years was due to

- (a) increase in number of children found suffering from foot defects.
- (b) increase in number of children found having enlarged tonsils.

### NUTRITIONAL STATE

The Ministry now recognises three categories relating to the general condition of a child, viz:—

A—Good

B—Fair

C—Poor

A table showing the number and percentage of children placed in each of these three categories for each age group examined during 1950 and 1949, is given below

Age Group		No. of children Inspected	Category A		Category B		Category C	
			No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	1950	960	411	42.8	482	50.2	67	7.0
	1949	891	535	60.	316	35.5	40	4.5
Second Age Group	1950	581	295	50.8	262	45.1	24	4.1
	1949	733	446	60.8	268	36.6	19	2.6
Third Age Group	1950	476	189	39.7	274	57.6	13	2.7
	1949	685	489	71.4	179	26.1	17	2.5
Other Periodic Inspections	1950	302	213	70.5	76	25.2	13	4.3
	1949	588	387	65.8	176	29.9	25	4.3
TOTAL	1950	2319	1108	47.8	1094	47.2	117	5.0
	1949	2897	1857	64.1	939	32.42	101	3.48

**Comments:**—It will be seen from the tables that the total number in groups A and B, i.e., normal and above have remained substantially the same but there has been a small increase during the year in the number classified as poor, i.e. Group C.



## CLEANLINESS

During 1950 the Health Visitors made a total of 21571 examinations for uncleanliness. 418 individual children were reported by them as having verminous heads or bodies, or as having nits in their hair. The 1949 and 1950 comparable figures are:—

	1950	1949
Number of examinations carried out by nurses	21571	19333
Total number of individual pupils found to be infested	418	387

## OBSERVATION CLINICS

It has been our practice to hold special observation clinics for children who have been found to have certain defects which, while not severe enough for reference to a specialist, do require special follow-up examinations. To such clinics are referred, for instance, children with slight orthopaedic defects, and Ear, nose and throat defects etc. At these clinics the defects are re-assessed and the following actions taken:—

- (1) If the child is not progressing satisfactorily he is referred to the appropriate hospital consultant clinic.
- (2) If the condition is static the child is referred for further observation at these clinics.
- (3) If the condition is cured the child is discharged.

In addition we see at these clinics children who have been on the hospital waiting list for some months for tonsil and adenoid removal. If it is felt that the children no longer require operative treatment they are again referred to the hospital specialist for his opinion on this point. On the other hand if it is felt that an operation is urgently required the children are referred to the hospital for priority treatment.

During 1950 there were in all 1248 inspections made at these observation clinics.

## OTHER MEDICAL INSPECTIONS

Special medical inspections and re-inspections were carried out during 1950 on 1310 primary and secondary school children at the request of parents or teachers. These children were seen mainly at Minor Ailment Clinics. The figures for 1949 and 1950 are:—

	1950	1949
Number of inspections	1310	1502
No. of re-inspections	806	660



An analysis of the 1950 and 1949 figures is given below:—

	1950	1949
Number seen for skin conditions -	664	774
"    "    "    eye    "    -	110	238
"    "    "    school accidents -	82	85
"    "    "    ear defects -	71	82
"    "    "    throat or nose defects	83	102
"    "    "    juvenile employment	144	
Others - - - -	156	221*
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1310</b>	<b>1502</b>

\*(includes juvenile employment).

### CONSULTANT CLINICS

Any child found on examination by a school medical officer to need hospital treatment or a consultant's opinion was referred (with the consent of the child's private doctor) to a hospital consultant clinic. These clinics have been the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board since July 1948. During 1950, some of these hospital clinics were held at the School Clinic at Eastcott Hill, when only Swindon school children were examined. The appointments were made, and the records of these clinics were kept by the School Medical Dept. The consultant clinics were:—

1. **Ophthalmic Clinics.** 81 consultant sessions were held at the school clinic during 1950, during which 670 (484 in 1949) Swindon cases were dealt with for visual and other ophthalmic defects. Spectacles were prescribed for 552 and obtained by 445 during the year.

The remainder obtained their glasses later.

623 re-inspections of visual and other ophthalmic defects were carried out also at these clinics compared with 258 such re-inspections during 1949.

On the authorization of the school medical officers any qualified optician could proceed with the repair or replacement of the spectacles of a school child. The cost of this work was borne by the local Executive Committee.

2. **Orthopaedic Clinics.** Special Orthopaedic Consultant Clinics for the school children of Swindon held monthly at Gorse Hill Isolation Hospital were discontinued during May 1950. Previously the appointments and records for these clinics were kept by the School Medical Dept. but these functions were transferred to the hospital authorities when the consultant clinics were transferred to Stratton Hospital. 185 cases were referred to the Orthopaedic Consultant Clinic during 1950 compared with 95 during 1949.



3. **Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics.** Special consultant sessions for school children suffering from ear, nose and throat defects were held during 1950 at the school clinics. During 18 such sessions 250 cases were examined by the consultant. Copies of notes made by the consultant at these clinics were sent to the Victoria Hospital. The names of children found in need of hospital treatment were entered on the hospital's waiting list in accordance with the consultant's advice.

4. **Paediatric Clinics.** A Paediatric consultant held weekly sessions at the school clinic during 1950 and at which he examined children referred by the school medical officers. During the year 92 cases were examined, involving 193 attendances.

### SPECIAL CLINICS

(a) **Remedial Exercises.** 265 primary and secondary school children out of the 2319 examined at routine school inspection in Swindon during 1950 were found to have orthopaedic defects which would benefit from remedial exercises. The most urgent cases were referred to the orthopaedic Specialist who arranged treatment.

The Committee is without a full time remedial gymnast on their staff. At only a few schools where there are qualified physical training instructors on the staff has it been possible to arrange remedial exercises for many of the children recommended such treatment.

#### (b) **Speech Therapy.**

Number of Sessions	-	-	-	78
Number of Attendances	-	-	-	347
		<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Total</b>
Number of children	-	51	14	65

#### Complaints.

		<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Total</b>
Stammer	-	16	2	18
Lisp	-	6	1	7
Cleft Palate speech	-	2	—	2

#### Defective Articulation.

(a) Due to an organic condition	1	1	2
(b) Associated with low mentality	6	4	10
(c) Where the emotional element is an important contributory cause	6	5	11
(d) Various causes	14	1	15



Stammer still accounts for the largest number of speech disorders among school children. Some have made definite progress in speech, in others where the stammer is still marked often appear to have gained in stability.

The numerous articulation defects fall into several groups as to main causation, some more easily defined than others. Among those where the emotional element appears to play an important part some tension or complication of the home situation would appear to be the main cause. This is probably true in at least 5 out of 11 cases in Group C. In other cases a very slow maturing of speech has prevented normal communication and produced various nervous symptoms. In three cases, wisely helped at home, good progress in speech has been marked and increased self confidence and general progress. Five children were referred for intelligence tests, one was an intelligent child who made little attempt to talk, another was a stammer, the others with very poor speech where ability was difficult to gauge. One child with an abnormal throat structure was referred to the E.N.T. Surgeon.

In many cases teachers have given detailed and very useful reports of their observations on children in their schools.

(c) **Child Guidance Clinic.** A Child Guidance Clinic set up by the Wiltshire County Council held its first session in Swindon towards the end of 1950. It did not have a psychiatrist on its staff at that time. Eight Swindon school children had been referred to the clinic before the end of the year. All were children between the ages of 5 and 11 years and were referred because of behaviour and emotional difficulties. Four were boys and four were girls. It has been agreed that in future the clinic is to be held regularly in Swindon and it will have a normal establishment of professional staff.

During 1950 before the establishment of the Swindon Child Guidance Clinic there was great difficulty in arranging for the proper treatment of children suffering from various degrees of maladjustment. Children suffering from a marked degree of maladjustment which could not be treated satisfactorily at home were sent to special boarding schools. Others could be treated at Child Guidance Clinics at Oxford or Reading but there were many difficulties attached to the arrangements to have these children seen at Child Guidance Clinics so far away, especially as most had to visit the clinics at frequent intervals.

A third group of children, numbering 5 were referred to the hospital Board's Consultant in Psychiatry at the Victoria Hospital.

The vast majority of maladjusted children, especially those suffering from minor degrees of maladjustment (and therefore often the most easily correctable) did not receive any proper psychological treatment. It is expected that these children will in future benefit greatly from the establishment of a Child Guidance Clinic in Swindon.



## HANDICAPPED PUPILS.

The number of children who, by reason of some physical or mental disability, are not able to benefit by education in the ordinary schools and who were in special schools at the end of 1950 is included.

1. **Blind Pupils.** (pupils who have no sight, or whose sight is, or is likely to become so defective that they require education by methods not involving the use of sight). One Swindon blind girl has been in a special school for the blind at the Royal School of Industry for the Blind, Westbury-on-Trym since 19-5-45. No new pupils were assessed during 1950 and there are none awaiting admission to a special school for the blind.

2. **Partially sighted pupils.** (Pupils who, by reason of defective vision, cannot follow the ordinary curriculum without detriment to their sight or to their educational development, but can be educated by special methods involving the use of sight). The Committee had no child falling into this category in a special school during 1950. None were assessed as partially sighted during the year and none are on the waiting list for admission to a Special School.

3. **Deaf Pupils.** (Pupils who have no hearing or whose hearing is so defective that they require education by methods used for deaf pupils without naturally acquired speech or language). The Committee is responsible for four pupils falling into this category. All were completely deaf from birth and are placed as follows:—

1 Boy aged 4 years at Donnington Lodge Nursery School since January, 1950.

1 Girl aged 8 years at Royal Institute for Deaf, Derby since September, 1950.

1 Girl aged 9 years at Royal Institute for Deaf, Derby since 1947.

1 Girl aged 12 years at Royal Institute for Deaf, Derby since 1947.

The first two were assessed as deaf in November 1949 and January 1949.

4. **Partially Deaf Pupils.** (Pupils whose hearing is so defective that they require for their education special arrangements or facilities but not all the educational methods used for deaf pupils). No child was ascertained partially deaf during 1950.

5. **Delicate Pupils.** (Pupils who, by reason of impaired physical condition, cannot without risk to their health, be educated under the normal regime of any ordinary school). Four pupils were ascer-



tained as delicate during 1950 and the following provisions were made:—

One girl aged 11 years suffering from asthma was sent to a Residential Open Air School at Broadstairs.

One boy aged 11 years suffering from asthma was sent to a Residential Open Air School at Godalming.

One boy aged 9 years suffering from asthma was sent to a Residential Open Air School at Tunbridge Wells.

The fourth a boy suffering from asthma was still awaiting a vacancy at an Open Air School at the end of the year.

Six children assessed before 1950 were receiving special education during that year at Residential Open Air Schools. They were:—

Boy,	aged	13	years	suffering	from	secondary	anaemia.
„	„	10	„	„	„	spinal	disease.
„	„	11	„	„	„	anorexia	and anaemia.
„	„	13	„	„	„	asthma.	
Girl,	„	9	„	„	„	asthma.	
Boy,	„	13	„	„	„	asthma.	

6. **Diabetic Pupils.** (Pupils suffering from Diabetes who cannot obtain the treatment they need while living at home and require residential care). There was one pupil receiving special residential care under this category during 1950. This girl aged 10 years has been at Hutton Residential School since January 1949.

7. **Educationally Subnormal Pupils.** At the end of 1949 there were 40 pupils awaiting assessment for suspected educational subnormality and this comparatively high number resulted from the fact that the Committee did not have on its staff for most of 1949 officers recognised by the Ministry of Education for the purpose of ascertaining educationally subnormal pupils. At the end of March, 1950 it was possible to recommence ascertaining.

During 1950 36 pupils were examined and were grouped as follows:—

9 were recommended special educational treatment in an ordinary school.

12 were recommended education in a special day school for Educationally subnormal children.

15 were reported to the Local Health Authority as ineducable.

At the end of 1950 26 children remained to be assessed.

Children already assessed as educationally subnormal were



receiving special educational treatment at the end of 1950 at the following centres:—

Special Day School	-	-	-	-	39
(12 admitted during 1950)					
Special Residential Schools	-	-	-	-	nil
Waiting for a vacancy at the Special Day School	-	-	-	-	nil
Waiting for a vacancy at a Special Residential School	-	-	-	-	2
(both since September 1950)					

The number of children who were examined during 1950 and notified under Section 57 (5) of the Education Act 1944 was two.

Special Educational Treatment at an ordinary school was being given at the end of 1950 to 29 pupils, 9 of which were recommended this treatment during 1950.

8. **Epileptic Pupils.** (Pupils who by reason of Epilepsy, cannot be educated in any ordinary school without detriment to the interests of themselves or other pupils). There is only one boy in an Epileptic Colony. He is now over 16 years of age but is still the concern of the Education Committee. Fourteen pupils attending ordinary schools are known epileptics but are controlled by treatment.

9. **Maladjusted Pupils.** (Pupils who show evidence of emotional instability or psychological disturbance and require special educational treatment in order to effect their personal, social or educational re-adjustment).

There are 2 boys requiring special education—One was placed in Summerfield Hostel in 1948 and transferred to Sutcliffe School during 1950, the other recommended a Special School had not been suitably placed by the end of the year.

10. **Physically Handicapped Pupils.** (Pupils not being pupils suffering solely from a defect of sight or hearing who, by reason of disease or crippling defect, cannot be satisfactorily educated in an ordinary school, or cannot be educated in such a school without detriment to their health or educational development).

There are 4 children who come within this category, 3 boys and 1 girl. A peripatetic Teacher is provided for 3 cases (boys) and the girl (aged 9 years) is at Dame Hannah Rogers School (admitted January 1950).

11. **Speech Defect.** (Pupils who, on account of stammering, aphasia, or defect of voice or articulation not due to deafness require special educational treatment).

There are no children who come within this category at present. Those known to have a speech defect attend the Speech Therapy Clinic—see report on page 47.



**A RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1950 WITH COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR 1949.**

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	Periodic Inspections No. of defects			Special Inspections 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	
		1950	1949		1950	1949		
4.	Skin	33	30	34	681	791	—	4
5.	Eyes—							
	a. Vision	230	237	9	70	34	—	2
	b. Squint	19	22	1	10	5	—	—
	c. Other	6	10	8	136	246	7	2
6.	Ears—							
	a. Hearing	8	9	7	9	13	—	—
	b. Otitis Media	3	4	3	1	—	—	—
	c. Other	16	14	16	228	214	2	1
7.	Nose or Throat	177	102	133	224	327	7	4
8.	Speech	7	8	5	8	2	2	1
9.	Cervical Glands	1	3	17	41	79	2	1
10.	Heart and Circulation	17	7	29	3	5	9	8
11.	Lungs	6	8	3	—	1	—	1
12.	Developmental—							
	a. Hernia	4	2	5	1	1	1	—
	b. Other	2	4	7	1	6	5	4
13.	Orthopaedic—							
	a. Posture	17	45	45	1	6	3	4
	b. Flat foot	34	67	86	2	11	1	3
	c. Other	19	51	64	14	12	7	2
14.	Nervous system							
	a. Epilepsy	—	1	—	—	2	—	—
	b. Other	4	6	20	14	8	14	5
15.	Psychological—							
	a. Development	1	—	1	—	—	2	5
	b. Stability	—	2	1	2	3	2	—
16.	Other	57	52	163	2160	1576	138	20



## SCHOOL DENTAL SERVICES

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As will be seen elsewhere in this report the School Dental Service has one short of its full establishment of three dentists since 20-11-48. Although the post was repeatedly advertised no applicants were forthcoming.

With two dental surgeons it was found to be impossible to keep pace with the demand for dental treatment and with the routine inspection of school children. In fact the demand for treatment is now so great that it is doubtful if the full complement of three dental surgeons could adequately cope with it.

It is increasingly clear that since the inception of the National Health Service Act dental practitioners are so overlaid with work that they are unable and unwilling to give time to the treatment of school children thus the pressure on the School Dental Service with its depleted staff has so increased that an undue proportion of its time has to be devoted to emergency treatment for the removal of pain to the detriment of conservative work.

As long as the remuneration of the School dentist continues to compare so unfavourably with that of the dentist under the National Health Service Scheme one can foresee that eventually no recruits will be tempted into the service and many of those in it will take up private practice. Thus the preventive and conservative work of the School Dental Service will continue to decline and with it this most valuable contribution to the health of the nation.

Appended are the relevant statistical details of the work of the School dentists during the year.

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## DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

- (1) Numbers of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers:—

(a)	Periodic age groups	...	...	1756
(b)	Specials	...	...	—
(c)	Total (periodic and specials)	...	...	1756



(2)	Number found to require treatment	...	1315
(3)	Number actually treated	... ..	2206
(4)	Attendances made by pupils for treatment		5751
(5)	Half-days devoted to:		
	(a) Inspection	... ..	21
	(b) Treatment	... ..	824
	Total (a) & (b)		845
(6)	Fillings:		
	Permanent Teeth	... ..	889
	Temporary Teeth	... ..	61
	Total		950
(7)	Extractions:		
	Permanent Teeth	... ..	486
	Temporary Teeth	... ..	2695
	Total		3181
(8)	Administration of general anaesthetics for extraction	... ..	1403
(9)	Other Operations:		
	(a) Permanent Teeth	... ..	649
	(b) Temporary Teeth	... ..	1706
	Total (a) & (b)		2355

## DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental

(a) Periodic and groups

(b) Special

(c) Total (periodic and special)

## REPORT OF THE AREA MEDICAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR ENDED, 1950



I have pleasure in submitting the Report of the Area Medical Officer of Swindon for the year 1950. It will be appreciated that Dr. Thomas Ross, my predecessor left Swindon on 15-5-50 to take up his new appointment as M.O.H. of Walsall and that I succeeded him on October 1st, 1950. Much of this report therefore concerns matters which occurred before I took over in Swindon and in consequence I cannot report as fully as I hope to do in future.

### Medical Staff.

During the year the following staff changes took place:—

Dr. T. Ross resigned 15-5-50.

Dr. J. Urquhart appointed 1-10-50.

Dr. A. H. Griffith—Assistant M.O.H. appointed temporary Deputy and Assistant School Medical Officer 15-5-50.

Dr. S. B. S. Smith—Assistant M.O.H. appointed 28-2-50.

Dr. G. Moffett—Part-time Assistant M.O.H. resigned 28-2-50.

Dr. A. Wyatt—Part-time Assistant M.O.H. resigned 28-2-50.

### SWINDON HEALTH CENTRE

I am given to understand that a comprehensive report on the Swindon Health Centre is being included elsewhere in the report of the County Medical Officer of Health and that the information on this Centre usually submitted by the Area Medical Officer is contained therein. I would therefore merely direct the attention of the Committee to this section of the County Medical Officer's report.

### Dental Department.

Dental Surgeons	-	-	2	
Dental Technicians	-	-	5	(including Apprentice)
Dental Attendants	-	-	2	
Dental Receptionist	-	-	1	

During the year there were 11,044 attendances for treatment and the following shows the procedure carried out:—

Fillings			Extrac- tions	X-rays	repairs	Dentures	
Scalings	Amalgams	Synthetic				Manufac- tured	Treatments
211	1122	351	5798	269	688	1478	6103

### Pharmacy.

The Pharmacy dealt with 136,765 prescriptions during the year.



### ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS.

Clinics at which a Doctor is in attendance are held weekly as follows:—

37, Milton Road	-	Tuesdays Thursdays	{	1-30 to 4 p.m.
Beech Avenue	-	Mondays Fridays	{	1-30 to 4 p.m.
				1950      1949
Number of women who attended these Clinics during the period				-      -      924      455
Number of attendances made during the period				-      -      4199      5735

The arrangements whereby, in conjunction with the Regional Hospital Board, Consultant Obstetrician and Gynaecological clinics are held in County Council premises, continues to work satisfactorily. The services of the medical staff at the Swindon Maternity Hospital have continued to be used and two general practitioner obstetricians are also employed on a sessional basis in ante-natal clinics.

It will be noted from the statistics given above that the number of women attending the clinic has almost doubled although the total number of attendances made is somewhat less.

### INFANT WELFARE CLINICS

Centre	Day and Time		Number of consultations with doctor	Number of attendances
61 Eastcott Hill	Monday Wednesday Friday	x x x	2 to 5 p.m.	1732 (1734) 5729 (5999)
Beech Avenue, Pinehurst	Tuesday	x	2 to 4 p.m.	768 (477) 2794 (2575)
Gorse Hill	Wednesday	xx	2 to 4 p.m.	261 (213) 1854 (2095)
Rodbourne	Thursday	x	2 to 4 p.m.	447 (205) 1501 (1546)
Moredon	Monday	x	2 to 4 p.m.	29 (97) 1176 (1310)

x Doctor in attendance.

Figures for 1949 appear in brackets.

xx Doctor in attendance alternate weeks.

As will be seen from the above statistics there was during the year an increase in the total number of consultations at the Child Welfare Clinics. The clinic at Rodbourne Cheney was transferred on 30th October, 1950 to the Community Centre at Moredon and the clinic day changed from Friday to Monday to enable a doctor to be in attendance.

The paediatrician appointed by the Regional Hospital Board continued to hold weekly consultation clinics at Eastcott Hill. The number of attendances made at these clinics in respect of 33 pre-school children was 97.



## CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS

Number of premature babies born:—

(i) At home	-	-	-	-	17
(ii) In Hospital or Nursing Home	-	-	-	-	7

Number who died during first 24 hours:—

(i) Born at Home	-	-	-	-	1
(ii) Born in Hospital or Nursing Home	-	-	-	-	—

Number who survived at end of one month:—

(i) Born at home	-	-	-	-	16
(ii) Born in Hospital or Nursing Home	-	-	-	-	7

There is close co-operation between the Swindon & District Maternity Hospital and the Local Authority in the care of premature infants. The Maternity Hospital continues to advise the Local Authority about all infants due for discharge who require special follow up by health visitors, and the hospital authorities have always been ready to admit any premature child born at home who requires special hospital treatment.

## DENTAL CARE

CLASS	No. inspected	No. requiring treatment	No. treated	No. made dentally fit	No. of teeth extracted local Anaes.	No. of teeth extracted Gen. Anaes.	No. of General Anaesthetics	Fillings	Other operations*	Dentures	Repairs	Attendances
Expectant Mothers	52	44	31	31	47	15	7	35	26	3	—	165
Nursing Mothers	17	12	11	11	21	25	6	12	17	—	—	66
Totals	69	56	42	42	68	40	13	47	43	3	—	231
Pre-School Children	226	138	133	133	5	159	107	7	348	2	—	565
TOTALS	295	194	175	175	73	199	120	54	391	5	—	796

The staff of Dental Officers has been maintained at two, supported by two attendants.

\* "Other Operations." These figures include Silver Nitrate, Zinc Oxide and Carbolised Resin Dressings.



### SUPPLY OF WELFARE FOODS

During the year there was a considerable fall in the amount of infant foods sold at the clinics. In all 4189 16 oz. packets were sold for which £503-11-10d. was received. It is found that more and more mothers are feeding their children on National Dried Milk which is considerably cheaper than the proprietary foods and this accounts for the decreased sales of such foods at the clinics.

### PROVISION OF MATERNITY OUTFITS

330 Maternity Outfits were issued from this office during the year.

### DAY NURSERIES

Number of Nurseries	Number of Approved Places		No. of children on the Register at the end of the year		Average daily attendance		
	0 - 2	2 - 5	0 - 2	2 - 5	0 - 2	2 - 5	
Nurseries maintained by the Council	2	30	60	4	70	8	51

No staffing difficulties have been encountered during the year. There was during the year an increasing demand for places at the Day Nurseries and a constantly growing waiting list of applicants. This has necessitated a close scrutiny of reasons for mothers seeking admission of their children to the nurseries and the acceptance of only the most necessitous cases when vacancies did arise. (Waiting list at 31-12-50—113).

### FAMILY PLANNING ASSOCIATION

The Family Planning Association continued to hold clinics at Eastcott Hill Clinic weekly.

### TREATMENT OF INFANTS FOR ORTHOPAEDIC AND OPHTHALMIC DEFECTS

87 children were referred to the Orthopaedic Clinic and made 94 attendances at the Surgeon's session and 228 attendances at Sister's clinic.

41 children were seen by the Ophthalmologist involving 96 attendances.



### MIDWIFERY SERVICE

The following is an analysis of the midwifery carried out in the area during the year:—

Category	Domiciliary Cases		Cases in Institutions		Total	
	As Midwives	As Maternity Nurses	As Midwives	As Maternity Nurses	As Midwives	As Maternity Nurses
(1) Midwives employed by the Authority	380	55	—	—	380	55
(2) Midwives employed by Hospital Management Comm.	—	—	644	—	644	—
(3) Midwives in Private Practice	4	3	—	146	4	149
Totals:	384	58	644	146	1028	204

### ADMINISTRATION OF GAS AND AIR ANALGESIA

At the end of the year there were seven Midwives and all were qualified to administer gas and air analgesia. Analgesia was administered in 358 cases where the midwife acted as such and in 58 cases where the midwife acted as maternity nurse, making a total of 416 administrations in 442 cases.

### MIDWIVES ACT, 1918

Medical Aid was summoned in 30 domiciliary cases during the year.

### HEALTH VISITING

Number of visits paid by Health Visitors:—

Expectant Mothers		Children under 1 year of age		Children between the ages of 1 and 5	Other Classes
First visits	Total visits	First visits	Total visits	Total visits	Total visits
49	60	1031	5211	6631	1649

Number of live births notified during the year 1374

Number of stillbirths during the year - - 38

Included in "Other Classes" in this Table are 481 visits to cases of infectious diseases, and 529 visits to cases of tuberculosis.



The Health Visiting staff has remained as before, namely, one Senior Health Visitor and seven Health Visitors.

As will be seen from the above statistics the number of home visits paid by the Health Visitors has been well maintained in spite of the wide variety of other duties and clinic attendances that fall on their willing shoulders.

### HOME NURSING

Four fully trained nurses are employed on District Nursing duties. They work in close co-operation with the general practitioners and hospital authorities, and continue to provide an adequate service. During the year the demand for their services increased considerably especially in respect of aged people. In all they paid 20,042 visits in respect of 1165 cases and an increase of over 5000 visits as compared with 1949.

### VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

It has not been found necessary so far to institute vaccination clinics on a sessional basis, and any applicants have been referred to their family doctors with the results indicated in the table provided:—

		Under 1 year	1 to 4 years	5 to 14 years	15 years and over	Total
Primary Vaccination	-	72	33	17	34	156
Re-vaccination	-	7	3	8	58	76
TOTALS	-	79	36	25	92	232

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Number of Clinics held	-	-	-	52
Total number of attendances	-	-	-	873
Number of children who have completed course	-	-	-	307
Number of children immunised by general practitioners	-	-	-	83
Total number immunised	-	-	-	390
Re-inforcing injections	-	-	-	83

Weekly clinics are held regularly at 61, Eastcott Hill, and at Pinehurst Sub-clinic a session is held on alternate weeks.

It will be noted that the number of children immunised during the year is less than in 1949. This is largely due to the fact that owing to the incidence of poliomyelitis during the months of July to October immunisation clinics were discontinued. To counteract



this, the campaign for immunisation during the winter and spring months is being intensified and it is hoped that the results of our efforts will be reflected in next years statistics.

## PROVISION OF NURSING EQUIPMENT AND APPARATUS

As from 1st April 1950 the Medical Loan Depot was wholly transferred to the Swindon Health Centre and administered by the Clerk-in-Charge. There is a steady demand for all types of equipment and particularly for the 25 invalid chairs all of which are in constant use during the summer months.

### DOMESTIC HELP

Number of full-time domestic helps on books at the end of the year	-	-	-	16
Number of part-time domestic helps on books at the end of the year	-	-	-	4
Number of householders helped during the year:—				
(a) Maternity cases	-	-	-	66
(b) Other cases	-	-	-	106
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>172</b>

Number of hours of assistance provided during the year:—				
(a) Maternity cases	-	-	-	5509
(b) Other cases	-	-	-	25925
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31434</b>

Number of domestic help hours available - 33011

Number of cases in which full fee was not charged 147

The demands on the domestic help service continued to increase during the year and in all four additional whole time, and one part time, home helps were added to the staff. Recruitment to the service did not prove difficult and it is felt that if financial provisions were available the staff could be obtained.

With the increasing demand for this service the administration of it becomes more complicated. We try to help as many applicants as possible and home visits have to be paid to assess the needs of each household and to allocate the Domestic Helps accordingly. In this respect the services of our Social Worker Miss Orr proved invaluable and eased the burden of social visits that would otherwise fall on the health visitors.



I would add that this Service is one that is really appreciated by the public as evidenced by the lavish expressions of thanks from almost every household where help has been given.

### **MATERNITY BEDS**

All women who apply for admission for confinement to the Maternity Hospital and who are not immediately booked on clinical grounds, are referred to this department for a home report. These investigations are made by the Social Worker and during the year 193 such cases were dealt with.

### **NOTIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM, AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA**

There were no cases of ophthalmia neonatorum notified during the year.

13 cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified, all being in institutional confinements. No notifications were received in respect of domiciliary confinements which reflects well on the ante natal care as all cases where complications are anticipated are admitted to hospital.

**JAMES URQUHART**

Area Medical Officer.





It is not necessary to state that the above is a summary of the results of the investigation, and that the details of the work are given in the accompanying report.

## RESULTS

The results of the investigation are given in the accompanying report, and are summarized in the following table:

## NOTIFICATION AND TREATMENT OF ORBITAL AND NASAL PYREXIA

The following table shows the results of the investigation:

The results of the investigation are given in the accompanying report, and are summarized in the following table:

## TABLE I

Results of the investigation





