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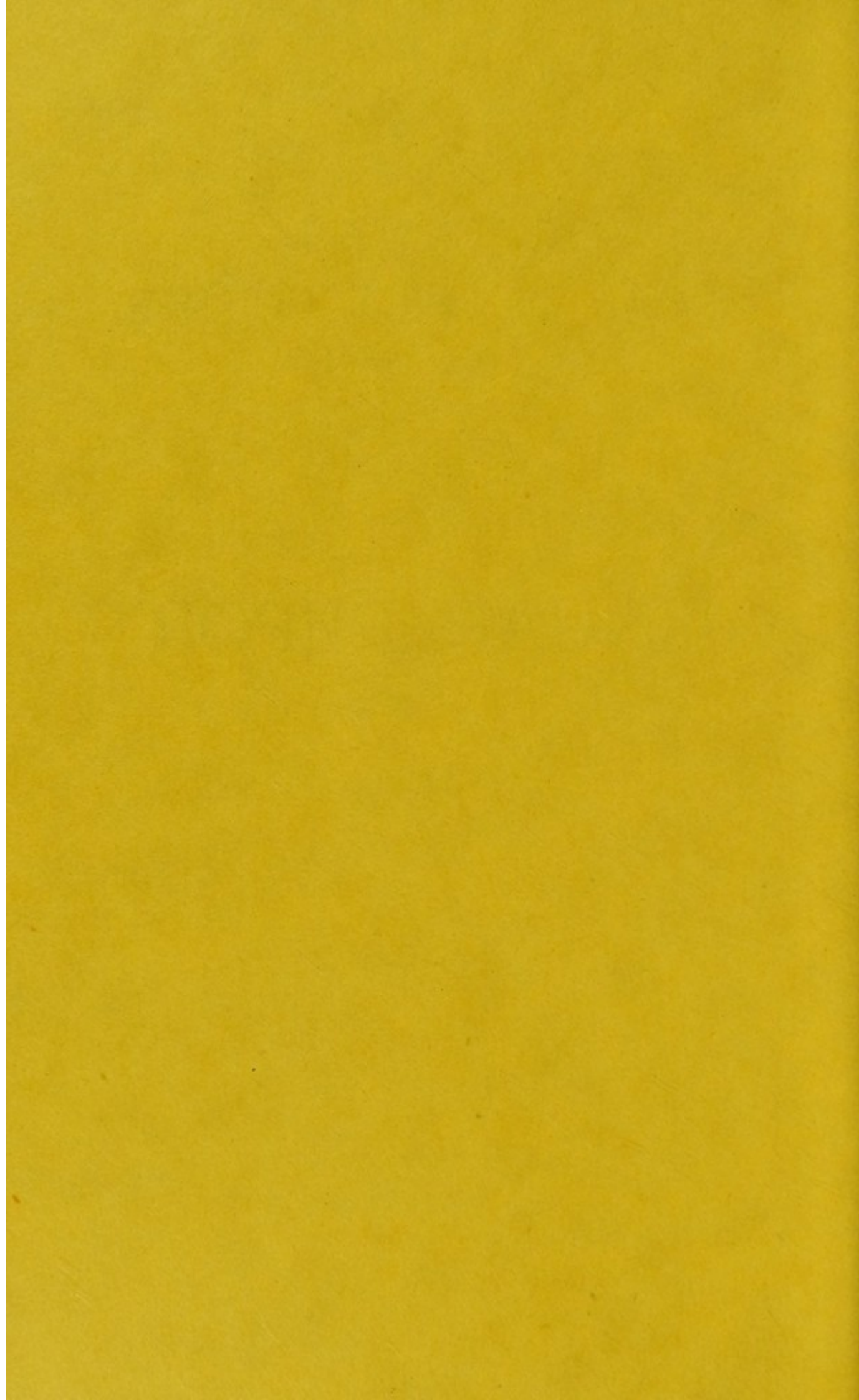
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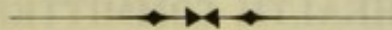


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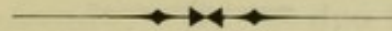
BLACKWELL
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1955



By

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

and

A. R. ROBERTSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officers of Health.

BLACKWELL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman : Mr. J. Collins

Councillor S. R. Bloor	Councillor Mrs. H. Kemp
Councillor E. Brackenbury	Councillor R. H. Lewis
Councillor A. Buck	Councillor P. Marsh
Councillor J. Butler	Councillor L. McCormack
Councillor G. Dale	Councillor Mrs. E. G. Redfern
Councillor R. Hawley	Councillor Mrs. M. H. Smith
Councillor H. Hubbard	Councillor G. Smith
Councillor F. James	Councillor H. Scrimshaw
Councillor S. James	Councillor J. H. Wilson

Medical Officers of Health :

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

Until 29.11.55.

Dr. A. R. ROBERTSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

From 30.11.55.

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

(Tel. Mansfield 811)

PREFACE

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

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a pleasure and a privilege to submit this report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of your district for the year 1955. My task has been made easier by the fact that the great bulk of the work was done by my predecessor, Dr. A. H. Wear, who was your M.O.H. until the end of November. It follows that if you are pleased with this report, your thanks should be directed chiefly to Dr. Wear. For myself, I must record sincere and deep appreciation for the great help and kindness which he has given to me.

As regards the Report, I hope you will find all the necessary details in it. However, I would like to mention how pleased I am to record a large fall in the deaths from tuberculosis and in the number of new tuberculous cases. Also, the number of new houses built is gratifying, and, hand in hand with this, it is pleasing to report that progress has been made against those twin ogres, Slums and Overcrowding.

As you know, I came here more or less a complete stranger. Yet, I feel at home already. This is due to the kind and sincere welcome and to the help which everyone has given to me. For these, I most sincerely thank all Council Members, Officers and Staff.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. R. ROBERTSON.

Medical Officer of Health.

"Dale Close,"

100 Chesterfield Road South,
Mansfield.

STATISTICS FOR THE AREA

Area (acres)	21,922
Population (Census 1951)	43,112
Population mid-year (Registrar-General, 1955)	42,820
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1955) according to Rate Books	13,002
Rateable Value, 1955	£319,635
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1955	£720
	(estimated)

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Coal mining and to a less extent agriculture are the chief occupations of the district. Over 60% of the population are coal miners. There is very little unemployment.

Verminous Heads

115 treatments were given at the Disinfestation Centre to 55 cases of Verminous Heads. They were from the following parishes :

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Cases</i>
Blackwell	14
Pinxton	10
South Normanton	10
Scarcliffe	2
Shirebrook	10
Glapwell	4
Pleasley	5
	—
	55
	==

Scabies

16 treatments were given at the Disinfestation Centre to 5 cases of Scabies.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS :

Live Births—

	Total	Males	Females	
Legitimate	626	334	292	} Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 15.09 (crude).
Illegitimate	20	12	8	
Corrected birth-rate, 14.6				
Still Births	15	6	9	} Rate per 1,000 total (live & still) births, 22.7

The births in this area and the Still Birth rate are virtually the same as last year.

	Total	Males	Females	
DEATHS	433	233	200	} Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 10.11 (crude).
Corrected death-rate, 11.8				

Deaths from puerperal causes—

	Deaths	Rate per 1000 Total (Live and Still) Births
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Other Puerperal Causes	—	—

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE :—

All infants, per 1,000 live births	....	....	....	27.87
Legitimate infants,				
per 1,000 legitimate live births	....	....	....	28.75
Illegitimate infants,				
per 1,000 illegitimate live births	....	....	....	—

The infantile death-rate of 27.87 is much the same as last year's figure of 25.5. The following were causes of death :—

Gastro Enteritis	....	....	....	....	1
Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	1
Septicaemia	....	....	....	....	1
Pneumonia & Congential Abnormalities	....	....	....	....	1
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	1

Atelectasis	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Prematurity	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Asphyxia	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Congenital Abnormalities	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Haemorrhage at birth	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Tracheo Bronchitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	4

DEATHS FROM :—

Measles	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
Whooping cough	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
Heart and circulation	....	....	....	....	....	....	125
Suicides	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Cancer (38 males, 26 females)	....	....	....	....	....	....	64
Coronary thrombosis (31 males, 17 females)	....	....	....	....	....	....	48
Pulmonary tuberculosis (4 males, 2 females)	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Road accidents	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Other accidents	....	....	....	....	....	....	17

On comparing these figures with last year, we find several interesting points.

Deaths from Heart and Circulation have increased by 27, a percentage increase of 28.

Cancer deaths total is constant and so is the ratio between male and female deaths from cancer.

Coronary thrombosis ; the total here increased by 14. It is very interesting that most of this increase occurred in females (this is contrary to general findings) 17 females died in 1955, as against 6 in 1954, this is a very large difference.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis ; it is very pleasing to record that the number of deaths in 1955, is exactly half the number which occurred in 1954.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES IN THE AREA

The Bolsover and Alfreton Ambulance Stations provide a service for the whole of the Rural District during the day-time. 'Phone Nos. Bolsover 2121 and Alfreton 424. For cases during the night-time the ambulances at Chesterfield Station (Chesterfield 6282) are available.

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, Blackwell, 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 Saturday at Alfreton.

TUBERCULOSIS CLINIC

This is held at Brimington Road, Chesterfield on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9.30 to 12 noon.

Children and contacts attend on Tuesday from 2 to 4 p.m. Workers on Thursdays from 4 to 6.30 p.m. A 'Refill' Clinic is held on Mondays from 3.30 to 6.30 p.m.

There is no morning Clinic held on the second Thursday in each month.

VENERAL CLINICS

Derby Royal Infirmary :—

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Males : | Monday, 6 to 8 p.m. |
| | Tuesday, 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon. |
| | Wednesday, 6 to 8 p.m. |
| | Saturday, 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon. |
| Females : | Monday, 3 to 5 p.m. |
| | Thursday, 10.30 a.m. to 12 noon, and 6 to 8 p.m. |
| Children : | Friday, 10.30 to 11 a.m. |

Chesterfield Royal Hospital :

- | | |
|-----------|----------------------------|
| Males : | Friday, 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. |
| | Tuesday, 5 to 6.45 p.m. |
| Females : | Tuesday, 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. |
| | Friday, 5 to 6.30 p.m. |

Urgent cases may attend on any weekday at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (except Saturday) but the specialist is not in attendance at these times.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

The number of types of specimens dealt with by the County Laboratories were as follows :

	Positive	Negative	Tot.
C. diphtheriae	—	9	9
Vincent's Angina organisms	—	5	5
Haemolytic Streptococci	—	16	16
Sputa for Tubercle Bacilli	—	2	2
*Water	4	103	107
*Ice Cream, Methylene Blue Test	2	33	35
Clinical Specimens	19	50	69

Milk

Methylene Blue	2	55	57
*Phosphatase Test	—	65	65
*Turbidity Test	—	4	4
Tubercle Bacilli, Biological Test	—	11	11
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	27	353	380
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

*Positive — Unsatisfactory

Negative — Satisfactory

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

Mr. Williams, the Surveyor and Water Engineer, has kindly given me this information re water supplies.

The District has an average daily water consumption of 1,275,000 gallons. This supply is regularly examined bacteriologically and chemically for evidence of contamination.

Samples of water are taken regularly both at the source and at various points on the distribution system.

The following mains extensions were completed during the year :—

Thickley Bank Housing Site,	1121 lin. yds.—3" diameter.
Shirebrook	943 lin. yds.—4" diameter.
	120 lin. yds.—6" diameter.
South Street, South Normanton	46 lin. yds.—3" diameter.
North Street, Langwith	17 lin. yds.—3" diameter.
Glapwell Housing Site.	178 lin. yds.—3" diameter.

75 lin. yds. 6" and 75 lin. yds. 8" main have been re-aligned at Fordbridge Lane, South Normanton and a length of 6" main (7 yds. approx.) which previously ran through the River Poulter at Langwith has been altered to span the river some 2 feet above water level.

A road improvement at Langwith Junction Bridge necessitated the relaying of 46 yds. of 6" main.

WATERWORKS

Budby and Stony Houghton Pumping Stations

During the year 1,019,348,000 gallons of water were pumped from Budby Pumping Station of which 711,458,000 gallons were repumped from Stony Houghton to Whiteborough Reservoirs.

The two reflux valves to No. 1 pumphouse mentioned in last years report have now been installed, and negotiations are still continuing for the remote control of Stony Houghton from Budby.

Reservoirs at Stony Houghton and Whiteborough have been emptied for inspection and minor repairs.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

- (a) **Astwith.** An application is being made for a grant under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act.
- (b) **Pleasley.** A pumping scheme providing for a new sewage disposal works site at Common Lane, Pleasley has been submitted to the Ministry in outline.
- (c) **Shirebrook.** The major portion of the extensions to the works came into commission in June, 1955, and the rectangular filter has been operating since November, 1955.
- (d) **South Normanton.** Works on reconstruction of sludge drying beds and alterations to tanks is nearing completion.
- (e) **Birchwood and Carnfield.** Installation of humus tanks at these works is being carried out by direct labour.
- (f) **Langwith.** Construction of flow recorder is in progress.
- (g) Samples of effluent from the various sewage disposal works are taken at regular intervals and analysed in the Council's laboratory.

SEWERAGE

- (a) **Tibshelf.** 326 yds. of 9" diameter sewer has been relayed by direct labour at Staffa Street, Tibshelf.
- (b) **South Normanton.** Extension of 9" diameter sewer in Red Lane, South Normanton has been completed by contract. The length involved was 155 yds. Relaying of 242 yds. of 15" diameter main outfall sewer has been carried out by contract.

CONVERSIONS

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Pail Closets</i>				<i>Converted to Water Closets</i>
Scarcliffe	1
South Normanton	19
Tibshelf	1
					—
					21
					—

HOUSING

357 houses and bungalows were completed by the Council and 48 by private enterprise. This gives a total of 405. This total is less than that for last year, viz. 448. Nevertheless it is still a substantial one.

Mr. Wells, the Architect, has very kindly supplied the following table. It shows the rate of progress in the Council's housing programme.

Parish	Dwellings completed 1955		Dwellings completed January 1st to March 31st, 1956		Dwellings in course of erection or contracts approved 1st April, 1956	
	Houses	Bungalows	Houses	Bungalows	Houses	Bungalows
Shirebrook	191	16	37	—	138	50*
South Normanton	42	—	—	—	—	—
Tibshelf	96	12	72	8	24	6*
Glapwell	—	—	—	—	16	2*
Total	329	28	109	8	178	58

* Include 2 Paraplegic Bungalows.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Milk, Meat and Other Food

A report under this heading is given by the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

URGENT SANITARY REQUIREMENTS

Overcrowding

This is still a problem but some progress was made during the year. Details will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's report. Overcrowding is pernicious in its effects. It causes ill health and helps many illnesses to spread. Also, it must have very adverse effects on the mental health of all the people involved. To me, it is a matter of vital import and I am very pleased to report that we have made some progress.

Unfit Houses.

Our slum clearance programme was approved in July 1955. A total of 225 houses are involved. My remarks on overcrowding apply equally to slum houses and I am pleased to report that 37 houses had been represented as unfit by the end of the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

An application was made under Section 47 of this Act. An old lady in South Normanton was living in insanitary conditions and she was not receiving proper care and attention. The court made an Order for a period of three months.

FACTORIES ACT

There are 44 factories registered in the Blackwell Rural District which are inspected from time to time, and action taken as is necessary. Conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

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
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	44	32	4
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	42	15	3
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	37	6	—
Total	123	53	7

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 (S.1)	2	2	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient	2	2	—	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	—	—
Total	6	6	—	1

3.—OUTWORK.

Nature of Work.	No. of Out-workers	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council
Wearing apparel, making, etc.	7	—
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets	1	—
Total	8	—

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Diphtheria

Not one notification of this disease has been received from Blackwell R.D. since 1949. This happy position can be maintained by immunisation and we urge all parents to allow their children to be immunised.

Scarlet Fever

102 cases occurred, mostly in the parish of Shirebrook. Only 1 case was over school age. The disease was very mild in character and there were no deaths.

Poliomyelitis

Four notifications were received. Two were non-paralytic. A boy of 8 had some paralysis and a lady of 24 died from polio encephalitis.

Food Poisoning

One notification of Sonne dysentery was received from Langwith. The man was removed to the Forest Fever Hospital and no other member of the family became affected.

At Langwith a woman and her daughter ate some tinned crab. They became ill afterwards. They were the only two people who ate the crab and they were the only two people who became ill. They suffered from sickness, diarrhoea and abdominal pain. Specimens of the crab were sent to the laboratory and staphylococcus aureus was isolated. Both mother and daughter recovered.

The total number of food poisoning cases in England continued to increase. Many of these cases could and should be avoided. The cardinal rule is strict, personal cleanliness in all people who handle food at home or at work.

Measles

There were 402 cases. This was more than double the number for 1954. However, there were no deaths. This freedom from death pays a striking tribute to modern medical treatment and to those who give it.

Whooping Cough

The number was virtually the same as for the preceding year. There were no deaths from this disease.

Tuberculosis

The following table gives particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of all deaths from the disease 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	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
20	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	5	3	—	—	3	1	—	—
35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Totals	7	7	—	1	4	2	—	—

The phthisis death-rate is 0.14 per 1,000 of the population.

These figures are very satisfactory. It should be noted that they are only half the rates for 1954.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1955.

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases notified												Total Cases notified in each Parish of the District									Total Deaths	
	At Ages—years												Total Cases removed to Hospital										
	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	Shirebrook	S. Normanton	Pinxton	Tibshelf	Blackwell	Pleasley	Scarliffe	A. Hucknall	Clapwell		
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—	9	18	14	51	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorium	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	1	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebral-spinal fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	10	57	45	52	62	170	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	116	2	12	71	42	41	39	30	—	—
Whooping Cough	12	7	13	6	16	30	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	7	—	12	4	1	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	24	70	67	78	92	253	13	5	12	2	11	1	1	199	15	13	94	54	58	43	36	94	1

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report on the work of the department for the year. Statistics and observations on the various sections of work are set out under appropriate headings in the following pages.

The year has been a difficult one, chiefly due to the continuing and increasing problem caused by meat inspection. The number of animals slaughtered has risen from 29,404 in 1954, to 38,383 in 1955, and is still increasing. Evening and weekend work has been continuous and naturally staff difficulties have arisen.

Atmospheric pollution has continued to receive particular attention and it will be noted from the section dealing with this work that progress has been made.

Other work which has demanded special attention include housing (preparation of 5 year Programme) and cleansing. Whilst it is very pleasing to note the new South Normanton Cleansing Depot is in use, it is equally disappointing to have to report no progress at the Shirebrook Depot.

I have to thank the Chairman and members for their interest in the work of the department and my colleagues in other departments for their ready co-operation with various problems which have arisen. The staff and workmen have carried out their duties in a satisfactory manner, and I would particularly say 'thank you' to the Inspectors who have stood the strain of regular evening and week-end work, and without whose co-operation I could not have maintained a satisfactory meat inspection service.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT CLARKSON, M.R.S.H., M.S.I.A.
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

STAFF

Chief Sanitary Inspector :—

ROBERT CLARKSON (a) (b)

District Sanitary Inspector :—

JAMES A. YOUNG (a) (b)

Additional Sanitary Inspectors :—

GEOFFREY G. EITE (a)

RONALD E. BANKS (a) (b)

(terminated duty 16th August, 1955).

ARTHUR T. SINGLETON (a) (b)

(commenced duty 1st December, 1955).

- (a) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Examination Joint Board.
- (b) Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Inspectors of Meat and Other Foods.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS**General Sanitation :**

Atmospheric Pollution	....	....	....	....	....	11
Water Supplies	....	....	....	....	....	63
Drainage	....	....	....	....	....	572
Drains tested	....	....	....	....	....	43
Stables and Piggeries	....	....	....	....	....	43
Accumulations	....	....	....	....	....	26
Colliery Spoilbanks	....	....	....	....	....	14
Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins	....	....	....	....	....	147
Re-inspections of Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins	....	....	....	....	....	132
Fried Fish Shops	....	....	....	....	....	31
Tents, Vans and Sheds	....	....	....	....	....	13
Public Conveniences	....	....	....	....	....	3
Factories and Bakehouses	....	....	....	....	....	53
Refuse Collection....	....	....	....	....	....	72
Refuse Disposal	....	....	....	....	....	106
Street Cleansing	....	....	....	....	....	20
Rats and Mice	....	....	....	....	....	1400
Schools	....	....	....	....	....	19
Cinemas	....	....	....	....	....	6

Shop Acts	....	....	....	....	....	....	29
Petroleum Acts	....	....	....	....	....	....	27
Smoke Observations	....	....	....	....	....	....	83
Inquiries re Cases of Infectious Disease				....	....	....	406
Inquiries re Cases of Scabies	....	....	....	....	....	....	33
Interviews and Appointments	....	....	....	....	....	....	839
Miscellaneous Visits	....	....	....	....	....	....	677

Housing

Number of houses inspected under Public Health Acts	....	462
Re-visits to houses inspected under Public Health Acts	....	1020
Number of houses inspected under Housing Acts	....	112
Re-visits to houses inspected under Housing Acts	....	400
Number of houses inspected re overcrowding	....	10
Re-visits paid to houses re overcrowding	....	12
Number of verminous houses inspected.	....	52
Re-visits to above houses	....	58
Miscellaneous Housing Enquiries	....	1218

Meat and Food Inspection :

Visits to Slaughterhouses	....	....	....	....	....	3363
Occasional Slaughtering (farms, etc.)	....	....	....	....	....	3
Shops and Stalls (re meat)	....	....	....	....	....	161
Street Vendors and Hawker's Carts	....	....	....	....	....	465
Other Food Premises	....	....	....	....	....	207
Milk Distribution	....	....	....	....	....	49
Ice Cream Premises	....	....	....	....	....	56
Canteens, Cafes, etc.	....	....	....	....	....	20

Miscellaneous :

Salvage 95

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH

	Served during 1955	Complied with during 1955	Out- standing on 31/12/55
Informal Public Health Act Notices	683	629	347
Statutory Public Health Act Notices	25	20	8
Informal Housing Act Notices	—	—	—
Statutory Housing Act Notices	1	1	—
	<hr/> 709	<hr/> 650	<hr/> 355
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS

Dwelling Houses :

Cleansed	13
Vermin Disinfestation	33
Air space improved	—
Lighting improved	—
Ventilation improved	3
Windows repaired	170
Walls rendered free from dampness	163
Plasterwork repaired	211
Floors re-laid or repaired	86
Woodwork renewed or repaired	54
Fireplaces and grates repaired	54
Cooking facilities improved	71
Kitchen boiler repaired	71
Food stores improved	39
Coal stores improved	42
Washing accommodation provided or improved	12
Internal water supply provided	3
Roofs repaired	175
Walls pointed and brickwork repaired	156
Chimney stacks repaired	163
Damp proof course provided	—
Eaves gutters and downspouts repaired	81

Yards and passages paved or repaired	....	....	....	68
Yards cleansed	....	....	....	4
Living vans removed	....	....	....	1
Baths provided	....	....	—	—

Drainage :

Drainage provided, re-laid or repaired	35
Drains cleansed	....	....	....	190
Gullies provided or repaired	....	....	....	12
Inspection chambers provided or repaired	....	....	....	20
Ventilators repaired	....	....	....	9
Premises drained by provision of cesspool	....	....	....	—
Cesspools repaired	....	....	....	1
Cesspools abolished	....	....	....	2
Drains connected to sewer	....	....	....	2

Sinks :

New sinks provided	....	....	....	9
New sink waste pipes provided....	....	....	....	18
Sink waste pipes repaired	....	....	....	12

Closet Accommodation :

Buildings repaired	....	....	....	76
Closets cleansed	....	....	....	7
Water closet cisterns provided or repaired	....	....	....	22
Water closet pedestals renewed or repaired	....	....	....	39
Water closet service pipes repaired	....	....	....	33
Closet pails renewed	....	....	....	—

Miscellaneous :

Dangerous, defective and dilapidated buildings demolished....	1
Accumulations removed	14
Manure pits provided or repaired	—
Urinals provided, repaired and cleated	—
Nuisances abated from keeping of animals	8
Other nuisances abated	27

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

Although the number of conversions of pail closets to the water carriage system was only 21, the total number of conversions completed since 1950 is 2,346. This excellent progress had almost removed all pail closets from the more densely populated parts of the district. In the majority of the remaining cases there are drainage difficulties. These difficulties are being dealt with and it is hoped to make further progress during 1956. Negotiations with the Chatsworth Settlement Trustees with a view to agreement on the Engineer's plans to provide main drainage for the Astwith Village are not yet completed.

Details of the conversion of sanitary conveniences and the number of pail closets still in use are set out below :—

Parish		Pail closets converted to water closets	Pail Closets in use on 31/12/55
Ault Hucknall	....	—	83
Blackwell	....	—	75
Glapwell	....	—	2
Pleasley	....	—	15
Pinxton	....	—	26
Scarcliffe	....	1	14
Shirebrook	....	—	16
South Normanton	....	19	40
Tibshelf	....	1	27
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		21	298
		<hr/>	<hr/>

HOUSING

The increased rate in the erection of dwelling houses has been maintained—415 being completed during the year (367 Council houses and 48 private houses). This has enabled the Council to continue with the relief of unsuitable housing conditions. Known cases of legal overcrowding have been reduced from 45 to 35 and fewer complaints are being made about housing accommodation.

In July a Slum Clearance Programme was approved, which included 225 houses—116 to be dealt with by Clearance Area procedure and 109 as individual cases. Work on the inspection

and representation of these began immediately and by the end of the year 37 houses had been represented as unfit. Prior to the preparation of this programme 88 unfit houses had been dealt with since the termination of the war. The programme referred to only deals with the worst housing features. There are many houses built around 1900 which require extensive repair and improvement, and whilst the department is very dissatisfied with these houses immediate progress cannot be made due to other pressing duties.

A total of 574 houses have been inspected under the Public Health and Housing Acts with a view to representation or the remedy of defects. Of these 37 were found to be unfit and were duly dealt with by official representation.

Applications for Improvement Grants are dealt with by the Engineer—these usually require the submission of Building Byelaw plans—75 grants have been approved during the year.

The flood of applications for the issue of Certificates of Disrepair under the provisions of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954 did not abate until February 1955. Altogether 160 (101 during 1955) applications have been received and certificates issued in all cases—71 of these certificates were revoked during the year, the necessary improvement and repairs having been satisfactorily completed.

Statistical summaries of housing work are set out below :—

A. Inspection of Dwelling Houses

1.	(a)	No. of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (Public Health and Housing Acts)	....	462
	(b)	No. of inspections made for this purpose	....	1482
2.	(a)	No. of dwelling houses (included under 1a) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Regulations	.... .... .... ....	112
	(b)	No. of inspections made for this purpose	....	512
3.		No. of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation	.... .... .... .... .... ....	37
4.		No. of dwelling houses found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation....	.... .... ....	537

B. Remedy of Defective Dwelling Houses

1. Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of **informal action** by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts 279

2. Public Health Acts—action after service of **formal notice**.

Houses in which defects were remedied :

- (a) By owners 9
(b) By local authority in default of owners.... 1

3. Housing Act 1936—action after service of **formal notice** (Sections 9 ; 10 ; 11 and 16) :

Houses made fit :

- (a) By owners 1
(b) By local authority in default of owners.... —

C. Demolition or Closure of Dwelling Houses

	No. of Houses	No. of persons displaced
1. Housing Act 1936		
(a) Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section 11)	16	58
(b) Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners under Section 11 and still in force	5	13
2. Local Government (Miscellaneous Provision) Act 1953.		
Closed as a result of closing orders under Sections 10 (1) and 11 (2)	9	23

D. Overcrowding

Parish	No. of Houses Overcrowded on 31/12/55	Cases of Overcrowding abated during 1955	No. of Persons affected by abatement
Ault Hucknall	1	1	3
Blackwell	7	4	26
Glapwell	—	—	—
Pleasley	—	—	—
Pinxton	6	1	7
Scarcliffe	1	—	—
Shirebrook	1	1	9
South Normanton	18	4	25
Tibshelf	1	2	15
	<hr/> 35	<hr/> 13	<hr/> 85
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

E. Houses subject to Demolition and Closing Orders :

Parish	Still occupied	Vacant and awaiting Demolition	Total
Ault Hucknall	3	6	9
Blackwell	2	1	3
Glapwell	—	—	—
Pleasley	2	1	3
Pinxton	12	6	18
Scarcliffe	3	10	13
Shirebrook	1	3	4
South Normanton	4	28	32
Tibshelf	2	4	6
	<hr/> 29	<hr/> 59	<hr/> 88
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

ERADICATION OF VERMIN

A total of 110 inspections and re-inspections have been made of houses and other premises and in 38 cases work has been carried out by this department.

Bed Bugs

No. of Council houses disinfested	....	....	....	2
No. of private premises disinfested	....	....	....	18

Cockroaches

No. of Council houses disinfested	....	....	....	5
No. of private houses disinfested	....	....	....	4
No. of schools disinfested	....	....	....	1

Other Vermin

No. of premises dealt with for woodworm infestation	....	....	....	2
No. of premises dealt with for ant infestation	....	....	....	2
No. of premises dealt with for flea infestation	....	....	....	2
				<hr/>
				36
				<hr/>

The whole of this work has been carried out by the Council's trained staff, the following methods being used :—

Cockroaches —Floor boards removed near fireplaces, skirtings, etc., eased and sprayed with Gammexane powder (D.034) by means of a foot pump.

Ants —Spraying with Gammodex containing Dieldrin.

Woodworm —Use of Gammexane Smoke Generators.

Bed Bugs and

Other Vermin—Spraying with Gammexane liquid (L.044).

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

The inspection of meat at the 15 private slaughterhouses, two of which carry on large wholesale businesses, has taken up a big proportion of the department's time. It has caused many difficulties, the Committee has considered the problem on numerous occasions, and two years after de-control a satisfactory solution has not been agreed.

From a table (later in this report) it will be seen that 38,383 animals were slaughtered, all of which were examined. In the larger slaughterhouses a system of marking the carcasses and offals is in operation and now cap inspection lamps have been provided for the use of each inspector. This kill is considerably in excess of the needs of the rural district. One wholesale butcher supplies

the needs of many butchers in districts immediately adjoining Blackwell, whilst another regularly sends consignments to the Meat Markets of Birmingham, Sheffield and Chesterfield. Inspection work is necessary most evenings after 5 p.m., on Saturday afternoons and all day Sunday, often as late as 10 p.m. and after. When the wholesale butchers are tackled about Sunday slaughtering they point out that they do not like it but that the retail butchers insist on having their meat on Monday mornings. They are frightened of refusing and losing trade to rival firms.

The inspection of freshly killed meat is of the highest importance to public health, and 100% inspection is only being maintained in this area by inadequately rewarded additional time by the inspectors. Extra duties, particularly Sundays during the summer season tend to cause domestic unhappiness, and one resignation for this reason arose in August. The inspectors cannot continue indefinitely under the strain of the last two years.

I consider the Minister should give more sympathetic consideration to the plea of local authorities for some measure of control of Sunday slaughtering. Without some control there is a great danger of the service breaking down.

No. of Animals slaughtered and examined

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Total
Wholesale Private Slaughterhouse, Tibshelf	1444	795	66	5091	4606	—	12002
Wholesale Private Slaughterhouse, Pleasley	1222	292	248	6560	10927	—	19249
Other Private Slaughterhouses (North)	191	144	13	1013	928	—	2289
Other Private Slaughterhouses (South)	288	741	14	1935	11865	—	4843
	3145	1972	341	14599	18326	—	38383

Condemnation of Carcasses and Offal

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci. Whole carcasses condemned	—	2	1	16	11	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	416	592	2	328	1143	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. and Cysticerci	13.23	30.16	0.88	2.36	6.29	—
Tuberculosis only Whole carcasses condemned	1	11	1	—	5	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	146	351	1	—	231	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	4.64	18.36	0.58	—	1.29	—
Cysticercosis Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	1	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally Condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

During the year meat and offal amounting to 21 tons 10 cwts. 12 lbs. has been condemned, and 519 lbs. of other unsound food and 2,350 tins of food have also been dealt with. Three carcasses affected with localised *Cysticercus Bovis* were dealt with by cold storage. All condemned meat and offal is coloured 'green' and

disposed of for manufacture into animal feeding stuff and fertiliser. At the two large wholesale private slaughterhouses the condemned meat and offal is removed daily and the butchers credited with the value. In the cases of the smaller private slaughterhouses the food condemned is removed by one of the departments vans and delivered to the processing plant. In these cases the amount received is retained by the District Council as part payment for the removal service.

A summary of the food condemned is set out below :—

Condemnations for Tuberculosis :

Beef	7,163 lbs.	Pork Offal	636 lbs.
Beef Offal	16,602 lbs.	Veal	45 lbs.
Pork	2,854 lbs.	Veal Offal	10 lbs.

Condemnations for Cysticercus Bovis :

Beef Offal	360 lbs.
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Condemnations for diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercus Bovis :

Beef	1,580 lbs.	Mutton	866 lbs.
Beef Offal	12,967 lbs.	Mutton Offal	1,204 lbs.
Pork	1,016 lbs.	Veal	22 lbs.
Pork Offal	3,839 lbs.	Veal Offal	16 lbs.

FOOD HYGIENE

The improvement of food premises and the storage, handling and distribution of food continues to the fore-front in the work of the department. Whilst the standard is comparable with adjoining areas, there is still a need for improvement in many cases. More inspection work is desirable, but pressure of meat inspection and housing work has limited this.

The privately owned Shirebrook Market still has many unsatisfactory features, although some improvements have been secured such as the provision of bins for stallholders' litter-sweeping and cleaning the market by the District Council at the owners cost, and the provision of water supplies. Several stallholders have been warned regarding irregularities and in one case proceedings against a butcher were successful. This man was fined £12 for

failing to display his name and address, insufficient screening of the stall and exposing meat to contamination.

A total of 958 inspections were made of food premises, and 23 notices issued, which resulted in the following improvements :—

Canteens re-constructed	....	....	....	....	....	2
Water supplies provided	....	....	....	....	....	4
Protection of food	....	....	....	....	....	7
Premises and vans cleansed	....	....	....	....	....	7
'Wash hands' notices fixed	....	....	....	....	....	2
New floors	....	....	....	....	....	2
New sinks	....	....	....	....	....	1
Bins for waste provided	....	....	....	....	....	1
Fish frying improvements	....	....	....	....	....	4
Improvement of stalls	6

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933-54

Number of Licences issued	91
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MILK DISTRIBUTION

The sale of loose and raw milk has been prohibited by Order in this area since the 1st January, 1955.

The supervision of the distribution of milk has continued to receive careful attention and for this purpose 71 samples were obtained by your Inspectors and 49 inspections made.

There are 59 registered distributors of milk and the pasteurisation plant at the Pleasley and Pleasley Hill Co-operative Society is under the supervision of the Derbyshire County Council. The County Sanitary Inspector informs me that 31 samples of pasteurised milk from this dairy were examined by the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase Tests and found to be satisfactory.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

Number of dealers' licences (Tuberculin Tested milk)	....	38
Number of Supplementary dealers' licences (Tuberculin Tested milk)	....	2

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

Number of dealers' licences (Pasteurised milk)	38
Number of dealers' licences (Sterilised milk)	20
Number of Supplementary dealers' licences (Pasteurised milk)	2
Number of Supplementary dealers' licences (Sterilised milk)	1

MILK SAMPLES

Tuberculin Tested Milk

Methylene Blue Test	7 satisfactory. 2 unsatisfactory
Biological Test	7 satisfactory.

Pasteurised Milk

Methylene Blue Test	23 satisfactory.
Phosphatase Test	28 satisfactory.

Sterilised Milk

Turbidity Test	4 satisfactory
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FOODS AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

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

The department has continued to exercise close supervision of the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream. During the year 39 samples of ice cream and iced lollies were examined. The results show that the improvement of recent years has been maintained.

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

Premises Registered

(a) Manufacture and sale of ice cream	4
(b) Sale of ice cream	3
(c) Sale of pre-packed ice cream....	113
	<hr/>
	120
	<hr/>

Results of Ice Cream Samples

Ice Cream		Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV	Total
Complete Cold Mix	....	3	—	—	—	3
Pasteurised	.... ....	11	1	2	—	14
Pre-packed	....	18	—	—	—	18
Total		32	1	2	—	35

Samples examined for Fat Content 2 satisfactory.

Iced Lollies

Two samples of these were submitted for examination (one by Methylene Blue Test and one for Analysis) both of which were found to be satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS

The Food and Drugs authority for this district is the Derbyshire County Council and Mr. R. W. Sutton, The County Analyst, has very kindly supplied the following information in respect of work carried out in the Blackwell District during 1955.

A total of 129 samples, including 62 milks were taken and submitted for examination.

The milk samples were all classed as satisfactory.

Samples of Canned Goods—Tomato Puree, Sieved Apples, Lime Juice, Tomato Soup and Grapefruit Juice—were found to be seriously contaminated with tin. Further examination of the stocks of these commodities confirmed that they were all unfit for human consumption and they were condemned and destroyed. Examination of another brand of Tomato Puree showed variable amounts of tin, but the evidence was insufficient to certify the stock as unfit for food. With the probability of further deterioration on storage, however, the vendor was advised to distribute for early consumption. The remaining samples were classed as satisfactory.

Specimens of Beef were received for examination following complaints by customers of a "mineral oil taint." The complaints were justified but analysis showed there was no contamination with

mineral oil. It seemed likely that the trouble was due to what is known as "bone taint." Such taints result from the development of bacteria and can be caused by inefficient cooling of the carcase after slaughter. The complaints arose during very hot weather and this was the most likely explanation.

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply of the district has been satisfactory both in quantity and quality. From the table it will be seen that 135 samples have been examined of which four were found to be unsatisfactory. Three of these samples were from the same well and steps are being taken with a view to improving this supply.

WATER SAMPLES

		<i>Bacteriological Examination</i>	<i>Chemical Analysis</i>
District supplies	....	98 satisfactory 1 unsatisfactory	21 satisfactory
Other district supplies		4 satisfactory 1 unsatisfactory	1 satisfactory 1 unsatisfactory
Well Supplies	....	2 satisfactory 2 unsatisfactory	2 satisfactory 1 unsatisfactory

A schedule giving details of the water supplies to dwelling houses is set out below. From this it will be noted that 13,060 houses (99.55%) are provided with a piped supply of district water, 38 houses (.29%) are provided with district water by means of external stand pipes and 21 houses (.18%) have to rely on wells for their water supply.

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)	No. of houses supplied with district water— using wells, etc.	Population (estimated)
Pinxton	1,428	5,126	2	3	—	—
South Normanton	2,140	6,741	32	130	—	—
Tibshelf	1,118	3,139	2	9	—	—
Blackwell	1,280	4,353	1	1	—	—
Shirebrook	3,202	9,908	—	—	12	35
Scarcliffe	2,175	7,586	1	1	3	11
Ault Hucknall	528	2,340	—	—	1	3
Glapwell	444	1,289	—	—	—	—
Pleasley	745	2,630	—	—	5	15
	13,060	43,112	38	144	21	64

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

One workman is employed as Disinfector/Rodent Operator and has been trained for this work. In addition the Council retains the services of a part time Operator, as required. Routine inspection and the baiting of Council premises and sewers is carried out by men with the assistance of the Sanitary Inspectors in connection with complaints and to direct and supervise the work.

A total of 1,400 inspections and visits have been made and it has not been necessary to issue any statutory notices. To assist the general public in dealing with small mice infestations arrangements exist for the sale of small Warfarin packs, and advice is given as to the methods to be followed. This has been found to be most helpful.

Summary of Work Done :

Council Premises

Number of premises examined	....	....	....	....	121
Number of rats killed by dogs, ferrets, etc.	....	....	....	....	243
Number of premises treated by use of Warfarin bait containers for rat infestation....	....	....	....	....	4
Number of Council houses treated by use of Warfarin bait containers for rat infestation	....	....	....	....	16
Number of pre-baits laid	....	....	....	....	94
Number of poison baits laid	....	....	....	....	36
Number of Council premises gassed by Cymag	....	....	....	....	1

Private and Business Premises

Number of premises treated	....	....	....	....	30
Number of rats, killed by dogs, ferrets, etc.	....	....	....	....	21
Number of pre-baits laid	....	....	....	....	15
Number of poison baits laid	....	....	....	....	6
Number of premises treated by use of Warfarin bait containers	....	....	....	....	26
Number of farms treated by use of Warfarin bait	....	....	....	....	1

Shop and house premises re mouse infestation

Number of premises treated by use of Warfarin bait containers	17
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Sewer Manholes

Number test baited....	161
Number baited with poison	36

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Number of premises licensed	1
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NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

In one case it was necessary to arrange for the burial of a person who was aged and without suitable means. In another case at South Normanton it was necessary to apply for an Order under the provisions of Section 47 for the removal of an aged lady, living in insanitary conditions and not receiving proper care and attention. The Order was granted for a period of three months and since that date she has remained at the hospital as a voluntary patient.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

There are no recognised camping grounds in the area and no nuisance has arisen during the year in connection with the use of vans for living accommodation. The control of this type of dwelling continues to be exercised under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Acts.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937-48

During the year 53 inspections have been made. In one case additional sanitary accommodation has been provided.

PETROLEUM REGULATIONS

Number of premises licensed	--	--	--	63
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ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The chief sources of industrial pollution in this area arise from burning colliery spoilbanks and the excessive emission of dense black smoke from colliery chimneys. Arrangements are made for periodic inspections, accompanied by National Coal Board Engineers, of all colliery spoilbanks and furnaces, and during the year 83 smoke observations have been made.

As a direct result of this work and the Council's anxiety to reduce the amount of atmospheric pollution, the improved co-operation on the part of the National Coal Board Officials has continued and good progress has been made. In fact the nuisances

have at present been eliminated in all cases except the Glapwell, Brookhill and Shirebrook collieries. A brief note as to the position at each colliery is set out in a later part of this report.

I would particularly emphasise the improvements in the disposal of colliery spoil which have followed the introduction of bulldozers and the spreading of colliery spoil on a layer principle, and the consequent consolidation of the spoil by the use of bulldozers for spreading. This is particularly evident at the A. Winning and B. Winning Collieries and is well worth examination by any district council official having difficulty with burning spoilbanks. The National Coal Board officials responsible for this type of spoil disposal are satisfied with the economic operation of the scheme.

Pinxton and Selston. No complaints were received during the year from the Parish of Selston in the adjoining rural district of Basford. The Pinxton Coke Ovens were closed in January, and this, without doubt, removed the chief source of the complaints of grit deposit.

Brookhill Colliery. The ten Lancashire, hand-fired boilers continue to be used at this Colliery. They are old, very much overloaded and there has been very little improvement in the emission of black smoke. Frequently there has been emission of black smoke from these chimneys for prolonged periods and it is very disappointing to find that the progress on electrification of the plant has not been as good as expected. The East Midlands Electricity Board first promised a supply from the 1st July, 1955, this was later amended to 1st January, 1956, and is not yet implemented.

A. Winning Colliery. Work has proceeded on the fixing of Hodgkinson Ram Type Automatic Stokers and by the end of the year all 13 Lancashire boilers had been suitably dealt with. This has resulted in the abatement of the smoke nuisance from the two chimneys at this colliery.

The disposal of spoil has continued by means of a conveyor and the picking up and spreading from the point of the conveyor discharge of the spoil by bulldozers. By these means the colliery spoil has been tipped in layers and suitably spread and consolidated. The tip is hard and firm and there is no evidence of fire or other nuisance.

Blackwell Coke Ovens. A serious nuisance has continued throughout the year due to grit, smoke and fumes from this plant. No steps were taken by this department as it is the intention of the National Coal Board to close the plant early in 1956.

B. Winning Colliery. The tipping of spoil has continued on the layer principle, a bulldozer being used for spreading and consolidation. The five Lancashire boilers are now being fitted with Hodgkinson Ram Type Automatic Stokers. There has been no nuisance from the chimney or spoilbank at this colliery.

Pleasley Colliery. During the year the nuisance from this colliery has been reduced to a minimum. The disposal of spoil by means of the new aerial ropeway has commenced and on this spoilbank a bulldozer is being used for spreading and consolidating spoil. The smoke nuisance from the two chimneys, which has been serious for a long time, has been abated by the fitting of Hodgkinson Ram Type Automatic Stokers to all the Lancashire boilers, except one.

Langwith Colliery. No trouble has been experienced during the year with the chimneys or spoilbanks at this colliery.

Shirebrook Colliery. The condition of the spoilbank at this colliery has caused the Council some concern throughout the year. Early in the year there was evidence of an improvement, but towards the end of the year a nuisance was being caused by burning spoil on the conveyor tip. Work is in progress on the building of a bridge and conveyor across the adjoining railway with a view to commencing a new spoilbank. On completion of this it is anticipated that the conveyor tip referred to will be under control within a reasonable time.

The two houses near the end of the aerial ropeway spoilbank were re-occupied in December. These houses had been unoccupied for approximately twelve months and the re-occupation was contrary to the wishes of the Health Committee.

Glapwell Colliery. The work of securing a reduction of the smoke nuisance caused by the two chimneys connected to the 13 Lancashire boilers at this colliery is proceeding. Whilst the results have been disappointing from the Health Committee's point of view and there has been little reduction in the emission of black smoke

the National Coal Board officials in accordance with their promise worked on plans for the mechanisation of the stoking and feeding of these boilers. The delay in obtaining and fitting new equipment is chiefly due to the insistence on the part of the National Coal Board that the boilers in question must use the maximum of fines and slurry. There is considerable difficulty in feeding this type of unsaleable fuel, but there is every indication that the investigations and experiments being carried out will result in the provision of suitable equipment, and that in due course the necessary automatic stoking and firing of the boilers will be provided, and the smoke nuisance eliminated.

SHOP ACTS

During the year 29 inspections were made. It was not necessary to serve any notices under the provisions of these Acts.

LICENSED PREMISES

It has not been possible to carry out the necessary detailed survey of all the premises in this area. In the meantime the breweries are proceeding with isolated reconstructions and where plans are submitted for such work particular attention is paid to the sanitary accommodation and the facilities for the washing and sterilising of glasses.

SHIREBROOK MARKET

The privately owned open-air market continues to be held in Shirebrook on Friday of each week. Since the provision of additional bins for market litter and the arrangement the District Council made with the owners for the market to be cleansed by the District Council at the cost of the owners, no complaints regarding litter have been received.

The stalls are regularly examined and whilst there is a general improvement it was necessary to take proceedings against one butcher for infringement of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924/52 and the Byelaws relating to the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food. A fine of £12 (including Advocate's Fees) was imposed.

COMPLAINTS

A total of 592 complaints were received and investigated (294 at the South Normanton Office and 298 at the Shirebrook Office).

Practically all these complaints, summary of the nature of these set out below, were found to be justified.

Housing defects	....	....	....	....	....	....	181
Drainage defects	....	....	....	....	....	....	138
Sanitary Conveniences	....	....	....	....	....	....	60
Dirty and Verminous Premises	....	....	....	....	....	....	37
Refuse Collection	....	....	....	....	....	....	34
Rats and Mice	....	....	....	....	....	....	63
Keeping of Animals	....	....	....	....	....	....	9
Accumulation	....	....	....	....	....	....	14
Other matters	....	....	....	....	....	....	56

ASHBINS—SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE OF

Since the 1st April, 1951, the District Council has operated a scheme for the renewal of defective ashbins as a general rate charge. This scheme is working satisfactorily and has cut out the possibility of legal action as to whether the owner or occupier is responsible for the renewal. The district is being gradually provided with a uniform B.S.S. 3½ cub. ft. ashbin, and defective bins are more quickly renewed.

Details of the number of ashbins provided under this scheme are set out below. It will be noted that there has been a big increase during the past two years. This is chiefly due to the difficulty in obtaining galvanised ashbins when the scheme was commenced. A number of the bins provided in 1951 (pointed and bonderized) have now been renewed.

<i>Year</i>							<i>Ashbins Provided</i>
1951-52	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,064
1952-53	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,006
1953-54	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,030
1954-55	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,538
1955-56	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,766

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The collection and disposal of refuse is carried out by direct labour throughout the whole of the district.

Collection and Disposal

This work, which is undertaken by motor transport (details of vehicles below), has resulted in the removal of 6,200 loads of refuse, night soil and cesspool contents, and the vehicles have covered 47,878 miles.

One S. & D. Fore and Aft tipper (16 cub. yds.) supplied April 1955.

One S. & D. Freighter (11.3 cub. yds.) supplied April 1953.

One S. & D. Freighter (11.3 cub. yds.) supplied May 1952.

One S. & D. Freighter (9 cub. yds.) supplied April 1952.

Two S. & D. Freighters (11.3 cub. yds.) supplied July 1949.

One Karrier Bantam (8 cub. yds.) supplied 1946.

Number of Premises served

Ashbins	....	....	....	13,826 (cleansed weekly).
Ashplaces, etc.	....	....	....	19 (cleansed montly)
Closet Pails	....	....	....	298 (cleansed weekly)
Cesspools	....	....	....	115 (cleansed quarterly).

During the year there has been a further increase in the premises requiring a weekly collection of refuse, by the addition of 415 new houses. This has increased the number of ashbins by 2,063 over the past two years. Whilst this additional work has been dealt with by re-organisation of routes and the re-placement of two Karrier Bantams by one Fore & After tipper, the time is not far distant when additional staff and other larger capacity vehicles will be required.

The regularity of the collection service has been well maintained, except during Bank holiday weeks. Absenteeism during the last quarter amounted to 12.1% chiefly due to sickness and accident and necessitated some overtime. Whilst the recruitment of new men for cleansing work continues to be a difficulty, and many new employees only stay on the job for a few weeks there are indications that the position is easing.

The decision made in 1949 to standardise refuse collection vehicles and to purchase only S. & D.'s has been proved a good one, and by the end of the year all vehicles were 'S. & D.' except one

Karrier Bantam. The Vehicles have given good service, the manufacturers service arrangements have operated effectively and very few vehicle/hours have been lost. The first diesel engine was introduced in April, 1955. This is a Perkins P.6 fitted with chromide liners and a temperature guage was fitted on the dashboard. The engine is giving satisfactory service and there is every reason to believe that diesel engines will be more economical than petrol and that they will eventually replace the petrol engine for cleansing work in this district.

All dry refuse is disposed of by tipping and men are employed at all disposal sites on the separation of salvageable materials (particularly loose tins and other metals), and the trimming of the tips and covering refuse. A muledozer is used, at various sites as required, to remove soil, level tipped surfaces and on soil reinstatement.

Seven sites are used for tipping refuse (4 in the Southern Area and 3 in the Northern Area), Disposal of refuse at Langwith Colliery was discontinued in March 1955 when the Fore/Aft tipper commenced working , and it became a reasonable arrangement (due to increased body capacity) to tip all Langwith refuse at Shirebrook. The Southern Area tips have been well maintained and good progress made at the undermentioned sites.

- (a) **B. Winning Welfare Playing Fields.** From the commencement to the end of the year 5,343 loads (approx. 17,700 tons) of refuse have been tipped to provide new playing areas for football and cricket. Two sections have been seeded and are now well covered with grass, and small trees have been planted on the completed tip banks.
- (b) **Wharf Road Tip, Pinxton.** The completed portion (3½ acres) was sown with Oats in 1954 and barley in 1955. Having regard to the nature of the ground and lack of soil covering, good crops were harvested. This work has shown a small profit and is a great improvement on allowing the spread of weeds and the consequent mowing required.

The tips in the Northern Area have shown further improvement, although some difficulty with fire has been experienced at Glapwell. At Shirebrook some covering is being done by the Engineer's

Department spreading sewage sludge. It is hoped to level and cultivate all completed sections of this tip within a reasonable time.

The new garages, including salvage workshops, motor vehicle repair shop, petrol pump and accommodation for workmen—at Meadow Lane, South Normanton—were completed in June 1955, and put into use immediately. The drying facilities for workmen's clothing, improved washing facilities, sanitary accommodation and arrangements for meals are very much appreciated by the men. The new depot has improved the supervision and efficiency of this section of the cleansing service.

It is very disappointing to have again to report that practically no progress has been made with the provision of adequate garages, salvage workshops and mess facilities for the cleansing workmen in the Northern Area. The Nissen hut used for paper baling is in a deplorable condition and the garages are so insufficient that a new vehicle costing over £2,000 has to be left in an open yard.

Cleansing Costs

The unit costs on cleansing (i.e. net cost of collection and disposal of refuse including pail closet collection service and cleansing of cesspools) is set out below :—

					UNIT COSTS	
					<i>per 1,000 population</i>	<i>per 1,000 premises</i>
1.	1954/55	....	....	....	£451	£1,497
2.	Nearest comparable figures—Costing Returns 1954/55—House and trade refuse from coal mining Towns				£506	£1,595
3.	1955/56	....	....	....	£589	£1,876*

* These figures include over £2,000 for new vehicle and equipment charged direct to the year's account.

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

Work done by Lorries :

Lorry	Mileage			Loads removed			No. of other journeys
	Cleansing	Salvage	Total	Refuse	Night Soil	Cesspool contents	
S. & D. Freighter (1949) NRA 729	6,649	86	6,735	1,178	—	—	21
S. & D. Freighter (1949) NRA 730	6,257	38	6,295	1,046	—	—	17
S. & D. Freighter (1952) RRB 300	7,833	1,298	9,131	267	137	343	263
S. & D. Freighter (1951) RNU 378	3,979	1,487	5,466	635	—	11	208
S. & D. Freighter (1953) TNU 478	7,280	273	7,553	740	—	—	34
Karrier Bantam (1946) JRB 68	4,700	1,104	5,804	411	45	478	129
Karrier Bantam (1956) JNU 995	691	428	1,119	46	7	62	70
S. & D. Fore/Aft Diesel (1955) XRA 56	5,771	4	5,775	794	—	—	17
	43,160	4,718	47,878	5,117	189	894	759

Comparative Costs of Operation of Lorries :

(less drivers' wages and depreciation charges).

Lorry	Repairs, Maintenance Tyres			Licenses and Insurance			Petrol/Diesel and Oil			Total			Cost per mile
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
NRA 729 (S.&D.)	145	5	5	82	12	9	282	10	6	510	8	8	1/6½d.
NRA 730 (S.&D.)	137	3	1	82	12	9	259	8	10	479	4	8	1/6½d.
RRB 300 (S.&D.)	48	4	7	83	9	0	244	3	3	375	16	10	9½d.
RNU 378 (S.&D.)	64	13	4	88	6	2	219	10	1	372	9	7	1/4½d.
TNU 478 (S.&D.)	26	13	11	85	9	0	286	6	6	398	9	5	1/0½d.
XRA 56 (S.&D.)	16	17	5	104	4	4	162	10	9	283	12	6	11½d.
DIESEL													
JRB 68 (K.B.)	71	13	5	58	9	5	127	6	11	257	9	9	10½d.
JNU 995 (K.B.)	2	14	5	40	13	9	27	0	6	70	8	8	1/3½d.
	513	5	7	625	17	2	1608	17	4	2748	0	1	1/1½d.

Muledozer

This machine, purchased in October 1949, continues to give good service. The improvement of refuse tips and cultivation of completed tips could not have been carried out without it. During the year it was operated for 1,065 hours as follows :—

Refuse Tips

B. Winning	....	....	....	....	605½ hours.
Wharf Road, Pinxton	....	....	....	....	25 „
Birchwood Lane, South Normanton	....	....	....	....	81½ „
Hillstown	....	....	....	....	9 „
Manor Farm Tip, Tibshelf	....	....	....	....	104 „
Sookholme Lane, Shirebrook	....	....	....	....	108½ „
Glapwell	....	....	....	....	102 „
Depot, South Normanton	....	....	....	....	11 „

Engineer's Department

Pleasley Sewage Works	....	....	....	....	4¼ „
Langwith Sewage Works	....	....	....	....	4¼ „
Pinxton Sewage Works	....	....	....	....	10 „

The total cost of operating the machine allowing for depreciation, was £387 10s. 9d., equivalent to 7/3¼d. per hour. Of the total cost £9 14s. 3d. was charged to other departments, leaving the cost to Cleansing of £377 16s. 6d.

SALVAGE

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

1955-56 : 681 tons 3 cwts. 92 lbs.	£5,600 7s. 9d.
1954-55 : 616 tons 9 cwts. 57 lbs.	£4,450 18s. 2d.
1953-54 : 581 tons 15 cwts. 38 lbs.	£3,833 19s. 2d.
1952-53 : 665 tons 16 cwts. 74 lbs.	£3,739 18s. 7d.

The various materials dealt with are summarised below :

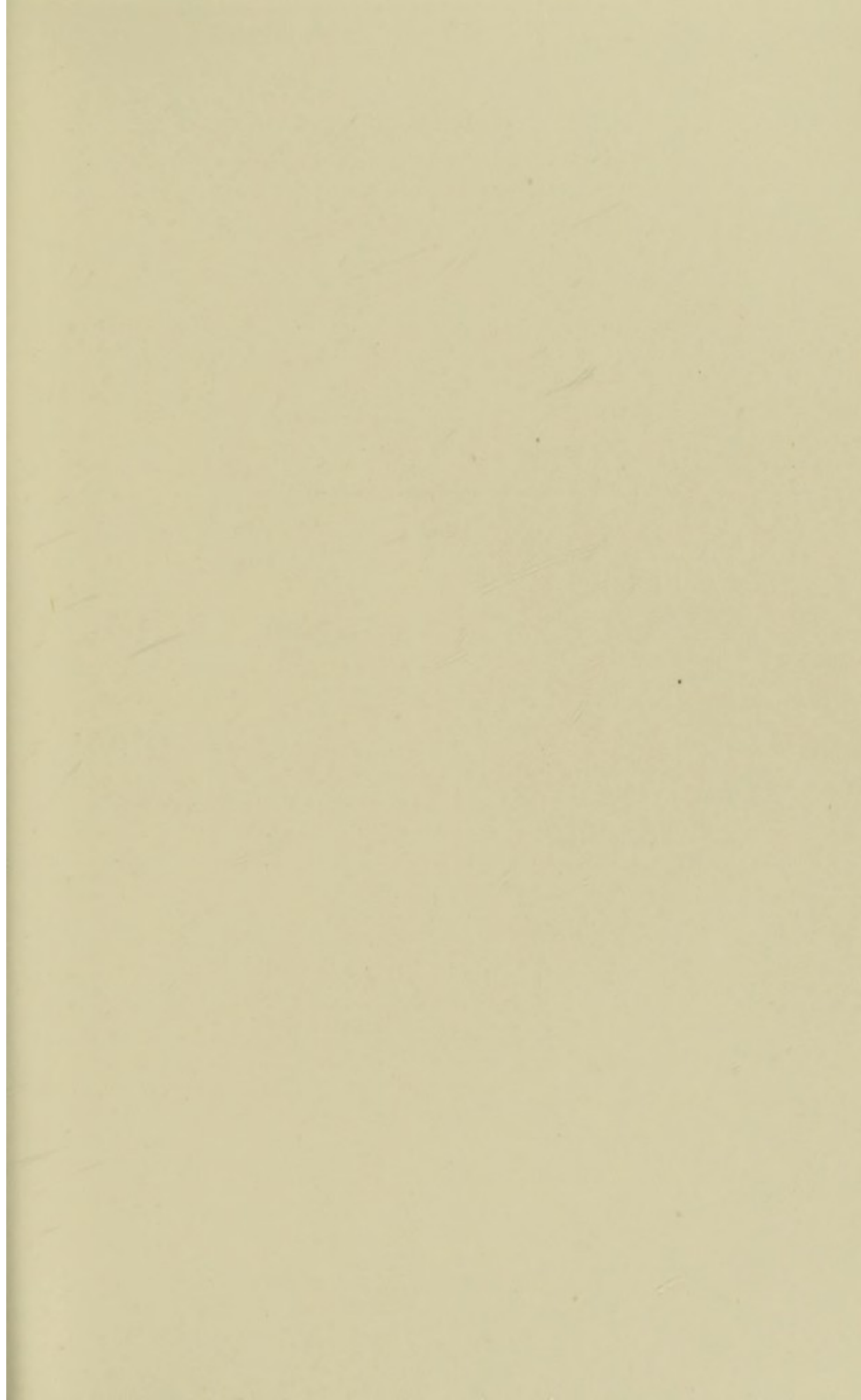
	Tons	cwts.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	438	7	0	4,040	12	11
Ferrous Metal	42	3	28	77	7	9
Non-ferrous Metal	1	6	16	155	2	2
Baled Tins	140	6	0	905	9	8
Textiles	19	1	90	385	16	8
Bottles and Jars	5	14	56	18	5	4
Cullet	2	17	0	3	4	4
Bones		6	42	2	17	5
Miscellaneous	31	1	84	11	11	6
	681	3	92	£5,600	7	9

Compared with last year there has been an increase of £1,150, which is chiefly accounted for by an increase of 68 tons in the amount of waste paper disposed of. The recovery of other materials has been comparable with previous years.

This has been one of the Council's most successful years since salvage work was commenced in 1939. Whilst national returns for salvage are not available, and true comparisons cannot be made, the returns for this year must rank very high among other rural areas.

The Bonus Scheme, under which workmen receive 10% of the income from salvage, has continued to operate and £560 1s. 2d. has been paid out. Each man has received £14 9s. 3d.

The N.E. Derbyshire Cleansing and Salvage Officers Committee has continued to meet, and has been of considerable help in dealing with some of the problems which have arisen. One of the most helpful features of this Committee is the willingness with which information is exchanged between adjoining districts.



The various items are summarized as follows:

	Units	Rate	Per			
Wages Paid	438	7	0		4,009	12 1/2
General Metal	22	3	28		37	7 1/2
Non-ferrous Metal	1	6	10		35	1 1/2
Other Iron	140	3	0		420	9 1/2
Textiles	19	1	90		291	16 1/2
Electric and Fuel	3	13	28		48	1 1/2
Other	2	15	6		30	3 1/2
Draw		8	42		247	1
Materials	21	1	34		11	11 1/2
	681	7	52		13,000	7 1/2

The total cost of the work done in 1934 was \$13,000. This is a decrease of \$1,150 from the total cost of the work done in 1933. The decrease is due to a decrease in the cost of materials and a decrease in the cost of labor. The decrease in the cost of materials is due to a decrease in the price of materials and a decrease in the quantity of materials used. The decrease in the cost of labor is due to a decrease in the wage rate and a decrease in the number of hours worked.

This has been the first year in which the cost of the work done has been less than the cost of the work done in 1933. This is due to a decrease in the cost of materials and a decrease in the cost of labor. The decrease in the cost of materials is due to a decrease in the price of materials and a decrease in the quantity of materials used. The decrease in the cost of labor is due to a decrease in the wage rate and a decrease in the number of hours worked.

The Board of Directors has decided to pay a dividend of \$1.00 per share for the year 1934. This dividend is payable on or before January 1, 1935. The dividend is payable to the holders of the common stock of the company as of the close of business on December 31, 1934.

The Board of Directors has also decided to pay a dividend of \$1.00 per share for the year 1935. This dividend is payable on or before January 1, 1936. The dividend is payable to the holders of the common stock of the company as of the close of business on December 31, 1935.



