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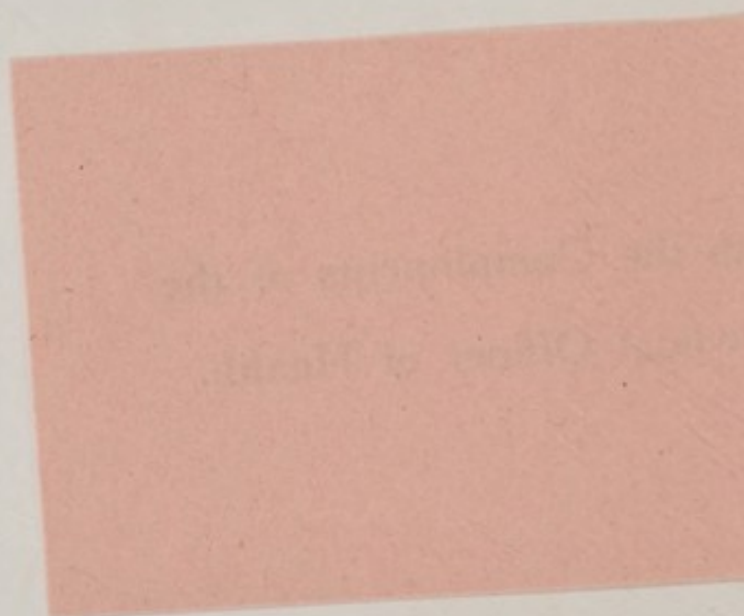
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With the Compliments of the  
Medical Officer of Health.





BLACKWELL  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1946

By

A. H. WEAR, M.D., B.S., D.P.H., B.Hy.,  
Medical Officer of Health.

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King & Bird, Printers, Mansfield

H. A. C. W. R. L.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Medical Officer of Health

Printed by the Council



## Preface.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
BLACKWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of your district for the year 1946.

Housing is the greatest problem we have to face, and large numbers of families are still living under intolerable conditions. During the year, 100 Prefabricated temporary houses have been completed in the Parishes of Shirebrook and Pleasley, but only two permanent houses have been built in the whole area.

The health of the district has been satisfactory except for an outbreak of measles which occurred in the village of South Normanton towards the end of the year.

I wish to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Council for their continued interest and support.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. H. WEAR,  
Medical Officer of Health.

"Dale Close,"  
100, Chesterfield Road South,  
Mansfield.

## Statistics of the Area.

Area (acres) .....	21,922
Population (Census 1931) .....	44,891
Population mid-year (Registrar-General), 1946 .....	42,550
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1946) according to Rate Books .....	11,182
Rateable Value, 1946 .....	£165,747
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1946 .....	£635

## Social Conditions.

The Social conditions are mainly industrial, the chief occupations of the inhabitants being coal mining and agriculture.

There is a large hosiery factory in the district, which is partly in Nottinghamshire and partly in Derbyshire, a wagon works and eight collieries.

### Chief cause of Invalidity in the District.

Scabies continues to be one of the most common causes of invalidity in the area. 334 children and 189 adults received 1,279 treatments.

44 children received treatment for verminous heads. The Health Visitors advise parents regarding treatment, and only very severe cases have to be sent to the Hostel.

The following table shows the number of School children treated at the Elm Tree Hostel and at the Bolsover Baths since 1943 for scabies and verminous heads.

Year	Scabies treated	Verminous heads treated
1943 .....	980	39
1944 .....	643	59
1945 .....	311	53
1946 .....	336	44



## Vital Statistics.

### BIRTHS:

#### Live Births—

	Total	Males	Females	
Legitimate .....	865	445	420	{ Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 21·2.
Illegitimate .....	41	14	27	
Still Births .....	27	10	17	{ Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 29·8.

	Total	Males	Females	
DEATHS .....	411	213	198	{ Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 9·6.

#### Deaths from puerperal causes—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births
Puerperal Sepsis .....	—	—
Other puerperal causes .....	2	2·2
Total .....	2	2·2

### DEATH-RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:—

All infants, per 1,000 live births .....	41·8
Legitimate infants, per 1,000 live births .....	40·4
Illegitimate Infants, per 1,000 live births .....	73

#### DEATHS FROM:—

Measles (all ages) .....	—
Whooping Cough (all ages) .....	1
Diarrhœa (under two years of age) .....	1
Cancer (all ages) .....	46
Heart Disease .....	122
Violent Deaths .....	23
Road Accidents .....	1

### INFANTILE DEATHS.

During the year, 17 premature babies died (10 males and 7 females).



## Nutrition.

The health and well being of the school children are much the same. The number of "sub-normal" nutrition cases still remains small.

Free milk and the school meals have been a great help, but there are many more who will benefit when the mid-day meal becomes free.

With regard to the rest of the community, there is no doubt that the present diet is spartan and inadequate for those people who are unable to take their mid-day meal out. If more butter, eggs and meat were available, the outlook would be much brighter.

It is satisfactory to note that there has been more fruit in the shops during the year.

The following are particulars from the Milk Office, kindly given by Mr. Carter, re the Welfare Foods Service.

## Milk in Schools.

Since July, the milk for children in schools has been supplied free of cost, and the quantity provided for each child is limited at present to one-third pint.

The total amount authorised for schools in this area is 1,200 gallons per week.

## Vitamins.

Since July, no charge has been made for Cod Liver Oil and A. & D. Tablets, and the uptake has increased by 50%. Nevertheless, the percentage of beneficiaries at the end of the year was only 36 and 54 respectively of those entitled to the supplies, and the Ministry press for an improvement in these figures.

In the case of Orange Juice, the price of which remains at 5d. per bottle, there has been a decrease in the numbers issued, which may be due to some measure to the import of more fresh fruit.



### National Dried Milk.

The demand for this food, which is available at seventeen distribution centres in the area, has not declined, and the average number of tins issued has reached nearly 800 per week.

### Orange Juice Jelly and National Milk Cocoa.

Cases of jelly are supplied to the school canteens in the area, but is not in as great demand as anticipated.

The same applies to the National Milk Cocoa — the special drink provided for adolescents in employment.

# Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1946.

	Birth-rate per 1,000 Total Population		ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION								RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS	
	Live Births	Still Births	All causes	Enteric Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping-cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea and Enteritis, under 2 years	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales .. ..	19.1	0.53	11.5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.15	4.4	43
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ..	22.2	0.67	12.7	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.13	6.1	46
148 Smaller Towns (1931 adjusted) Populations 25,000—50,000 ..	21.3	0.59	11.7	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.14	2.8	37
London .. ..	21.5	0.54	12.7	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.12	4.2	41
BLACKWELL R.D. .. ..	21.2	0.63	9.6	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.11	1.1	41



## General Provisions of Health Services in the Area.

### Laboratory Facilities.

No changes or developments have been made in connection with laboratory facilities. The number of types of specimens dealt with by the County Laboratories were as follows:—

Enterica—	Positive	Negative	Total
Typhoid, Para-Typhoid A & B .....	—	3	3
Gaertner, Dysentery, etc. ....	—	1	1
Diphtheria .....	—	10	133
Vincent's Angina .....	6	97	103
Phthisis .....	2	41	43
Water .....	1	9	10
Milk—			
T.B. Inoculation sent by Ministry of Agriculture .....	2	14	16
T.B. Inoculation, Routine Samples .....	4	197	201
Methylene Blue Test, Routine Samples	34	226	260
Bacterial Content .....	4	19	23
Bacillus Coli. ....	35	230	265
Miscellaneous .....	3	23	26
<hr/>			
Totals .....	102	993	1,095
<hr/>			

In addition to the above, ten urgent swabs were examined at the Mansfield Laboratory, one of which proved to be positive.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES IN THE AREA.

The following are available:—

### (a) For Infectious Cases.

Ambulances are provided by the North-east Derbyshire Isolation Hospital Board.

### (b) For Non-Infectious Cases.

Our own ambulance is available for these cases, day or night — Telephone, Mansfield 1784. Reciprocal arrangements have also been made for the use of the Bolsover Ambulance (for Hillstown, Scarcliffe and Palterton), and the Mansfield Borough Ambulance.

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE, AND SCHOOL CLINICS.

All these clinics are under the control of the County Council. A Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic is held every week on a Wednesday afternoon at Shirebrook, and once a fortnight at Pinxton, South Normanton, Tibshelf, Langwith and New Houghton.

Ante-natal Clinics are held every Monday at Shirebrook.

A School Clinic for the treatment of minor ailments is held every Wednesday morning at Shirebrook, and fortnightly on a Saturday at Alferton.

## TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC.

Held at Brimington Road, Chesterfield, on Tuesday and Friday from 10 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 2 to 4 p.m.

## VENEREAL CLINICS.

These are at Chesterfield Royal Hospital.

Males: Mondays from 6 until 8 p.m.  
Wednesdays from 6 until 8 p.m.  
Saturdays at 2.30 p.m.

Females: Mondays at 3 p.m.  
Thursdays from 2 until 4 p.m.



## **Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.**

### **WATER.**

The quantity of water is adequate. Upwards of 1½ million gallons are supplied daily to the district from the Meden Valley Waterworks.

The water has been analysed at regular intervals, before and after chlorination. Ten bacteriological and three chemical samples have been taken, one bacteriological and one chemical being of the raw water. In every case the results were satisfactory and no contamination was found.

During the year the construction of additional pumping stations at both Budby and Stoney Houghton has been completed. That at Budby is in connection with the third borehole constructed in 1944. Both stations are equipped with pumping plants of increased capacity.

The chlorinating plant is installed at the Budby Well.

The water is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.

### **Water Main Extensions.**

On January 4th, the Council took over the supply to Shirebrook Model Village, which had hitherto been supplied by the Shirebrook Colliery Ltd.

With the taking over of the supply to this area, the water supply position in the district is that—except for a few farms and cottages remote from the Council's mains—the whole district is supplied from the Council's scheme.

Water mains have been laid to the new housing sites at Blackwell, South Normanton, Tibshelf, Pleasley and Langwith Junction.

### **Proposed Water Mains.**

Application has been made to the Ministry of Health for consent to extend the mains so as to supply the L. & N. E.



Railway Company's three cottages at Whaley Moor in the Parish of Scarcliffe, hitherto supplied by daily deliveries by rail.

Application has also been made to extend the Shirebrook mains to supply Hodhill Farm and five cottages in Wood Lane, Shirebrook, hitherto supplied from wells and cisterns.

### Water Supplies:

Parish	No. of houses supplied with district water Direct to Houses.	Population (estimated).	No. of houses supplied with district water from stand pipes).	Population (estimated).
Shirebrook	..... 2446	9835	3	12
Scarcliffe	..... 1979	7436	8	32
Ault Hucknall	..... 553	2123	—	—
Glapwell	..... 223	768	—	—
Pleasley	..... 655	2587	—	—
Pinxton	..... 1305	4787	17	60
South Normanton	..... 1800	6512	38	134
Tibshelf	..... 894	2990	2	6
Blackwell	..... 1130	3809	110	385
Total	..... 10985	40847	178	629

The figures for South Normanton and Blackwell can only be given approximately until the Rural Housing Survey is completed.

### CLOSET CONVERSIONS.

The following closet conversions have been carried out during the year:—

Blackwell	.....	.....	.....	3
Pinxton	.....	.....	.....	5
Pleasley	.....	.....	.....	35
Shirebrook	.....	.....	.....	34
South Normanton	.....	.....	.....	2
Tibshelf	.....	.....	.....	8

## Housing.

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During the year, 100 Prefabricated houses (50 at Pleasley and 50 at Scarcliffe) were occupied, and two houses at South Normanton were erected by private enterprise.

Housing conditions remain the outstanding need of the population. Quite a large percentage require extensive repairs, and there is much overcrowding. Many people are living under the worst possible conditions, and few of the younger married couples have known a home of their own. There is still a great shortage of labour and materials.

During the year, work was commenced on the following:

Parish	Houses
South Normanton .....	28
Tibshelf .....	10
Langwith Junction .....	30

During 1947, it is hoped to start work on houses in these four parishes:

Parish	Houses
Blackwell .....	18
New Houghton .....	10
Langwith Junction .....	52
Hillstown .....	24

In addition to the above, there are 56 houses at Pinxton which have not yet been let to a Contractor, and 16 houses at Shirebrook to be built by private enterprise.

### HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR.

#### 1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year.

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| 1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ..... | 236 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....   | 799 |



2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 .....	6
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .....	29
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	6
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 .....	80
<b>2. Remedy of defects during the Year without service of formal notices.</b>	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .....	136
<b>3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.</b>	
1. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs .....	—
(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
(a) by owners .....	—
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners .....	—
2. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .....	6
(b) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
(a) by owners .....	5
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners .....	—



3. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .....	6
(b) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .....	3
4. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(a) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .....	—
(b) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit .....	—
Houses built during the Year .....	2

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The Ministry of Health have sanctioned a scheme for the reconstruction of the existing disposal works at Shirebrook, including the provision of additional percolating filter and sludge-drying beds. The contract for this work is about to be let.

Sanction has also been received to a scheme which will abolish the two small disposal works at Westhouses, and provides for the construction of two small pumping stations and rising mains to pump the sewage from this area for treatment at the Primrose Hill works, Blackwell. The contract for this work is also about to be let.

### Sewer Extensions.

A sewer has been laid in Rotherham Road, New Houghton, to drain properties hitherto served by cesspools, and to facilitate pail closet conversions.

## FACTORIES ACT.

Visits are paid regularly to the factories in the district, and conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

## Inspection and Supervision of Food.

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### Milk, Meat and other Foods.

Full details of these will be found in the Sanitary Inspectors' reports.

### URGENT SANITARY REQUIREMENTS.

1. Abatement of overcrowding.
  2. Conversion of the pail closets at Pinxton.
  3. Re-conditioning and augmenting of the Shirebrook Sewage Works to allow a general conversion scheme to be carried out in this village.
  4. Connecting a sewer from 90 houses at Blackwell Colliery to the Primrose Hill Works, and the conversion of Blackwell Colliery, Primrose Hill and B. Winning houses to the water carriage system.
  5. Properties with one tap to four or five houses to have a proper water supply.
  6. Demolition of certain slum properties, particularly at Pinxton, Langwith and South Normanton.
-



# Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1946.

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases notified												Total Cases notified in each Parish of the District								Total Cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																															
	At Ages—years												Shirebrook	Normanton	Pinxton	Tibshelf	Blackwell	Pleasley	Scarliffe	A. Hucknall			Glapwell																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																														
	At all Ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65												65 & upwards																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
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## Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

### Diphtheria.

14 cases of this disease occurred, and all were removed to hospital. Only one of the seven patients who attended school had not been immunised. In an immunised child, the attack is invariably mild, and there is no danger of it proving fatal.

Every effort has been made to secure the immunisation of infants and to maintain the high level of immunisation in the school children.

590 children under five years of age and 141 between five and fifteen years were immunised during the year.

The following table gives the number of diphtheria cases notified in this district during the last eight years.

Year	No. of Cases
1938	142
1939	85
1940	36
1941	45
1942	16
1943	21
1944	23
1945	38
1946	14

### Scarlet Fever.

114 cases were notified as compared with 160 in 1945. The source of infection was by direct contact, either in school, cinema or fair-grounds. The disease was mild in character, and there were no deaths. Many of the cases occurred in overcrowded houses, and in a number there was influenza in the home.

### Smallpox.

No cases of this disease occurred, but a number of contacts from infected ships had to be kept under observation.

### Cerebral Spinal Meningitis.

Four notifications were received and the diagnosis was confirmed, bacteriologically, in all the cases. One patient, a boy of seven who lived at Scarcliffe, was infected by contact with a person, who had recently had the disease, when travelling in a train from Chesterfield to Blackpool.

### Whooping Cough and Measles.

78 cases of Whooping Cough and 91 cases of Measles were notified. There was one death from Whooping Cough.

### Tuberculosis.

The following table gives particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of all deaths from the diseases during the year:—

Age Periods in years			NEW CASES				DEATHS			
			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	..	..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1	..	..	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
5	..	..	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—
10	..	..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	..	..	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
20	..	..	3	5	—	—	—	3	—	—
25	..	..	3	2	—	1	2	2	—	—
35	..	..	4	1	2	1	2	—	1	—
45	..	..	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	..	..	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards			2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
TOTALS ..			19	12	5	5	7	6	1	—

The phthisis death-rate is .3 per 1,000 of the population.



## Reports of Sanitary Inspectors.

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### NORTHERN AREA.

Comprising the Parishes of Shirebrook, Scarcliffe, Pleasley, Ault Hucknall and Glapwell. 14,626 acres.

Sanitary Inspector: I. N. CREEAR, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

(i.) Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.

(ii.) Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute (Meat and other Foods).

(iii.) Member of Sanitary Inspectors' Association.

Offices: Cliffe House, Shirebrook.

### SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

#### General Sanitation:

Water Supplies	.....	18
Drainage	.....	75
Stables and Piggeries	.....	7
Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins	.....	355
Re-inspections of Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins	.....	470
Fried Fish Shops	.....	36
Public Conveniences	.....	12
Factories and Bakehouses	.....	44
Refuse Collection	.....	180
Refuse Disposal	.....	94
Rats and Mice	.....	88
Cinemas	.....	9
Petroleum Acts	.....	42
Inquiries re cases of Infectious Disease	.....	150
Inquiries re cases of Scabies	.....	56
Interviews and Appointments	.....	310
General Inspections	.....	165
Miscellaneous Visits	.....	333



**Housing:**

Number of houses inspected under Public Health Acts	190
Re-visits to houses inspected under Public Health Acts	234
Number of houses inspected re overcrowding .....	731

**Meat and Food Inspection:**

Visits to Slaughterhouses .....	23
Shops and Stalls (re meat) .....	425
Street Vendors' and Hawkers' Carts .....	28
Other Food Premises .....	322

**Miscellaneous:**

Salvage .....	165
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**HOUSING.**

Very little improvement has taken place regarding available labour for the repair of house property, and it has been difficult to obtain this for even the most urgent defects. Property is deteriorating for want of repairs, and what was a minor matter some time ago is now extensive.

During the year it has only been possible to get some urgent repairs executed by personally interviewing contractors living out of the district.

**RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.**

This has been completed in the Parish of Shirebrook, and houses have been recorded.

The following gives the result of same:—

Number of houses in Shirebrook .....	2449
Houses for demolition .....	20
Houses with structural or major repairs .....	13
Minor repairs required .....	1828
Washing copper in living room .....	415
Pantries unsatisfactory .....	1729
Houses without baths .....	1665



Houses with closet pails	953
Dampness in varying forms	1384
Legally overcrowded (one family)	8
Houses with two families	351
Houses with two families, overcrowded	12
Houses with three families	19
Houses with three families, overcrowded	8
Houses with four families	1
Houses with four families, overcrowded	1
Houses with lodgers	225
Houses with lodgers, overcrowded	1

During the year, 731 visits were paid to investigate the condition of applicants for new houses. Many of these people were found to be living in overcrowded conditions, and a considerable amount of time was taken up with this necessary work. Owing to applicants not being at home at the time, it was necessary in many cases to pay two or three visits before the information could be obtained.

A survey of the yards and passages in Shirebrook revealed that many repairs are required, owing to practically nothing being done during the war years, when there was only one man to do the work. Some of this work has been started, but progress is slow owing to shortage of labour and materials.

## SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

Shortage of materials and restrictions have held up the work of conversion during the year. Some 1,007 pails and privies are still in use, and although some of these are off the sewer, the majority have drainage system and water supply in close proximity.

During the year, the following work was executed:—

Pails converted to water closets	69
Privies converted to water closets	—
Additional water closets provided	100



## ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

Complaints receive attention, and when necessary, are treated by spraying and fumigating with Block Disinfestators.

Treatments have been very effective in the matter of bugs, fleas and cockroaches.

Tenants are instructed to strip the walls and wash and scrub fixtures. During the year seven houses were treated for vermin, and the number of infested articles destroyed was 16.

## SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

The Chesterfield Municipal Abattoir continues to be used as the Regional Slaughterhouse for the area. Careful attention has been given during the year to conditions where food is stored and prepared for sale. A total of 580 visits have been made for this purpose.

The number of pigs killed during the year by cottagers for private consumption amounted to 813 compared with 552 in 1945.

Unsound food condemned amounted to 10,632 lbs., made up as follows:— beef and beef offal, 100 lbs.; pork and pork offal, 206 lbs.; tinned and other foods, 7,027 lbs.; fish, 3,295 lbs.

The food preparation premises were at all times kept in a clean condition.

## MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS.

The inspections relating to production and distribution of milk continues, and a good amount of time is devoted to this very necessary work. Some improvements have been effected during the year, but so long as the labour shortage and restrictions continue, it will not be possible to do all that is required.



294 inspections were made to cowsheds and dairies, and the sampling of milk continued. The following improvements have been effected during the year.

Improved drainage to farm yard .....	1
New standings, floors, and improved lighting of cowsheds .....	3
Conversion of building into extra cowsheds .....	1
Dairy floors re-laid and repaired .....	4
Cowsheds lime-washed .....	4
Boiler provided .....	1
Coolers renewed .....	2

#### Registered Premises:

Wholesale Producers .....	32
Producers and Retailers .....	36
Retail Purveyors .....	14

#### Milk Samples.

The following samples were submitted for examination:

##### New Milk—

Methylene Blue test .....	102 (92 satisfactory 10 unsatisfactory)
Coliform test .....	102 (91 satisfactory, 1 unsatisfactory)
Biological examination .....	65 (1 positive T.B.)
Brucella Abortus .....	2 satisfactory

#### Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936-44.

Methylene Blue test .....	23, all satisfactory
Phosphatase test .....	22, all satisfactory

#### Food and Drugs Act, 1938 (Ice Cream).

Increased attention has been given to this popular commodity as to the conditions under which it is produced and sold.

Two applications for registration were received, which were granted.

In the absence of a set standard, it has meant working rather in the dark when obtaining samples. The premises have been kept in a clean condition, and the makers readily fall in with any suggestions made for improvement.

There is a variety of ingredients used in the manufacture of ice cream. Nine samples were taken during the year with the following results.

Methylene Blue: 6 satisfactory, 3 unsatisfactory.

Coliform Test: 7 satisfactory, 2 unsatisfactory.

## WATER SUPPLIES.

Eight samples of water were submitted for analysis during the year, including three of the Council's water supply, which were returned as satisfactory.

### Shirebrook.

Number of houses supplied by the Council's water, and having same laid on to sink, 2,446. Population 9,835.

Number of houses with external stand pipes, 3.  
Population 12.

### Scarcliffe.

Number of houses supplied by the Council's water, and having same laid on to sink, 1,979. Population 7,436.

Number of houses with external stand pipes, 8.  
Population 32.

### Ault Hucknall.

Number of houses supplied by the Council's water, and having same laid on to sink, 553. Population, 2,123.

### Glapwell.

Number of houses supplied by the Council's water, and having same laid on to sink, 223. Population 768.



**Pleasley.**

Number of houses supplied by the Council's water, and having same laid on to sink, 655. Population, 2,587.

**RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.**

The delegated powers of this act is still continued.

A part-time rat catcher has been employed since 1939, and regular examinations are made on the refuse tips and sewage works.

No serious infestation has been reported, and where isolated complaints have been received from owners, the rat catcher has attended to this work at their cost.

During the year the following work was carried out:—

Premises visited	.....	.....	.....	77
Rats destroyed	.....	.....	.....	964
Burrows gassed	.....	.....	.....	197
Baits laid	.....	.....	.....	472

Many nests of young rats were destroyed and are included in the above total.

**Treatment of Sewers.**

A further maintenance treatment of sewers was carried out, and I give below the results achieved. The operator and his assistant use a motor cycle with box attachment for carrying tools and baits. This method has proved most effective.

	Number of Inspection covers baited.	Pre-baits laid.	Poison baits laid.
Shirebrook	184	184	45
Scarcliffe	55	62	27
Pleasley	4	4	—
Ault Hucknall	4	4	—
Glapwell	6	6	—

**TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.**

Four licences were issued to occupy caravans under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 269), used on open cast coal mining sites, and the premises have been kept in a clean condition.



## FACTORY ACT, 1937.

29 inspections were made during the year, and it was not necessary to serve any notice. Improved ventilation was provided in one case after interviewing the owner.

## SCAVENGING.

This work is carried out wholly by motor transport, and during the year 24,169 miles were covered by the removal of 4,652 loads of refuse, including cesspool contents and night soil.

Three two-ton Karrier Bantams and one Guy Vixent lorry are used, and the following work was done.

Month	Dustbins emptied	Ashpits emptied	Pail closets emptied	Cesspools emptied	Total No. of loads removed
January	17,250	—	6,703	8	344
February	14,941	19	6,266	12	348
March	16,463	9	6,710	36	431
April	17,070	23	6,772	13	375
May	16,934	22	7,573	10	391
June	16,262	25	6,538	19	352
July	16,958	12	7,289	17	379
August	16,501	28	7,362	18	388
September	16,101	15	6,495	16	343
October	22,702	39	7,651	18	468
November	20,659	14	6,853	13	417
December	21,230	13	6,919	9	416
Totals	213,071	219	83,131	189	4,652

The number of complaints received during the year was 187. A number of them were of trivial nature, and could not be dealt with under the Public Health Acts. In every case where a complaint was found to be bona-fide, action was duly taken.

Pails in the most densely populated parts continue to be emptied twice weekly, and cesspools are emptied quarterly. Although there has been an improvement in the class of labour available, great difficulty has been experienced in obtaining motor spares and parts; this has often resulted in holding up the smooth working which is necessary to keep the work up to date. Owing to a shortage of driver mechanics, it has been necessary to send all but minor repairs to garages.



Night soil and cesspool contents are removed in a specially made tank, complete with outlet valve, and which is carried by a lorry. I am pleased to report that in spite of the difficulties mentioned, the work has been satisfactorily carried out and maintained at pre-war level.

Towards the end of the year a new tipping site for dry refuse was obtained at the foot of the Colliery tip, and tipping was commenced.

### DISINFECTION.

Number of infected rooms dealt with .....	954
Bundles of bedding removed for disinfestation .....	314

One Morris van is used on the work of disinfection and treatment of scabies for the whole of the district, and during the year, 16,436 miles were covered in connection with this work.

### SALVAGE.

The total weight of salvage collected during the year was 109 tons 17½ cwts.; included in this was 69 tons of paper compared with 88 tons and 68 tons respectively for 1944 and 1945. Many cartons and boxes are now being returned by the retailers to the manufacturers. There are also an increased number of people keeping their own pig on their neighbour's scraps, and this accounts in a large degree for the drop in the contents of Kitchen waste bins. In spite of appeals, I have found it necessary to remove many bins owing to their containing nothing, and the local pig keepers receiving what would otherwise have been deposited for collection.

The schools continue to collect paper for salvage, although not with the same enthusiasm as during the war. A total of 5 tons 18 cwts. was collected as compared with 7 tons 5 cwts. in 1945.

Appeals and interviews with anyone likely to be of assistance to increase the amount of salvage have been made from this department, and appeals have also been made by the use of slides in cinemas.

I. N. CREEAR,

Sanitary Inspector, Northern Area.



## SOUTHERN AREA.

Comprising the parishes of Blackwell, Pinxton,  
South Normanton and Tibshelf - 7,296 acres.

Population (National Register, 1939), 18,683.

Sanitary Inspector: ROBERT CLARKSON.

- (i.) Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute and  
Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint  
Board.
- (ii.) Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute  
(Meat and other Foods).
- (iii.) Member of Sanitary Inspectors' Association.

Offices: Victoria Street, South Normanton, Derbys.

## SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS.

## General Sanitation:

Water Supplies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Drainage	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	272
Drains tested	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	119
Stables and Piggeries	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
Accumulations	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
Colliery Spoilbanks	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	436
Re-Inspections of Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	446
Fried Fish Shops	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Public Conveniences	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Factories and Bake-houses	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	61
Refuse Collection	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	46
Refuse Disposal	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	83
Rats and Mice	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	146
Schools	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Cinemas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Shops Acts	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4



Petroleum Acts	27
Rivers Pollution, Prevention	19
Inquiries re Cases of Infectious Disease	85
Inquiries re Cases of Scabies	28
Interviews and Appointments	280
Miscellaneous Visits	596

### Housing:

Number of houses inspected under Public Health Acts	145
Re-visits to houses	210
Number of houses inspected under Housing Acts	1
Re-visits to houses	19
Number of houses inspected re overcrowding	6
Re-visits paid to houses	32
Number of verminous houses inspected	62
Re-visits to above houses	226
Rural Housing Survey: Number of houses examined	4247

### Meat and Food Inspection:

Visits to Slaughterhouses	73
Occasional Slaughterings (Farms, etc.)	89
Shops and Stalls (re meat)	324
Street Vendors and Hawkers' Carts	6
Other Food Premises	230
Cowsheds inspected	251
Dairies and Milkshops inspected	168

### Miscellaneous:

Government Evacuation Scheme	1
Salvage	238

## SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH.

	Served during 1946	Complied with during 1946	Out-standing on 31/12/46
Informal Public Health Act Notices	607	683	228
Statutory Public Health Act Notices	23	15	25
Informal Housing Act Notices	—	—	—
Statutory Housing Act Notices	—	3	45
Total	630	701	298



## SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS.

## Dwelling Houses:

Cleansed	.....	13
Vermin Disinfestation	.....	62
Air Space improved	.....	—
Lighting improved	.....	1
Ventilation improved	.....	2
Windows repaired	.....	39
Walls rendered free from dampness	.....	31
Plasterwork repaired	.....	38
Floors re-laid or repaired	.....	21
Woodwork renewed or repaired	.....	11
Fireplaces and grates repaired	.....	26
Kitchen boilers repaired	.....	11
Cooking facilities improved	.....	3
Food stores improved	.....	8
Coal stores improved	.....	11
Washing accommodation provided or improved	.....	9
Internal water supply provided	.....	3
Roofs repaired	.....	64
Walls pointed and brickwork repaired	.....	20
Chimney stacks repaired	.....	4
Damp proof course provided	.....	—
Eaves gutters and downspouts repaired	.....	36
Yards and passages paved or repaired	.....	12
Yards cleansed	.....	—
Living vans removed	.....	—
Miscellaneous defects remedied	.....	9
Baths provided	.....	3

## Drainage:

Drainage provided, re-laid or repaired	.....	46
Drains cleansed	.....	43
Gullies provided or repaired	.....	39
Inspection Chambers provided or repaired	.....	50



Ventilators repaired .....	6
Premises drained by provision of cesspool .....	—
Cesspools repaired .....	3
Cesspools abolished .....	—
Cesspools cleansed .....	—
Drains connected to sewer .....	—
Length of drainage examined .....	yards 960

### Sinks:

New sinks provided .....	12
New sink waste pipes provided .....	14
Sink waste pipes repaired .....	3

### Closet Accommodation:

Buildings repaired .....	48
Closets cleansed .....	7
Water closet cisterns provided or repaired .....	8
Water closet pedestals renewed .....	7
Water closet service pipes repaired .....	26
Closet pails renewed .....	96

### Ashplaces, Ashbins, etc.

Defective ashbins renewed .....	388
Ashplaces and middens abolished .....	—
Ashbins provided in lieu of ashplaces and middens .....	—

### Miscellaneous:

Dangerous, defective and dilapidated buildings demolished .....	2
Accumulation removed .....	22
Manure pits provided or repaired .....	3
Urinals repaired and cleansed .....	3
Nuisances abated from keeping of animals .....	5
Other nuisances abated .....	3

In the under-mentioned cases, the work required to comply with Statutory Notices was carried out by the Council:

- (a) Public Health Act, 1946 (Section 75)—Two ashbins provided and the cost recovered from the owner.
- (b) Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 83)—Verminous house sprayed with 5 per cent D.D.T., and the cost recovered from the occupier.
- (c) Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 84)—Verminous bedding and clothes destroyed.
- (d) Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 84)—Verminous bedding and furniture sprayed with 5 per cent D.D.T.

No legal proceedings were taken.

### SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

There are some 1,800 pail closets still in use, a third of which are in the Pinxton parish. In the majority of cases there is now an adequate water supply and drainage system available, and the Council is anxious to secure the conversion of these unsuitable and insanitary conveniences to the water carriage system. The Ministry of Health has been approached regarding schemes for the conversion of large numbers of these pail closets, but has refused the Council permission to proceed on account of the shortage of materials and the restrictions on building work. Until there is an improvement, every effort is being made to deal with the worst of these closets.

During the year the following work has been completed, and arrangements were in hand for the conversion of a further 18 pail closets.

Pail closets converted to water closets	.....	20
Additional water closets provided	.....	1
Water closets abolished	.....	1
Additional pail closets provided	.....	6

### HOUSING.

The provision of additional housing accommodation continues to be the most urgent of post-war problems.



Complete figures are not yet available, but the figures for the part of the district dealt with under the Rural Housing Survey show that over 10 per cent of the houses are occupied by more than one family. On this basis, over 500 new houses are required urgently.

By the end of 1946, only two new houses had been provided in the Southern Area. Unless the progress on house construction can be considerably increased, many families will be compelled to share homes, with the consequent inconvenience and friction such an arrangement causes, for a considerable time (probably over five years).

In the meantime, the labour and materials available for maintenance work are hopelessly inadequate to meet the need. Many houses are falling into a bad state of repair. By the time the arrears in new house construction has been made good, many houses, at present repairable, will undoubtedly be beyond repair or re-conditioning at a reasonable expense.

During the year, demolition orders (Section 11) have been made in respect of two houses, and three caravans have been demolished (Section 11).

#### Houses subject to Demolition Orders (Section 11 and Clearance Areas):

	Pinxton	South Normanton	Blackwell	Tibshelf	Total
Still occupied	3	26	3	2	34
Vacant and awaiting demolished (derelict)	5	7	1	6	19
Total	8	33	4	8	53

Four houses, subject to Demolition Orders, are in use under the provisions of the Defence (General) Regulations, as follows:—

Regulation 68a: Two houses.

Regulation 51 (requisitioned by Council): Two houses.



### Rural Housing Survey.

At the end of the year, a total of 3,049 houses had been examined, leaving some 2,273 houses still to inspect. It is hoped to complete this work by the end of 1947.

A Summary of the conditions relative to overcrowding for that portion of the area examined is given below:—

Parish or Hamlet.	Total No. of houses.	Av. No. of rooms per house.	Av. No. of occupants per house.	No. of houses Over-crowded.	No. of houses with more than one family.	No. of houses with lodgers.
Pinxton	1328	4½	3½	16	115	103
Tibshelf	898	4½	3	7	136	127
Westhouses	192	5	3	1	18	20
Hilcote	129	5	4	—	18	14
Old Blackwell	20	5	3½	—	1	4
Blackwell (part of)	365	4½	3½	4	44	31
Newton (part of)	117	4½	3½	2	14	15
	3049	4½	3½	30	346	314

### Eradication of Vermin.

The increase in the amount of work under this heading recorded during 1945 has been maintained during the past year, 288 visits being necessary as compared with 294 during 1945.

A summary of the work carried out is given below:—  
**Bed bugs.**

Number of Council houses disinfested	—
Number of other houses disinfested	28
Disinfestation of furniture and bedding	1
Destruction of verminous furniture	1
Disinfestation of furniture and bedding before transfer to new Council house	1
Number of workplaces disinfested	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>



All the above work was carried out by the Council's trained staff, using a 5 per cent D.D.T. solution (Lawvercide). The vermicide was carefully applied by use of a pneumatic sprayer to all wall, ceiling and floor surfaces, and to all articles of furniture in the rooms. Bedding was removed for steam disinfestation. This is the first year during which D.D.T. solutions have been used. There is no doubt that this vermicide is superior to all previously used, and no case of re-infestation has been reported.

### Cockroaches.

Number of Council houses disinfested	.....	12
Number of private houses disinfested	.....	12
Number of food premises disinfested	.....	2
		<hr/>
Total	.....	26
		<hr/>

All these premises have been dealt with by the use of Gammexane, the powder being spread by means of a foot pump. Prior to applying the powder, two or three floorboards were taken up near the living room fireplaces, and adjoining skirting boards and other woodwork eased off the walls. In all cases one application, using 2-3 pounds of powder, has been effective.

Whilst there is no doubt that Gammexane has a somewhat persistent and unpleasant odour, it is extremely effective in the eradication of this pest. Many expressions of appreciation have been received from householders whose homes have been freed of cockroaches by this insecticide.

### Crickets.

Number of houses dealt with by use of Gammexane, 5

### Fleas.

Number of houses disinfested by use of 5% D.D.T.	1
Number of persons cleansed	4
Number of filthy and flea-infested articles destroyed	2



### Wood Lice.

Number of houses sprayed with 5% D.D.T. .... 2

### SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

The Chesterfield Municipal Abattoir continues to be used as the regional slaughterhouse for this area, the meat being delivered direct from the abattoir to the butchers shops on two or three days per week, depending on the availability of supplies. Careful attention is paid to these supplies and to the conditions under which the meat and other foods are stored and prepared for sale. For this purpose a total of 560 inspections have been made during the year.

The only trouble experienced with the meat supplies was during July and September, when a number of the frozen carcasses of mutton were found to be in a mouldy condition. Freshly killed meat from the Chesterfield Abattoir shows evidence of having been carefully inspected.

When supplies of meat become more plentiful, serious consideration should be given to the slaughter and distribution of meat from a central slaughterhouse within the Blackwell district, allowing the butchers to collect their own supplies. The present method of transporting freshly killed meat is not satisfactory; carcasses are piled on top of each other, and when the van is almost empty, quarters of beef are dragged across the floor which has become soiled by the boots of the driver and his assistant.

Whilst cottagers still continue to slaughter a large number of pigs, the quality of these pigs has decreased considerably since the introduction of bread rationing.

Number of animals slaughtered and examined:		Pigs
Private slaughterhouses	.....	170
Farms and private premises	.....	91
		—
	Total	261
		—



Unsound food condemned amounted to 1,318 lbs.,	
made up as follows:—	lbs.
Pork and pork offal (Tuberculosis)	393
Pork and pork offal (conditions other than Tuberculosis)	94
Mutton offal (conditions other than Tuberculosis)	158
Tinned goods	332
Cereals	137
Fish	84
Sausage	38
Bacon and Ham	42
Other food	40

The tubercular pork and pork offal showed that 2·7 per cent of the cottagers' pigs examined were affected with tuberculosis compared with 6 per cent and 4·83 per cent for the two previous years.

Eight informal notices were served and complied with, resulting in the cleansing of one refrigerator, one slaughter-house, one making up room, two grocers' shops and one canteen; the provision of one hot water supply, two new shop windows, two new floors, and the repair of plaster-work in three cases.

An unusual case arose when it was found that a works bottling pickles had commenced to send out onions for peeling in private houses. The matter was immediately investigated and many unsatisfactory features revealed, some of the houses being very dirty. Representations to the works and the outworkers resulted in the immediate discontinuance of the practise, and no further action has been necessary.

## MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS.

The supervision of the production and distribution of milk has received a good proportion of your Inspector's time, and whilst some structural improvements have been secured, there are many cowsheds and dairies which still



need improvement. No scheme for the improvement of these premises has been proceeded with on account of the acute housing position. Increasing attention has been paid to the methods of production with good results, as will be seen from the details of the samples examined.

**Details of registered premises, etc.:**

(a) Wholesale producers	21	Cowsheds in use	113
(b) Producers and retailers	45	Dairies	80
(c) Retail purveyors	19		
	—		—
Total	85		193
	—		—

During the year, 419 inspections have been made of cowsheds and dairies, and 30 informal notices served. Improvements effected as a result of these notices are set out below:—

**Cowsheds:**

Cowsheds re-constructed	.....	.....	.....	1
Limewashed	.....	.....	.....	18
Floors cleansed	.....	.....	.....	1
Floors re-laid	.....	.....	.....	3
Rear walls rendered	.....	.....	.....	2
New boskins fixed	.....	.....	.....	1
New feeding troughs fixed	.....	.....	.....	5
New standings fixed	.....	.....	.....	1
Roofs repaired	.....	.....	.....	1
Paved approach provided	.....	.....	.....	1

**Dairies:**

New dairies provided	.....	.....	.....	5
Limewashed	.....	.....	.....	7

**Other improvements:**

Improved sterilising of churns	.....	.....	.....	2
Milk stools cleansed	.....	.....	.....	1
Udders cleansed	.....	.....	.....	1
Improved cooling of milk	.....	.....	.....	1



## Milk Sampling.

During the year, the sampling of milk has been continued in conjunction with the inspection of cowsheds and dairies, chiefly as a means of checking the efficiency of the methods of milking, cleansing and sterilisation of utensils. A summary of the samples examined is given below:—

### New Milk:

#### Methylene

Blue Test	118	(107 satisfactory, 11 unsatisfactory)
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Coliform Test	122	(107 satisfactory, 15 unsatisfactory)
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#### Bacteriological

Examination	4	satisfactory
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#### Biological

Examination	100	(3 positive tuberculosis)
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### Heat treated Milk:

#### Methylene

Blue Test	4	satisfactory
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Phosphatase Test	6	(5 satisfactory, 1 unsatisfactory)
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### Sterilised Milk:

#### Methylene

Blue Test	1	satisfactory
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Coliform Test	1	satisfactory
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At least one sample has been taken from each producer and producer/retailer in the area, and all milk retailed in the area from other districts has been sampled. In many cases, two and three samples have been taken from the same source. As no standard is available for ordinary milk, the results have been compared with the standard for Accredited milk. This shows that 90·3 per cent passed the Methylene Blue Test and 87·7 per cent passed the Coliform test. The results for the past two years show a decided improvement



when compared with those for the previous year (see table below).

Year	Number of Samples	Methylene Blue Test		Coliform Test	
		Per cent. satisfactory	Per cent. below standard	Per cent. satisfactory	Per cent. below standard
1946	118	90.7	9.3	—	—
	122	—	—	87.7	12.3
1945	106	93	7	—	—
	125	—	—	85	15
1944	118	84	16	—	—
	125	—	—	83	17
1943	115	72	28	—	—
	117	—	—	79	21

The most unsatisfactory feature of the sampling is the report of Tuberculosis in three of the 100 samples submitted for biological examination. This is the highest percentage of positive samples for many years and resulted in two cows, affected with Tuberculosis of the udder, being slaughtered. In the other case, the Veterinary Officers failed to trace the cause of the positive sample.

Having regard to the inevitable delay in the elimination of bovine tuberculosis by this method, it is obvious that pasteurisation of the milk supply is the only satisfactory procedure.

### MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1936-44.

Number of retailers licences issued	.....	7
Number of supplementary licences issued	.....	3

All the pasteurised milk retailed in this area is processed in the Mansfield and Ripley districts. Details of samples submitted for examination are set out below:—

#### Methylene Blue Test:

20 samples (19 satisfactory, 1 unsatisfactory).

#### Phosphatase Test:

20 samples (19 satisfactory, 1 unsatisfactory).

Where unsatisfactory reports have been received, they have been immediately referred to the Dairy and the Sanitary Inspector of the districts affected.



## WATER SUPPLIES.

The water supply to the district has been satisfactory during the year, both as regards quality and quantity. Four routine samples of the district's water supply have been taken from house taps in different parts of the district for bacteriological examination. All four samples were reported to be satisfactory. It will be noted from the following schedule that 99·88 per cent of the houses in the district are supplied with water from the Council's main.

	Houses	Percentage
Number of houses without district water supply and using well water, etc. ....	6	·12
Number of Houses without an internal water supply, but using external stand pipes served by district water supply 167		3·12
(Stand pipes vary from 1 to 1 house to 1 to 6 houses)		
Number of houses with an internal supply of district water ....	5,151	96·76

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 (ICE CREAM).

[The preparation of ice cream has continued to receive careful supervision, and 22 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. The results of these samples are set out below, and whilst they are not entirely satisfactory, they show a definite improvement on the results for 1945. Of the samples, 36 per cent are unsatisfactory compared with 50 per cent during the preceding year. The proportion of unsatisfactory "Cold Mix" samples is approximately equal to the unsatisfactory "Hot Mix" samples, but it will be noted that all "pre-packed" samples show good results. The last five samples submitted for examination and found to contain coliform organisms were further examined, and it was found that the coliform organisms present were a non-fæcal type.

Whilst the "pre-packed" samples only constitute 18 per cent of the samples examined, I consider there is less danger of contamination where manufacturers use modern machinery



than where the old method of boiling is used, and the mixture left two to three days to mature before freezing.

There are 18 premises registered for the sale, storage and manufacture of ice cream. Three notices have been served, and improvements secured include two new premises, two hot water supplies, and the cleansing of one preparing room.

#### ICE CREAM SAMPLES:

Retailer or Producer	Bacteriological Examination per c.c.	Methylene Blue Test	Coliform Test in 1/100 c.c.	Remarks
1 (a)	9,000	—	Negative	Cold Mix
(b)	—	Satisfactory	Positive	Cold Mix
2 (a)	384,000	—	Positive	Cold Mix
(b)	—	Satisfactory	Negative	Hot Mix
3 (a)	240,000	—	Positive	Hot Mix
(b)	256,000	—	Negative	Hot Mix
(c)	132,000	—	Negative	Hot Mix
(d)	—	Unsatisfactory	Positive	Hot Mix
(e)	—	Unsatisfactory	Positive	Hot Mix
4 (a)	16,000	—	Negative	Pre-packed
(b)	—	Satisfactory	Negative	Pre-packed
5 (a)	67,000	—	Negative	Cold Mix
(b)	—	Satisfactory	Negative	Cold Mix (Boiled)
6 (a)	86,000	—	Negative	Hot Mix
(b)	—	Satisfactory	Negative	Hot Mix
7 (a)	244,000	—	Positive	Hot Mix
(b)	—	Satisfactory	Negative	Cold Mix
8	2,000	—	Negative	Pre-packed
9 (a)	—	Satisfactory	Positive	Hot Mix
(b)	—	Satisfactory	Negative	Hot Mix
10	—	Satisfactory	Negative	Pre-packed
11	—	Satisfactory	Positive	Cold Mix

#### RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

The Council continue to administer delegated powers in respect of this Act.



A part-time rat catcher has been employed under the supervision of your Sanitary Inspector since 1939. Arrangements are made for him to regularly examine and deal with any rat infestation on Council refuse tips and sewage works. This work has proved very effective, and has resulted in the Council's premises being kept free from serious infestation. Where ordinary trapping is unsuitable, the work is carried out by a full time assistant, who has been trained by the Ministry of Food in modern methods.

During the year, a total of 246 inspections and visits have been made, and 10 notices served and complied with. In 10 cases, work for the destruction of rats has been carried out by the Council on private premises, and the costs recovered from the occupiers.

#### Summary of work done:

	Council premises	Private premises	Total
Number of premises visited .....	90	10	100
Estimated number of rats dogs, ferrets, etc. ....	245	—	245
Number of pre-baits laid .....	120	482	602
Number of poison baits laid .....	20	59	79
Number of post baits laid .....	20	33	53
Number of rats destroyed by poisoned .....	32	120	152
Number of burrows gassed .....	—	9	9

#### Treatment of Sewer Inspection Chambers.

The initial treatment of the sewer inspection chambers was completed in March, 1945. This was only made possible by the loan from the County Council of a Civil Defence Rescue van for the transport of equipment and operators. When the Civil Defence Services were disbanded it was no longer possible to obtain the loan of transport, without which it is impossible to carry out systematic sewer treatments in this area. In May, 1946, the Council ordered a new small van for this work, but it has not yet been delivered. As soon as this van is received further treatments of the sewers will take place.



### Tents, Vans and Sheds.

There are no recognised camping grounds in the area, but the continuance of open cast coal mining in the district and the difficulty in securing housing accommodation has resulted in a number of temporary dwellings being used. A total of 11 licences have been issued under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 269), and all these premises have been satisfactorily maintained.

### Factory Act, 1937.

A total of 61 inspections have been made and 5 notices served. The following improvements have been effected:—

Improvement of sanitary accommodation .....	1
Cleansing of sanitary accommodation .....	1
Provisional of additional w.c. ....	1
Provision of Abstract and Register .....	1
Fire Escape Certificates issued .....	2

For some considerable time efforts have been directed to the securing of improved conditions for workmen engaged on the repair of defective railway wagons at the Cripple Sidings, Westhouses. Five men are employed by three different firms of wagon builders on this work, and they are without sanitary accommodation and washing facilities. The facilities provided by the railway company are a considerable distance from the Cripple Sidings.

As "out-stations" of this type are not covered by either the Factory or Public Health Acts, it has not been possible to obtain the necessary improvements. It is very desirable that places of work such as these should be brought within the scope of Factory or Public Health legislation at an early date.

### SCAVENGING.

The Council undertake the collection and disposal of refuse by direct labour in the whole of the Southern Area.

#### Collection and Disposal.

This work, which is undertaken by motor transport (details of vehicles below), has resulted in the removal of



4,293 loads of refuse, night soil and cesspool contents, and the vehicles have covered 31,189 miles.

Two ton Karrier Bantam, supplied January, 1946.

Two ton Karrier Bantam, supplied October, 1943.

Four/five ton Austin, supplied July, 1942.

Two ton Karrier Bantam, supplied September, 1939.

#### Number of premises served:

Ashbins	.....	5,559	(cleansed weekly)
Ashplaces	.....	2	(cleansed monthly)
Privies and middens		12	(cleansed monthly)
Closet pails	.....	1,837	(cleansed weekly)
Cesspools	.....	41	(cleansed quarterly)

No serious difficulty has been encountered in obtaining the necessary staff for this work, but no improvement has taken place in the availability of spares for the motor vehicles. At the end of the year, the position had considerably deteriorated. As a result of this, much time is lost when breakdowns occur. This year, this has resulted in the loss by lorries of 125 working days, compared with 186 working days during the preceding year. The scheme for carrying out by the Council's own staff of all except major engine repairs has continued to be operated with success, has kept the lost time down to a minimum and reduced the cost of such repairs.

A specially constructed portable tank, carried in one of the refuse lorries, is used for the cleansing of closet pails and for the removal of cesspool contents. The 3 inch Johnson's Diaphragm Mud Pump, purchased in March, 1945, for the cleansing of cesspools, has continued to give good and efficient service at a very low cost.

The frequency of refuse collection was well maintained until February, when heavy falls of snow and continuous frost disorganised the service for some weeks. During this period, with the exception of a few isolated premises, the cleansing of closet pails was maintained at the weekly level.



To achieve this, the workmen had to contend with some very trying conditions, and I very much appreciate the manner in which they overcame these difficulties.

All dry refuse is disposed of by tipping (controlled), and night soil is taken by farmers for use as manure on agricultural land. Five tips have been used during the year. No facilities are available for weighing the refuse, but after taking into account the loads of refuse removed and the cubic capacity of the vehicle bodies, it is estimated that the yield of dry refuse is 21 cwt. per 1,000 population per day; or 1.33 tons per house per annum.

### Costs.

The total cost of this service shows a slight decrease on last year:—

	1946/47	1945/46	1944/45
Total cost (collection and disposal of dry refuse, night soil and cesspool contents) .....	£7,724	£8,116	£6,991
Cost per annum per 1,000 population .....	£417	£434	£406
Cost per annum per 1,000 houses	£1,452	£1,525	£1,313

Below are set out details of the work performed by each vehicle, and the comparative running cost of each vehicle:—

### Work done by Lorries:

Lorry	Cleansing	Mileage Salvage	Total	Loads removed Refuse	Night Soil	Cesspool contents	No. of other journeys (chiefly Salvage)
Karrier Bantam (1939) GRA 810	5,076	261	5,337	772	—	—	114
Karrier Bantam (1943) HRB 408	5,823	1,431	7,254	743	100	22	356
Karrier Bantam (1946) JNU 995	5,741	21	5,762	1,122	22	—	43
Austin 4/5 ton (1942) HRA 287	11,338	1,498	12,836	453	889	170	418
	27,978	3,211	31,189	3,090	1,011	192	931



### Comparative Costs of Operation of Lorries:

(less Drivers' Wages and Depreciation charges)

Lorry	Repairs Maintenance, Tyres, etc.			Licences and Insurance	Petrol and Oil			Total			Cost per mile	Cost per estimated ton
	£	s.	d.	£	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
GRA 810 (2 tons)	117	12	11	36	72	0	4	225	13	3	10d.	2/6½
HRB 408 (2 tons)	85	15	6	36	112	16	7	234	12	1	8d.	1/11
JNU 995 (2 tons)	13	19	7	36	79	12	4	129	11	11	5d.	1/1
HRA 287 (4/5 ton)	199	3	6	41	204	8	8	444	12	2	8d.	1/6
	415	11	6	149	468	17	11	1034	9	5	8d.	1/8

### SALVAGE.

The returns for the recovery and disposal of salvage for the past seven years are shown below:—

1946-47:	271 tons	13 cwts.	98 lbs.	£1,049	16	2.
1945-46:	286 tons	14 cwts.	93 lbs.	£905	7	9.
1944-45:	353 tons	19 cwts.	26 lbs.	£1,161	0	6.
1943-44:	458 tons	16 cwts.	56 lbs.,	£1,392	18	2.
1942-43:	631 tons	7 cwts.	30 lbs.,	£1,937	14	10.
1941-42:	465 tons	4 cwts.	30 lbs.,	£1,283	8	3.
1940-41:	266 tons	10 cwts.	76 lbs.,	£764	3	1.

The various materials dealt with are summarised below:

	Tons cwts. lbs.			£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	84	1	56	565	1	7
Baled destructor scrap	31	15	56	47	13	3
Other ferrous metal	4	10	0	7	17	6
Non-ferrous metal	4	33		3	18	3
Textiles	7	12	87	63	8	0
Rubber	13	28			19	10
Bones	10	6	84	57	0	3
Cinders	9	0	0		15	0
Bottles and Jars	11	17	42	86	8	9
Cullet	14	16	84	18	11	0
Kitchen waste	96	11	90	195	1	2
Miscellaneous	3	98		3	1	7



Every effort continues to be made by this department to maintain the collection of salvage at a high level. All premises are visited weekly, and trailers at the rear of the refuse lorries continue to be used for collection purposes. In addition, shop and business premises and schools have a special weekly collection for waste paper. Fifty new street bins were obtained during the year for kitchen waste collection and used to replace fifty old and defective bins. Whilst this improved the position, difficulties frequently arise regarding these bins.

### GENERAL.

The year under review has presented many difficulties, and the absence of a shorthand-typist for six months seriously affected the amount of work completed.

Spare parts for motor vehicles have continued to be difficult to obtain, and at present the position appears to be further deteriorating.

In spite of these difficulties, an efficient cleansing service has been maintained, good progress has been made with the Rural Housing Survey, and every possible effort has been directed to the supervision of food supplies and the remedy of urgent housing and drainage defects.

During the year, 170 complaints were received and investigated, as compared with 158 for 1945. The lack of building repairs and the systematic inspection of houses during the past seven years is undoubtedly the reason for the steady increase in the number of complaints received. The complaints included 61 regarding housing defects, 29 drainage defects, 20 dirty and verminous premises, 20 defective sanitary accommodation, and 8 regarding rat infestation.

In conclusion, I desire to express my appreciation of the manner in which staff and workmen have carried out their duties, and for the excellent co-operation of colleagues in other departments.

ROBERT CLARKSON, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,  
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