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BLACKWELL
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1947


By

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

King & Bird, Printers, Leeming Street, Mansfield



WITH THE COMPLIMENTS
OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH



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A. H. HARRIS, Chairman

W. H. HARRIS, Secretary

Printed by the Blackwell Press, Oxford

Preface.

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of your district for the year 1947.

The Report has been drawn up in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

Housing is still the greatest problem we have to face; there are still large numbers of families living under intolerable conditions.

A perusal of this Report will show that the health of the district as a whole has remained very satisfactory.

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), 1947	42,810
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1947) according to Rate Books	11,201
Rateable Value, 1947	£168,894
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1947	£630

It is interesting to note from previous Annual Reports how the population has fluctuated year by year since 1861. Our district has gradually grown from mainly agriculture into an industrial one.

Year:	Population:
1861	6,685
1871	7,943
1881	12,746
1891	16,858
1901	28,735
1906	36,221
1931	44,891
1947	42,810

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. 116 children and 65 adults received treatment.

62 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.

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 as, in spite of the average income being increased and there being very little unemployment in the district, many parents are either unable or unwilling to pay for the cost of a school meal for their children.

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

From the demand for extra foods and vitamin supplements provided, it is evident mothers are now well aware of the advantages under the Scheme. In particular, the take up of the A. & D. Tablets in this area is much in excess of the average for the country.

In regard to children, it is disappointing that the issue of Cod Liver Oil and Orange Juice does not exceed 50 per cent. of the potential (this applies to the nation). The fact that larger supplies of fresh fruit have been available may account for the latter.

The numbers of babies registered for National Dried Milk increased particularly during a period when the supply of proprietary Baby Foods was restricted. The average number of tins required each week was considerably more than nine hundred.

Milk in Schools.

With the exception of a few weeks, the regular supply of fresh milk to the schools in the area has been maintained. The average quantity consumed each week was about 1,200 gallons.

Supplies of Orange Juice Jelly for School Canteens are not now available.

Vital Statistics.

BIRTHS:

Live Births—

	Total	Males	Females	
Legitimate	848	426	422	{ Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 27·21.
Illegitimate	39	18	21	
Still Births	19	8	11	{ Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 20·9.

	Total	Males	Females	
DEATHS	473	265	208	{ Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 11·04.

Deaths from puerperal causes—

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

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

All infants, per 1,000 live births	56·3
Legitimate infants, per 1,000 live births	56·3
Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 live births	—

DEATHS FROM:—

Measles (all ages)	1
Whooping Cough (all ages)	1
Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	8
Cancer (all ages)	62
Heart Disease	115
Violent Deaths	19
Road Accidents	10

INFANTILE DEATHS.

During the year, 13 premature babies died (3 males and 10 females).

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the Year 1947.

	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	Diarrhea and Enteritis, under 2 years	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales	20.5	0.50	12.0	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.09	5.8	41
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London ..	23.3	0.62	13.0	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.09	8.0	47
148 Smaller Towns (1931 adjusted) Populations 25,000—50,000 ..	22.2	0.54	11.9	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.08	3.7	36
London	22.7	0.49	12.8	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.02	0.01	0.08	4.8	37
BLACKWELL R.D.	27.2	0.44	11.04	0.00	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.09	9.0	56

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:—

	Positive	Negative	Total
Typhoid	—	2	2
Salmonella, including para-typhoid	—	7	7
Brucella Abortus and B. Dysentry	—	2	2
Diphtheria	4	130	134
Vincent's Angina	6	109	115
Hæmolytic Streptococci	38	80	118
Phthisis	3	47	50
*Water	1	9	10
*Ice Cream, Methylene Blue Test	37	62	99

Milk—

Methylene Blue Test, Routine Samples	41	186	227
Bacillus Coli, Routine Samples	47	169	216
*Bacterial Count, Routine Samples	—	10	10
*Phosphatase Test Routine Samples	—	3	3
*Methylene Blue, Heat Treatment Scheme	—	21	21
*Phosphatase Test, Heat Treatment Scheme	1	2	3
Tubercle Bacilli, Inoculation Test			
Routine Samples	4	159	163
Tubercle Bacilli, Inoculation Test			
Min. of Agriculture	1	21	22
Miscellaneous	—	3	3
Totals	183	1,022	1,205

*Positive — Unsatisfactory.
Negative — Satisfactory.

In addition to the above, nine urgent swabs were examined at the Mansfield Laboratory, all of which proved to be negative.

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 Alfreton.

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 and quality of water is adequate. Upwards of $1\frac{1}{4}$ million gallons are supplied daily to the district from the Meden Valley Waterworks.

In addition to the Blackwell Rural District, these waterworks supply Warsop Urban, Sutton-in-Ashfield Urban and the Chesterfield and Bolsover Water Board.

The Chlorinating plant is installed at the Budby well, .2 parts per million being added.

There were originally two boreholes, but during 1945 a third one was constructed. The water from the first two boreholes is gradually becoming harder, and has increased by 9 degrees between February, 1945, and April, 1948.

The water is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.

Details of samples taken during the year:

District Supply—

- 13 bacteriological (12 satisfactory, 1 unsatisfactory).
- 1 hardness test (satisfactory, 12 pts. per 100,000).
- 1 Chemical (satisfactory).

Private Supplies—

- 1 Bacteriological from Well (unsuitable).
- 3 Chemical from Well (1 satisfactory and 2 of doubtful quality).

The following is a chemical and a bacteriological analyses taken in December, 1947:

Sample No. 1, Budby Pumping Station: No. 3 Borehole
(Chlorinated).

Physical Characters—

Suspended Matter	.....	None
Appearance of a column 2 ft. long		Clear; colourless
Taste	.....	Normal
Odour	.....	None

Chemical Examination—

	<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Total Solids dried at 180°C	32.20
Chlorides in terms of Chlorine	5.80
Equivalent to Sodium Chloride	9.56
Nitrates	None
Nitrates as Nitrogen	0.34
Poisonous Metals (Lead, etc.)	None
Total Hardness	18.00
Temporary Hardness	9.00
Permanent Hardness	9.00
Oxygen absorbed in four hours at 80°F.	0.034
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.0022
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.0024
pH Value 7.8	

Bacteriological Examination—

Temperature on arrival	12°C
Number of colonies per ml. developing on Agar in:	
Three days at 22°C.	8
Forty-eight hours at 37°C.	1
B.Coli Test (MacConkey's Bile Salt Lactose Broth):	
Probable number of coliform organisms	
per 100 ml.	0
Free Chlorine: parts per million	0.05

Remarks—

Satisfactory, both Chemically and Bacteriologically.

Additional Reservoirs.

Tenders have been provisionally accepted and submitted to the Ministry of Health for the construction of two additional reinforced concrete reservoirs, each of a capacity of 300,000 gallons, at Stoney Houghton, and six additional reservoirs, each of a capacity of 500,000 gallons, at Whiteborough. When completed, the total reservoir capacity, including existing reservoirs, will be equivalent to two days supply.

The works will be commenced as soon as possible after the receipt of the Ministry of Health's approval.

Water Main Extensions.

A three-inch diameter main, approximately 820 yards in length, has been laid from Moorfield Lane to the L. & N.E. Railway crossing on Whaley Moor in order to supply the three cottages belonging to the Railway Executive hitherto supplied by daily deliveries of water by rail.

Approximately 760 yards of three-inch diameter main have been laid in Wood Lane, Shirebrook. This main now supplies Hodhill Farm and five cottages hitherto supplied from wells and soft water cisterns.

Three-inch diameter water mains have also been laid to the new housing sites at Town Street, Pinxton (660 yards), Wilson Avenue, Blackwell (110 yards), Mansfield Road, Hillstown (146 yards), and Highcliffe Avenue, Shirebrook (66 yards). Extensions, six-inch and three-inch diameter, are also being laid to the Glapwell Housing Site.

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	2455	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	1802	6504	36	142
Tibshelf	894	2990	2	6
Blackwell	1130	3809	110	385
Total	10996	40839	176	637

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	.....	.....	.....	2
Pinxton	.....	.....	.....	10
Pleasley	.....	.....	.....	10
Scarcliffe	.....	.....	.....	2
Shirebrook	.....	.....	.....	34
South Normanton	.....	.....	.....	7
Tibshelf	.....	.....	.....	5
				—
Total	.....	.....	.....	70
				—

Housing.

During the year, 24 houses (14 at South Normanton and 10 at Tibshelf) and 4 bungalows at Langwith Junction were erected by the Council and occupied.

In addition, 12 houses were erected by private enterprise:

Glapwell Parish	-	-	1 (Conversion of N.F.S. hut)
Pinxton Parish	-	-	2
Shirebrook Parish	-	-	4
South Normanton Parish			4
Tibshelf Parish	-	-	1

The most urgent need of this district is for more houses to be erected. The rate of building is painfully slow, not only in this area, but all over the country.

Many people are living under the worst possible conditions, and few of the younger married couples have known a home of their own. In some cases, owing to the housing shortage, adolescent girls and boys are having to use the same bedroom, which does not conduce to a healthy home life. Living with in-laws, as most newly married couples have to do, is very apt to cause friction and unhappiness if continued over a long period.

In my opinion, the provision of houses is second only to food in urgency.

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)	453
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1575

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	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
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	216
2. Remedy of defects during the Year without service of formal notices.	
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	316
3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.	
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	3
(b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—	
(a) by owners	3
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
2. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	18
(b) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices—	
(a) by owners	8
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

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 | Nil |
| (b) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | Nil |

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 | Nil |
| (b) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or rooms having been rendered fit | Nil |

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Shirebrook Sewage Works.

In August, 1947, the approval of the Ministry of Health was received to the scheme for the reconstruction of the Shirebrook Works, including the provision of sedimentation tanks, additional percolating filters and sludge drying beds. This work is now in progress.

Westhouses Sewage Works.

The approval of the Ministry to this scheme was received in July, 1947. It provides for the abolition of the very unsatisfactory existing works at both Westhouses North and South sites, and the construction of two pumping stations with five-inch diameter rising mains through which the sewage of Westhouses will be pumped into a nine-inch diameter gravity sewer to be laid in Alferton Road, Blackwell, and thence conveyed for treatment at the existing Primrose Hill Works.

These new works are now in progress.

Pinxton Green (Station Road) Works.

Work has been commenced on the construction of a nine-inch sewer in Town Street and Wharf Road, Pinxton, which will divert the sewage of part of Town Street (including the new Housing Site) hitherto treated at the above works, and discharge it for treatment at the Main Outfall Works, Pinxton Wharf.

Upon the completion of the sewer diversion, consideration will be given to the abolition of these very unsatisfactory works.

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.

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 1947.

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																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																						
Small-pox

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

Diphtheria.

Four cases of this disease occurred, and all were removed to hospital. Only one was of school age.

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

551 children under five years of age and 312 between five and fifteen years were immunised during the year.

Scarlet Fever.

58 cases were notified as compared with 114 in 1946. 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.

Infantile Paralysis.

A severe outbreak occurred in England and Wales during the summer and autumn. Fortunately, this district escaped very lightly with only two mild cases and one of polio-encephalitis, the latter was contracted outside the area whilst the patient was in hospital with pneumonia.

One of the two mild cases of poliomyelitis developed the illness after having had visitors from an infected area; the child recovered completely, and when discharged from hospital had no deformity. The second case had been on holiday in an infected area; the illness was mild, and the only after effect was some slight weakness of the left arm.

All three cases came from overcrowded homes.

Whooping Cough and Measles.

69 cases of Whooping Cough and 602 cases of Measles were notified. There was one death from Whooping Cough and one death from Measles.

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	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
5	..	..	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
10	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
15	..	..	—	1	2	1	1	—	—	—
20	..	..	5	3	1	—	—	2	—	—
25	..	..	3	4	—	—	1	1	—	—
35	..	..	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	—
45	..	..	5	—	—	—	7	—	—	—
55	..	..	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 and upwards			2	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
TOTALS ..			19	11	6	1	14	8	4	—

The phthisis death-rate is .5 per 1,000 of the population.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

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

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices
Factories ... (with mechanical power)	30	4	2
Factories ... (without mechanical power)	76	82	4
Total ...	106	86	6

2.—Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars	Number Found	Number Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness ...	3	3	—	1
Sanitary Conveniences:				
Insufficient ...	2	1	—	2
Unsuitable or defective	4	4	—	1
Other offences against the Act (Not including offences relating to Outwork)	4	4	1	1
Total ...	13	12	1	5

3.—Outwork.

Nature of Work	No. of Out-workers	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council
Making wearing apparel ...	4	1
Nets, other than wire nets ...	6	—
Total ...	10	1

Reports of Sanitary Inspectors.

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	23
Drainage	74
Stables and Piggeries	9
Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins	251
Re-inspections of Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins	307
Fried Fish Shops	60
Public Conveniences	16
Factories and Bakehouses	24
Refuse Collection	161
Refuse Disposal	76
Rats and Mice	67
Cinemas	9
Petroleum Acts	30
Inquiries re cases of Infectious Disease	66
Inquiries re cases of Scabies	26
Interviews and Appointments	351
General Inspections	162
Miscellaneous Visits	186

Housing:

Number of houses inspected under Public Health Acts	142
Re-visits to houses inspected under Public Health Acts	218
Number of houses inspected re overcrowding	23

Meat and Food Inspection:

Visits to Slaughterhouses	22
Shops and Stalls (re meat)	528
Street Vendors' and Hawkers' Carts	30
Other Food Premises	296

Miscellaneous:

Salvage	210
---------------	-----

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 sometime 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, and even then it is with difficulty that minor repairs can be attended to.

During the year, 182 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 were required owing to practically nothing being done during the war years, when there was only one man to do the work. Many of these yards are now repaired, but many more require attention.

RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

This has been completed in the Parishes of Pleasley, Glapwell and Ault Hucknall, and houses have been recorded.

The following gives the result of same:

Pleasley.

Number of houses in Pleasley	652
Houses for demolition	7
Houses with structural or major repairs	11
Minor repairs required	304
Washing copper in living room	10
Pantries unsatisfactory	362
Houses without baths	352
Houses with closet pails	11
Houses with privy midden	3
Dampness in varying forms	232
Legally overcrowded (one family)	5
Houses with two families	80
Houses with two families, overcrowded	4
Houses with three families	3
Houses with three families, overcrowded	1
Houses with lodgers	34

Glapwell.

Number of houses in Glapwell	212
Houses with structural or major repairs	6
Minor repairs required	14
Pantries unsatisfactory	9
Houses without baths	11
Houses with closet pails	3
Houses with privy midden	2
Dampness in varying forms	7
Houses with two families	18
Houses with two families, overcrowded	3
Houses with three families, overcrowded	1
Houses with lodgers	6

Rural Housing Survey—continued.

Ault Hucknall.

Number of houses in Ault Hucknall	534
Houses with structural or major repairs	82
Minor repairs required	192
Washing copper in living room	32
Pantries unsatisfactory	84
Houses without baths	309
Houses with closet pails	18
Houses with privy midden	72
Dampness in varying forms	291
Legally overcrowded (one family)	2
Houses with two families	85
Houses with two families (overcrowded)	2
Houses with three families	3
Houses with lodgers	49
Houses with lodgers (overcrowded)	1

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

Shortage of materials and restrictions have held up the work of conversion during the year. About 1,000 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	46
Privies converted to water closets	Nil
Additional water closets provided	9

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 twelve houses were treated for vermin.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

The Chesterfield 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 528 visits have been made for this purpose.

The number of pigs killed during the year by cottagers for private consumption amounted to 690 compared with 813 in 1946.

Unsound food condemned amounted to 3,871 lbs., made up as follows:—beef and beef offal, 1,028 lbs., pork and pork offal, 111 lbs., tinned and other foods, 734 lbs., fish, 2,008 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.

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

Cowsheds reconstructed	1
New standings, floors, and improved lighting of cowsheds	5
Conversion of building into extra cowsheds	1
Dairy floors relaid and repaired	3
Cowsheds limewashed	14
Boiler provided	1
Coolers renewed	3
New dairy provided	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	.....	.....	113 (98 satisfactory 15 unsatisfactory)
Coliform test	.....	.....	107 (87 satisfactory 20 unsatisfactory)
Biological examination	.....	.....	97 (1 positive T.B.)

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1936-44.

Methylene Blue test	.....	.....	28 (all satisfactory)
Phosphatase test	.....	.....	28 (26 satisfactory 2 unsatisfactory)

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.

Four applications for registration were received, which were granted.

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. 49 samples were taken during the year, with the following results.

Grade 1:	Grade 2:	Grade 3:
15	15	19

WATER SUPPLIES.

Five samples of water were submitted for analysis during the year 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, 2,455. 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	.....	67
Rats destroyed	.....	523
Burrows gassed	.....	274
Baits laid	.....	157

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

Treatment of Sewers.

A further maintenance treatment was carried out. The same method of transport is in operation, and the work was done where necessary. The number of pre-baits laid was 46, and no takes were recorded.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

Two licences were issued to occupy caravans under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 269), and the premises have been kept in a clean condition.

FACTORY ACT, 1937.

33 inspections were made, and the following improvements have been effected.

Provision of fire escape	1
Provision of w.c.	1
Cleansing of sanitary accommodation	2

Application has been made in one other case to provide w.c. accommodation.

SCAVENGING.

This work is carried out wholly by motor transport, and during the year 25,830 miles were covered by the removal of 4,760 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	21,230	13	6,919	9	416
February	14,534	10	335	5	335
March	15,911	19	6,517	17	345
April	17,353	30	5,838	15	435
May	20,415	8	6,804	17	430
June	20,014	34	6,751	8	364
July	22,929	24	7,028	10	387
August	18,677	35	6,272	9	380
September	22,161	33	7,016	12	384
October	21,632	33	7,200	33	446
November	20,702	12	6,651	9	434
December	20,444	2	6,618	10	404
Totals	236,002	253	73,949	154	4,760

The number of complaints received during the year was 159. 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.

DISINFECTION.

Number of infected rooms dealt with	.....	.....	792
Bundles of bedding removed	.....	.....	177

One Morris van is used on the work of disinfection and treatment of scabies for the whole district, and during the year 16,753 miles were covered in connection with this work.

SALVAGE.

The total weight of salvage collected during the year was 110 tons 9½ cwts.; included in this was 83 tons 12 cwts. of paper, compared with 68 tons and 69 tons respectively for 1945 and 1946. 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 neighbours' 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 receive 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 7 tons 3 cwts. was collected, as compared with 5 tons 18 cwts. in 1946.

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	.....	11
Drainage	.....	241
Drains tested	.....	59
Stables and Piggeries	.....	17
Accumulations	.....	25
Colliery Spoilbanks	.....	1
Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins	.....	623
Re-Inspections of Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins	.....	607
Fried Fish Shops	.....	4
Tents, Vans and Sheds	.....	68
Public Conveniences	.....	2
Factories and Bake-houses	.....	44
Refuse Collection	.....	55
Refuse Disposal	.....	87
Rats and Mice	.....	193
Schools	.....	8
Cinemas	.....	1
Shops Acts	.....	10

Petroleum Acts	84
Rivers Pollution, Prevention	3
Inquiries re Cases of Infectious Disease	44
Inquiries re Cases of Scabies	77
Interviews and Appointments	286
Miscellaneous Visits	605

Housing:

Number of houses inspected under Public Health Acts	205
Re-visits to houses " "	741
Number of houses inspected under Housing Acts	—
Re-visits to houses " "	11
Number of houses inspected re overcrowding	17
Re-visits paid to houses "	21
Number of verminous houses inspected	19
Re-visits to above houses	37
Rural Housing Survey: Number of houses examined	1467

Meat and Food Inspection:

Visits to Slaughterhouses	68
Occasional Slaughterings (Farms, etc.)	94
Shops and Stalls (re meat)	311
Street Vendors and Hawkers' Carts	4
Other Food Premises	205
Cowsheds inspected	186
Dairies and Milkshops inspected	131

Miscellaneous:

Salvage	146
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SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH.

	Served during 1947	Complied with during 1947	Out- standing on 31/12/47
Informal Public Health Act Notices	744	644	328
Statutory Public Health Act Notices	34	28	31
Informal Housing Act Notices	—	—	—
Statutory Housing Act Notices	—	—	—
Total	778	672	359

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS.

Dwelling Houses:

Cleansed	.....	14
Vermin Disinfestation	.....	17
Air Space improved	.....	—
Lighting improved	.....	—
Ventilation improved	.....	—
Windows repaired	.....	30
Walls rendered free from dampness	.....	29
Plasterwork repaired	.....	44
Floors re-laid or repaired	.....	25
Woodwork renewed or repaired	.....	14
Fireplaces and grates repaired	.....	24
Kitchen boilers repaired	.....	21
Cooking facilities improved	.....	17
Food stores improved	.....	4
Coal stores improved	.....	2
Washing accommodation provided or improved	.....	8
Internal water supply provided	.....	2
Roofs repaired	.....	71
Walls pointed and brickwork repaired	.....	21
Chimney stacks repaired	.....	15
Damp proof course provided	.....	1
Eaves gutters and downspouts repaired	.....	47
Yards and passages paved or repaired	.....	11
Yards cleansed	.....	13
Living vans removed	.....	1
Miscellaneous defects remedied	.....	8
Baths provided	.....	1

Drainage:

Drainage provided, re-laid or repaired	.....	33
Drains cleansed	.....	47
Gullies provided or repaired	.....	19
Inspection Chambers provided or repaired	.....	36

Ventilators repaired	5
Premises drained by provision of cesspool	—
Cesspools repaired	5
Cesspools abolished	1
Cesspools cleansed	2
Drains connected to sewer	1
Length of drainage examined	yards 342

Sinks:

New sinks provided	6
New sink waste pipes provided	13
Sink waste pipes repaired	7

Closet Accommodation:

Buildings repaired	24
Closets cleansed	11
Water closet cisterns provided or repaired	12
Water closet pedestals renewed	19
Water closet service pipes repaired	88
Closet pails renewed	134

Ashplaces, Ashbins, etc.

Defective ashbins renewed	289
Ashplaces and middens abolished	1
Ashbins provided in lieu of ashplaces and middens	1

Miscellaneous:

Dangerous, defective and dilapidated buildings demolished	4
Accumulation removed	24
Manure pits provided or repaired	—
Urinals repaired and cleansed	1
Nuisances abated from keeping of animals	5
Other nuisances abated	2

No legal proceedings were taken.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION.

During the year the following work has been completed:

Pail closets converted to water closets	24
Privy closets converted to pail closets	1
Additional water closets provided	1

Whilst the Council are anxious to convert the foul and out of date pail closets to the water carriage system, the Ministry of Health will not sanction schemes for this work. Until the building position improves, and there is some relaxation of the regulations governing Building Licences, very little progress can be made with the urgently needed improvements in the closet accommodation. Details of the pail closets in use are set out below:—

Pinxton	652
South Normanton	356
Blackwell	496
Tibshelf	227
Total	<u>1,725</u>

HOUSING.

No systematic inspection of houses has been made during the year for repairs or re-conditioning, and only the most serious defects have received attention.

The need for additional new houses to re-house persons living in unfit houses, overcrowded families, and to relieve accommodation where two or more families are living in one house, is still very urgent. In 31 cases families are occupying houses condemned as unfit 10 years ago. The worst of these houses are in an appalling condition. How much longer must these unfortunate people wait for other accommodation?

Details of over-crowding, and of houses subject to Demolition Orders, are set out below:—

Parish	Number of Houses Overcrowded on 31st March, 1947	Cases of Overcrowding abated during 1947
South Normanton	21	5
Pinxton	13	—
Blackwell	10	—
Tibshelf	6	2
	<u>50</u>	<u>7</u>

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

	Pinxton	South Normanton	Blackwell	Tibshelf	Total
Still occupied	2	25	2	2	31
Vacant and awaiting demolition (derelict)	5	8	2	10	25
Total	7	33	4	12	56

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 4,516 houses had been examined, leaving some 806 houses still to inspect. This work will be completed during 1948.

An examination of the record cards of the houses surveyed show that over 50% of the houses are in need of repair and re-conditioning, and 10% are unfit, and should be demolished. The number of houses overcrowded represents 1% of the houses in the area, but slightly over 10% of the houses are occupied by two or more families.

Eradication of Vermin.

The amount of work of this character has shown a big decrease on past years, although the Summer of 1947 favoured the spread of vermin. This is probably due to the improved efficiency of the vermicides now used. D.D.T. solutions were first used in this area during 1946, and no re-infestations have been reported. During the year 56 visits were necessary, compared with 288 and 294 during the two previous years.

A summary of the work carried out is given below:—

Bed bugs.

Number of Council houses disinfested	.....	1
Number of other houses disinfested	.....	6
Disinfestation of bedding	.....	3
Destruction of verminous articles	.....	2
Total	.....	<hr/>12 <hr/>

This 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.

Cockroaches.

Number of Council houses disinfested	.....	10
Number of private houses disinfested	.....	3
Number of food premises disinfested	.....	1
Total	.....	<hr/>14 <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.

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 520 inspections have been made during the year.

The only trouble experienced with the meat supplies was during January and February, when a number of frozen carcasses of beef were found to be affected with Bone Taint. Freshly killed meat from the Chesterfield Abattoir shows evidence of having been carefully inspected.

The method of transporting freshly killed meat from Chesterfield Abattoir is still unsatisfactory, although I am informed that an improved type of van is on order, and that containers are to be provided for carrying offal.

Number of animals slaughtered and examined:				Pigs
Private slaughterhouses	.....	.....	.....	122
Farms and private premises	.....	.....	.....	94
Total				<hr/> 216 <hr/>

Unsound food condemned amounted to 3,071 lbs., made up as follows:—

	lbs.
Pork and pork offal (Tuberculosis)	159
Pork and pork offal (other conditions)	148
Beef	1,956
Mutton	15
Tinned goods	351
Fish	112
Butter	65
Sugar	42
Cereals	37
Other food	186

The tubercular pork and pork offal showed that 3.7 per cent. of the cottagers' pigs examined were affected with tuberculosis, compared with 2.7, 6, and 4.83 per cent. for the three previous years. Only those cottagers' pigs are examined where a notification of slaughter is made. As this is not compulsory many pigs are slaughtered and consumed without having been examined by a competent person. Surely such an arrangement requires amendment.

During the year eight informal notices have been complied with, resulting in the provision of hot and cold water supplies in three cases, soap and towels in one instance, one new sink, one new floor, two premises cleansed, one refrigerator cleansed, one offal bin, the repair of one room, improvement in the lighting and ventilation in one food store, and the provision of improved means of sterilizing utensils in one case.

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 difficulties of licensing building work.

Details of registered premises, etc.:

(a) Wholesale producers	19	Cowsheds in use	108
(b) Producers and retailers	44	Dairies	77
(c) Retail purveyors	17		
	—		—
Total	80		185
	—		—

During the year, 317 inspections have been made of cowsheds and dairies, and 25 informal notices served. Improvements effected as a result of these notices are set out below:—

Cowsheds:

Cowsheds repaired	1
Limewashed	16
Floors cleansed	5

Dairies:

Dairies repaired	1
Limewashed	.....	6

Other Improvements:

Improved sterilizing of utensils	.....	3
Udders cleansed	.....	1
Improved cooling of milk	.....	5
Improved storage of milk	.....	1

Milk Sampling.

Milk sampling 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 sterilization of utensils. A summary of the samples examined is given below.

New Milk:

Methylene		
Blue Test	91	(70 satisfactory, 21 unsatisfactory)
Coliform Test	100	(74 satisfactory, 26 unsatisfactory)
Bacteriological		
Examination	10	satisfactory
Biological		
Examination	83	(3 positive tuberculosis)

Heat treated Milk:

Methylene		
Blue Test	1	satisfactory
Phosphatase Test	3	(1 satisfactory 2 unsatisfactory)

Sterilised Milk:

Methylene		
Blue Test	1	satisfactory
Phosphatase Test	1	satisfactory

Samples are taken from each producer and producer-retailer in the area, and of all milk retailed in the area from other districts.

The results of the samples, compared with the standard for accredited milk, are below the average for the last three years. It is disappointing to find that the improvements of the last few years have not been maintained. This may be due to the very hot summer. During this period the majority of the samples examined failed to reach a suitable standard.

Year	Number of Samples	Methylene Blue Test		Coliform Test	
		Per cent. satisfactory	Per cent. below standard	Per cent. satisfactory	Per cent. below standard
1947	91	77	23	—	—
	100	—	—	74	26
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

A most unsatisfactory feature is the presence of Tuberculosis in 3 of the 83 samples examined biologically. These samples were followed up by the Veterinary Officers and resulted in the slaughter of four cows (2 with advanced tuberculosis and 2 with tuberculosis of the udder).

Having regard to the inevitable delay in tracing and removing from dairy herds animals infected with tuberculosis, it is obvious that pasteurisation of all milk supplies is the only satisfactory course.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1936-44.

Number of retailers licences issued	9
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:

16 samples all satisfactory.

Phosphatase Test:

24 samples all satisfactory.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The water supply to the district has been satisfactory during the year, both as regards quality and quantity. Ten samples of water have been examined, and reported upon as follows:—

District Supply.

Bacteriological examination 7 samples (6 satisfactory,
1 unsatisfactory).

Hardness Test 1 sample (satisfactory, 12 pts. per 100,000).

Private Supplies.

Bacteriological examination of well water 1 sample
(unsuitable).

Chemical analysis of well water 1 sample (doubtful
quality).

Arrangements have been made to improve the well from which the unsatisfactory samples were obtained, and pending completion of this work, for the occupants to boil all drinking water.

It will be noted from the following schedule that 99.88 per cent. of the houses in the area 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 external water supply, but using external stand pipes served by district water supply 165 (Stand pipes vary from 1 to 1 house to 1 to 6 houses)		3.10
Number of houses with an internal supply of district water	5,153	96.78

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947.

The introduction of these Regulations on 1st May, 1947, resulted in an immediate improvement in the position in this area. Three small manufacturers, who had previously

made up a 'hot mix,' immediately discontinued business; one large manufacturer placed on order all necessary equipment to enable him to properly pasteurise, cool and store his ice-cream; and the remaining manufacturers commenced to use the 'Complete Cold Mix.'

Continuous supervision of these premises has been maintained, and a number of improvements effected, including the reconstruction of one building to bring it up to modern standards. During the season 47 samples of ice-cream were submitted for examination. Of these 5 were classed as Grade 4, all being from a large manufacturer, who although he had a pasteurisation plant fixed, he was without a proper cooler. The difficulty of cooling the pasteurised mix undoubtedly contributed to the unsatisfactory results. Considerable difficulty is being experienced in obtaining delivery of cooling equipment.

Details of registration and results of samples are set out in the following tables:—

Premises Registered.

(a) Manufacture and sale of ice-cream	8
(b) Sale of ice-cream	11
(c) Sale of pre-packed ice-cream	2
Total	21

Results of Ice-cream Samples.

Ice Cream	Grade I.	Grade II.	Grade III.	Grade IV.	Total
Complete Cold Mix	6	5	3	—	14
Pasteurised or Hot Mix	4	9	5	5	23
Pre-packed	4	2	4	—	10
	14	16	12	5	47

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

The Council continue to administer delegated powers in respect of this Act, and employ one part-time rodent operator, and, in addition, a full-time assistant is available for this work when required. Both men have been trained by the Ministry of Food.

Arrangements are made for Council refuse tips and sewage works to be examined monthly, and any rat infestation immediately dealt with.

This work, which has continued for a number of years, has kept the Council premises free from serious infestation.

A total of 283 inspections and visits have been made, and 6 notices served and complied with. Four defective and rat infested drains have been repaired. Where work is carried out on private and business premises the cost of such work is recovered.

Summary of work done:

	Council premises	Private premises	Total
Number of premises visited	85	5	90
Estimated number of rats killed			
by dogs, ferrets, etc.	165	—	165
Number of pre-baits laid .	455	1,847	2,302
Number of poison baits laid	74	287	361
Number of post-baits laid	74	113	187
Number of rats destroyed by poison	126	358	484
Number of burrows gassed	63	—	63

Treatment of Sewer Inspection Chambers.

The first complete treatment of the sewer inspection chambers was completed in March, 1945. Due to the lack of suitable transport, it was not possible for arrangements to be made for the required maintenance treatments. The transport difficulty still continues, although an 8 h.p. van was ordered nearly two years ago.

In consultation with the Ministry it was eventually possible to hire a suitable van, and make arrangements for a complete new treatment of all sewer inspection chambers. This work (see summary below) was completed in September, 1947, and arrangements have been made for the

necessary maintenance treatments. The incidence of infestation in this treatment was very similar to the infestation found on the first treatment in March, 1945.

Number of sewer inspection chambers treated	470
Number of pre-bait takes	80
Number of poison bait takes	71
Estimated Number of rats destroyed	356

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

There are no recognised camping grounds in the area, but the continuance of open cast mining in the district and 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 44 inspections have been made, and 6 notices complied with. The following improvements have been effected:—

Sanitary accommodation improved	3
Sanitary accommodation cleansed	1
Factories cleansed	2
Use of unsuitable premises discontinued	1
Abstracts fixed	1
Failure to notify outworkers	1

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

4,749 loads of refuse, night soil and cesspool contents, and the vehicles have covered 33,875 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		7	(cleansed monthly)
Closet pails	.....	1,725	(cleansed weekly)
Cesspools	.....	43	(cleansed quarterly)

Whilst the frequency of refuse collection has been well maintained throughout the year, I feel a little apprehensive as to the future. Towards the end of the year, difficulty was being experienced in maintaining a suitable staff, and delay in the delivery of motor spares still continues. Men sent for interview by the Employment Exchange are generally unsuitable, and as the mines and engineering work in the area pay higher wages, there appears little prospect of any improvement.

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 repairs.

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 is similar to the previous year:—

	1947/48	1946/47	1945/46
Total cost (collection and disposal of dry refuse, night soil and cesspool contents)	£7,819	£7,724	£8,116
Cost per annum per 1,000 population	£418	£417	£434
Cost per annum per 1,000 houses	£1,469	£1,452	£1,525

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	Refuse	Loads removed Night Soil	Cesspool contents	No. of other journeys (chiefly Salvage)
Karrier Bantam (1939) GRA 810	7,042	170	7,212	1,057	—	—	116
Karrier Bantam (1943) HRB 408	5,702	483	6,185	943	8	37	175
Karrier Bantam (1946) JNU 995	6,603	251	6,854	1,117	108	—	117
Austin 4/5 ton (1942) HRA 287	10,622	3,002	13,624	310	895	275	644
	29,969	3,906	33,875	3,427	1,011	312	1,052

Comparative Costs of Operation of Lorries:

(less Drivers' Wages and Depreciation charges)

Lorry	Repairs, Maintenance, Tyres, etc. £ s. d.			Licences and Insurance £	Petrol and Oil £ s. d.			Total £ s. d.			Cost per mile	Cost per estimated ton
GRA 810 (2 tons)	132	4	4	36	100	7	10	268	12	2	9d.	2/3½
HRB 408 (2 tons)	131	2	10	36	106	14	4	273	17	2	10½d.	2/4
JNU 995 (2 tons)	93	12	11	36	106	12	3	236	5	2	8½d.	1/9
HRA 287 (4/5 ton)	176	17	9	41	217	19	4	435	17	1	8d.	1/4½
	533	17	10	149	531	13	9	1214	11	7	9d.	1/9

SALVAGE.

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

1947-48:	301 tons	4 cwts.	43 lbs.	£1,489	19	3.
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	101	7	92	684	2	5
Baled destructor scrap	42	8	0	70	2	6
Other ferrous metal	8	4	0	16	10	8
Non-ferrous metal		6	18	16	3	9
Rubber	1	12	52	2	6	8
Textiles	8	0	6	113	4	8
Bones	6	14	0	38	9	3
Cinders	15	0	0	1	5	0
Bottles and Jars	30	5	108	347	6	1
Cullet	7	15	56	9	17	9
Kitchen waste	79	6	82	176	11	1
Miscellaneous		3	77	13	19	5

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.

The formation in July, 1947, of the N.E. Derbyshire Area Salvage Committee, consisting of the Salvage Officers of 12 local authorities, has been very beneficial. The arrangements made by Mr. Edridge, Chesterfield, for the

central selling of certain items of salvage is reflected in the figure of £1,489 : 19 : 3 for the year 1947/48, which is the second highest income obtained since salvage work commenced.

GENERAL.

The year under review had presented many difficulties. The most serious matters requiring attention are the abatement of overcrowding and the re-housing of families living in rooms, which apart from contributing to illness, are a continuous cause of unhappiness. Many houses are in need of extensive re-conditioning, and until there is some relaxation of the Building Licensing regulations, very little progress can be made with the conversion of pail closets.

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

During the year, 204 complaints were received and investigated, as compared with 170 for 1946. The lack of building repairs and the systematic inspection of houses during the past eight years is undoubtedly the reason for the steady increase in the number of complaints received. The complaints included 78 regarding housing defects, 35 drainage defects, 17 dirty and verminous premises, 26 defective sanitary accommodation, and 4 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.

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