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# ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health of the Rural District of

## THORNBURY

FOR THE YEAR

. 1947 .

By the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH



BRISTOL :  
LODGE & SON, LTD., 43 WEST STREET.





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ON THE

Health of the Rural District of

## THORNBURY

FOR THE YEAR

• 1947 •



BY

W. J. DOUGLAS COOPER, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

*Medical Officer of Health.*

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

THORNBURY

FOR THE YEAR

1917

W. J. DODD, TOWN CLERK

THORNBURY, MASS.

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---

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## Vice-Chairman

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## Public Health Staff

### *Medical Officer of Health—*

January 1947—October 1947 : J. H. KITSON, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.P.H.

October 1947, Appointed Medical Officer of Health, Londonderry C.C.

October 1947 : W. J. DOUGLAS COOPER, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

### *Chief Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor—*

R. HUNTINGTON, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

*Additional Sanitary Inspector :* W. G. R. STEVENSON, M.R.S.I.

### *Building Surveyor and Sanitary Inspectors Assistants :*

F. GUNNELL, K. N. SHILTON, J. T. OVENS

*Senior Clerk to Public Health Department :* MISS IRIS TUDOR.

THEORY OF ALGEBRA

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# ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

— 1947 —

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Thornbury Rural District Council.*

MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my First Annual Report on the Health of this District.

The report is based in accordance with the requirements on the Ministry of Health Circular 170/47, and statistics are calculated from returns made by the Registrar-General.

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

No important change has taken place in the nature of the chief trades carried out in the District. These are :—

- (1) Agriculture and Allied Trades.
- (2) Sharpness Docks and Ship Building.
- (3) Quarrying.
- (4) Brick and Tile Manufacturing.
- (5) Caravan Building.
- (6) Braid and Loom Elastic and Smallwares.
- (7) Salmon Fisheries.
- (8) Flour Mills.
- (9) Baking.
- (10) Aircraft Engineering.

## STATISTICS.

### (a) General Statistics.

Area of District	... ..	61,337 acres.
Population (Registrar General's estimate mid-1947)	... ..	23,920.
Number of inhabited properties (Rate Books)	... ..	6,690.
Number of inhabitants per property	...	3.5.
Rateable Value	... ..	£123,487.
Sum represented by penny rate	... ..	£501.
Number of Council Houses	... ..	665.
Number of Requisitioned Houses	... ..	10.
Percentage of Council Houses	... ..	10.8%.



**Inhabited Properties.**

Houses	...	...	...	...	5,789
Farms	...	...	...	...	590
Houses and Shops	...	...	...	...	240
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	71
Total	...	...	...	...	<u>6,690</u>

Percentage of area served by Mains Water	...	...	...	...	49.9%
Percentage of area served by Modern Sewers	...	...	...	...	33.9%

**Varying Populations of Thornbury Rural District.**

Year	Population
1891	16,542
1905 (parish of Henbury taken in)	18,419
1913	19,223
1919	17,478
1938	19,480
1939	20,470
1940	23,330
1941	24,610
1942	24,440
1943	23,730
1944	22,990
1945	22,790
1946	23,500
1947	23,920

From these figures it can be seen that the population of the area still continues to increase.

**(b) Extracts from Vital Statistics.**

	M.	F.	Total
Live Births—Legitimate	220	228	448
Illegitimate	8	9	17
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population mid-1947			19.4
Birth Rate England and Wales			20.5
Still Births—Legitimate	5	3	8
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still births) =			17.2
<i>Deaths.</i>	124	119	243
Death Rate England and Wales	...	...	12.0
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated average population			10.1

*Number of women dying in, or in consequence of Childbirth :*

From Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	1
From other causes	...	...	...	...	...	1
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)	...	...	...	...	...	4.3

*Death of Infants under one year.*

					M.	F.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	8	8	16
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	8	8	16

*Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.*

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	60.0
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	35.7
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	941
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	33
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	2
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years)	...	...	...	2
Deaths from Tuberculosis (all ages)	...	...	...	8

*The most common causes of Death in this District are in order :—*

(1) Heart Diseases	...	...	...	...	80 cases
(2) Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions...	...	...	...	...	38 cases
(3) Cancer	...	...	...	...	33 cases
(4) Diseases of the Circulatory System	...	...	...	...	13 cases
(5) Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	8 cases
(6) Violent Causes	...	...	...	...	8 cases

*Death Rates per 1,000 of population 1941-1947**Birth Rates per 1,000 of population 1941-1947*

1941	...	...	...	11.5	1941	...	...	...	17.3
1942	...	...	...	11.1	1942	...	...	...	19.2
1943	...	...	...	10.9	1943	...	...	...	18.6
1944	...	...	...	11.0	1944	...	...	...	21.0
1945	...	...	...	10.8	1945	...	...	...	19.9
1946	...	...	...	12.0	1946	...	...	...	18.7
1947	...	...	...	10.1	1947	...	...	...	19.4









## TUBERCULOSIS.

Age	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5 years	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—
5-15 „ ...	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
15-25 „ ...	1	—	—	1	—	2	—	—
25-35 „ ...	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
35-45 „ ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-55 „ ...	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
55-65 „ ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 upwards ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Age Unknown	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
<b>TOTALS ...</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>

**GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA****(1) Laboratory Services.**

- (a) Examinations of Sputa, Swabs and Blood are carried out by the Department of Preventive Medicine, Bristol University, through an arrangement with the County Council.
- (b) Bacterial Examinations of Water are carried out for the Council by Rowland Ellis, City and County of Gloucester Analyst.
- (c) Biological examinations of milk are carried out for the Council by the Department of Preventive Medicine, Bristol.

**(2) Ambulance Facilities.**

The St. John Ambulance Brigade and the Berkeley and District Hospital Ambulances continue to serve the area for all accidents and ordinary cases. All infectious diseases are removed to hospital by Ham Green Infectious Diseases Hospital Ambulance, Bristol.

**(3) Hospitals.**

Two small hospitals serve the District. These are the Almondsbury Memorial Hospital and the Berkeley and District Hospital, Berkeley. All Infectious Diseases requiring hospitalisation are removed to Ham Green Infectious Diseases Hospital, Bristol.



**(4) Nurseries.**

There is one Nursery in the district at Patchway. This is administered by the Gloucestershire County Council.

**(5) Diphtheria Immunisation.**

This is carried out by the local General Practitioners, the School Medical Officers, and the Local Welfare Centre Clinics.

**(6) Mortuaries.**

The district is served by the hospital mortuaries of Berkeley and District General Hospital and that of the Thornbury Institution. Recently arrangements were made with Sodbury Rural District Council to have the use of their Mortuary at Filton for the South part of the District.

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

ANNUAL RETURN FOR YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1947.

IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of children who had completed a full course at any time up to 31st December, 1947.

Age at 31. 12. 47. i.e. Born in Year	Under 1 1947	1 1946	2 1945	3 1944	4 1943	5-9 1938-42	10-14 1933-37	Total under 15
Number Immunised :	8	171	235	276	261	1531	1279	3,761
Estimated Mid- year Child Population 1947	Children under 5 2210					Children 5-14 3610		5,820

#### Number of Children immunised since 1932.

1932 ... ..	217	1940 ... ..	345
1933 ... ..	242	1941 ... ..	308
1934 ... ..	253	1942 ... ..	308
1935 ... ..	242	1943 ... ..	261
1936 ... ..	262	1944 ... ..	276
1937 ... ..	280	1945 ... ..	277
1938 ... ..	276	1946 ... ..	171
1939 ... ..	294	1947 ... ..	287



**HOUSING.**

The housing situation in the district is still very bad. From the Rural District Housing Survey carried out in the district during 1947, it can be seen that 5.82% of the houses examined are unfit for human habitation and beyond repair.

The Housing Application Table shows that 934 families have applied for Council Houses, and as these families are of varying sizes the need for two and four bed-roomed houses is imperative in the near future to relieve this pressing situation.

From the other table it can be seen that only 49 houses were completed in 1947 and the number of houses in process of building was 104. These few houses can only partially relieve the large amount of unfit houses and statutory overcrowding that exists in this Rural District.

**Number of Council Houses Finished in 1947.**

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Number</i>
Thornbury (temporary bungalows) ...	20
Woodhouse Down, Almondsbury ...	6
Patchway Common ... ..	14
	—
Total ... ..	49
	—

**Number of Council Houses in process of Building, 1947.**

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Number</i>
Oldbury-on-Severn ... ..	4
Old Down ... ..	6
Alveston ... ..	8
Thornbury ... ..	42
Pilning ... ..	18
Tytherington ... ..	14
Patchway Common ... ..	12
	—
	104
	—

## RURAL HOUSING SURVEY

Type of Property	Reasonably fit in all respects	Minor Defects	Requiring repairs	Appropriate for reconditioning	Unfit for habitation beyond repair	
Parish	Category 1	Category 2	Category 3	Category 4	Category 5	TOTALS
Alveston	71	25	224	5	14	339
Alkington	—	52	81	4	24	161
Aust	—	5	67	10	7	89
Almondsbury	31	1,228	398	17	59	1,733
Berkeley	—	75	132	—	42	249
Charfield	—	99	100	2	3	204
Cromhall	—	40	91	17	10	158
Falfield	—	9	79	7	6	101
Hamfallow	—	106	77	3	25	211
Hinton	—	245	126	5	10	386
Ham & Stone	—	15	43	17	12	87
Hill	—	—	17	9	—	26
Olveston	—	69	188	1	26	284
Oldbury-on-Severn	—	17	103	1	3	124
Rockhampton	—	—	16	4	1	21
Rangeworthy	—	44	10	1	7	62
Redwick & Northwick	3	107	241	7	21	379
Tytherington	24	43	42	4	3	116
Tortworth	—	12	33	—	—	45
Thornbury	102	211	197	3	37	550
Totals	231	2,402	2,265	117	310	5,325
Percentage of totals	4.33%	45.13%	42.53%	2.19%	5.82%	100%



**THORNBURY RURAL DISTRICT**  
**HOUSING APPLICATIONS — GENERAL CATEGORIES**

Parish	1 in family	2 in family	3 in family	4 in family	5 in family	6 in family	7 in family	8 in family	9 in family	10 in family	11 in family	12 in family	13 in family	Total
Alkington ...	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Almondsbury ...	—	18	16	5	3	1	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	47
Patchway ...	14	85	72	31	13	4	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	225
Alveston ...	3	20	11	5	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	42
Aust ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Berkeley ...	2	12	26	13	8	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	66
Charfield ...	3	14	11	7	5	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	45
Cromhall ...	4	6	6	3	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	23
Falfield ...	—	2	2	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Hamfallow ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hinton ...	3	21	29	21	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	77
Ham & Stone ...	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Hill ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oldbury-on-Severn ...	—	3	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Olveston ...	1	7	8	7	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	24
Rangeworthy ...	1	6	2	1	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15
Redwick & Northwick ...	1	17	22	7	6	3	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	62
Rockhampton ...	2	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Thornbury ...	8	56	54	28	12	5	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	166
Tortworth ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tytherington ...	4	8	10	7	4	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	36
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>854</b>



**THORNBURY RURAL DISTRICT**  
**HOUSING APPLICATIONS — AGRICULTURAL CATEGORIES**

Parish	1 in family	2 in family	3 in family	4 in family	5 in family	6 in family	7 in family	8 in family	Totals
Alkington	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	2
Almondsbury	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	4
Patchway	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Alveston	—	4	2	1	1	—	—	—	8
Aust	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Berkeley	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Charfield	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Cromhall	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Falfield	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	3
Hamfallow	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hinton	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Ham & Stoke	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Hill	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Oldbury-on-Severn	1	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	6
Olveston	—	2	4	4	—	—	—	—	10
Rangeworthy	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Redwick & Northwick	—	3	3	3	—	—	1	—	11
Rockhampton	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3
Thornbury	—	8	5	3	1	1	—	—	18
Tortworth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tytherington	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	5
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>80</b>

<b>Total Number of Farms in District</b>	...	...	590
Number of Farms registered as Tuberculin Tested			44
Number of Farms registered as Accredited		...	91
Percentage of farms in district producing T.T. milk			7.4%
Percentage of farms producing Designated milk	...		22.8%

### Number of Farms in District.

Alkington	...	...	32	<i>B/Fwd.</i>	...	...	319
Almondsbury	...	...	90	Hinton	...	...	20
Alveston	...	...	42	Oldbury	...	...	44
Aust	...	...	23	Olveston	...	...	42
Charfield	...	...	21	Rangeworthy	...	...	6
Cromhall	...	...	19	Redwick & Northwick	...	...	58
Falfield	...	...	21	Rockhampton	...	...	16
Ham and Stone	...	...	22	Thornbury	...	...	59
Hamfallow	...	...	38	Tortworth	...	...	7
Hill	...	...	11	Tytherington	...	...	19
			<hr/>				
			<i>C/Fwd.</i>	319	Total	...	590
							<hr/>

## MILK SUPPLIES AND FARMS

### Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Licence Holders by Parishes

Parish	Tuberculin Tested	Accredited	Total
Alkington	3	7	10
Almondsbury	3	13	16
Alveston	3	3	6
Aust	4	4	8
Berkeley	5	3	8
Charfield	3	4	7
Cromhall	1	1	2
Falfield	1	3	4
Hamfallow	1	2	3
Ham & Stone	1	4	5
Hill	—	2	2
Hinton	2	1	3
Oldbury-on-Severn	3	9	12
Olveston	3	4	7
Rangeworthy	1	2	3
Redwick & Northwick	—	8	8
Rockhampton	1	6	7
Thornbury	7	12	19
Tortworth	1	1	2
Tytherington	1	2	3
<b>Totals</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>135</b>



## WATER SUPPLY

Main water supplies to the district are maintained by the West Gloucestershire Water Company and the Bristol Waterworks Company.

49.9% of the district is served by mains water. The rest of the district is served by wells, boreholes, etc.

Analysis of a sample of water received on January 6th, 1948, from West Gloucestershire Water Company :—

Labelled : Shipton Moyne, Consumer's Tap, Chlorinated water ; taken by C. W. Hooper. Date : January 5th, 1948, 10.30 a.m.

Chemical results expressed in parts per million.

Appearance—Very faint opalescence with a very slight flocculent deposit of iron oxide.

Turbidity (Silica Scale) Less than 5.

Colour (Hazen) Nil.

Odour. Nil.

Reaction, pH Neutral : 7.4 Free Carbon Dioxide 14.

Electric conductivity at 20°C. 615. Alkalinity as CaCO<sub>3</sub> 240.

Ca	Mg	Na	CO <sub>3</sub>	SO <sub>4</sub>	Cl	NO <sub>3</sub>	SiO <sub>2</sub>	Probable Combinations	
79	9.4		144	48	49	A	16		
79			118					Calcium Carbonate ...	197
	9.4		23					Magnesium Carbonate	32
		2	3					Sodium Carbonate ...	5
		23		48				Sodium Sulphate ...	71
		34			49			Sodium Chloride ...	83
							16	Silica ... ..	16
								Difference ... ..	1
Total solid constituents dried at 180°C. ...									405

\* Hardness—Total 235. Carbonate (Temporary) 235. Non-carbonate (Permanent) 0.

Nitrogen in Nitrates 0.0. Nitrogen in Nitrites, Less than 0.01.

Free Ammonia : 0.20 (N. : 0.16) Free chlorine 0.07.

Albuminoid Ammonia 0.000 (N : 0.000) Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27°C. 0.00.

Metals—Iron : 0.54. Other metals absent.

Fluorine (F.) : 0.3.

\* Hardness : the precise figure calculated from calcium and magnesium contents.



## BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

*(Bacteriological sampling bottles are treated to remove chlorine if this is present at the time of sampling).*

Number of Colonies developing on Agar per c.c. or ml. in

1 day at 37°C.—5 2 days at 37°C.—7 3 days at 20°C.—7.

Presumptive Coliform Reaction	Present in—	Absent from 100 ml.
Bact. coli.	Present in—	Absent from 100 ml.
Cl. welchii Reaction	Present in—	Absent from 100 ml.

**Water Supply.**

The area not at present provided with a piped water supply is generally served by shallow wells. Speaking generally, these all result in reports indicating contamination. Of 21 samples taken, only three were satisfactory. In five cases, connections were made to a mains supply, in three cases the contemplated development was not proceeded with, in one other case, at a fairly large works the water is chlorinated. In the remaining nine cases action was taken to improve the conditions but without a great deal of success.

The Council is aware of the unsatisfactory conditions. Ministry of Health approval has been received to the Northern scheme, and it is hoped that work will commence on it in 1948. The scheme to supply the remainder of the Southern part of the district is prepared but has not yet been submitted to the Ministry.

The lack of a suitable water supply is holding up the provision of new dwellings in the rural parts of the district. Erection of a small number of agricultural workers dwellings is proceeding, with rain water storage tanks.

**Rivers and Streams.**

During the year inspections have been made of all the sewage plants in the district. The large plants are satisfactory, but the small plants need regular attention to maintain a satisfactory effluent. There is no major pollution, but localised contamination does occur as the result of the conditions referred to under the heading of "Drainage and Sewerage."



### BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS FOR 1947.

The following are the *average* bacteriological results of the Bristol Waterworks Supply during 1947.

The treated water samples were taken at the Company's Central Depot in Broad Quay, while the raw water was sampled at Barrow just before filtration and chlorination.

		<i>Treated Water</i> (Central Depot)	<i>Raw Water</i> (Barrow Gauge House)
Number of samples	... ..	54	54
<i>Colonies per ml. growing on Agar.</i>			
3 days at 20°C.	... ..	9.7	915
2 days at 37°C.	... ..	7.0	76
<i>Bacillus Coli per 100 mls.</i>			
Typical	... ..	0.037	37.8
Presumptive	... ..	0.037	54.5

Parish	Estimated Population	No. of Properties in Parish	No. of Properties connected with a piped water supply	
			Meter	Domestic
Alkington...	736	220	—	—
Almondsbury ...	7,500	2,300	108	1,839
Alveston ...	1,278	443	42	269
Aust ...	453	146	Private supply	
Berkeley ...	1,002	358	—	50
Charfield ...	865	298	—	—
Cromhall ...	586	192	12	74
Falfield ...	400	134	5	1
Ham & Stone ...	666	Burial area 125	—	—
	Outside B.A.	76	—	—
Hamfallow ...	1,008	282	—	—
Hinton ...	1,840	500	—	—
Hill ...	158	47	—	—
Oldbury-on-Severn	563	189	—	—
Olveston ...	1,124	403	42	196
Rangeworthy ...	252	88	—	—
Redwick and Northwick ...	1,670	547	80	402
Rockhampton ...	146	47	—	—
Tortworth ...	216	60	—	—
Tytherington ...	578	162	31	95
Thornbury ...	2,720	896	47	531
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>23,761</b>	<b>7,513</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>3,457</b>



**DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE**

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Existing Conditions</i>
ALKINGTON	The foul and storm water drainage from one village discharges untreated into a stream.
ALMONDSBURY	The more densely populated part of this parish is sewered on the separate system and connected with the Filton and Frome Valley Joint Sewerage Works. The sewers are modern and reasonably well designed. The 4-inch combined house drains taking upwards of eight houses are frequently affected by blockages. A group of Council Houses, a Mental Hospital and several Hotels are served by small sewage disposal plants. The villages of Hallen, East Compton and Almondsbury require the provision of proper sewerage schemes.
ALVESTON	There are no existing sewers. Two small disposal plants serve a Hostel and Council Housing Estate. The lack of a sewage scheme is holding up development.
AUST	The foul and storm water drainage in the three villages discharges into ditches and streams, etc. giving rise to nuisance.
BERKELEY	The combined sewers and drains are old clay jointed pipes with few manholes for access. Many connections are by means of untrapped or obsolete type gulleys. There is frequent trouble from smells. The sewage is discharged untreated into a tidal pill.
CHARFIELD	There are no known proper public sewers. A number of properties are connected with an old parish drain, which discharges into the Little Avon river. Two groups of 40 Council Houses with drainage to cesspits have recently amplified my previous requests for the area to be sewered.
CROMHALL	There are no sewers. Some properties discharge foul water into a stream.
FALFIELD.	There are no public sewers. A Home Office establishment and an Hotel have private disposal plants which have recently been reconditioned.
HAMFALLOW	Several groups of properties discharge drainage into ditches, and nuisances exist. The area lends itself to being sewered with the adjoining parish of Hinton.



- HAM AND STONE** A number of ditches are the only means for the disposal of foul water. Recent action has resulted in a temporary reduction of the nuisance. The village of Stone should be sewered.
- HILL** This is a very scattered rural village. There are no sewers. Farm drainage discharging to ditches gives rise to some nuisance.
- HINTON** The Newtown and Docks are of this parish, are sewered and discharge untreated into the tidal River Severn. Some of the sewers are defective, unventilated, and constructed of clay jointed pipes. One portion of the sewer has this year been relaid and modified. The drainage of other Hamlets and villages discharges into ditches and water courses giving rise to frequent complaints.
- OLDBURY-ON-SEVERN** There are no sewers. The low lying and scattered development would make the cost of sewerage expensive.
- OLVESTON** The Council has accepted the responsibility of cleaning several water courses which receive the drainage of the two main villages. Proper sewers and sewage disposal is urgently needed.
- RANGEWORTHY** The village consists of scattered development. There are no public sewers.
- REDWICK AND NORTHWICK** Portions of this parish were provided with foul water sewers by the building developer. These have been taken over by the Council. The sewage is stored and pumped into the River Severn during suitable periods of the tide. The present sewerage scheme is not entirely satisfactory, and it should be re-designed and extended to the other developed parts of the parish.
- ROCKHAMPTON** A small rural parish. There are no public sewers. Farm drainage discharging to ditches occasionally gives rise to complaints.
- THORNBURY** The town was provided with foul water sewers in 1934. They are in excellent condition, and discharge to a modern sewage works. The outlying parts of the town require sewerage by extensions to the existing sewers and sewage works.
- TORTWORTH** A small scattered rural parish. The Tortworth Estate is at present used by the Home Office as a Prison. The Ministry of Works installed a modern



sewage Works in 1943, as the result of complaints by the Council. The plant has been used for experimental purposes by the Water Pollution Research Laboratory and it is now operating satisfactorily on the double filtration principle.

**TYTHERINGTON** There are no public sewers. Drainage from individual houses and Council Houses occasionally cause nuisances. A small disposal plant has been installed at the Council School and the same method will be adopted to deal with the council's new housing development. The village should be properly sewered.

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Only two full-time attendants are employed at the Thornbury Works. The provision of small sewage plants at new housing sites will necessitate additional staff.

As the result of frequent adverse reports on the general sanitary conditions of the district the Council agreed to extend the Consulting Engineers terms of reference, and their report on the sewerage of the district has now been received. Schemes have been prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Health for sewerage works at Berkeley, Alveston, Olveston, Redwick and Northwick and Thornbury.

The lack of sewers generally is holding up new housing development particularly at Alveston, Almondsbury and Redwick and Northwick.

#### **4. Closet Accommodation.**

There has been steady progress towards the abolition of privy pits and the provision of improved earth closets and water closets.

During the year ten privy pits were converted to earth closets, twenty-one properties were provided with water closets.

Despite Building Licence restrictions there has been a noticeable tendency by farmers and private householders to instal Hot and Cold Water systems, Bathrooms and water closets. It is to be hoped that this appreciation of modern sanitation will continue.

#### **5. Public Cleansing.**

Refuse and Salvage collection and disposal by direct labour has continued in operation. Except for two days during the exceptional wintry weather the service was maintained on the



principle of weekly collections in all the larger built-up areas, monthly collections in the villages and "three-monthly" collections in the three small rural parishes. As the result of a serious accident involving a vehicle and personnel, several loader/drivers resigned. It was necessary to engage four new workers and a hired lorry. Only a small proportion of the loaders will carry out the emptying of closets which is now carried out weekly in two parishes. The collection of Refuse and Salvage is carried out simultaneous, with one 10c.yd. Dennis Refuse Lorry, one 4/5 ton Ford truck and a recently acquired 3-ton ex-army Ford truck. Delivery is still awaited of the further Dennis 10 c.yd. Refuse Lorry, which has been on order two years. The Staff consists of three driver/loaders, four loaders and two tip attendants.

The gross cost of Refuse and Salvage during the year amounted to £2,606 2s. 11d. and salvage to the value of £567 4s. 5d. was disposed of.

Three main refuse tips are in use. Several small sites were utilised at the request of land owners and farmers who wished to fill in ponds, etc. The tips are reasonably well maintained and infestation has been eliminated by the use of "Gammexane" powder, and the services of the County Pests Department.

Improved frequency of collection is required in the parishes of Alveston, Olveston, Charfield and the surrounding parts of Thornbury.

## 6. Building Licensing.

During the twelve months a considerable amount of the inspectorate and office staff's time was devoted to administration of Civil Building Licences.

711 Applications were received and investigated ; 653 Licences were issued, to a total value of £45,259 14s. 9d. Only one licence for a new house was included in this figure.

The work meant a lessening of activities in Sanitary Administration generally.

## 7. Public Conveniences.

The Council has provided four public conveniences. As the result of an official report the Council appointed new caretakers at three of them, and they are now all well maintained. Certain lavatories have been made "free" to the public, and I am of the opinion that this should be at least extended to the washing facilities.



### FACTORIES ACT 1937

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

Premises	No. on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sects. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ... ..	85	98	28	NIL
(2) Factories not included in (1) to which Sect. 7 applies	7	14	5	NIL
(a) Subject to the Local Authorities (Transfer of Enforcement) Act 1938 ... ..	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
(b) Others ... ..	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
(3) Other Premises under the Act (excluding out-workers premises) ...	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
<b>Totals ... ..</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>NIL</b>

#### Cases in which Defects were found.

PARTICULARS.	Found	No. of cases in which defects were found.			Prose-cuted
		Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness ... ..	25	25	—	—	Nil
Overcrowding ... ..	Nil	Nil	—	—	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature ...	Nil	—	—	—	Nil
Inadequate Ventilation ... ..	3	3	—	—	Nil:
Ineffective Drainage of Floors	Nil	—	—	—	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences.					
(a) Insufficient ... ..	5	5	—	—	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	4	4	—	—	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	Nil	—	—	4	Nil
Other Offences ... ..	Nil	—	—	—	Nil
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>Nil</b>

#### Outwork.

#### Sections 110 and 111.

#### Nature of work.

Carding, etc., of buttons, etc.

Number of out-workers in August, list required by Sect. 110 = 34



**SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S VISITS AND NOTICES  
SERVED DURING THE YEAR**

<i>General Sanitation</i>	<i>Number of Inspections or visits.</i>					
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	82
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	487
Tents, Vans and Sheds	...	...	...	...	...	145
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	112
Workplaces	...	...	...	...	...	7
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	25
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	155
Theatres and places of entertainment	...	...	...	...	...	2
Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	58
Refuse Disposal	...	...	...	...	...	47
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	...	11
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	1
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	...	...	...	...	...	173
Council House Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	868
A.R.P. and Air Raid Shelters	...	...	...	...	...	76
Town Planning	...	...	...	...	...	37
Sewage Disposal Works	...	...	...	...	...	177
Control of Civil Building	...	...	...	...	...	749
Survey (Inspections)	...	...	...	...	...	5,582
<i>Housing.</i>						
Under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	125
Under Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	180
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	8
Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	53
New Buildings	...	...	...	...	...	75
Miscellaneous Housing Visits	...	...	...	...	...	53
Requisitioned Properties	...	...	...	...	...	51
Post War Housing	...	...	...	...	...	80
Housing Meetings	...	...	...	...	...	14
<i>Infectious Diseases.</i>						
Inquiries in cases of I.D.	...	...	...	...	...	31
Visits re. disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	25
<i>Inspection of Meat and Food.</i>						
Visits to Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	89
Visits to Shops and Stalls	...	...	...	...	...	32
Visits to other premises	...	...	...	...	...	5
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	39
Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	138
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	26
Ice-cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	12
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	...	5
<i>Visits in connection with sampling.</i>						
Milk—Bacteriological	...	...	...	...	...	16
Water sampling	...	...	...	...	...	31
Total						9,904

**Sanitary Inspection of the Area.**

(a) Inspections made	...	...	...	...	...	9,904
(b) Nuisances discovered or reported (total)	...	...	...	...	...	189
(c) " " " " (swine only)	...	...	...	...	...	nil
(d) Complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	110
(e) Informal or preliminary Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	101
(f) Statutory Notices sent	...	...	...	...	...	92
(g) Nuisances abated during the year	...	...	...	...	...	120
(h) Summons issued	...	...	...	...	...	4
(i) Convictions obtained	...	...	...	...	...	4

**Carcasses Inspected and Condemned.**

	Cattle Ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ...	—	—	1	—	461
Number Inspected ...	—	—	1	—	461

**Carcasses Condemned.**

	Cattle Ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
All disease except Tuberculosis :— Whole carcasses con- demned ...	—	—	1	—	3
Part of carcasses of which some part of organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	6
Percentage of the num- ber of carcasses in- spected affected with diseases <i>other than</i> Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	1.30%



**Carcasses Condemned.**

Tuberculosis Only	Cattle Ex- cluding Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Whole carcasses con- demned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part of organ was con- demned ... ..	—	—	—	—	36
Number of carcasses in- spected affected with Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	7.80%

**Condemned Food Register.**

During the year the following weight of food was inspected and condemned :

Meat (Pigs only) Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	lb. 487
Meat (Other diseases)	...	...	...	...	3,415 $\frac{3}{4}$
Tins and jars various foods (approx. weight)	...	...	...	...	487
Other foods	...	...	...	...	59 $\frac{1}{2}$
					4,449 $\frac{1}{4}$

**Milk and Dairies Inspections.**

There are 590 cow-keepers on the Register. During 1947 20 new registrations of farms, under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, have been made.

164 inspections under the Food and Drugs Act were carried out during the year.

**General Sanitary Reports.***(a) Fumigations.*

<i>Against</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Fumigator used.</i>
Infectious Diseases	6	Killgerm.
Fleas	8	D.D.T. Liquid.
Bugs	1	D.D.T. Liquid.
Cockroaches	6	Gammexane.
Flies	11	Smoke Generators.



*(b) Fly Disposal.*

An infestation of flies was reported in September, 1947 at Sharpness. Investigation proved that the "Cluster-fly" was present in large proportions in the roof space of the house and this area was fumigated with Gammexane Smoke Generators. Later reports came in of infestation at ten other houses on this site, and the roof spaces of these were similarly treated. Subsequent inspections were made and it was found that the results were satisfactory and the houses completely freed of flies.

*(c) Meat Inspection.*

Number of pigs slaughtered 1946 = 1249  
 Number of pigs slaughtered 1947 = 461

The smaller number of pigs slaughtered during the year is probably due to the reduction in the allocation of feeding stuffs.

*(d) Bone Taint.*

1,698 lb. of meat were condemned in August, 1947, because of bone taint. This month was a particularly hot one and it is thought that beef was sent out from Central Abattoirs to adjacent Districts after insufficient hanging thus causing decomposition to take place around the deep-seated bones.

*(e) Ice-cream.*

The following registrations under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 14, were made :

Three new registrations.

**Conclusion.**

The District maintained its fairly high standard of Health during the year. The Birth rate and Death rate compare very favourably with those for England and Wales.

There were no epidemics of Infectious Disease during the year except that of Measles which was widespread all over the country.

There was only one case of Anterior Poliomyelitis which was treated in Ham Green Hospital, Bristol and recovered.

Ten cases of infectious disease had to be removed to hospital during the year.

The Housing situation is still bad and will not be relieved in many parishes until such time as the District is served with mains water and modern sewers. Schemes are to hand for these amenities and it is to be hoped that in the near future the Ministry will see their way to make the Rural District as attractive as the city in such matters.





