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Contributors

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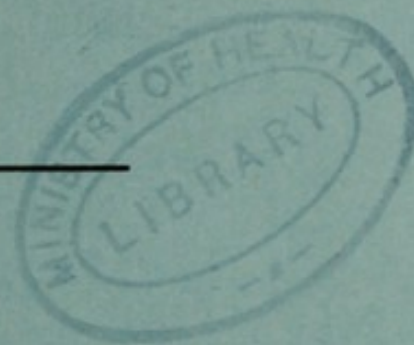
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Ashby-de-la-Zouch
Rural District Council



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SURVEYOR & SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the Year 1948.



Ashby-de-la-Zouch Rural District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1948.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF—

(1) *Medical Officer of Health :*

A. McM. W. SEGERDAL, M.D., D.P.H.

(2) *Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector :*

JOHN P. COOK, Cert. R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

(3) *Additional Sanitary Inspector :*

C. S. CURTIS, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Ashby-de-la-Zouch
Rural District Council.*

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1948.

It will be noted from the Registrar General's estimate that the population has fallen from 13,810 to 13,650.

The birth rate for your area in common with England and Wales is lower than in 1947.

The birth rate and death rate for the Ashby Rural area are almost identical with that for England and Wales.

The chief causes of death in 1948 were from diseases associated with elderly people.

Under the heading — "General Provision of Health Services in the Area" — a short resumé is given of the great changes that have taken place since July 5th, 1948.

The revised and corrected number of applicants for Council Houses at the end of the year was 641, and there were 215 new applicants during the year. The demand for housing accommodation appears to be as great as at any period since the termination of hostilities.

82 houses were completed during the year, 70 by the local authority and 12 privately.

Once again I am pleased to report that no case of diphtheria was notified in 1948. On and after July 5th the responsibility for Immunisation against diphtheria was taken over by the County Council.

27 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified at intervals, but never assumed epidemic proportions, mostly on one side of the rural district: Coleorton (10), Swannington (7), Heather (5), Ravenstone (2). All the cases were mild and 16 were removed to Hospital.

There were 118 cases of Whooping Cough with one death. Cases were notified from March to December. September (24) and October (33) showing the highest incidence, again mostly on one side of the district: Swannington (32), Coleorton (23), Ravenstone (16), Osgathorpe (6), Worthington (1) and Heather (1).

Measles was very prevalent, particularly during the first half of the year, 426 cases in all being notified without any deaths. Cases occurred in every parish except Bardon and Stretton-en-le-Field. In 1947 the east side of the district was only affected, the epidemic starting much later in the year and petered out in August. In 1948 it was not unexpected that the whole area should be affected, one case was notified in January from Worthington, then in February 16 cases from Worthington and 6 from Osgathorpe out of a total of 26 for the month. The epidemic starting from the east side soon spread all over the area reaching its peak in March with 160 cases, and April with 119 cases, then falling to 49 in May, 45 in June, 10 in July, 9 in August and only 7 from September to December. The majority of cases occurred in the following parishes: Measham (103), Oakthorpe and Donisthorpe (100), Appleby Magna (60), Coleorton (45), Ravenstone (39), Worthington (35), Swannington (12) and Osgathorpe (11). As with Whooping Cough, practically all the cases occurred in the under 10 Age Groups.

Although the number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register has dropped from 77 at the end of 1946 to 62 at the end of 1948, 12 fresh cases were notified in 1948, the highest number since 1944. Tuberculosis is a disease of overcrowding and associated conditions and in spite of the fact that three cases were reported from Council Houses, I would like to stress the need for more houses.

40 cases of Pneumonia were notified with only one death.

It is a pleasure to thank the Staff of the Public Health Department of the County Council for their willing help always so generously given.

Finally, I wish to express my appreciation to Mr. J. P. Cook, the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector for his invaluable help during the year, and in the preparation of this report, and to you Ladies and Gentlemen for your kindness and co-operation.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. McM. W. SEGERDAL,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions.

Area	28,073 acres
Resident Population (R.G's. estimate)	13,650
Number of Inhabited Houses	3,842
Rateable Value	£50,491
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£198

The chief industries in the area are:—(1) Agriculture, (2) Coalmining, (3) Open-cast Coal Working, (4) Brickmaking, (5) Stoneware and Pipemaking and (6) Stone Quarrying. There are also small Textile Works and Light Engineering Works.

No particular industry was noted as having a specially injurious effect on health during the year.

Vital Statistics.

Live Births	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	234	117	117
Illegitimate	7	4	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	241	121	120

Birth Rate—17.6 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Birth Rate, 1948—17.9 per 1,000 population.

Still Births	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	5	2	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5	2	3

Still Birth Rate—0.36 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Still Birth Rate, 1948—0.42 per 1,000 population.

DEATHS.

Total	Male	Female
146	82	64

Death Rate—10.7 per 1,000 population.

England and Wales Death Rate, 1948—10.8 per 1,000 population.

Causes of Death during 1948.

<i>Diseases</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Whooping Cough	0	1	1
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	5	1	6
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1	1	2
Influenza	1	0	1
Cancer (Buccal Cavity & Oesophagus M) (Uterus)	1	0	1
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	1	3
Cancer of other sites	9	6	15
Diabetes	0	1	1
Intercranial Vascular Lesions	7	11	18
Heart Disease	24	24	48
Other diseases of Circulatory System	0	3	3
Bronchitis	4	0	4
Pneumonia	1	0	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	2	3
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	2	0	2
Diarrhoea under 2 years	2	0	2
Other digestive diseases	2	1	3
Nephritis	4	2	6
Con. Malf. birth injury, Infant dis.	4	2	6
Road Traffic Accidents	1	1	2
Other violent causes	5	0	5
All other causes	6	7	13
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	82	64	146

Chief Causes of Death in 1948 were:—

Heart Disease 48, Cancer 19, Intercranial Vascular Lesions 18.

Maternal Mortality.

Total Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 births (Live & Still)	.0
ditto England and Wales	1.02

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Legitimate	12	10	2
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/>
	12	10	2

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 Live Births — 49.7.

England and Wales, 1948, per 1,000 Live Births — 34.0

Death Rate of Infants under 2 years of age from Diarrhoea and Enteritis per 1,000 Live Births	8.3
England and Wales	3.3

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

General Provisions for Health Services up to July 4th were the same as in my previous Report for 1947, and the following embodies the changes that have taken place from July 5th to the end of the year.

Hospitals.

From July 5th all except some private Maternity and Nursing Homes such as Glencoe Nursing Home, Coalville and Fairhaven, Shellbrook were taken over by the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. Those operating prior to July 5th are still mainly used, but other hospitals under the Board are available, and occasionally some outside the area of the Sheffield Region.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

There are none actually held in your District. As formerly, Infant Welfare Clinics are held every Thursday afternoon at the Baptist School, Ashby, and every 2nd and 4th Thursday afternoon at the Centenary Methodist Church, Donisthorpe Road, Moira. The Clinic at Moira was started on October 14th, 1948. Venereal Disease Clinics are under the auspices of the Regional Hospital Board from 5th July, 1948. Cases of Scabies are treated at Swadlincote Urban District Council Treatment Centre. At the Health Centre, Bridge Road, Coalville, an Ante-natal Clinic and a Tuberculosis Dispensary are still available as formerly, the latter is under the auspices of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

Ambulance Facilities.

From July 5th all ambulance services were provided by the County Council, the St. John Ambulance Brigade undertook the work as agents of the County Council, and in this area, the service is mainly provided by the St. John Ambulance Brigade at Coalville and partly from the County Ambulance Depot, Leicester. Colliery accidents are removed by ambulance provided by the National Coal Board stationed at the Central Ambulance Station, Nailstone Colliery, and at Moira.

Nursing in the Home.

All District Nursing and Midwifery in the Home is under the Leicestershire County Council as from the 5th July.

Health Visiting.

This work is provided as before by the Leicestershire County Council, and the work of Health Visitor, School Nurse and Tuberculosis Visitor, is combined in a single appointment. The work undertaken is very ably carried out in the area.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

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

The examinations performed on behalf of the District in the County Laboratory are as follows:—

Milk Examinations	.....	.....	243
Water Examinations	.....	.....	49
Total			292

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

The following examinations were made:—

Throat Swab	.....	.....	1
Sputum	.....	.....	1
Total			2

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

1. Water Supply.

- (a) The piped water supply in the district has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. Wells in agricultural parishes are fairly good, but several wells went dry during the summer.
- (b) Piped supplies — results of samples taken for analysis:—

RAW WATER.				TREATED WATER GOING INTO SUPPLY			
Bacteriological		Chemical.		Bacteriological.		Chemical.	
Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory.	Satis- factory.	Unsatis- factory.	Satis- factory.	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory.	Unsatis- factory
7	—	7	—	—	—	—	—

- (c) The waters in this area are not liable to Plumbo-solvent action.
- (d) Water Supplies from Public Mains:—

DIRECT TO THE HOUSES.		BY MEANS OF STANDPIPES.	
No. of Dwelling Houses	Population.	No of Dwelling Houses.	Population.
3316	11,606	There are no public standpipes in the district.	

- (e) No. of parishes with piped water supply:—
- | | | | |
|---|-------|-------|----|
| (1) from public mains | ..... | ..... | 13 |
| (2) from private reservoirs | ..... | ..... | 1 |
| (3) No. of parishes without a piped water supply | ..... | ..... | 3 |
| (4) No. of cases in which piped supply was substituted for well water | ..... | ..... | 25 |
- (f) Water supplies from wells:—
- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|----|
| Number of samples taken for analysis | | 12 |
|--------------------------------------|-------|----|

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS.

Satisfactory.		Unsatisfactory.	
Chemical	Bacteriological.	Chemical.	Bacteriological.
2	2	2	10

No. of wells closed 3. No. of wells cleansed, etc. 1.
 No. of houses relying on well supplies 530.

2. Sewage Disposal.

No. of cesspools constructed during year	.....	9
No. of cesspools abolished during year	.....	1
Total number in district on Dec. 31st, 1948	.....	228
No. of parishes with efficient sewage disposal works	.....	4
No. of parishes where new schemes have been formulated	.....	9

Post-war Proposals.

	£
Appleby Magna, Snarestone & Snarestone Rd., Measham	28,500
Packington (Independent Scheme)	8,900
Normanton-le-Heath	2,800
Coleorton, Worthington and part of Swannington, including extensions	49,500
Osgathorpe (Sewage pumped to U.D.C. Works)	6,800
Heather	10,500
Sweepstone	14,800
Ravenstone Sewage Works. Reconstruction and Extension	3,000
Acresford (Drainage to Netherseale)	2,650
Leicester Road and Bosworth Road, Measham:	
Relaying of old sewers	3,100

3. Closet Accommodation.

Total number in district on December 31st, 1948:—

(a) Privies—372. (b) Pail Closets—1,584. (c) W.C's.—1,879

No. of closets converted to water closets during year:—

(a) Privies — 38. (b) Pails — 27.

No. of Privies (Middens) converted to pail closets during the year — 3.

4. Public Cleansing.

House refuse is removed by direct labour. The Council have four Karrier Bantam Refuse Collecting Vehicles of 7 cubic yards capacity, each fitted with a 350 gallon night soil tank. Dry refuse is taken to tips and the wet to agricultural land. Earth closets, ashpits and cesspools are emptied by the Council's workmen. Three lorries are in regular use and one kept as a standby.

No. of parishes covered by routine collection	16
No. of tips	5

5. Sanitary Inspections of the Area.

Total number of Complaints received	364
Total number of defects or nuisances discovered	333
Nuisances detected (District Inspections)	51

Inspections Made.

	<i>First Inspection</i>	<i>Re-visits</i>
Animal Keeping	4	4
Bakehouses	6	5
Dairies and Cowsheds	196	113
Drainage Works	228	394
Dwelling-houses (all purposes)	1575	1592
Food Premises	39	17
Rats and Mice Destruction	9	6
Refuse Collection and Disposal	137	97
Shops	17	11
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspections	80	41
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	5	20
Water Supplies	50	96
Workshops, etc.	35	8
Other Inspections	11	5
TOTAL	2392	2409

Notices.

<i>Preliminary</i>	.....	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Public Health</i>
Outstanding on 1st January	.....	79	61
Issued during year	.....	62	382
Complied with during the year	.....	102	366(inc. 1947 cases)
Statutory Action necessary	.....	—	—
Outstanding 31st December	.....	39	77

<i>Statutory</i>	<i>Housing</i>	<i>Public Health</i>
Outstanding on 1st January	—	31
Issued during year	—	39
Complied with during year	—	40(inc. 1947 cases)
Outstanding 31st December	—	30

Summary Action.

No. of Summonses Issued — 14. No. of Convictions obtained — 14

6. Shops.

No action was taken under the Provision of Shops Act, 1934.

7. Camping Sites.

There are no camping sites in the district.

8. Regulated Buildings.

Regulated Buildings	No. on District	No. of Inspections	Action taken	General Conditions
Common Lodging Houses	—	—	—	—
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	4	—	Summary Action	Unsatisfactory
Canal Boats	—	—	—	—
Offensive Trades	—	—	—	—

9. Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No complaints were received.

10. Schools.

No schools were disinfected during year.

11. Swimming Baths and Pools open to the Public.

None in the district.

12. Rat and Mice Destruction.

Action was taken in 3 cases.

SECTION D.

13.

HOUSING.

A. New Houses.

Total number of applicants for Council Houses
at end of year 641 (revised)

(c)

Houses erected during year, by:	TYPE.			Av. cost per house	Av. Rent Inc. or Exclusive of Rates
	Prefabricated		Permanent		
	Temporary	Permanent			
1. Local Authority	—	50	20		
2. Private Enterprise	—	—	12	£1126	Owner- occupiers
Houses in course of erection at end of year by:					
1. Local Authority			20		
2. Private Enterprise			8	£1028	Owner Occupiers

No. of post-war houses completed by:—

(a) Local Authority	.....	98
(b) Private Enterprise	.....	20

B. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	.....	1575
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose		3167
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which are inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932	.....	111
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose		389
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	.....	2

(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	.....	.....	.....	.....	111
C. Remedy of Defects during the Year Without Service of Formal Notices—						
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	.....	.....	.....	.....	102
D. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year—						
<i>(a)</i> 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	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:—						
<i>(a)</i> By Owners	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil
<i>(b)</i> By Local Authority in default of owners						Nil
<i>(b)</i> Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—						
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied					382	
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—						
<i>(a)</i> By Owners (inclusive of 1947 cases)	.....	.....	.....	.....	40
<i>(b)</i> By Local Authority in default of owners						Nil
<i>(c)</i> Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—						
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
<i>(d)</i> Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—						
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made					Nil	
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil

E. Housing Act, 1936 — Part IV — Overcrowding—

(a)	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	.....	.....	.....	Unknown
	(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	.....			—
	(3)	Number of persons dwelling therein	.....			—
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	.....	.....	.....	Nil
(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	.....	.....	.....	53
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	.....			185
		No. of occupied Houses in district	.....	.....		3821
		No. of Council Houses occupied in district	.....			416

SECTION E.

14. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Cowkeepers.

No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Contraventions			
		Outstanding from previous year	Found during year	Remedied during year	Outstanding on 31st. Dec.
213	196	—	79	83	—

Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than Cowkeepers).

No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of Contraventions			
		Outstanding from previous year	Found during year	Remedied during year	Outstanding on 31st. Dec.
2	7	—	—	—	—

Total Contraventions.

	Outstanding from previous year	Found during year	Remedied during year	Outstanding on 31st. Dec.
Cleansing	—	69	69	—
Structural Alterations	3	7	9	1
Utensils	—	2	2	—
Other	—	3	3	—

Milk Sampling.

Class.	Total No. of samples taken for bacteriological examination.	Satisfactory.	No. Unsatisfactory.
Designated "Tuberculin Tested" } "Accredited" "Pasteurised"	1	1	—
Ordinary	37	36	1
Sterilised	—	—	—
Heat-treated	—	—	—

In the event of unsatisfactory samples, the producer is immediately notified and instructions are given regarding steps to be taken to ensure the production of clean milk. Methods are carefully checked and another sample taken at a later date.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1936 to 1941.

No. of Licences issued in respect of								
"Tuberculin Tested."			"Accredited."			"Pasteurised."		
Bottling.	Distribution.		Bottling.	Distribution.		Bottling.	Distribution.	
	Dealers.	Supplementary.		Dealers.	Supplementary.		Dealers.	Supplementary.
—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1

There are 60 Accredited Milk Producers and 13 Tuberculin Tested Producers in the district who have received licences from the Leicestershire County Council.

LICENSED PASTEURISING PLANTS.

Make & Type (Holder or H.T.S.T.)	Capacity (Galls. per hour)	Temperature Control.
—	—	Hand — Automatic —

No. of plants for heating milk not licensed as Pasteurising Plants:—Nil.

No. of Authorities issued by Ministry of Food under Regulation 55G:—

(1) "Heat-treatment" — Nil. (2) "Sterilisation" — Nil.

Meat and Other Food.

No. of Regional Slaughter Houses in Area	Nil
No. of animals slaughtered in Area	Nil
No. of animals examined in Area	Nil
No. of animals slaughtered elsewhere	Unknown
No. of animals examined elsewhere	Nil
No. of inspections of meat at time of slaughter	Nil
No. of Knacker Yards in Area	2
No. of visits to Knacker Yards	7

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

No carcase or part was condemned.

Meat Stalls.

Number of Inspections

Nil

Meat Shops, Meat Stalls, etc.

Number of Inspections

49

Places where food (other than meat) is kept or prepared for sale.

Number of Inspections

9

Food inspected and condemned is as follows:—

Porridge Oats	310 lbs.
Frozen Pork Kidneys	7½ lbs.
Peas	5 tins
Carrots	2 tins
Beetroot	2 tins
Beans	1 tin
Marmalade	1 tin
Beef	19 lbs.
Plaice	5 stones

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Infectious diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1948.

Diseases.	Final numbers after correction	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	27	16	0
Whooping Cough	118	0	0
Measles	426	0	0
Acute Pneumonia	40	0	1
Erysipelas	8	1	0
Peuperal Pyrexia	2	0	0
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	0	0
Other cases admitted to Hospital (diagnosis not confirmed)	0	1	0
Total	622	18	1

Analysis under age groups according to Registrar General's Return 118d:

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Peuperal Pyrexia
0—1	0	10	16	0
1—3	4	33	97	0
3—5	1	28	110	0
5—10	16	47	189	0
10—15	5	0	10	0
15—25	0	0	4	1
25 & Over	1	0	0	1
Total	27	118	426	2

Age Group	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Encephalitis lethargica
0—5	9	0	0
5—15	10	0	0
15—45	8	3	1
46—65	9	2	0
65 and over	4	3	0
	40	8	1

Table showing incidence of Notifiable Diseases in each parish during 1948.

Parish	Whooping Cough	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Peurperal Pyrexia	Scarlet Fever	Measles	Encephalitis Lethargica
Appleby Magna	—	1	10	—	—	60	—
Bardon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chilcote	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
Coleorton	23	—	4	—	10	45	—
Heather	1	—	1	—	5	2	—
Measham	14	—	2	—	—	103	—
Normanton	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Oakthorpe & Donisthorpe	19	4	4	—	2	100	—
Osgathorpe	6	—	1	—	—	11	—
Packington	—	—	1	—	—	4	—
Ravenstone	16	2	2	1	2	39	—
Snarestone	1	—	—	—	—	6	1
Staunton Harold	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Swannington	32	1	10	1	7	12	—
Swepstone	5	—	1	—	—	4	—
Stretton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Worthington	1	—	4	—	—	35	—
Totals	118	8	40	2	27	426	1

Measles.

The following table shows the incidence of Measles in each parish monthly.

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Appleby Magna	3	48	5	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	60
Chilcote	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Coleorton	—	3	12	15	13	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	45
Heather	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Measham	—	55	34	10	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	1	103
Normanton	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Donisthorpe and Oakthorpe	—	1	25	55	15	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	100
Osgathorpe	—	6	1	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Packington	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Ravenstone	—	—	1	2	4	25	6	—	1	—	—	—	39
Snarestone	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Staunton Harold	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Swannington	—	—	1	1	4	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	12
Sweepstone	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Worthington	1	16	17	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	35
Total	1	26	160	119	49	45	10	9	1	4	1	1	426

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Number Immunised from January 1st to July 5th, 1948.

Under 5 years of age	.....	100
5—14 years	.....	7
		107

Number who have had a secondary or reinforcing injection
(Booster Dose) — 32.

From July 5th the responsibility for Immunisation was taken over by the County Council.

Statement of Particulars appearing in the Register of Notifications of cases of Tuberculosis for the year 1948.

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total
	M	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
Number of Cases on Register at the commencement of year	23	15	38	16	14	30	68
Number of Cases notified under the Regulations of 1930 for the first time during the year	2	5	7	4	1	5	12
Number of Cases restored to Register	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number of Cases added to Register and brought to notice other than by formal notification	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Number of Cases removed from the Register during the year	7	5	12	3	3	6	18
Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year	18	15	33	17	12	29	62

Causes of Removal.

	MALES		FEMALES		Total
	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	<i>Pulmonary</i>	<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>	
Died	4	—	2	1	7
Cured	3	1	1	—	5
Left County	—	1	1	2	4
Diagnosis not confirmed	—	1	1	—	2
	7	3	5	3	18

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Resumé of the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1948, which has already been sent to the Ministry of Labour and National Service, Orphanage Road, Watford, Herts.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

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

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	2	5	1	—
Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	33	37	10	—
Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out - workers' premises),	4	11	—	—
Total	39	53	11	—

2. Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness	4	4	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	1	1	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
SANITARY CONVENIENCES.				
(a) insufficient	2	2	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—
	9	9	—	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK (Sections 110 and 11)

Nature of Work, Wearing apparel	No. of Out-Workers in August list required by Section 111.
Making, etc.	56
Cleaning and Washing	—
	<hr/>
Total	56

PART II.

Annual Report of the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OFFICES,
SOUTH STREET,
ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH.

*To the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and
Councillors of the Rural District Council
of Ashby-de-la-Zouch.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present this my Twenty-eighth Annual Report to the Council for the year ending December 31st, 1948, giving details of my work as Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector for the seventeen parishes under my supervision, viz.:—

Appleby Magna, Bardon, Chilcote, Coleorton, Heather, Measham, Normanton-le-Heath, Oakthorpe and Donisthorpe, Osgathorpe, Packington, Ravenstone, Snarestone, Staunton Harold, Swannington, Sweptstone, Stretton-en-le-Field and Worthington.

The time has been fully occupied in making inspections in connection with complaints received and nuisances detected ; inspection in connection with infectious diseases ; rendering of houses fit for habitation ; inspection of slaughter houses and knackers yard ; water supplies ; cowsheds and dairies ; new buildings ; ice cream and fish and chip premises ; petroleum storage, etc.

My appointment as Manager of the Sewage Disposal Works and Public Cleansing Department have also entailed considerable work and supervision, also the work as Building Surveyor has increased during the year.

The Town and Country Planning Act, which came into force on July 1st, 1948, has also brought along considerable office work. This is in addition to the normal office routine which necessitates the expenditure of much time in keeping the necessary books, records of work and correspondence.

Six hundred and sixty-seven Informal Notices were served during the year and forty-five Statutory Notices.

COMPLAINTS.

Under their heading I have classified the improvements and work carried out in connection with same:—

Complaints received	364
Premises inspected	364
Revisits to work in hand	431
Nuisances abated	289
Work still in hand	16
Work not started	26
Groundless complaints	31
Nuisances detected	51
Premises inspected	51
Revisits to work in hand	69
Nuisances abated	30
Work still in hand	12
Work not started	9
Other inspections	—
Informal notices served	382
Statutory notices	39

In connection with the above table the following work has been carried out:—

Privies converted to pans	24
Privies converted to W.C's	2
W.C's repaired	3
Privy closets cleansed	8
New pan closets erected	2
Ashpits abolished	2
New sanitary pans provided	7
Drains relaid, repaired, trapped or ventilated	54
Dustbins provided	75
Chokage to drains cleared	36
Cesspools cleansed or repaired	7
Cesspools abolished	1
Ashpits cleaned	21
Pool, ditch or gutter nuisance abated	15
Offensive accumulations removed	12
Houses cleansed and limewashed or distempered	5
Overcrowding abated	53
Animal nuisance abated	4
New Cesspools	2
Roofs repaired	35
Floors repaired	12
Damp-proof course provided	1
Damp walls remedied	5
Doors repaired	5
Windows repaired	13

Complaints continued:—

Fireplaces repaired or new ones provided	.....	6
Plastering repaired	.....	18
Coppers repaired	.....	5
Spouts and downpipes repaired	.....	11
Sinks repaired	.....	2
Burst water pipes repaired	.....	4
Stairs repaired	.....	1
Chimneys repaired	.....	1
Other sanitary matters	.....	36

During the year 29 nuisances were abated as a result of notices served prior to 1948. These and other outstanding notices involved a total of 40 revisits during the year under review.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

During the year summons pursuant to P.H. Act, 1936, Sec. 94, in respect of 14 premises were dealt with at Ashby-de-la-Zouch Court of Summary Jurisdiction. I am pleased to record that the Council were successful in each of these cases.

RAT AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

Work under this heading was carried out as and where necessary. The refuse tips and sewage disposal works have had quarterly disinfestation by the Leicestershire War Agricultural Executive Committee under contract and I am pleased to report that this has been carried out in a very satisfactory manner.

In addition to routine baiting and poisoning in sewers the following work has been carried out:—

Primary Inspections	.....	9
Revisits	.....	6
Infestation discovered	.....	3
Nuisance abated	.....	3
Informal notices served	.....	3

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During the year routine disinfection was carried out after any reported case of infectious disease. Details are as follows:—

After Scarlet Fever	.....	10
After Cancer	.....	3
After Tuberculosis	.....	2

WATER SUPPLIES.

Number of wells closed for drinking water supplies	7
Number of houses inspected	50
Samples taken for analysis	18
Samples condemned	10
Water laid on from Public Main	25
Wells cleansed and protected	1
Inspections to work whilst in hand	96
Informal notices served	16
Statutory notices served	4
Work not started	18
Dangerous wells made safe or filled in	5
Revisits	8

During the year water was laid on to three houses in default of owner.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Number of licensed Slaughter Houses in district	3
Number of inspections made	26
Number of verbal notices given to limewash	1
Water laid on from main	1

The two Knacker Yards at Breedon Brand in the parish of Worthington, and at Ravenstone have been kept in good order. Seven inspections were made during the year.

MEAT INSPECTIONS.

Number of inspections made during the year	40
Transport Vans inspected	5

The meat supplied in your district is distributed from the Regional Slaughterhouse at Coalville.

MEAT SHOPS.

Number of inspections made	49
Number of contraventions found and remedied	—
Informal notices served	—

CONDEMNED FOODS.

During the year the following goods were inspected and condemned as unfit for human consumption:—

Rolled Porridge Oats	.....	.....	310 lbs.
Frozen Pork Kidneys	.....	.....	7½ lbs.
Beef	.....	.....	19 lbs.
Plaice	.....	.....	5 stones
Sweetened Peas	.....	.....	5 tins
Beetroot	.....	.....	1 tin
Carrots	.....	.....	2 tins
Beans	.....	.....	19 tins
Marmalade	.....	.....	1 tin

Investigations were carried out into one suspected case of food poisoning, but there was no proof that the illness was caused by food.

NEW DRAINAGE AND CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

A considerable amount of work has been carried out under this heading during the year both by voluntary action and under notices served by the Council. In the case of voluntary conversions I have been called in for advice before the work was put in hand and supervised the work while it was in progress. Details of sanitary improvements are as follows:—

Premises inspected (Voluntary Conversions)	.....	.....	45
Premises inspected (District Inspections)	.....	.....	68
New drainage systems laid to sewer	.....	.....	9
Old drains repaired and extended	.....	.....	65
New water closets constructed to replace privies	.....	.....	38
New water closets constructed to replace pan closets	.....	.....	27
Privies to pan closets	.....	.....	3
Bathrooms provided	.....	.....	5
Sinks provided	.....	.....	5
Additional W.C. accommodation provided	.....	.....	1
Revisits of inspection	.....	.....	276
Informal notices served by way of instruction	.....	.....	45
Informal notices to convert (after District Inspection)	.....	.....	68
Statutory notices to convert	.....	.....	1
New cesspools constructed	.....	.....	1
Work not started	.....	.....	12
Work in hand	.....	.....	10

SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS TO CINEMAS.

Insanitary conditions detected	.....	.....	1
Notice served	.....	.....	1
Revisits	.....	.....	5
Work still in hand	.....	.....	1
New drainage system to sewers laid	.....	.....	1

NEW BUILDINGS.

Garages	.....	.....	9
New houses completed by Local Authority	.....	.....	70
New houses completed by Private Enterprise	.....	.....	12
Outbuildings converted to Dwellings	.....	.....	1
Additions and improvements to existing buildings	.....	.....	4
New farm sheds	.....	.....	1
Plans passed (dwelling, shops, etc.)	.....	.....	73
Houses drained to a sewer	.....	.....	5
Houses drained to a cesspool	.....	.....	7
Water supply from Public Main	.....	.....	12
Houses with Water Closets	.....	.....	12
Inspections made during construction	.....	.....	184

TOWN PLANNING.

The new Town and Country Planning Act came into operation on July 1st, 1948.

The object of the Act is to secure that all land in the country is used to best advantage and broadly speaking the Act states:

1. No development shall take place without permission.
2. No compensation to be made where permission refused.
3. When development is sanctioned any increase in land value to be collected as a development tax by a Central Land Board which is to be set up.

In practice, district councils have been given the task of advising people who wish to develop land or property as to the necessary procedure, issuing the necessary forms, examination of plans, acknowledgement of same, ensuring that these are forwarded in quadruplicate to the County Planning Officer, informing the developer of the result of the application, etc., together with keeping all the necessary registers.

Everyone will agree that the object of the Act is admirable but it is extremely difficult to convince a person applying to my office for permission to erect a small building or make a slight alteration or extension to an existing house that it is necessary for him to submit four copies of plans, fill in numerous forms and then wait 8 to 10 weeks for a decision, or for a person purchasing a plot of land to willingly accept the fact that he must pay a development charge. There is little doubt that many working men who have saved their hard earned money in order to build a house in which to retire are badly hit by this charge, many of them being deterred from building or starting a small business.

Whilst the Act states that land should be bought at agricultural value there is no doubt that in practice many people are still paying building value in order to get the piece of land they desire. Although the Act is in its infancy there can be no question that it will prove of immense value to the country with regard to the ordered development of the land in such a way that new buildings will be confined in compact areas rather than indiscriminately dotted over the countryside. This has in the past involved local authorities in very heavy expenditure in laying sewers, water-mains and providing other services.

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

Sewers flushed and cleansed	.....	.....	19
Repairs or improvements to sewage works	.....		8
Chokages to sewers cleared	.....	.....	11
Inspections whilst work in hand	.....	.....	137
Inspections of sewage works	.....	.....	109
Inspections of tips	.....	.....	57

All sewage works have been kept in good working order throughout the year and effluents have been very satisfactory.

The nine inch sewer running down the fields on the south side of Oakthorpe, where outcrop coal is being worked, had to be diverted to allow the extraction of coal under the old sewer. This work was carried out to my approval and nine visits of inspection were made.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Work under this heading has generally been carried out very satisfactorily. In all areas a collection of night soil has been carried out promptly and at regular periods. The work of collecting the domestic refuse has occasionally been retarded by mechanical breakdowns of lorries and sickness of workmen.

A new tip is urgently required for the Swannington and Worthington areas.

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

During the year inspection of cowsheds and dairies under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, have been carried out and I am pleased to say that all landlords and occupiers have carried out my instructions. Special mention must be made of the effort of milk producers to ensure that their milk has been wholesome and of a high standard of cleanliness.

At the end of the year there were 60 producers of Accredited Milk and 13 of Tuberculin Tested Milk in the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Rural District. In connection with the scheduling of reconstruction work which must be carried out before the issue of a licence by the County Council, there has been co-operation between the County Council officials and myself.

No. of registered milk producers in the district	213
No. of retailers in the district	82
No. of milking cows in the district (estimated)	4287
No. of inspections made to farm premises	196
No. of cowsheds structurally improved	4
No. of cowsheds found dirty and unlimewashed	65
No. of dairies and cooler houses inspected (retailers)	15
No. of dairies and cooler houses found defective	3
No. of dairies and cooler houses structurally improved	3
New dairies and cooler houses in need of cleaning and limewashing	4
Drains reconstructed	3
Contraventions of M. & D. Order, 1926, detected, other than items specified above, viz. :—	
Accumulations of manure, dirty utensils, unclean udders, etc.	5
Insanitary conditions remedied	74
Revisits while work in hand	113
Notices served	81

During the year I collected 38 samples of milk for analysis and these resulted in the following reports from Dr. Fairer, the County Medical Officer:—

Grade I	36
Grade II	1
Grade III	—
Grade IV	—
Tuberculin Tested	1

ICE CREAM.

Two premises were registered for the manufacture of ice cream, one of them being for a hot mix and the other a cold mix. One shop was registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream only. In addition a number of vendors enter the district to retail ice cream.

Eight samples were taken during the year and results were as follows:—

Provisional Grade I	.....	5
Provisional Grade II	.....	—
Provisional Grade III	.....	3
Provisional Grade IV	.....	—

FISH AND CHIP SALOONS.

One existing disused shop has been converted into a fish and chip shop at Donisthorpe, and new premises have been constructed at Ravenstone.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

One person was refused a licence to keep caravans on a site in the district.

He was taken to Court for exceeding the time limit under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, and the Court adjourned the case for one month to enable him to be legally represented.

Inspection of caravans and caravan sites	.....	5
Revisits	.....	20
Plans submitted in respect of sites	.....	—
Plans approved	.....	—
Caravans removed after notice	.....	10
Insanitary sites	.....	3

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Inspection of factories	.....	28)
Inspection of bakehouses	.....	11	) 46
Inspection of garage premises	.....	7)
Notices received from Factory Inspector	.....	3	
Notices received from Factory Inspector and complied with	.....	3	
New conveniences approved	.....	6	
Cleansing of sanitary conveniences	.....	6	
Revisits	.....	8	
Informal notices served	.....	9	
Inspection of outworkers	.....	50	

PETROLEUM.

Routine inspections have been carried out under the Petroleum (Consolidation) Act, 1928, and Petroleum Mixture Order, 1929. Where necessary renewal licences have been issued and in three cases new sites have been inspected and approved.

HOUSING.

Routine work under the Housing Acts has been carried out and many cottages which were in a state of disrepair have been repaired and made sanitary.

No. of houses inspected (new cases 1948)	111
No. of houses which were defective	62
No. of houses where defects have been remedied (including 1947 cases)	72
No. of houses where work is still in hand	6
Work not started	33
Total number of revisits while work in hand	278
Informal notices served	62
Houses condemned	3
Demolition Orders served	3
Houses demolished (pre-1948 cases)	3

Details of work done in this connection, inclusive of 1947 cases completed during the year are as follows:

Walls repaired	23
Roofs repaired	45
Chimney stacks rebuilt or repaired	22
Fireplaces repaired or renewed	18
Floors repaired	16
Doors repaired	8
Windows repaired or new ones fixed	35
Eaves, spouts and downpipes repaired	33
Drains laid, relaid or repaired	13
Plastering to rooms repaired	42
Wash-houses repaired or drained	9
Coppers provided	1
New wash-houses provided	1
New sinks provided	7
W.C's. repaired	13
Other matters not specified above	18

COUNCIL HOUSES.

The 416 houses owned by the Council in the parishes of Appleby Magna (16), Coleorton (44), Heather (28), Measham (136), Oakthorpe and Donisthorpe (65), Osgathorpe (10), Ravenstone (33), Swannington (46), Worthington (32), and 6 Agricultural Workers' Cottages which are under my supervision have received my constant care and attention. In addition repairs at The Hollies, Ravenstone; requisitioned house, Black Horse Hill, Appleby Magna and Shooting Box at Chilcote were supervised.

All repairs have been carried out as speedily as possible but there have been some unavoidable delays owing to shortage of labour and materials.

Specifications, etc., have been prepared and estimates received for the replacement of 26 cooking ranges with new Cambridge Ranges and the installation of a hot water system at 26 houses in Leicester Road, Measham.

The 53 cases of overcrowding abated during the year were due to the Council rehousing overcrowded families in 53 new Council Houses at Measham, Ravenstone, Swannington and Heather.

In conclusion I wish to point out to the Council the invaluable work carried out by Mr. C. S. Curtis in connection with general inspections and by Miss J. E. Lilley in the typing, clerical and recording work so essential in my department.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN P. COOK,

C.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.



