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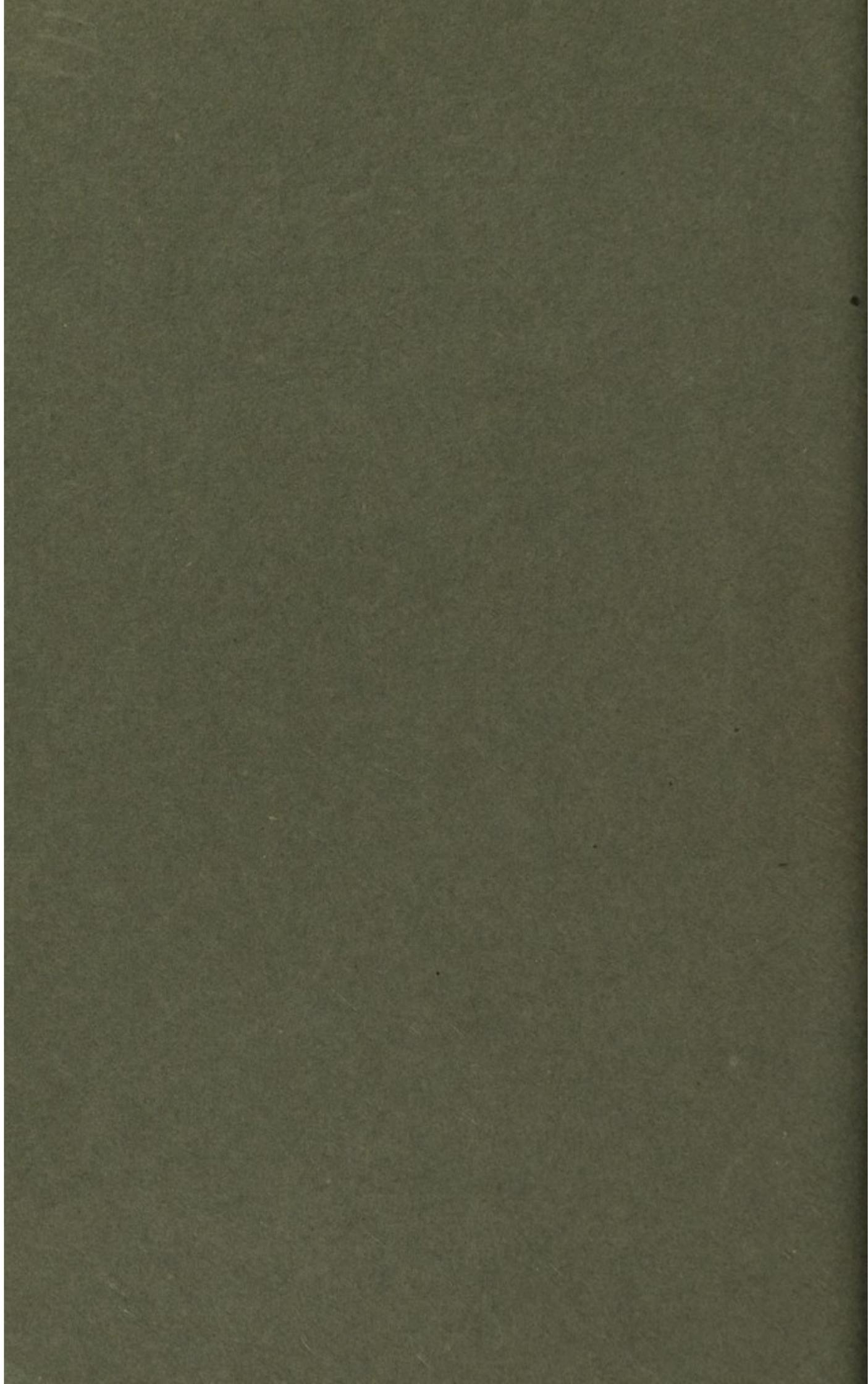
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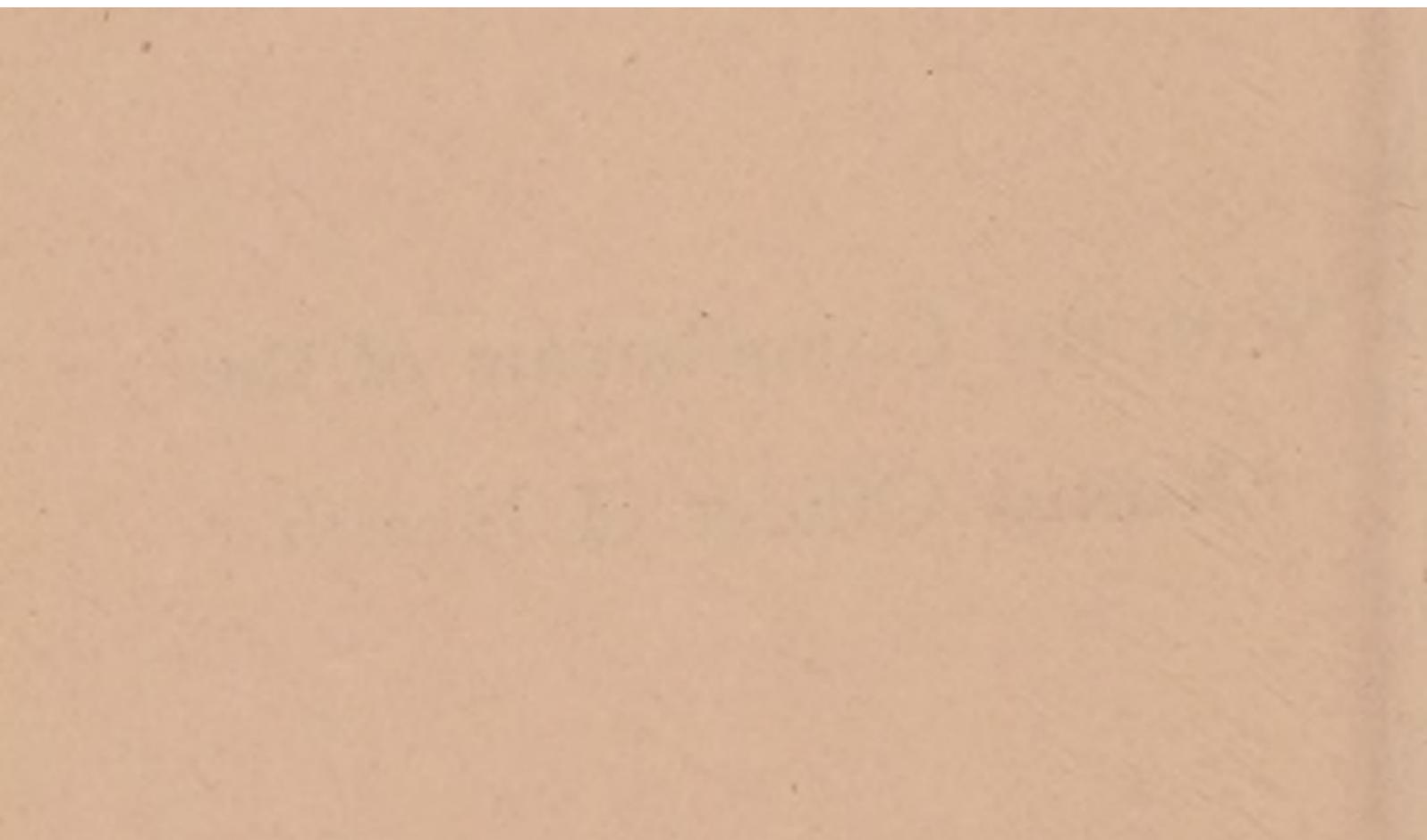


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BLACKWELL
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

For 1925,

By

A. H. WEAR, M.B., B.S., B.HY., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

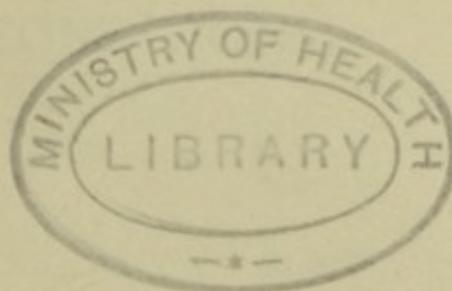
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1926.

1912

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

1912



PREFACE.

To the Chairman and Members of the Blackwell
Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my third Annual Health Report. It is a detailed one as required by the Ministry of Health, who once every five years ask for a special survey of the district.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. H. WEAR.

PREFACE

To the Chairman and Members of the Board

of the Board of Directors

1911

The Board of Directors of the Board of Directors
has the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the
report of the Board of Directors for the year
1911. The Board of Directors is pleased to
report that the Board of Directors has
been successful in carrying out its
policy of expansion and development.

Very Respectfully

W. H. HARRIS

A. H. HARRIS

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (acres)	21,237
Population (Census 1921)	41,889
„ (estimated 1925)... ..	47,493
„ (Registrar-General)	45,980
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	8,030
„ „ „ (estimated 1925)	8,961
„ Families (1921)	8,710
Rateable Value (1925)	£182,371
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (1925)	£712

Physical Features.

The district may be divided into two parts, viz., North and South. The southern part embraces the parishes of Pinxton, South Normanton, Blackwell and Tibshelf, which are situated on the upper coal measures. The northern area of the district includes the parishes of Ault Hucknall, Glapwell, Scarcliffe, Langwith, Pleasley and Shirebrook. These are situated on the magnesian limestone as well as the coal measures. This part of the district is more undulating than the southern area.

Social Conditions.

The character of the population is industrial, coal mining being the chief occupation. According to the Census of 1921 there were 634 coal miners per 1,000, as compared with 36 agricultural workers per 1,000.



VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

The number of births registered during the calendar year 1925 was 1,220. The birth rate for 1925 was 26.4, that for 1924 being 27.12 per 1,000 of the population.

Distribution (Sexes, Legitimacy):—

	Male	Female	TOTAL
Legitimate ...	601	575	1,176
Illegitimate ...	18	26	44
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>
	619	601	1,220
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The percentage of illegitimate births was 3, compared with 3 per cent. in 1923 and 1924.

Deaths.

490 deaths occurred during the year (291 males and 199 females), the death rate being 10.6 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 10.25 per 1,000 in 1924.

During 1925 the deaths from the following diseases were:—

	Male	Female	TOTAL
Tuberculosis	20	18	38
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	74	35	109
Cancer	12	11	23
Violence	19	3	22
Measles (all ages)	9	6	15
Whooping Cough (all ages)	3	5	8
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ..	6	10	16
Influenza	13	6	19

Deaths of infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 births:—

Legitimate	Illegitimate	TOTAL
101.2	90.9	100.8

Women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth:—

From Sepsis ... ..	...	...	...	...	Nil
From other causes ... ..	...	...	...	...	Nil

UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.

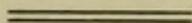
Eight deaths were not certified by medical practitioners or by the Coroner. Of this number three were infants under one year.

INFANTILE DEATH-RATE DURING THE LAST FIVE YEARS.

Year					Rate per 1,000 births
1920	...	...	...	...	119
1921	...	...	...	...	96
1922	...	...	...	...	75
1923	...	...	...	..	91.3
1924	...	...	...	...	86
1925	...	...	...	...	100.8

The amount of Poor Law Relief, outdoor, for the period ended 31st March, 1926, is as follows:—

Parish					Amount
Ault Hucknall	...	...	...	...	£290 0 0
Blackwell...	...	...	...	...	946 0 0
Glapwell ...	...	...	...	...	—
Pinxton ...	...	..	...	...	1,452 0 0
Pleasley ...	...	...	...	...	176 0 0
Shirebrook	...	...	...	...	1,869 0 0
Scarecliffe ...	...	...	...	...	565 0 0
South Normanton	...	...	...	...	2,321 0 0
Tibshelf ...	...	...	...	...	411 0 0
Upper Langwith ...	...	...	...	...	94 0 0



Birth-rate, Death-rate and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1925.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1925, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1924. The Mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

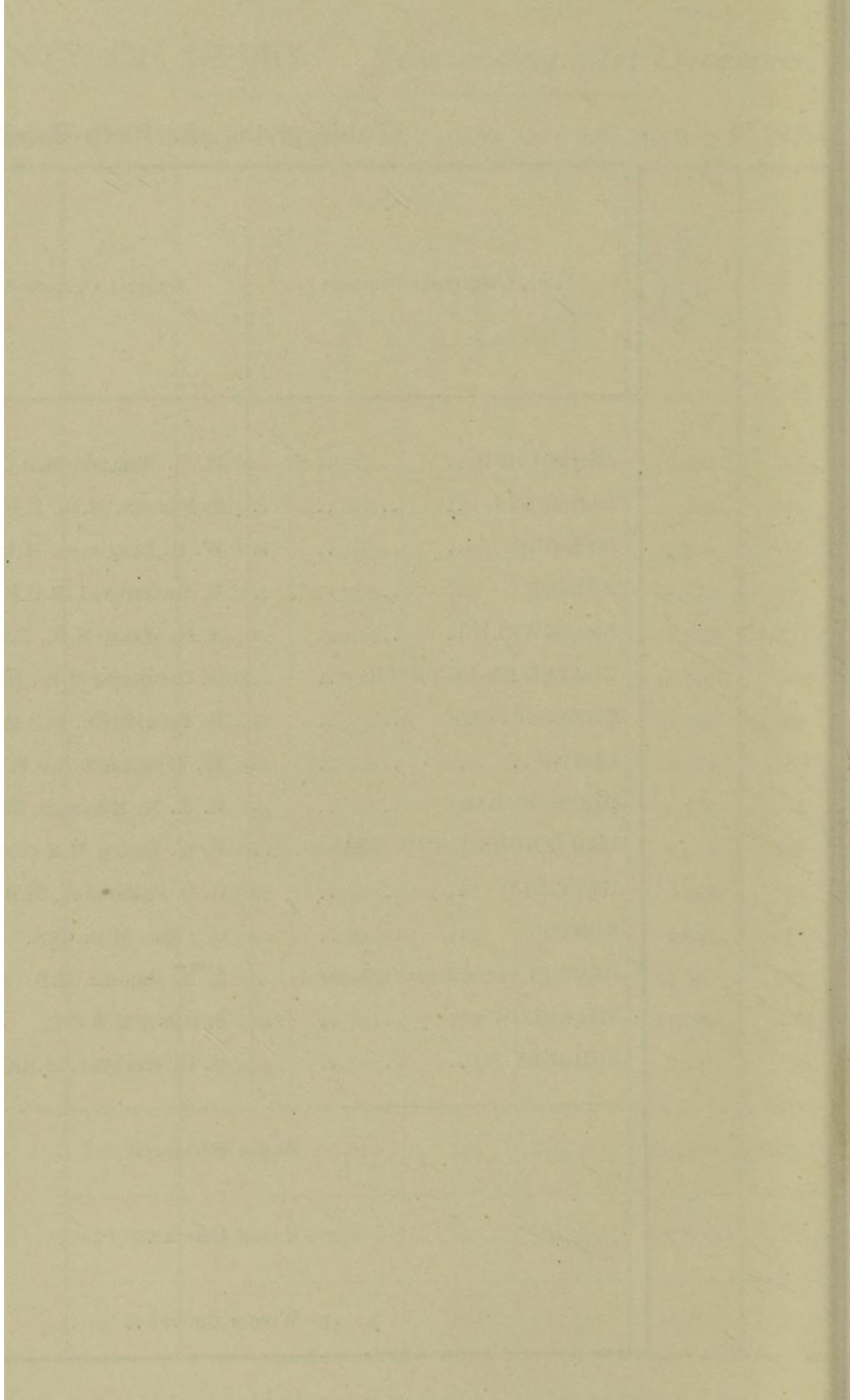
	Birth-rate per 1,000 Total Population	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION									RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS	
		All causes	Enteric Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping-cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis, under 2 years	Total Deaths under 1 year	Inquest Cases	Uncertified Causes of Death
England and Wales	18.3	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.13	0.03	0.15	0.07	0.32	0.47	8.4	75	6.9	1.0
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	18.8	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.17	0.03	0.18	0.09	0.30	0.43	10.8	79	7.3	0.6
157 Smaller Towns (1921 adjusted Populations 20,000—50,000)	18.3	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.02	0.14	0.06	0.31	0.38	7.6	74	5.9	1.1
London	18.0	11.7	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.19	0.11	0.23	0.46	10.6	67	8.9	0.0
BLACKWELL R.D.	26.4	10.6	0.00	0.00	0.32	0.08	0.17	0.06	0.41	0.47	13.1	100.8	3.8	1.6

COUNTY OF DERBY. Year ending 31st December, 1925.

Table giving the Birth Rates and the Death Rates from several causes in each of the RURAL Sanitary Districts of the County.

RURAL SANITARY DISTRICT	MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH	AREA in Acres (Land and Water)	POPULATION				Estimated Population 1925	BIRTHS	DEATHS	ANNUAL RATES PER 1,000 OF ESTIMATED POPULATION						
			Census 1911	Census 1921	Ratio 1921 to 1911 Percentage	Corrected Population 1921*				Birth Rate	Death Rate	Zymotic Death Rate	Death Rate from Scarlet fever, Typhoid and Dysentery Disease	Phthisis Death Rate	Respiratory Death Rate	Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 Births
ASHBOURNE	H. H. HOLLICK, M.R.C.S. .. .	70,380	10,294	10,367	101	10,300	10,450	186	103	17.80	9.85	.38	—	.09	.67	43.0
BAKEWELL	T. FENTIM, M.D., D.P.H. .. .	81,772	18,461	18,666	100	18,100	18,270	306	251	16.75	13.74	.16	.05	.27	1.75	55.5
BASFORD	W. H. PARKINSON, M.D., D.P.H. .. .	3,569	1,450	1,481	102	1,504	1,618	31	16	19.16	9.88	—	—	1.85	.61	32.2
BELPER	R. MORRISON, L.R.C.P. & S. .. .	50,357	23,586	23,494	100	23,620	24,130	429	259	17.78	10.73	.45	.04	.29	1.41	60.6
BLACKWELL	A. H. WEAS, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. .. .	21,237	39,306	41,880	107	42,450	45,980	1,220	490	26.53	10.66	1.00	.34	.65	2.37	100.8
CHAPEL-EN-LE-FRITH	G. COCHRANE, M.B., D.P.H. .. .	80,389	16,935	16,144	95	15,890	16,140	238	184	14.75	11.40	.31	—	.43	1.73	79.8
CHESTERFIELD	H. PECK, M.D., D.P.H. .. .	68,068	71,653	76,143	106	77,000	81,050	1,883	937	23.23	11.56	.34	.06	.58	2.23	91.3
CLOWN	W. SPENCER, L.R.C.P. .. .	13,428	17,844	17,506	98	17,730	18,690	450	195	24.08	10.43	.32	—	.42	2.03	88.8
GLOSSOP DALE	E. H. M. MULLIGAN, M.D., D.P.H. .. .	17,891	4,009	3,780	94	3,810	3,724	42	52	11.28	13.96	—	—	.53	3.49	23.8
HARTSHORNE AND SEALS	R. W. LOGAN, M.R.C.S. .. .	11,479	7,939	8,598	108	8,720	8,814	198	107	22.46	12.13	.34	.22	.34	2.04	85.8
HAYFIELD	G. B. PEMBERTON, M.B. .. .	10,282	5,170	4,520	87	4,413	4,312	54	60	12.52	13.91	.23	—	.23	2.32	148.2
NORTON	C. ALDIS, M.B., B.S. .. .	8,738	3,919	4,639	118	4,570	4,509	71	57	15.75	12.64	.44	.22	1.10	.88	42.2
REPTON (WITH COUNTY ANGLON)	A. H. HOLMES, M.D. .. .	54,273	16,133	16,500	102	16,420	17,010	292	186	17.17	10.93	.23	—	.17	1.47	47.9
SHARDLOW	S. HUNT, M.R.C.S. .. .	43,134	30,900	33,755	109	33,501	34,080	628	355	18.43	10.42	.44	.05	.61	1.29	62.1
SUDBURY	G. H. HERBERT, M.R.C.S. .. .	17,299	2,683	2,537	94	2,509	2,523	54	31	21.40	12.29	.39	—	.79	1.58	74.1
RURAL DISTRICTS		552,296	270,282	280,010	104	280,537	291,300	6,082	3,283	20.89	11.27	.44	.09	.49	1.88	80.9
URBAN DISTRICTS		92,801	289,731	304,856	105	308,095	320,400	6,409	3,719	20.00	11.60	.46	.11	.68	2.02	75.9
WHOLE COUNTY		645,097	560,013	584,866	104	588,632	611,700	12,491	7,002	20.42	11.45	.45	.10	.59	1.95	78.4

* Corrected by Registrar-General for holiday movement.



The hospitals most popular in the District are the Nottingham Children's Hospital and Nottingham General Hospital, and, to a less extent, Chesterfield and Mansfield Hospitals. In addition, the clinics at Shirebrook, provided by the County Council, have been well patronised, and have done valuable work.

CAUSES OF SICKNESS OF SPECIAL NOTE WHICH HAVE OCCURRED DURING THE YEAR.

During the months under review, Scarlet Fever was prevalent, especially in the summer and autumn. Isolated cases of Smallpox occurred at Shirebrook, S. Normanton and Blackwell, and an epidemic of the disease broke out in Shirebrook at the beginning of December.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Hospital Accommodation.

The Fever Hospital accommodation is under the North Derbyshire Hospital Board, and accommodation is provided within a reasonable distance of every part of the district. The diseases treated in the hospital are Enteric Fever, Smallpox, Scarlet Fever, Cerebro-Spinal Fever and any other notifiable disease which requires isolation. There is no accommodation for Measles. At each hospital provision is made for the treatment of Scabies.

A fee of 2/- per day is paid by the Blackwell Rural District Council to the Derbyshire Joint Hospital Board for patients suffering from notifiable infectious diseases. For patients treated for Scabies there is a special charge.

Special accommodation is provided for cases of Smallpox at Hasland, near Chesterfield.

The North Derbyshire Hospital Board serves the following districts:—Bolsover, Clay Cross and Dronfield Urban Districts, and Blackwell, Chesterfield, Clowne and Norton Rural Districts. They have four hospitals, and serve a district of 164,763 population (Census 1921). The hospitals are situated at Langwith, Morton, Marsden Moor and

Dronfield. Smallpox cases are removed to Spital Hospital, Chesterfield, which has, I believe, accommodation for over 30 cases.

Tuberculosis.

The Derbyshire Sanatorium at Walton, Chesterfield, and the wards of Penmore Hospital, Chesterfield, are maintained by the County Council. The latter is for advanced cases of Phthisis only.

Maternity Hospitals.

The Derbyshire County Council have arrangements with the Borough of Chesterfield for admitting cases into the Chesterfield Maternity Home.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate and Homeless Children.

None, other than the Poor Law Institution.

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) Motor Ambulances are maintained in connection with the Fever Hospital and Smallpox Hospital; (b) For non-infectious and accident cases motor ambulances are provided and maintained by the colliery companies at each of their pits within the area.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Maternity and Child Welfare and School Clinics are provided by the County Council. Centres for the treatment of Defective Vision, Enlarged Tonsils and Minor Ailments in school children are situated at Alfreton, Chesterfield and Shirebrook, the last being the only one actually in the Blackwell area.

The County Council Venereal Disease Clinic is at the Chesterfield and North Derbyshire Hospital, Chesterfield.

The Tuberculosis Clinic, also under the County Council, is at Chesterfield.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

One whole time Medical Officer of Health;

Two whole time Sanitary Inspectors, *i.e.*,

Mr. S. WILMOT, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,

Mr. K. P. KEYWOOD, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

There are five Health Visitors in the area, employed under my supervision by the County Council, four for Maternity and Child Welfare work and one School Nurse.

Professional nursing in the home is not provided by either the County Council or the Rural District Council. At Ault Hucknall, Blackwell, Pinxton, Pleasley, Shirebrook, South Normanton, Tibshelf and Upper Langwith, however, there are private nursing associations for general nursing only.

Midwives.

There are 26 practising Midwives in the district, nine trained and 17 untrained. These are under the control of the County Council, and none of them are subsidised or employed by the Blackwell Rural District Council.

Chemical Work.

Samples of water or sewage effluent are sent for analysis to either the Public Analyst's Laboratory, 67, Surrey Street, Sheffield, or to the County Laboratory, St. Mary's Gate, Derby.

During the year nine samples of water and five samples of sewage effluent were analysed from this district.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.

The following Acts have been adopted in this District:—

1. Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890 (53 and 54 Vict. c. 34), as far as applicable to Rural Districts.
2. Part 3 of the Public Health Act, 1890, as far as applicable to Rural Districts.
3. Notification of Births Act, 1907.
4. Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907, Parts 2 (other than Sections 19 and 23); Parts 3 (other than Sections 39 and 42 inclusive, and 47); Part 4 and Part 5; also Sections 39, 40, 41 and 42 of Part 3 to be in force in Ault Hucknall, Blackwell, Pinxton, Pleasley, Scarcliffe, South Normanton, Tibshelf and Shirebrook.

Regulations and Bye-laws in Force.

1. 23rd Sept., 1879—Bye-laws were made for the whole District with respect to Common Lodging-houses, Cleansing of Footways and Pavements, the Removal of House Refuse, the Cleansing of Earth Closets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools.

2. 16th Feb., 1888—Regulations were made for the whole District under the Contagious Diseases (Animals) Act, 1886, and the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order of 1885.
3. 17th Jan., 1889—Regulations were made under the Allotments Acts for the Parish of Blackwell.
4. 16th June, 1892—New Scale of Charges and Regulations were made for preventing waste, misuse and undue consumption or contamination of the water supply.
5. 19th May, 1896—New Bye-laws were made for the whole District with respect to New Streets, Buildings, and Nuisances.
6. 24th October, 1907—Bye-laws were made for the whole District with respect to Slaughter-houses.
7. 12th March, 1908—The Scale of Charges and Regulations made on the 16th June, 1892, for preventing waste, misuse, and undue consumption or contamination of the water supply, was rescinded as from 25th March, 1908, and a new Scale adopted and ordered to take effect in substitution thereof from such date.
8. 7th August, 1908—Bye-laws were made for the whole District with respect to Tents, Vans, Sheds, and similar structures used for human habitation.
9. 16th December, 1909—Regulations were made for the whole District with respect to Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.
10. 15th May, 1924—Resolution passed to withhold approval to Plans for the erection of Wooden Buildings in certain Streets in the District.
11. 2nd October, 1924—Resolution passed adopting a Standard Specification for Private Street Works.
12. 27th November, 1924—Order made by the Council, under Section 112 of the Public Health Act, 1875, and Section 51 of the Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907, declaring each of certain trades to be an Offensive Trade.
13. 19th March, 1925—Bye-laws were made for the whole District for the Regulation of Offensive Trades.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water is supplied to Blackwell Rural District by outside authorities; the quality on the whole is satisfactory. The bulk of the water is obtained from the Bunter beds. The Shirebrook supply comes from the Magnesian Limestone and is consequently very hard. Good as the water is, however, it is not sufficient to supply the needs of the district, and, as I have already pointed out in my last report, it is absolutely essential that a water scheme for the district should be put forward immediately.

The agreements which we have with outside authorities are in nearly every case due to terminate shortly, and, owing to developments taking place in their own districts, it is doubtful whether these authorities will be able to renew the agreements.

In some parts of the district, notably South Normanton Common, the pressure of water is low and the supply intermittent. Other parts of the district have no public water supply, and generally the matter is one urgently in need of attention.

Parish	No. of Inhabited Houses	Public Supply
Blackwell	... 1,068	Mansfield Corporation and Sutton-in-Ashfield U.D.C.
South Normanton	1,497	Sutton-in-Ashfield U.D.C.
Tibshelf ...	... 855	Mansfield Corporation
Pinxton ...	... 1,162	Pinxton Colliery and Basford R.D.C.
Shirebrook	... 2,200	Shirebrook Colliery Co.
Scarcliffe ...	... 658	Bolsover U.D.C. and Sheepbridge Coal and Iron Co.
Pleasley ...	... 536	Mansfield Corporation
Ault Hucknall ...	... 515	Mansfield Corporation and Sheepbridge Coal and Iron Co.
Upper Langwith ...	421	Sheepbridge Coal and Iron Co.
Glapwell ...	... 49	Sheepbridge Coal and Iron Co.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Pollution of the River Erewash.

The condition of this stream has been most unsatisfactory for some years; extensive pollution is taking place from the Notts. and Derbys. Bye-Product Works at Pinxton, and large quantities of tarry material are continually allowed to enter the stream.

Certain steps are being taken which, it is hoped, will prove effective to remove the cause of complaint.

River Poulter.

Complaints have been received that trout have been killed in the River Poulter below the effluent from the sewage works owned by the Sheepbridge Coal and Iron Company. Owing to the large number of new houses erected by the colliery company during the year this plant is undoubtedly over-worked.

Joint sewage works are in course of construction for the area adjoining the Langwith Colliery, belonging to the Sheepbridge Coal and Iron Company. When these works are completed in the autumn of 1926 the cause of complaint will be removed. In the meantime, the colliery company have been requested to effect temporary improvements to their works.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Effluents from the sewage works at the following places are, in my opinion, unsatisfactory:—

1. Hillstown, Scarecliffe
2. Carnfield, South Normanton
3. Birchwood Lane, South Normanton
4. Westhouses Nos. 1 and 2, Blackwell

All the above works are urgently in need of reconstruction.

At Carnfield, South Normanton, I understand that new works are being erected, and the plant is being brought into a satisfactory condition.

I have already referred to the joint sewage works for the Langwith area in my remarks with reference to the pollution of rivers and streams.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

Parish	Situation of Works	Method of Treatment	Effluent discharging into
BLACKWELL	(a) Primrose Hill	Precipitation tank and two percolating filters	Tributary of River Amber
	(b) Hilcote	Precipitation tank and land ..	"
	(c) Westhouses No. 1	Precipitation tank	"
	(d) Westhouses No. 2	Precipitation tank and land ..	"
PINXTON	(a) Wharf (Main Outfall) ..	Tanks & two percolating filters	River Erewash
	(b) Refuse Tip, Pinxton ..	Tank and then on tip ..	"
	(c) Brookhill Lane	Tank and one filter	Tributary of River Erewash
	(d) Beaufit Lane	Tank and two filters	"
PLEASLEY	(a) High Level Works between M.R. and G.N.R.	Tank and two filters	River Meden
	(b) Low Level Works south of G.N.R.	Tanks and one filter	"
SCARCLIFFE	(a) Hillstown	Tank and irrigation	"
	(b) Langwith Colliery	Tanks and two percolating filters (P.O.)	"
	(c) Scarcliffe Village	No Works	"
	(d) Palterton	Tank and one filter	"
SHIREBROOK	Near Midland Station	Tanks and four percolating filters	Tributary of River Doe Lea
			Soulkholme Brook, a tributary of River Meden
SOUTH NORMANTON	(a) Main Outfall Works	Tanks & three do.	Normanton Brook, a tributary of River Amber
	(b) Birchwood Lane	Tanks & two do.	Tributary of River Erewash
	(c) Berrister	Tank & two do.	"
	(d) Carnfield	One Tank only	"
TIBSHELF	Newton Road	Tank and then on tip ..	Tributary of River Amber
AULT HUCKNALL	Private Works owned by Sheepbridge Company		
GLAPWELL	No Works		

Closet Accommodation.

The following table shows the approximate number of each type remaining at the end of the year.

	Privy Middens	Pail Closets	Water Closets	
	1,537	5,507	1,940	
Number of conversions from privy middens to water closets during year	...	...	...	10
Number of conversions from pail to water closets during year	...	...	...	8
Number of defective privies improved	...	...	...	180

As mentioned in my last report, the conversion of pail closets and privies to water closets is an urgent public health matter, but until the district has a more adequate water supply a general scheme for conversion to water closets is not possible.

Scavenging.

Too much importance cannot be paid to the manner in which a district is scavenged. The scavenging during 1925 was, on the whole, satisfactory.

At the beginning of the year the work at Pinxton was not good, but a new contractor took over in April, and since that time it has been carried out efficiently in that parish.

Scavenging is undertaken :—

- (1) By the Council in Shirebrook
Blackwell.
- (2) By contract in Pleasley
South Normanton
Tibshelf
Pinxton.
- (3) By owners and occupiers in Glapwell
Scarcliffe
Ault Hucknall
Upper Langwith.

Number of houses where ashbins have been substituted for ashpits 184

URGENT SANITARY REQUIREMENTS.

1. More adequate water supply.
2. The relief of overcrowding by the provision of more houses.
3. When sufficient water is available, the conversion of privy and pail closets into water closets.
4. Reconstruction of Hillstown (Scarcliffe) Sewage Works.
5. Augmentation of Birchwood Lane, South Normanton, Sewage Works.

SCHOOLS.

The sanitary condition of the Public Elementary Schools in Blackwell Rural District is on the whole satisfactory.

Owing to the prevalence of Measles, the Infants' School at South Normanton was closed for three weeks in the spring of this year.

HOUSING.

The housing shortage in the area is still most acute, and although some colliery companies have put up a number of houses they are mostly occupied by people from outside areas.

Overcrowding exists in the area in general, but more particularly in the parish of Shirebrook. Houses which are unfit for habitation are still occupied, as the tenants are unable to find other accommodation.

PARISH	No. of houses at present inhabited.	No. of houses totally unfit.	No. of houses below a reasonable standard.	Over-crowded houses.
Ault Hucknall ...	515	4	—	23
Blackwell ...	1,068	—	—	23
Glapwell ...	49	—	—	—
Pinxton ...	1,162	17	31	11
Pleasley ...	536	—	—	16
Scarcliffe ...	658	13	19	25
Shirebrook ...	2,200	8	8	145
South Normanton ...	1,497	45	16	17
Tibshelf ...	855	6	12	4
Upper Langwith ...	421	—	—	5
TOTAL ...	8,961	93	86	269

During the last two years, the Sheepbridge Coal & Iron Company have erected over 400 houses in the parishes of Upper Langwith and Ault Hucknall; consequently, there has been a considerable influx of people into these two parishes.

The Council, under the Housing Financial Provisions Act, 1924, have agreed to build 1,200 houses in fifteen years, and of these 295 are to be built by the end of 1927.

During 1925, under this scheme, 20 houses were erected at Pinxton, eight at South Normanton, eight at Blackwell and four at Tibshelf.

General Standard of Housing in the Area.

In Blackwell Rural District the houses on the whole are in good repair. There are, however, especially in the southern area, notably South Normanton, a large number of houses below a reasonable standard which cannot be condemned owing to the inability of the tenants to find other accommodation on account of the housing shortage.

Bye-laws re Housing.

New bye-laws relating to houses have recently been adopted by the Blackwell Council, and are at present before the Ministry for their approval.

The bye-laws relating to tents, vans and sheds are not satisfactory, inasmuch as the Local Authority has no power to say where the vans should be established, and some of them are on sites where there is no possibility of providing proper sanitary conveniences, and where they inevitably become a nuisance to people living in the neighbourhood.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b))	291
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts	241
(1) By the Local Authority	40
(2) By other bodies or persons	10

1.—Unfit Dwelling-houses.

Inspection:—

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	678
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910; or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	152

(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-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	274

2.—Remedy of defects without service of formal notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	230
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3.—Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under Section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	54
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit—	
(<i>a</i>) by owners	2
(<i>b</i>) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	—
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	1

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	483
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied—	
(<i>a</i>) by owners	299
(<i>b</i>) by Local Authority in default of owners ...	—

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	4
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	1
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	—
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	—

Scarlet Fever.

232 cases of Scarlet Fever occurred during the year, the disease being very prevalent in the summer and autumn. It was, on the whole, a mild type of the disease; there was one case of malignant Scarlet Fever, death taking place before patient could be removed to hospital.

Diphtheria.

52 cases were notified and 41 removed to hospital; there were three deaths. Anti-toxin is provided by the Council free of cost, and the local practitioners are kept well supplied with it. One case was found to be a carrier, and was isolated at home until two consecutive swabs were negative.

No use has been made of the Schick or Dick tests in Diphtheria or Scarlet Fever.

Enteric Fever.

Three cases were notified during the year, but the diagnosis was confirmed in only one of them.

Smallpox.

77 cases of Smallpox were notified in the district during the year; of these 63 occurred at Shirebrook, where it was very prevalent during the month of December. Eight cases were notified at South Normanston, two at Blackwell, and four at Pleasley.

Owing to cases occurring in the Schools at Shirebrook, daily visits were paid to the classes concerned and absentees visited. In this way several mild cases were detected.

The usual supervision of contacts was carried out for 18 days, and not 16 as required by the Ministry of Health, as this was found to be too short a period.

In certain cases difficulty was experienced in vaccinating direct contacts, and in one family of thirteen, ten were removed to hospital with Smallpox, owing to the parents refusing to have their children vaccinated.

The disease in Shirebrook was of a particularly mild type; in many cases there being only two or three spots, and was consequently very difficult to control.

As a result of the Smallpox epidemic I vaccinated 335 persons during the year. Of these 285 were primary and 50 were revaccinations.

Of the 77 cases of Smallpox, 68 were unvaccinated and nine were vaccinated in infancy. In no case did a revaccinated person develop the disease, nor anyone vaccinated within 10 years.

Examination of Pathological and Bacteriological Specimens.

During the year the following specimens were examined at the County Council Laboratory, Derby:—

			Positive	Negative	Total
Enteric Fever	...	...	1	4	5
Diphtheria	...	...	8	69	77
Phthisis	...	...	22	92	114
Miscellaneous	...	...	2	—	2
			<u>33</u>	<u>165</u>	<u>198</u>

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
1	1	1	6	5	—	1	1	2
5	1	1	9	2	—	1	1	—
10	1	4	4	5	1	1	—	1
15	7	1	1	—	1	4	—	—
20	1	2	2	2	1	1	—	—
25	5	10	2	1	3	4	1	—
35	5	4	2	1	3	2	—	—
45	2	2	1	—	2	1	1	—
55	2	—	—	—	3	—	1	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	25	25	28	15	14	15	6	3

No action has been taken during 1925 under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925.

The total number of deaths from Tuberculosis was 38; of these seven were coal miners.

The number of non-notified deaths from Tuberculosis was five.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Notified	C A S E S					Deaths
	Treated		Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	
	At home	Hospital, Infant Welfare Centre				
5	5	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

INSPECTION and SUPERVISION of FOOD.

Milk.

The analysis of milk and other foods is carried out by the County Council, but in September, 1925, the Milk and Dairies Consolidation Act came into force. Under Sec. 4 of this Act, if the Medical Officer of Health of any local authority has reason to suspect that Tuberculosis is caused, or is likely to be caused, by the consumption of any milk that is being sold or exposed or kept for sale within the area of the local authority, he shall endeavour to ascertain the source or sources of supply, and on ascertaining the facts shall forthwith give notice of them to the Medical Officer of Health of the County in which the cows are kept.

During the remainder of the year, however, no milk in this area came under suspicion as a cause of Tuberculosis.

Number of licences granted for the sale of milk under special designations, classified as in the Fourth Schedule to the Milk (Special Designation) Order, 1923 nil.

Refusal of Registration of Retailers, or of licences of Graded Milk nil.

Meat.

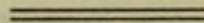
The Public Health Meat Regulations, 1924, came into force on April 1st, 1925, and have increased the work of the Sanitary Inspectors very considerably. Prior to the 1st of April, all butchers in the district were seen and their duties under the Regulations explained; at the same time, their slaughter-houses, shops, stalls and other premises were inspected and the required Registers compiled.

The new Slaughter-House Register required under the Regulations was also completed, and a time table of slaughtering made out from the

notices of times of slaughter received from the butchers. As the definition of meat is extended to include bacon and ham, shops and premises where these commodities are sold were inspected and entered in the Register of Shops. As far as possible, visits are made to the slaughter-houses weekly, at the regular times of slaughtering, and also to all cases of emergency slaughtering done out of the normal hours. As there are 31 slaughter-houses in the Blackwell Rural District, where the regular time for killing is usually on Monday and Tuesday evenings, it was found to be very difficult for the Sanitary Inspectors to visit as often as they should, if the slaughtering was to be supervised properly. To enable Sanitary Inspectors to more effectively carry on, the Council have made an allowance of £50 per annum to each Inspector, to cover the cost of motor transport.

Slaughter-Houses.

	In 1920	In Jan., 1925	In Dec., 1925
Registered ...	—	—	—
Licensed ...	29	28	31
Total	<u>29</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>31</u>



MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE.

The work in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare has greatly increased during the last few years.

There are at present eight Welfare Centres in the district:—

Parish	Day
Shirebrook	Every Wednesday.
South Normanton ...	2nd and 4th Tuesdays in each month.
Pinxton	1st and 3rd Thursdays „ „ „
Scarcliffe (Hillstown)	2nd and 4th Mondays „ „ „
Blackwell (Newton) ...	1st and 3rd Mondays „ „ „
Tibshelf	1st and 3rd Thursdays „ „ „
Pleasley	2nd and 4th Thursdays „ „ „
Langwith Colliery ...	1st and 3rd Mondays „ „ „

At each Centre a Health Visitor is in attendance, assisted by voluntary workers. A supply of dried milk is sold at cost price.

It is noteworthy that the midwives in the district give valuable assistance at these Centres.

Name of Centre	Name of Health Visitor	No. of Infants on register	Attendances				Home Visits	
			Mothers	Expectant Mothers	Infants	Young Children	First	Subsequent
Shirebrook	Miss Hinchliffe	245	1,837	125	1,098	749	601	4,036
South N'manton	„ Clark ..	183	665	40	417	310	564	3,629
Pinxton ..	„ „ ..	147	475	40	280	246	—	—
Blackwell (Newton)	„ Orpin ..	71	508	—	329	226	214	1,675
Tibshelf ..	„ „ ..	102	315	—	219	137	—	—
Pleasley ..	„ Priestley	74	429	20	180	252	385	3,200
Scarcliffe ..	„ „ ..	105	606	17	276	524	—	—
Langwith Colliery	„ „ ..	143	1,198	47	624	731	—	—

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

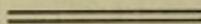
Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	8	1	—
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	192	—	—
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises)	25	—	—
Total	225	1	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—

Particulars	Number of Defects Found	Number of Defects Remedied
Want of cleanliness	8	8
Total	8	8



Report of Sanitary Inspector: Southern Area.

Area, 7,296 acres. Inhabited houses, 4,740. New houses erected during 1925: (a) under Housing Scheme, 40; (b) by private enterprise, 28.

Visits:

General District Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	62
Inspection of works in progress	..	...	...	...	...	6,706
Interviews and appointments	...	...	...	...	...	160
Investigation of complaints of nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	23
Testing drains	...	...	...	...	...	115
Special inspections of lodging-houses, factories, bakehouses, stables, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	236
Committees and Parish Council Meetings	...	...	...	...	...	55
Taking samples...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Visits <i>re</i> cases of infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	1,579
Housing inspections, H.T.P.A.	...	...	...	...	...	115

Matters in respect of which Preliminary Notices were served:

(a) ON OWNERS—

Dwellings, structural generally	...	...	...	...	...	97
Drainage defects	...	...	...	...	...	82
To convert privies	...	...	...	...	...	3
Other matters	...	...	...	...	...	153

(b) ON OCCUPIERS—

Dwellings, privies, yards, etc., kept in a dirty, insanitary condition	...	...	...	...	...	27
Total number of Notices served on Owners	...	...	...	...	...	358
" " " Occupiers	...	...	...	...	...	15
" " " Scavenging Contractors	...	...	...	...	...	122

Disinfection and Removal of cases to Hospital:

Cases removed to hospital	...	...	...	...	...	119
Bundles of bedding, etc., removed for disinfection	...	...	...	...	...	1,657
Number of rooms fumigated	...	...	...	...	...	295

Sale of Milk:

Applications for registration, suitable...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Names removed from Register	...	...	..	...	...	—

Visits to Shops and Places of Trade:

Slaughter-house inspections	...	...	...	...	...	979
Emergency calls for Slaughtering	...	...	...	...	...	54
Inspection of Markets	...	...	...	...	...	85

Summary of Notices served, Defects remedied and Nuisances abated.

	Informal Notices served by Sanitary Inspector	Legal Notices served by Local Authority	Nuisances abated with or without Notice
<i>Drainage :</i>			
No disconnection of waste pipe ...	1	1	2
Defective waste pipe, traps, inlets and drains	24	2	36
Drains obstructed	28	—	36
<i>Closets and Ashpits :</i>			
Defective privies, pail closets and ashpits—not for conversion ...	68	3	109
Conversion of privies into w.c.'s...	4	—	10
Conversion of pail closets into w.c.'s	1	—	1
Conversion of privies into pail closets	21	—	27
Defective water closets	9	—	14
Provision of additional water closets	1	1	1
Provision of portable ashbins ...	49	8	126
Dirty closets	3	—	4
<i>Other Defects :</i>			
Paving of courts and yards ..	21	1	39
Roofs, eaves- and down-spouts ...	50	12	90
Sinks	8	1	8
Insufficient ventilation	3	—	3
Windows	4	7	21
Dampness	7	2	12
Water in cellars	1	—	1
Water supply	2	—	2
Over-crowding	1	—	1
Foul condition of houses	—	—	—
Offensive accumulations... ..	94	—	596
Animals improperly kept	3	3	3
Pigsties	1	1	1
Smoke nuisances... ..	—	—	—
Urinals	1	—	1
Nuisances not specified above ...	23	3	44
TOTALS ...	<u>428</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>1,188</u>

Food Inspection :

Slaughter-Houses and Meat Shops.—There are 17 licensed slaughter-houses in this Southern area, 27 butchers' shops and 36 hawkers; the whole are visited at regular periods.

Visits to slaughter-houses during slaughtering hours for the year are 979. 54 emergency calls have been made, and four notices served for breach of regulations, and one successful prosecution.

One slaughter-house was demolished and re-built on model lines.

Markets are held weekly in Pinxton and South Normanton; these markets are of a mixed nature, but chiefly foodstuffs are sold; these markets are inspected weekly.

During the year the following have been surrendered and destroyed as unfit for human food, viz.:—18 couples of rabbits, 11 ox livers, 176 tins of food, three pigs, 50 lbs. of pork, one body of beef, 162 lbs. of beef, 14 lbs. of corned beef and seven cwts. of diseased potatoes.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops.—There are 109 persons registered under the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops Orders and Regulations. 327 visits have been made during the year, four notices having been served and defects remedied, and two cowsheds closed as unfit. The condition in general may be considered satisfactory.

Bakehouses.—There are nine bakehouses in the district which are visited at regular periods; 32 inspections made during the year.

House Scavenging.

Throughout the Southern area the work of scavenging is carried out under my direction. In the parishes of Pinxton, South Normanton and Tibshelf the work is carried out by contractors with good results.

In the parish of Blackwell the work is carried out by the Council's workmen, a system that cannot be too strongly recommended; in this parish there are 628 portable sanitary dustbins, the majority being emptied twice weekly.

Refuse Tips.

The question of depositing house refuse becomes more acute every year. Of the 11 of the refuse dumps which serve my district, six of the largest have fired from spontaneous combustion; unfortunately, these refuse tips are in the vicinity of thickly populated areas, causing considerable anxiety and hard work to prevent them from becoming a public nuisance.

It is time that the antiquated method of dumping house refuse was abolished and modern machinery put into operation, whereby the refuse matter would then be made a marketable commodity.

During the year all refuse tips and sewage farms are treated at regular periods with rat poison, with good results.

River Pollution.

The pollution of water courses in the area still continues, but not on such a large scale as previously mentioned; the chief causes arising from the coal washing plants attached to the coke ovens.

Housing and Town Planning Acts.

During the year 115 records under the Housing and Town Planning Acts were made of houses not kept up to a reasonable standard; on one cottage a closing order was served, and the cottage closed.

The question of executing repairs under these regulations, also the Public Health Acts, is one of great importance, labour and materials proving the annoying obstacle. On many occasions owners have placed their orders with builders to carry out repairs which are urgently needed; these should ordinarily take a few days to execute but extend into months.

Taking a general survey of the Southern area, the dwelling-houses are in a fairly reasonable state of repair, excepting a number of cottages, which are very old and dilapidated, and beyond remodelling. This class of property is being scheduled for closing.

Sanitary condition of Picture Palaces and Dance Halls.

During the year 34 visits have been made, when small defects have been remedied by pointing them out to the management without the service of notices.

Local Wells.

During the year six samples have been submitted to the Analyst; one sample was condemned as unfit for drinking purposes.

Fish and Chip Potato Fryers.

Since the adoption of Byelaws under The Offensive Trades Regulation, 25 premises have been registered. These premises are used for fish and chip potato frying, which have been inspected at regular intervals.

Infectious Diseases and Steam Disinfection.

During the year 295 infected rooms have been disinfected by means of Formalin lamps and liquid Formalin and spray.

All articles of bedding and clothing are removed to the High Power Steam Disinfector at South Normanton; the total number of articles steam disinfected being 1,657.

(Signed) S. WILMOT, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Inspector.

Report of Sanitary Inspector: Northern Area.

Area, 13,942 acres. Inhabited houses, 4,635. New houses erected during 1925: (a) under Housing Scheme, nil; (b) by private enterprise, 226.

During the year under review 4,447 visits were made, details of which are set forth in the following table:—

General District Inspection	...	...	...	...	146
Inspection of works in progress	...	...	...	...	1,062
Interviews and appointments	...	...	...	...	519
Investigations of complaints	...	...	...	...	343
Testing drains	...	...	...	...	56
Inspections of shops, factories, workshops, stables, etc.	..				275
Inspections of slaughter-houses	..	...	...	...	246
Visits respecting cases of infectious disease	...	...	...	...	1,104
Housing Act Inspections	...	...	...	...	53
Inspections of cowsheds	...	...	...	...	75
Inspections of sewage works, refuse tips and scavenging	...				362
Water and sewage effluent samples	...	...	...	...	4
Inspections under Public Health (Water) Act, 1878...	...				187
Cinematograph Halls	...	...	...	...	15

The total number of Notices served are set out as under:—

	Structural defects	Nuisances	Total
Preliminary Notices on Owners...	219	29	248
Statutory „ „ ...	32	1	33
Preliminary „ Occupiers	—	15	15
Statutory „ „	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	251	45	296

Summary of Notices served, Defects remedied and Nuisances abated.

	Informal Notices served by Sanitary Inspector	Legal Notices served by Local Authority	Nuisances abated with or without Notice
<i>Drainage :</i>			
No disconnection of waste pipe...	—	—	—
Defective waste pipe, traps, inlets and drains	62	6	64
Drains obstructed	49	—	74
<i>Closets and Ashpits :</i>			
Defective privies, pail closets and ashpits—not for conversion ...	133	10	91
Conversion of privies into w.c's ...	—	11	—
Conversion of pail closets into w.c's	—	—	6
Conversion of privies into pail closets	—	—	—
Defective water closets	3	2	4
Provision of additional water closets	—	—	—
Provision of portable ashbins ...	54	15	131
Dirty closets	1	—	1
<i>Other Defects :</i>			
Paving of courts and yards ...	112	15	55
Roofs, eaves- and down-spouts...	81	10	65
Sinks	5	—	3
Insufficient ventilation	—	—	—
Windows	31	3	25
Dampness	82	11	61
Water in cellars	—	—	—
Water supply	6	2	9
Over-crowding	—	—	—
Foul condition of houses ...	4	—	5
Offensive accumulations... ..	15	—	31
Animals improperly kept ...	—	—	—
Pigsties	3	—	2
Smoke nuisances... ..	1	—	2
Urinals	1	—	1
Nuisances not specified above ...	164	26	119
TOTALS ...	<u>807</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>749</u>

Food Inspection.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.—At the end of the year the premises coming within the scope of the Meat Regulations, and the inspections made, were as follows:—

			On Registers	Inspections
Slaughter-houses	...	...	14	246
Butchers' Shops	...	...	25	88
„ Stalls...	...	...	12	60
Provision Shops and Stalls	...	...	26	83
			<hr/>	<hr/>
	TOTALS	...	77	477
			<hr/>	<hr/>

The utmost co-operation and desire to carry out the terms of the Regulations by the traders affected have been met with, and only one notice and three warnings have been necessary during the year.

Slaughter-houses.—As a result of the detailed inspection of these premises prior to the 1st April, considerable improvement in the cleanliness and general condition of a number of them has resulted.

Shops.—All the shops are permanent buildings in good structural condition, fitted with all necessary business appurtenances and kept in a clean condition, with three exceptions. These are temporary wooden shops, unsuitable for this particular business, and in two instances the business had ceased before the end of the year and the premises taken into use for other purposes.

Stalls.—A weekly Market is held at Shirebrook, and there are 12 stalls at this market. Before the coming into force of the Regulations the Market Place paving was in a defective condition, and as a result of representations to the owners this was repaired. The stalls were also scattered amongst the other stalls all over the market, and arrangements were made for all the butchers to stand in one row. This arrangement has worked satisfactorily. All the stallholders willingly co-operated in carrying out the terms of the Regulations. During the year one butcher's stall was opened for a short time at Langwith, but had ceased before the end of the year.

Stores and "Making-up" Places.—Considerable improvement has taken place in the structural condition and cleanliness of these places, and the majority are now in a satisfactory condition.

Vehicles.—The methods of delivery of meat in the area are satisfactory. The majority of traders use closed covered motor vehicles,

and, except for door to door sale, all carcasses are covered with clean material.

Meat Inspection.—The inspection of carcasses of food animals is carried out at the time of slaughter or as soon after as possible. Inspection is conducted according to the routine contained in the Report of the Departmental Committee on Meat Inspection, and their recommendations as to the treatment of diseased carcasses and organs are followed. During the year the carcasses and organs of 395 food animals have been inspected, and in 43 animals lesions of disease were found. The parts condemned will be found under the heading "Food condemned and destroyed."

Food condemned and destroyed.—During the year the articles shown in the following Table were condemned and destroyed as unfit for human consumption:—

Beef: 917 lbs. ...	...	Tuberculosis; garget of udder; abscesses
Beef Liver: 129 lbs. ...	...	Liver fluke (<i>distoma hepaticum</i>); putrefaction; cirrhosis
Pork: 1 carcase & organs		Flesh fevered and unset
„ 70 lbs. ...	...	Putrefaction
Dried Haddock: 14 lbs.		„
Rabbits: 31 carcasses ...	...	„ and liver abscesses
Potatoes: 2 tons 10 cwts.		Diseased; unsound
Corned Beef: 120 lbs. ...	...	Putrefaction
Preserved Food: 301 tins		„ and fermentation
„ „ 4 bottles		„

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.—The number on the Register is 116, and the number of visits paid was 75. A number of structural alterations to improve drainage, lighting and ventilation, for which notices were served, were carried out during the year.

Bakehouses.—There are five bakehouses within the area, and 12 inspections were made. They were all found in a satisfactory sanitary and structural condition with one exception, a temporary wooden building, which is to be replaced by a brick bakehouse in course of erection at the end of the year.

Workshops.

There are 30 workshops on the register, and to these 51 visits were paid. Structural repairs were found necessary in one case and interior cleansing in six cases.

Cinematograph Halls.

There are three of these buildings in the area, and 15 visits of inspection were paid. The sanitary accommodation in all cases is sufficient and satisfactory, and the premises are kept in a cleanly condition.

Offensive Trades.

Bye-laws governing these trades came into force on 21st July, 1925, and at the end of the year eight premises where the offensive trade of fish frier is carried on have been placed on the register, and 13 inspections made.

Disinfection.

During the year 237 bundles of bedding were steam disinfected, and 1,179 rooms disinfected in connection with cases of infectious disease.

Scavenging.

The scavenging was performed satisfactorily in the parishes of Ault Hucknall and Glapwell by contractors employed by property owners, Pleasley by the Council's contractor, and Shirebrook by direct labour. In the parishes of Scarcliffe and Upper Langwith scavenging is carried out by contractors employed by property owners. In the former parish it is unsatisfactory, and during the year considerable attention has had to be given to getting the work done. In Upper Langwith the scavenging is fairly satisfactory and has improved during the course of the year.

The following table gives details of scavenging in the parish of Shirebrook :—

	Number of loads removed from :		
Ashbins and Ashpits.	Pail Closets.	Cesspools.	
5,559	2,762	517	

During the first part of the year pail closets were emptied every sixth day, but owing to the large number of occupants per house in certain parts of the parish this was found to be insufficient, and on the 23rd August, 1925, a system was commenced whereby emptying was carried out every third day in the more densely populated parts of the parish. It has worked satisfactorily, with little extra cost, and has resulted in the complaints, which were previously common, ceasing altogether.

Ashbins are emptied every seven days, and ashpit and cesspools in a routine manner, approximately once in four weeks.

Housing.

Throughout the area the general standard of fitness of houses is, on the whole, satisfactory. Some of the older stone houses are unsatisfactory in regard to lighting and ventilation. Several wooden houses exist in the parishes of Scarciffe and Upper Langwith, which are unsatisfactory as dwelling houses from all points of view. The chief defects found to exist in dwelling-houses are defective yard paving, defective roofs, gutters and down spouts, dampness of walls and ceilings, defective ashpits and privy apartments, and defective fireplaces, ovens and boilers. The fact that a large number of houses, intended for occupation by only one family, are occupied by more than one, aggravates wear and tear on property and increases the structural defects found.

The difficulties met with in getting defects remedied include the reluctance of owners to spend money upon their property, owing to the high cost of repair work, and the difficulty, particularly in outlying villages, in finding builders who will undertake repair work.

(*Signed*) K. P. KEYWOOD, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Inspector.

