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Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1949



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FOR THE YEAR 1949

G. C. Frost, Ashby-de-la-Zouch.



Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE Medical Officer of Health 1949

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

(1) Medical Officer of Health (part time) : A. McM. W. SEGERDAL, M.D., D.P.H.

(2) Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector (full time) : GEORGE E. MARLOW, M.Inst.Mun.E., Cert. R.S.I.

> To the Chairman and Members of the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the Year 1949.

According to the Registrar General's estimate there is a slight increase in population from 6,352 in 1948 to 6,382.

The birth rate (16.4) is higher than 1948 (15.5), and slightly less than that for England and Wales 16.7.

The death rate is higher than 1948, 13.6 compared with 9.6, and higher than that for England and Wales 11.7.

The chief causes of death are the same as in 1948, from diseases associated with elderly people, but the numbers in this group have increased from 40 in 1948 to 56 in 1949.

Considerable progress has been made with the sewerage of the village of Blackfordby, and it is anticipated that the work will be completed in the near future. The enlargement of the Willesley sewage works is proceeding and will be completed in the next 6 months. A scheme has been prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Health for the sewerage of New Packington, and the enlargement of the existing sewage disposal works at Packington. The total number of applicants for Council Houses at the end of the year was 235. 28 houses were completed during the year, 22 by the local authority and 6 by private enterprise, making a total of 122 houses completed in the post-war period.

74 Cases of Infectious Diseases were notified, 31 Measles as compared with 164 in 1948, 14 Pneumonia with 3 deaths, 14 Whooping Cough, 5 Scarlet Fever, all mild and none of them removed to hospital, and one case of Infantile Paralysis (Acute Poliomyelitis). I regret to report that the one case of Infantile Paralysis in an adult died.

There was no Diphtheria notified during the year.

The number of children being immunised against Diphtheria tends to be falling, in 1949, 50 receiving primary immunisation, and of this number 39 were in the under 1 year of age and under 2 years of age groups. 13 Children received a reinforcing dose (Booster dose). Unless this trend can be reversed there may be dangerously high percentage of the child population unimmunised against diphtheria.

6 Cases of Tuberculosis were notified, 5 Pulmonary and one non-Pulmonary. The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register has risen from 13 at the end of 1947, to 15 at the end of 1948, to 19 at the end of 1949. This is not a serious rise, but Tuberculosis is a disease associated with overcrowding, and should act as a stimulus to increase the rate of new housing.

I should like to express my thanks to the Public Health Department of the County Council for their help and co-operation.

Finally, it remains for me to express my appreciation to Mr. G. E. Marlow, Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, for his invaluable help during the year, and to you, Ladies and Gentlemen, for your kindness and co-operation.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. McM. W. SEGERDAL, M.D., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A

General Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area					 6,190 acres.
Population	(Registrar	Gen	eral's e	stimate)	 6,382

Number of Inhabited Houses	 	1,928
Rateable Value	 	£38,034
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	 	£148
Comparability factor	 	1.00

Ashby-de-la-Zouch is a market town, the chief industries of the District are :--Agriculture, Coalmining (open cast), Biscuit making, Soap Manufacturing and Glove Manufacturing. A number of workers engaged in Coalmining, Earthenware and Brickmaking are resident in the town. There is a camp for Displaced Persons, and a Hostel run by the Leicestershire Agricultural Executive Committee for members of the Women's Land Army. There are also two Public Parks and an Open-Air Swimming Bath in the town. No industry was noted as having a specially injurious effect on the health of the population.

Vital Statistics

LIVE BIRTHS:			Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	 	 	97	43	54
Illegitimate	 	 	8	4	4
				-	-
Total	 	 	105	47	58

Live Birth Rate—16.4 per 1,000 population. England and Wales Birth Rate—16.7 per 1,000 population.

STILL BIRTHS	S :			Total	Male	Female
Legitimate		,	 	1	0	1
Illegitimate			 	0	0	0
				_	-	-
Total	•••		 	1	0	1

Still Birth Rate.-.15 per 1,000 population.

DEATHS :	Total	Male	Female
	87	42	45

Death Rate.—13.6 per 1,000 population. England and Wales Death Rate.—11.7 per 1,000 population.

Cuuses or	Dea		1717		
ABUR -			Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)			0	1	1
Acute Polio-myelitis and					
Polio-Encephalitis			0	1	1
Cancer of Buc. Cav. Oesoph. M.	. Ut	erus F	2	1	3
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenu	ım		0	3	3
Cancer of Breast			0	2	2
Cancer of all other sites			4	3	7
Diabetes			0	1	1
Intracranial vascular lesions			5	9	14
Heart diseases			16	11	27
Other diseases of Circulatory sys	tem		0	1	1
Bronchitis			4	1	5
Pneumonia			2	1	3
Other Respiratory Diseases			1	0	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum			1	0	1
Other Digestive Disease			2	0	2
Congenital Mal., Birth Injury, In	fant	disease	1	1	2
Suicide			0	1	1
Road traffic accident			1	0	1
Other violent causes			2	2	4
All other causes	·		1	6	7
			_	10 m	-
			42	45	87

Causes of Death in 1949

Death Rate from Total Maternal Causes per 1,000 Live and Still Births-0. (England and Wales .98).

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :--

			Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	 	 	3	2	1
Illegitimate	 	 	0	0	0
Total	 	 	3	2	1
			and a second		

Death Rate under 1 year of age-28.5 per 1,000 Live Births. (England and Wales)-32.0 per 1,000 Live Births.

Death Rate from Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age—.0 per 1,000 Live Births. (England and Wales 3.0 per 1,000 Live Births).

Chief Causes of Death in 1949	9:		
Heart Disease		 	27
Cancer (all forms)		 	15
Intracranial Vas. Lesions		 	14

SECTION B

General Provisions of Health Services for the Area

HOSPITALS

All hospitals are under the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board, with the exception of a few private Maternity and Nursing Homes. The County Homes for aged and infirms people are under the County Council. When they become ill they are the responsibility of the Hospital Board.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

Infant Welfare Clinics are held every Thursday afternoon at the Baptist Schoolroom, Ashby. An Ante-natal Clinic and Tuberculosis Clinic is held at the Health Centre, Bridge Road, Coalville. The Tuberculosis Clinic is under the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES

These are mostly provided by the St. John Ambulance Brigade as agents of the County Council at Coalville and Church Gresley, and partly from the County Ambulance Depot, Leicester. Colliery accidents are removed by ambulance provided by the National Coal Board stationed at Nailstone Colliery and at Moira.

NURSING IN THE HOME

All District Nursing and Midwifery in the Home is under the County Council.

HEALTH VISITING

This work is provided as before by the County Council, and is very ably carried out in the Area.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

County Council Laboratory, 8 St. Martin's, Leicester

The examinations p	erform	ed on	behalf	of the	District i	n the
County Laboratory are a	s follo	ws :—				
Milk Examinations					52	
Water Examinations					2	
					-	
Total					54	

The Public Health Laboratory, Isolation Hospital, Groby Road, Leicester

The follow:	ing e	xamina	tions v	vere ma	ade :—	
Throat	and	nose sv	vabs			 1
Sputa						 1
						-
	To	tal				 2

SECTION C

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water Supply.

The whole District is supplied by the Ashby and Swadlincote Joint Water Board from the Milton Water Works.

There are still a few wells in use.

Number of Wells closed-6.

Number of Wells cleansed-Nil.

Number of cases in which piped supply was substituted for Well Water-9.

Number of parishes with piped water supply :---

- (a) From Public Mains-Whole area.
- (b) From Private Reservoirs-Nil.

Number of houses without a piped water supply-35.

The quality of the existing supplies is satisfactory. The water exhibits no plumbo-Solvent properties. It has been necessary to continue night time restrictions during the year owing to a shortage of water at the source of supply. Steps are being taken to obtain an additional supply of water from Leicester Corporation, Derwent Valley Water Main.

No extensions of the Public Water supply were carried out in 1949.

Drainage and Sewerage

Number of cesspools constructed during the year—Nil. Number of cesspools abolished during the year—31.

Total number of cesspools in District on 31st December, 1949-100.

Particulars of any extension during the year :---

- (a) Sewerage.—Considerable progress has been made with the sewerage of the village of Blackfordby and it is anticipated that the work will be completed in the near future.
- (b) Sewage Disposal.—With the exception of New Packington the whole of the Urban Area is provided with sewage Disposal Works.
- (c) New Schemes.—The enlargement of Willesley Sewage Works is proceeding and will be completed during the next six months.

Post-War Proposals

A scheme has been prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Health for the sewerage of New Packington and the enlargement of the existing Sewage Disposal Works at Packington.

Closet Accommodation

Total number in District on 31st December, 1949 :--

(a)	Privies	 	 41
<i>(b)</i>	Pail closets	 	 39
(c)	Water closets	 	 1,277

Number of closets converted to the water carriage system during the year :---

(a)	Privies	 	 	20
(b)	Pail closets	 	 	15

Number of privies (middens) converted to pail closets during the year : Nil.

Public Cleansing

House refuse is collected weekly by Council workmen with a covered motor vehicle, and conveyed to a tip where it is deposited in shallow layers and covered with earth.

Earth closets, privies and ashpits are cleansed by Council workmen, the contents being disposed of on arable land and ploughed in. At Blackfordby, the removal of house refuse and the cleansing of earth closets and privies is carried out by a Contractor and dealt with in a manner similar to the rest of the District.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area

Total number of complaints received during 1948105Total number of defects and nuisances discovered218

Type of Inspection		Number of Inspections	Number of Revisits
Animal Keeping		 23	5
Bakehouses		 8	2
Dairies and Cowsheds .		 56	24
Drainage Works		 43	18
Dwelling Houses (all purposes	s)	 142	52
Food Premises		 30	5
Offensive Trades		 1	-
Rats and Mice Destruction .		 49	35
Refuse Collection and Dispos	al	 52	26
Schools		 2	0
Shops		 22	• 4 •
Slaughter Houses and Meat I	nspection	 0	0
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc		 2	0
Verminous Premises and Scat	pies	 3	3
Water Supplies		 74	40
Workshops, etc		 20	6
Other Inspections		 120	41-
	Totals	 647	261

Particulars of Inspections Made

Results of Notices Sent

Preliminary Notices

		Housing	Public Health
Outstanding on 1st January, 1949	 	8	7
Issued during year	 	79	102
Complied with during year	 	77	100
Statutory action necessary	 	0	. 12
Outstanding 31st December, 1949	 	10	9

Statutory Notices

	Housing	Public Health
Outstanding on 1st January, 1949	0	0
Issued during year	0	12
Complied with during year	0	10
Outstanding 31st December, 1949	0	2
Summary Action : Number of summons	es issued	3
Number of conviction	ns obtained	3

Shops

Particulars of action taken during year under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934.

	Outstanding 1st Jan., 1949	Defects found	Defects remedied	Outstanding 31st Dec., 1949
Sanitary				
Convenienc	es 0	2	2	0
Temperature	0	0	0	0
Ventilation	0	2	2	0
Cleansing	0	1	1	0

Camping Sites. Nil.

Regulated Buildings

Class of Building	No. in	No. of	Action	General
	District	Inspections	Taken	Conditions
Common Lodging	5			
Houses	Nil.	0	0	0
Tents, Vans,				
Sheds, etc.	1	1	0	satisfactory
Canal Boats	Nil.	0	0	0
Offensive Trades	1	. 1	0	satisfactory

Eradication of Bed Bugs

Particulars of action taken :			
Number of Council Houses infested			0
Number of other dwelling houses infested			3
Number of houses disinfested			3
Number of nouses disinfested	••	••	3

The disinfestation was carried out by the Local Authority by praying with D.D.T. fluid and dusting with D.D.T. powder.

Rat and Mice Destruction

All properties found to be infested with rats were dealt with by the Councils Rodent Operator. The refuse tip and sewers and Sewage Disposal Works received attention during the year.

Schools

All the Schools are supplied with Water from the Public Main and all are on the Water Carriage System except Blackfordby Church of England School.

Schools Disinfected ...

0

Swimming Baths and Pools open to the Public

No. in Area :--

(a)	Publicly owned	 	 	1
<i>(b)</i>	Privately owned	 	 	Nil

SECTION D

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Milk Supply

Cowkeepers-		
Number on Register		38
Number of Inspections made		40
Number of contraventions outstanding from previ	ious	
year		2
Number of contraventions found during year		9
Number of contraventions remedied during year		10
Number of contraventions outstanding on		
31st December, 1949		1
Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than cowkeepers	s)—	
Number on Register		12
Number of Inspections made		16
Number of contraventions outstanding from previ	ious	
year		. 2
Number of contraventions found during year		7
Number of contraventions remedied during year		7
Number of contraventions on 31st December, 194	0	2

	Tota	1 Contrave	ntions	
Type of	Outstanding fro	m Found	Remedied	Outstanding on
	previous year	during year	during year	31st Dec., 1949.
Cleansing	2	7	8	1
Structural				
Alteratio	ns 1	5	4	2
Utensils	0	1	1	0
Other	1 .	3	4	0

Milk Sampling

Class of Milk	Total samples taken for bact. exam'n.	Number Satisfactory	Number Unsatisfactory	
Tuberculin Tested		0	0	
A	. 0	0	0	
Pasteurised	. 4	3	1	
Ordinary	. 5	4	1	

The Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1936-1946

Three licences were issued during the year, one for a Pasteurising Plant, one for Supplementary Retail Distribution of Pasteurised Milk and one for a Bottling Licence.

The pasteurising Plant for which the Licence was issued is a Cherry Burrell Superplate H.T.S.T., 500 gallons per hour, automatic temperature control.

Number of Plants for heating milk not licenced as Pasteurising Plants-Nil.

Ice Cream

Number of Premises	register	red :				
Manufacture						 Nil
Retail						 5
Number of Samples-	-5.					
Results-						
Grade 1						 -3
Grade 2						 2
Grade 3						 0
Grade 4						 0
Meat and Other F	oods					
No. of Regional	Slaught	ter Hou	ises in	Area		 Nil
No. of inspection	ns of me	eat at t	ime of	slaugh	ter	 Nil
No. of Knackers	Yards	in Area	L			 Nil
No. of visits to l	Knacker	s Yard	s			 Nil

Carcases Ins	pected an	d Con	demne	d		
Number in	nspected					Ni
	ondemned					Ni
Meat Stalls.	Nil.					
Meat Shops,	Meat Sto	res, et	c.			
Number of In						26
	operations					20
Places	where fo	od (otl prepar			at) is	kept or
Number o	f Inspection					35
Action taken :-	-					
The follow	ving is a lis	t of foo	od cond	lemned	and d	estroyed :-
Meat					•••	82 lbs.
Meat						30 tins
Sausa	ge					25 lbs.
Pies						16 lbs.
Bacon	ı					28 lbs.
Fish						24 lbs.
Fish						35 tins
Jam			•••			25 jars
Soup						45 tins
Veget	ables					42 tins
Fruit			• ••	••		46 tins
Toma	toes					16 lbs.
Toma					••	29 tins
Pickle	s		••			25 jars
Milk						42 tins
Beans				••		14 tins
Peas			••	••		26 tins
Syrup	,					6 tins
Grape	efruit					8 tins
Toma	to Puree					12 tins
Dried	Egg					10 tins
Cocoa						12 tins

SECTION E

Housing

1Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year.	
(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for	
housing defects (under Public Health or Housing	
Acts)	161
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	194
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-	
head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded	
under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	
and 1932	0
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	x0
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so	
dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for	
human habitation	4
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred	
to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in	
all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	48
2.—Remedy of Defects during the Year without Servic	e of
Formal Notices	
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in	
consequence of informal action by the Local Authority	
or their Officers	39
3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.	
(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16, of the	
Housing Act, 1936	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices	
were served requiring repairs	0
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after	
service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	0
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices	
were served requiring defects to be remedied	12
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were	
remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	10
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0

.

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance	0
of Demolition Orders	0
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined,	
the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0
4.—Housing Act, 1936—Part 4—Overcrowding :	
(a) (1) Number of dwelling overcrowded at end of year	10
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	14
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	56
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported	
during year	2
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year	12
 (2) Number of persons concerned in such cases (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of 	75
overcrowding	0
Post War Housing	
Total number of applicants for Council Houses at end	
of year	235
Houses completed during the year	
By Local Authority	22
By Private Enterprise	6
Houses in course of erection at end of year	
By Local Authority (Permanent traditional type)	48
By Private Enterprise	8
Total number of Post-War Houses completed	
By Local Authority	110
By Private Enterprise	12

SECTION F

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Diseases Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1949

		Fi	inal numbers	Cases admitted	Total
Disease		aft	er correction	to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever			5	0	0
Measles			31	0	0
Pneumonia			14	0	3
Erysipelas			7	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia			2	- 0	0
Polio-myelitis			1	1	1
Whooping Cough			14	0	0
Other Cases admit	tted t	0			
Hospital (diagno	sis no	t			
confirmed)	1. 1		0	2	0
			_	-	-
			74	3	4

Analysis Under Age Groups according to Registrar Generals' Return 118d

		Scarlet	Whooping		Polio-
Age Per	iod	Fever	Cough	Measles	myelitis
0-1		0	3	2	0
1-3		0	1	1	0
3–5		1	7	10	0
5-10		3	3	15	0
10-15		1	0	1	0
15-25		0	0	1	0
25 and 0	over	0	0	1	1
		5 .	14	31	1

-

Age Period	ł		Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Puerperal Pyrexia
0-5		 	2	0	0
5-15		 	1	0	0
15-45		 	5	5	2
45-65		 	1	.1	0
65 and 0	over	 	4	1	0
Age uni	known	 	1	0	0
			14	7	2

• 15

Immunisation against Diphtheria

Number of Children who were immunised during the period 1st January-31st December, 1949

Age at U 31/12/49 i.e. born in year	nder 1 1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942
Primary Immunisation	2	37	6	1	2	-	-	1
Booster Dose Age at 31/12/49 i.e. born in year	- 1941	- 1940	- 1939	- 1938	4 1937	5 1936	- 1935	– Total
Primary Immunisation	_		-	-		-	1	50
Booster Dose	1	1	_	2	-	-	-	13

Estimated mid-Year Child Population, 1949:

0-4 years (inclusive)	 	 546
5-14 years (inclusive)	 	 881

Statement of Particulars appearing in the Tuberculosis Register for the year 1949

	Pul	mona	ry	Non-Pulmonary			Total
	М.	<i>F</i> .	Total	М.	<i>F</i> .	Total	
No. of cases on the Register at the com-							
mencement of year	6	2	8	6	2	8	16
No. of cases notified during the year	2	3	5	0	1	1	6
No. of cases restored to		0	0	0	0	0	0
the Register No. of cases added other than by formal notifica-		U	Ū	U	U	U	U
tion	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Register during the year		0	1	2	0	2	3
No. of cases remaining on the Register at end							
of year	7	5	12	4	3	7	19

16 '

Causes of Removal

		Pulmonary		Non-Pu	lmonary
		М.	F.	М.	F.
Cured	 	0	0	2	0
Died	 	1	0	0	0
		_	-	_	-
		1	0	2	0
					_

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

Resumé of Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1949, previously sent to the Director of Statistics, Ministry of Labour and National Service, Headquarters, Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts.

Part I of the Act

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

	M/c Line	No. on	Inspec-	- Written	Occupier
Premises	No.	Register	tions	notices p	rosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Factories in which section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to b					
enforced by Local Authoriti	ies 1	46	25	6	Nil
Total	1	46	25	6	Nil

2.-Cases in which defects were found

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more Cases).

Number of cases in which defects were found

	Particulars		Found	Remedied	Ref. to H.M. Inspector	Ref. by H.M. Inspector
Want	of Cleanliness		2	2	0	2
Sanita	ary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a)	Insufficient		0	0	0	0
(b)	Unsuitable or					
	defective		1	1	0	0

17

relating to Outwork) 3 3 0 0	(c) Not separate for sexes Other offences against the	0	0	0	0
	Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	3	3	0	0
6 6 0 2		6	6	0	2

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

	No. of Outworkers	No. of cases of	No. of pros.
Nature of work	in	default in sending	for failure to
	August list	lists to the Council	supply lists
	required by Sec. 110)	

Wearing apparel

Making, etc 3	0	0
No. of instances of work in unwholesome	Notices served	Prosecutions
premises O	0	0



