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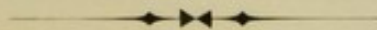


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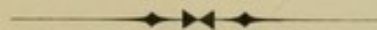
BLACKWELL
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1957



By

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

Medical Officer of Health.

BLACKWELL

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Medical Officer of Health :

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(Tel. Mansfield 811)

PREFACE

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Once again I have pleasure in submitting an Annual Report for your consideration. Again, I have enjoyed this year. For this, I must thank all of you. It makes a big difference when the Committee, with which you work, is keen and helpful.

Mr. Williams has very kindly supplied a fuller report this year. I have found it to be of great interest and I am sure that you will agree. Apart from interest, it will be of great value as a source of reference.

I cannot end without thanking everyone on the staff of Blackwell R.D.C. for their help and courtesy. In particular I must thank Mr. Evans for his help and advice. Especially must I thank him for the spirit in which he helps. I am deeply grateful for all the help given to me.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. R. ROBERTSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

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

A RURAL DISTRICT

Before I came here, I had lived and worked in Glasgow which has a population of over one million. Then for three years I worked in Rotherham and lived in Sheffield which has a population of over half a million. When I told my friends where I was going, a blank look came over their faces, and to use a piece of Derbyshire vernacular, they looked at me 'gone out'. I think they treated me as they would have done someone who was going to the remoter reaches of the Amazon or the Congo. Repetition is effective, like the way a drip of water eventually wears away a stone. Eventually, I began to get rather worried myself. What would I find when I got to Bolsover, Blackwell and Clowne?

I duly arrived and discovered what I had really expected to find. The people in my new home were just the same as the people everywhere else. I have been here for a bit now and I have had no cause to alter my first impression. We have the same high proportion of good people as anywhere else and these good people deserve as good a life as any other good people. We are of course colliery districts. The majority of the men work in the coal industry and many others work indirectly in the same industry, e.g. transporting coal. And what a good job they do. The East Midland Division is at the top of the N.C.B. league as regards output. Were it not for our men the N.C.B. would be in a worse position. Surely I am entitled to be proud of them, even if I am a newcomer.

As far as medicine is concerned, it is true to say that we do live in a wonderful age. On the curative side many wonders have come about. Think of all the new drugs—Penicillin, Aureomycin, etc. etc. How nice it must be for the older physicians to be able to cure illnesses where in the past they could do nothing. Think again of surgery. Due to improved surgical and anaesthetic technique, many more operations are now possible. Heart surgery is still in its infancy but already it has performed miracles compared to what could be done five or six years ago. Along with this growth in pure medicine, there has gone an increase in the help given by ancillaries of medicine. Let us think of some. Easy methods are now

available whereby whole classes of schoolchildren can be screened for deafness at one and the same time. Physiotherapists have come to play an ever increasing part in the promotion of health. Speech therapists can help abnormal speech; the surgeon repairs a cleft palate and thereafter the speech therapist repairs the damaged speech. Special schools are available for many types of handicapped children—the deaf and dumb, the blind, the spastic, the delicate. Chiropody is still not meted its due. Thousands of old people could be put on their feet by chiropodists and at the other end, children can also be helped tremendously. I could go on like this till infinity but before ending I must find space for the Home Help Service. What a boon and a blessing this service can be. In illness, or weakness, or in accident, the Home Help Service can alleviate many of the worst effects. By means of a good District Nursing and a good Home Help Service, much more sickness and infirmity can be treated at home. This is (generally speaking) better for the patient. For that reason and that reason alone, I applaud it—the fact that it saves money is merely coincidental. Indeed, even if it cost more money I should still press for it.

Well, now, what is all the above doing in this Report? It is simply that I am trying in a very short space to tell you about the best things in medicine and about the advances that have been made. From the second paragraph you will have gathered that I think the people in my districts are as good as the best. Therefore, we are surely entitled to the best. It seems to me that we have now reached a stage where we must consider if the best is available to everyone. Let us have an 'agonising reappraisal' and let this be done by everyone from the Prime Minister right down to the Parish Councillor. Perhaps I can put it this way. I am thrilled when I hear of a successful heart operation being performed, but I am not necessarily satisfied. I shall be satisfied only when there are sufficient facilities for every sufferer to be seen quickly and to be treated quickly. Or, to take another example, in a city it is easy to have your chest X rayed—you just go to the nearest M.M.R. unit. In a rural district, it is not quite so easy. But, there is no moral justification for this in a Christian Democracy where each man is as

good as another. Each should, therefore, be entitled to as many of the benefits of modern knowledge as any other.

You know, I think the term Rural District should be abolished. We tend to think of a rural district as being far away. Far away, why, there is no such place in these days when planes travel faster than sound, and whole cities could be destroyed in minutes. The other thing I hate is to hear people say that it costs more in a Rural district. What if it does? We are people just the same as other people. We do not have an extra eye or cloven hooves or a tail, just because we do not live in a city. By jove, I bet that through our colliers we contribute more than our share to the national kitty, so why can't we have a bit extra back? To me, a Rural District represents a challenge. We must make sure that they are brought up-to-date; they must be invaded by all branches of modern knowledge. Talk of Reform in Local Government is everywhere in the air. May I suggest that the first priority of any such reform is to ensure that people in Rural Districts are given the same rights and amenities as those who live in larger towns and cities.

To end, may I assure you that I shall always give my best to the people in my districts. And, I reiterate that they are entitled to demand and to expect the best from every one, and of everything.

MEAT INSPECTION

Somewhere, I have seen the English described as a nation of meat eaters. And, I remember that as a boy in Scotland, my idea of an Englishman was a Pickwickian figure standing before a hot fire (warming his posterior) while a large joint was being carried to the table. There is no doubt that to most people there is nothing nicer than a nice bit of meat. Further, if we leave vegetarians to go their own way, we are all agreed that there is not anything much better for you than a nice bit of meat. If you grant all the above as being true, you will surely agree with me that Meat Inspection is a vital part of Public Health. Let us consider this subject.

At the present moment, there is no law which says that meat must be inspected before it is sold for human consumption. All that is required is that notice of intention to slaughter animals be given to the appropriate Local Authority. This seems inexcusable to me. Everyone knows that we eat a tremendous amount of meat and yet no Government has yet had the courage or the common sense to make meat inspection compulsory. How crazy can you get? It is all the more amazing to me in that I constantly hear praise being given to our Health Services. On all sides I hear that Prevention is better than Cure. In nearly every medical journal there is an article pointing out advances in, or, widening the scope of preventive medicine. Then, I think of the fact that meat can be legally sold without inspection, and deflation sets in. Surely any thinking person would deem a Member of Parliament to be worthy of impeachment if he did not support compulsory meat inspection. I have heard it said that there is no such thing as black or white, only different shades of grey. Well, if this issue is not black or white, I am completely blind; it seems to me to be as definite as that.

What is the position in our Districts? Below is a table showing the number of animals killed and inspected during 1957. Also shown is the amount of overtime necessary in order to give full inspection.

	<i>No. of Animals</i>	<i>% Inspected</i>	<i>Overtime</i>
Blackwell R.D.	46,157	100	794½ hours.
Clowne R.D.	26,886	100	98 hours.
Bolsover U.D.	2,223	100	95 hours.

This is a *magnificent* record. No praise can be too high for the Councils who have authorised full inspection nor for the Public Health Inspectors who carry it out. Usually, one says that he does not like to boast. However, this is unusual in that I do like to boast. Seriously, no better service could have been given to the people of the districts. Remember, this is no mere flash in the pan, we have always given full meat inspection and we always shall. But, what a tragedy it all is. Look at the amount of overtime involved. In addition, think how much of this overtime occurs at week-ends. For instance, in Bolsover, meat had to be inspected *every Saturday* night ; in Blackwell, meat had to be inspected nearly every *Saturday and Sunday*. Thanks to the Councils, the Inspectors are compensated in one way or another for this extra work. Again, all praise to both for accepting their *moral* responsibilities. But the crux is, is all this overtime necessary? I say it is *not*. When one considers the wonders of science, the increased efficiency of refrigeration, cooling and chilling, does one not reach the conclusion that killing on a Saturday and Sunday is not necessary. Therefore, let us stop it. We can do so simply by giving Local Authorities the power to control hours of slaughter. This is long overdue but I am sorry to say that I still see no signs of it appearing on the Statute Book.

Lastly, let us deal with the quality of meat inspection. I back my Public Health Inspectors to the hilt. They know what they are doing and they do it well. I have the utmost confidence in their knowledge and skill. Yet, no matter where I go, I hear rumours that the Veterinary profession feel that they should take over meat inspection. I can see something in favour of this theory, because I must be fair. They should be better at *Ante Mortem* inspection than a Public Health Inspector. But, does it follow that they are necessarily better at *Post Mortem* inspection? I wonder. Surely it depends on the amount of post mortem work which a Vet normally

does. I do not know how much they do, but I know that the vast majority of Doctors do very little (of course this analogy may not be true). Further, just what does the Veterinary profession wish to do? Do they want to take their coats off and inspect every animal which has been killed? Or, do they want to be responsible in a consultative manner only? If, as I suspect, they are plumping for the latter, a further tricky point arises. Most of the Vets are in private practice. Are we going to reach the position where a farmer's Vet will adjudicate that farmer's meat? I am not suggesting that justice would not be done but (and in all seriousness) I am suggesting that justice would not necessarily be seen to be done. To my mind both of these should be a *sine qua non* in a democracy like our country. To sum up, I would welcome Vets taking a greater part in meat inspection because I feel they could contribute a lot to it. But, I would insist that they be independent Vets responsible only to an independent organisation like a Local Authority.

May I end by repeating the three points which I have endeavoured to put across :—

1. **Meat Inspection** should be compulsory.
2. Local Authorities should have power **to limit the hours of slaughter.**
3. Whether Vets or Public Health Inspectors carry out meat inspection, they should be independent and they should be responsible to an independent Local Authority.

MILK

I have just finished writing about meat and it seems logical that I should say a few words about milk which is another staple food. Babies live on milk. Later we go on to a mixed diet but many still drink a lot of milk. Also, schoolchildren are entitled to a third of a pint of milk daily. So, milk is still important even when we have left babyhood behind. As milk is important, you would think that I as M.O.H. would be able to tell you all about milk production in my area—just as I can tell you that after inspection all the meat killed in my districts is fit for human consumption. But, I cannot because supervision of milk farms is the responsibility of the Minister of Agriculture. It is not the responsibility of L.A.'s.

However, I can say a few words about milk in general. Nearly all the milk consumed in my districts is Pasteurised, Tuberculin Tested, or Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised. These are big words, but what do they mean? Well, the following may explain them to you.

1. **Pasteurised**

There are two methods of pasteurising milk.

- (a) **Holder Method**—the milk is retained at a temperature of not less than 145°F. and not more than 150°F. for at least half an hour and immediately cooled to a temperature of not more than 50°F.
- (b) **High Temperature Short Time Method**—the milk is retained at a temperature of not less than 161°F. for at least 15 seconds and immediately cooled to a temperature of not more than 50°F.

2. **Tuberculin Tested**—here, the milk has come from cows which have passed the Tuberculin Test. This is a skin test which shows (when negative) that the animal is not infected and has not been infected with Tubercle bacilli. The Ministry of Agriculture lays down regulations regarding the testing of cattle and the formation and keeping of an Attested herd.

3. **Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised**—as the name implies, this is milk from Tuberculin Tested cows which is then pasteurised by either of the two methods described above.

The next step is to consider how safe these milks are. Right away I must say that the only safe milk is one which has been pasteurised. You see, raw milk can carry various infections (e.g. Tuberculosis, Scarlet Fever, Paratyphoid Fever, Enteric Fever, Gastro Enteritis, Dysentery, Undulant Fever). After reading this list, it is obvious that raw milk from Tuberculin Tested cows could carry other infections, even tho' it is free from Tubercle organisms. Another proof is instanced by the fact that in Toronto *not a single case* of infectious disease has been traced to milk since 1915 when compulsory pasteurisation was introduced. I drink pasteurised milk and I would not consider drinking milk unless it had been pasteurised or sterilised. I strongly urge everyone to follow suit. But, I have one caveat. I am not keen on the Short Time Method because, it seems to me that 15 seconds is too short to allow any margin for error. Quite honestly, I can say that all the Public Health Workers, with whom I have discussed this, share my view. In short, I feel it is time that all milk should be submitted to efficient pasteurisation or sterilisation. Further, I feel the Holder Method should be the method of choice.

You will have gathered that I am not in favour of T.T. Raw Milk. As I have shown above, milk can be infected by many organisms and not just by Tubercle bacilli. We have all seen cows with dung stained udders. I have yet to be convinced that because a cow is Tuberculin negative, it automatically looks before it sits down. Remember, this milk is sold *raw*. Therefore, it seems to me that farms producing such milk should be subject to vigorous and frequent inspections, apart from the cows being Tuberculin Tested. Inspection of these farms rests with the Ministry of Agriculture. If I were responsible, I should want each farm to be inspected at least once every month (as a matter of fact, this was the practice in many L.A.'s when they did inspect these farms). Further, I should insist that a high proportion of these inspections took place during the early morning milking—I would even get up early myself and that is going some. Now, this Annual Report goes to various Ministries, every year. But, I never have a report back. I think this is wrong. Let's have co-operation and a flow of information, but, let's have it both ways. As it is, I can only wonder. And I

wonder, are the Ministry's standards higher or lower than mine, or, are they equal. Yes, I wonder, how I wonder. Perhaps some day I shall know.

Right at the beginning of this little piece, I said that milk was a vital and staple food. I can't help feeling that we treat it too lightly, nowadays. Milk borne disease can be a killer. But, how easy it is to kill this killer—and surely we should do this by making it compulsory that all milk be efficiently pasteurised or sterilised. And, as a further safeguard let us see that all dairy farms are hygienic and all cows clean, when milked. Finally, I urge you once again to drink only pasteurised or sterilised milk.

SAFETY ON THE ROADS AND AT HOME

A M.O.H. is supposed to be interested in Preventive Medicine. Now, this is a very generic term and it does not concern mere prevention of disease. It is much more majestic in scope and its canvas is as broad as life itself. Perhaps the best definition is that Preventive Medicine is interested in preventing *anything* which adversely affects the physical, mental or social well-being of man. I am neither genius nor expert but If I did not hope to practise Preventive Medicine, I should not be a worker in Public Health. I am now going to discuss three aspects which I think are important—I make no claims that this is original, many others have discussed them, but I feel they are well worthy of being brought out to air once more.

1. DOGS

Recently, and on two occasions, while I have been quietly driving along a main road at a moderate speed, I have been *attacked* by dogs, which have run straight in front of my car. I use the word "attacked" deliberately. Each time, my physiology was upset and, therefore, I feel I am justified in calling them attackers.

On the first occasion, my number plate hit the dog, and cut it. The dog ran away as fast as it could and I was not able to ascertain the exact degree of injury. Yes, the dog ran away but my wife and I could not. Both of us are fond of dogs and we were very upset that we had hit one. In each of our stomachs there was a sinking feeling and our bodies worked as they always do with shock—because, make no bones about it, one is shocked by this unless one's character is completely calloused. Of course, the shock was mild and we are both young and in good health. But, suppose we were old and/or in poor health !

The second time, I just managed to avoid hitting the dog. He broke his stride for just long enough to thumb his nose at me, before running away. I sat in my car and suffered from an attack of tachycardia—i.e. my heart began to beat at a very much quicker rate than usual. Again, this was only temporary but I could not help but feel that it might not be so temporary if the heart concerned were a previously damaged one.

Quite honestly, I can say that I was in no way to blame for the above. Therefore, it seems to me that there is only one solution. I submit that dogs should not be allowed to run free on main roads, in any part of this country. In support of this submission I have mentioned my two minor upsets. But, they pale into utter insignificance when one realises that dogs cause fatal accidents every month of every year, and they also cause a fantastic number of non-fatal accidents. Make no mistake, I like dogs and I love to see them running free in a suitable place, but, on main roads, please let them be on the leash.

2. CYCLISTS

Many cyclists do their best to make me die from heart failure. As Robert Burns said,

*"O wad some power the Beastie gie us
Tae see oorsels as ithers see us."*

How I wish cyclists could see themselves as I see them—from the rear. I am driving along quite peacefully behind a cycle when suddenly it starts to sway from side to side, just as a North African danseuse does while doing the "Danse du Ventre." Or, you are behind a cyclist who suddenly cuts out to overtake, blissfully unaware that you are behind. I don't know how you feel but I get so mad that I could spit ! Or, you have the cyclist who suddenly "undertakes" on your blind side while you are enmeshed in a busy stream of traffic.

I feel I must mention one more bad habit. The vast majority of roads in this country are too narrow having regard to the width of motor vehicles and the volume of traffic. No-one can argue about this because we have all seen vehicles scraping past each other, time and time again. Yet, many cyclists will persist in cycling side by side. I know it is more difficult to chat when going nose to tail. But, it can be done and I appeal to all young cyclists to get into Indian file and stay there. When you consider it in cold blood, isn't it plain mad to chance your life for the sake of conversation ?

All the above may seem to be destructive, so let me now try to construct. First, I would make it compulsory for all cyclists to have a rear mirror. Surely if they used this, they would not sway about so much when a car was at their rear. Also, they would be able to

see that the road was clear both fore and aft before overtaking. Secondly, I feel that cyclists should be licensed in the same way that cars are licensed. And, I honestly believe that compulsory cycling test would save lives. And if it would save lives then surely it ought to be brought into being, no matter what the cost in time or money. When all is said and done, would it cost as much as Atomic or Hydrogen Destructors? Finally, I am wondering about crash helmets. The crack cycle sprinters and long distance road racers are not ashamed to wear some head protection. I put forward the idea that any cyclist using a busy arterial road, might do well to consider the idea of wearing head protectors.

3. BURNS

Many burns heal beautifully and leave no trace. Alas, many leave behind a Keloid scar. This is the wrinkled, contracted, fibrous scar which we have all seen. I have seen many hideous and tragic things as has any Doctor. However, I still find that a keloid scar simultaneously causes me to feel extreme pity and yet it peculiarly repels me. It is vile to see a child whose face and neck is scarred. Plastic Surgery can effect many wondrous changes but not in every case. How much better it would be if Plastic Surgery were never needed. Clichè or not, surely prevention is better than cure in this instance as in every other.

What really annoys me is that there is no difficulty in preventing many burns. If every open fire had a fire guard, we should prevent hundreds of burns. As I say, no genius is required, only common sense. There is another way in which we can help. In company with many others, I feel that burns should be notified to the Local Authorities. The homes should be visited and advice given on prevention—I find it very difficult to forgive two or more serious burns in the same household.

If burns were notified we should know how many there were, and perhaps even more important, where they were. There is no doubt that the treatment of burns is a speciality in its own right. And good expert treatment as soon as possible means all the difference between life and death. When the size and whereabouts of the problem were known, surely it would be easy to create first class Burns Units and to place them in the correct centres of population.

A LOUSY JOB

The creature is horrible in appearance. It has two hairy feelers and six hairy legs. Rusty brown in colour, it gives off an offensive smell. There is nothing it likes better than to attack and bite a man or woman or child. No, I am not talking about the star of the latest treble X film, I am talking about the Bed Bug. Mind you, I have not exaggerated its horribleness in any way but I must admit that it sounds worse when its size is not mentioned. In point of fact, it is 5 m.m. long, 3 m.m. broad and it is extremely flat. It is not a native of Britain but it is thought to have been introduced into this country from the East, some 400 years ago.

Well now, why am I telling you all this? The reason is that one day I watched while a bug infested mattress was being disinfested. The mattress was heavily infested and it was disgusting to see these bloated little creatures crawling in and out. One could hardly describe the job of dealing with this as a pleasant one. However, it is an important facet of Public Health. In other parts of the world, insect borne disease is still of the first magnitude. In our country it is rare. There is only one way by which this happy state can be achieved—attacking all reservoirs of insect vectors. Mind you, the diseases are rare but we still do have cases of infestation, for instance, in my three districts we had some twenty bug infested houses to deal with this year. So, we cannot dispense yet with disinfesting, lousy job though it may be. However, we can be thankful that we have men who are willing to do the job and to do it well, and I hope that this conveys my gratitude for their work.

From the above, it is a short step (in my kind of a mind at any rate) to Refuse Collection. Again, we are dealing with an unattractive but vitally important subject. It is not so very long since the streets of this country were feet deep in ordure and filth, and people died like flies from easily preventable infectious disease. Believe me, these are not irreversible changes. Bring back the

filth and the infections will follow as their shadow. So, Refuse Collection is and always will be vital. Our three districts operate a service for Refuse Collection. I have been here now since November, 1955, and I have only had one complaint about Cleansing, and it was really more of a suggestion than a complaint. Further, I get around the districts as much as I can and there, my own eyes tell me that the men are doing a good job. It is all too easy to forget about the importance of cleanliness, so, let us stop for a moment and take pride in our services. Also, may I (and I hope you will join me) thank the workmen in my three districts for the efficient way in which they do their job.

STATISTICS FOR THE AREA

Area (acres)	21,922
Population (Census 1951)	43,112
Population mid-year (Registrar-General, 1957)	43,300
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1957) according to Rate Books	13,359
Rateable Value, 1957	£308,229
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1957	£1179 3s. 3d. (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

8 treatments were given at the Disinfestation Centre to 5 cases of Verminous Heads. They were all from Blackwell Parish.

Scabies

No cases were treated at the Disinfestation Centre this year.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS :

Live Births—

	Total	Males	Females	
Legitimate	713	362	351	{ Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 16.9 (crude).
Illegitimate	22	9	13	
Corrected birth-rate, 16.4				
Still Births	28	11	17	{ Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 36.7

The Still Birth rate is much higher than last year.

	Total	Males	Females	
DEATHS	411	225	186	{ Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 9.5 (crude).

Corrected death-rate, 11.9.

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 ....	....	....	25.8
Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births ....	....	....	26.6
Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births ....	....	....	nil.
Death rate of infants under four weeks of age per 1,000 live births (i.e. Neonatal Mortality Rate) ....	....	....	19.1

These rates are pretty much the same as last year. The main difference is that we had no illegitimate infant deaths this year, as against 3 in 1956. Our rates are higher than the national ones, this increase being more in the Neonatal Mortality rate. The provisional Infantile Mortality rate for 1957 is 23.0. For the first three quarters of 1957, the Neonatal Mortality rate averaged out at 16.4.

14 infants died under the age of 4 weeks. In 6 of these, prematurity contributed to death. Atelectasis (i.e. failure of the lungs to expand fully) played a part in 4 cases. Three deaths were due to congenital abnormalities and the remaining death was due to broncho-pneumonia and jaundice.

5 infants died between the ages of 4 weeks and 1 year. 2 were due to pneumonia and 2 to acute purulent tracheobronchitis. This is a severe, rapid and acute infection involving the windpipe and the lungs. The remaining death was due to a congenital heart lesion and this was in a baby aged 4 weeks and 1 day (i.e. it is virtually a Neonatal death).

About these deaths, I can only repeat that I recommend Ante-Natal Care. This is available to every expectant mother either through the National Health Service or through the County Council. It is good for mother and child and every woman should seek it.

DEATHS FROM :—

Heart and Circulation	....	....	....	....	82	(114)
Suicides	....	....	....	....	0	(6)
Cancer, males 43 (51), females 28 (24)	....	....	....	....	71	(75)
Coronary Thrombosis, males 35 (35) females 15 (7)	....	....	....	....	50	(42)
Pulmonary Tuberculosis, males 2 (3)	....	....	....	....	2	(3)
Road Accidents	....	....	....	....	2	(7)
Other Accidents	....	....	....	....	7	(15)

Numbers in 1956 shown in brackets.

Last year we had 6 suicides and none this year. Long may this continue. Suicide is a tragedy for the suicide but surely it also tends to be an indictment against society. One could argue that suicide would not happen in a perfect society. We cannot claim that Blackwell R.D.C. is perfect but it is still pleasing that we had

no suicides this year. It would be pleasing if this were due to more of us giving a helping hand, so, let us hope this is the reason.

Female deaths from coronary thrombosis have increased—1954—6, 1955—17, 1956—7, 1957—15. Thus they have been low, high, low, high. It will be interesting to see the rate for 1958.

We had one death less from pulmonary tuberculosis. But two deaths is two too many.

It is good to see the lower number of deaths from accidents—9 as against 22. But, here again, 9 is too many.

Last year there was a large increase in male cancer deaths. This has dropped now to midway between the number for 1955 and 1956. There were 8 deaths from cancer of the lung (7 male, 1 female).

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Maternity and Child Welfare and School Clinics, are provided by the County Council.

Ambulance Service, provided by the County Council.

Laboratory Facilities, are provided by the County Council. I would like to thank them, here, for their help and efficiency.

Chest Clinic. Sheffield Regional Hospital Board provide such a clinic in Chesterfield.

Venereal Disease. Treatment and advice can be obtained at Derby Royal Infirmary and at Chesterfield Royal Hospital.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Mr. Williams has very kindly supplied the following report which I have found to be of great interest. I must thank him very much for his help.

1. WATER SUPPLY

(a) Pumping Stations

During the year 1,027,095,000 gallons of water were pumped from Budby Pumping Station of which some 723,296,000 gallons were re-pumped from Stony Houghton to Whiteborough Reservoirs. Hours of pumping from Budby amounted to 8,336 of a possible 8,760 and the average pumping rate per hour was 123,000 gallons.

Water was delivered in bulk to the following consumers.

(i)	Blackwell Rural District Council	461,396,000	gallons.
(ii)	Warsop Urban District Council	136,809,000	„
(iii)	Chesterfield, Bolsover and Clowne Water Board	112,251,000	„
(iv)	Sutton-in-Ashfield Urban District Council	307,120,000	„
(v)	Gleadthorpe Grange	962,000	„
TOTAL		1,018,538,000	„

The difference of 8,557,000 between this total and the amount recorded as being pumped from Budby represents the discrepancy of the meters. This is 0.84% whereas the meters used are accurate within the limits of $2\frac{1}{2}\%$.

Both pumping stations are subject to a system of everyday maintenance and all repair work to pumps and plant is carried out by station staff except highly specialized items.

No. 3 borehole pump was brought to the surface for inspection and was subsequently sent to the makers for overhaul. The borehole lining was scraped and painted as also were the shaft and rising main. It is interesting to note that although some

8,000 million gallons had been raised by this pump it was generally in good condition part from bearing bushes and sleeves.

(b) Reservoirs

A remote electrically controlled 12" valve, operated by means of a Mowbray magnetic switch, has been fixed to No. 2 section of the reservoirs at Whiteborough. This valve is shut when the water level in the three small sections has reached the 10' mark thus allowing full advantage to be taken of the extra 2' 6" depth in the remaining six sections. The necessary electrical equipment is housed in the existing brick kiosk and this will work in conjunction with Messrs. Elliotts equipment while the valve itself is protected by an aluminium kiosk constructed at Budby.

The 12" reflux valve has been removed from the outlet side of the smaller sections and inserted together with a 6" by-pass in the main serving the remaining sections.

(c) Pumping Main

As part of the 3 year plan to connect directly the reservoirs at Whiteborough with the districts east of Stony Houghton the remaining pipework has been completed. It is now possible for Shirebrook and Langwith to be supplied from Whiteborough by-passing Stony Houghton reservoirs should occasion arise.

Inspection of valves, wash-outs etc., on the pumping main is being carried out and distance indication posts are being fixed.

An emergency chlorination point has been fixed on the main in Budby Drive.

(d) Examination of Water Supply

In addition to the samples taken by the Public Health Department for testing by the Public Analyst at Derby, regular samples are taken for bacteriological and residual chlorine tests in the Engineer's laboratory at Dale Close.

96 bacteriological and 147 residual chlorine tests were recorded.

Daily hardness and residual chlorine tests are taken at source together with borehole water level.

Chlorine and Ammonia are injected at Budby at 0.35 and 0.14 parts per million respectively.

The maximum and minimum total hardness recorded from Nos. 1 and 2 boreholes during pumping was 351 p.p.m. or 24.5° (Clark) and 324 p.p.m. or 22.6° (Clark), can be sub-divided as follows :—

Temporary	160 p.p.m.	or 11.2° (Clark).
Permanent	172 p.p.m.	or 12.0° „
<hr/>		
Total	332 p.p.m.	23.2°
<hr/>		

From No. 3 borehole the maximum total was 260 p.p.m. or 18.2° (Clark) and the minimum total was 204 p.p.m. or 14.3° (Clark). The average total is sub-divided below :—

Temporary	123 p.p.m.	or 8.6° (Clark)
Permanent	130 p.p.m.	9.1° „
<hr/>		
Total	253 p.p.m.	17.7°
<hr/>		

(e) Mains Extensions

Water main extensions have been carried out as follows :—

- (1) Carter Lane, Shirebrook—648 lin. yds. 4" diam. main.
- (2) Slant Lane, Shirebrook—18 lin. yds. 4" diam. main.
- (3) The Woodlands, Langwith—120 lin. yds. 4" diam. main.
- (4) Stubbins Wood, Langwith Junction—60 lin. yds. 6" diam. main.
- (5) Victoria Street—Middle Street, Hillstown. 140 lin. yds. 3" diam. main.
- (6) Gloves Lane, Blackwell—165 lin. yds. 4" diam. main.
- (7) Arthur Street, Pinxton—60 lin. yds. 4" diam. main.

(f) Replacements

Replacement of defective mains were executed in the following districts :—

- (i) Model Village, Shirebrook—227 lin. yds. 3" diam. main.
- (ii) New Street, Newton—196 lin. yds. 4" diam. main.

(g) Night Tests

18 night tests were carried out during which 5 bursts and numerous defective overflows and stop taps were located.

(h) Meters

An additional 10 meters were fixed in the district, 40 defective meters were replaced and 6 dispensed with.

There are now 335 metered supplies in the District.

(i) New Services

A total of 59 new services were installed for private dwellings etc., and a further 178' of services to Council house sites were fixed.

(j) General Inspections etc.

Water inspectors made 40.323 inspections with a result that 924 defective notices were issued to owners. In this period 3,666 taps were washered, 37 service pipes repaired, 68 stop taps repaired and 76 hydrants flushed.

17 bursts were reported on Council's mains of which 6 were on mains of 6" diameter.

Pressure and flow recordings are taken systematically throughout the area.

(k) Cathodic Protection

A joint scheme for the cathodic protection of mains in the Southern Area is being negotiated between the G.P.O., Gas Board and Blackwell R.D.C. Preliminary tests are being carried out.

(l) Mining Subsidence Claims Act, 1957

Claims submitted under the above Act total 17 of which responsibility for 13 have been admitted by the National Coal Board.

(m) Water Consumption

The daily average domestic consumption during the year has only risen 0.1 gallons/head/day in spite of new buildings, conversions, improvements etc. Comparative figures are shown below.

	<i>April</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>Average for</i>	<i>Average for</i>
	<i>1957</i>	<i>1958</i>	<i>1956/57</i>	<i>1957/58</i>
Domestic	22.4	22.7	21.6	21.7
Trade	7.4	7.5	7.4	7.2
Total	29.8	30.2	29.0	28.9

2. SEWAGE DISPOSAL

(a) Astwith

The sewerage and sewage disposal scheme has been deferred until mid 1958.

(b) Pleasley

The Ministry of Housing and Local Government has rejected a scheme for pumping sewage to a proposed new works at Common Lane and a draft joint scheme has been prepared by Mansfield Corporation. Negotiations concerning this scheme are progressing.

A new distributor arm and land drains have been fitted to improve the efficiency of the old storm filter, and the construction of a temporary filter has been commenced to augment the purification capacity.

(c) Scarcliffe

Improvements are in progress on the sludge drying beds.

(d) Langwith

Damage due to subsidence was caused to a settlement tank at these works for which the National Coal Board accepted liability.

Copings to the filter beds have been renewed, and a new distributor arm fixed by direct labour and the Humus sludge bay has been cleaned by Contract.

(e) Shirebrook

A chain link boundary fence has been erected around the sludge bays, the dosing chamber walls rendered and footpath paving levelled and relaid as necessary.

A recording rain gauge and maxima-minima thermometer fixed.

(f) Stockley

New distributor arms have been fitted to two of the filters.

(g) Tibshelf

A gauging chamber was constructed and flow recordings taken at these works.

Improvements have been carried out to the distribution system at the septic tank and filter at Primrose Terrace and the surrounding fence was repaired.

(h) Blackwell

Alterations have been effected to the humus tanks so that these may now be used in series.

As at Shirebrook a rain gauge and thermometer have been installed.

(i) Pinxton

The installation of the flow recorder is now complete. The estimated cost of this work was £600.

(j) Carnfield

Improvements have been carried out to the sludge drying beds and pipework and effluent channel to humus tank renewed.

(k) 90 samples from the S.D.W. have been taken and tested at Council's laboratory. A further 9 samples have been taken by the River Board.

The Ministry require that for a final effluent the oxygen absorbed in the standard 4 hour test should not exceed 20 p.p.m. Of the 90 samples taken 32 exceeded this requirement the maximum recorded being 42.30 p.m.p. the minimum 4.20 p.p.m. and the average 18.00 p.m.

3. SEWERAGE**(a) Hillstown**

The relaying of 364 lin. yds. of 12" diam. sewer has commenced.

(b) Blackwell

The main outfall sewer which had been affected by subsidence has been relaid where necessary. 130 yds. lin of 9" diam. sewer has been relaid at Westhouses. Examination of $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of 15" sewer near Sewage Disposal Works is now being undertaken.

(c) South Normanton

Damage by subsidence necessitated the relaying of 24 yds. of 9" sewer at Sporton Lane and also caused remedial works to be carried out on the outfall sewer from South Normanton Sewage Disposal Works.

(d) Pinxton

During prolonged heavy rainfall, flooding occurs in the lower areas of Pinxton. A number of properties in York Terrace were affected during the latter part of the year and efforts were made to come to some agreement with the National Coal Board and Derbyshire County Council for cleaning out the River Erewash. As nothing materialized in this respect certain suggestions were made to the National Coal Board which on completion alleviated the position.

(e) Shirebrook

Three properties previously served by cesspool have been connected to the main sewer at Stubbins Wood.

23 yds. of defective 6" sewer has been relaid at Wood Lane.

(f) Manholes

3 manholes were reconstructed in the district.

4. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The conveniences at Newton and Slade Lane have been completed and the conversion at Wharf Road carried out.

Repair work to other conveniences has been executed as required.

5. BUILDINGS

Private houses completed totalled 46 and improvements to 86 existing properties were also carried out.

6. IMPROVEMENTS TO NATIONAL COAL BOARD PROPERTY

128 National Coal Board houses at New Houghton and a further 161 at the Model Village, Shirebrook are scheduled for improvement. Of these 44 at New Houghton and 46 at Shirebrook have been completed.

A scheme for the improvement of 400 houses at Langwith has now been held in abeyance.

7. 362 drawings have been submitted and examined in the Department for compliance with the Byelaws.

CONVERSIONS

<i>Parish</i>				<i>Pail Closets converted into water closets.</i>
Ault Hucknall	....	....	....	1
Blackwell	....	....	....	2
Pinxton	....	....	....	1
Scarcliffe	....	....	....	3
Shirebrook	....	....	....	2
South Normanton	....	....	....	6
Tibshelf	....	....	....	1
				—
Total	....	....	....	16
				==

HOUSING

124 houses and bungalows were built by the Council. 46 were built privately. Thus, the total number of new houses was 170 as against 322 in 1956. This drop in number is due, as the B.B.C. say, to circumstances beyond our control. I do not care what has caused it, I can only regret that it has happened and record my hope that the total will soon start to climb again.

I must thank Mr. Wells, the Architect, who has supplied the table, shown below, which shows how we are progressing as regards Council building. From the table it looks as though we shall have a higher total in 1958. It is pleasing to see that we have fulfilled our intention of building 4 paraplegic bungalows and to see that we intend to build another 4.

Parish	Dwellings completed 1957			Dwellings completed January 1st to March 24th, 1958			Dwellings in course of erection or contracts approved 24th March, 1958		
	Houses	Bun- galows	Flats	Houses	Bun- galows	Flats	Houses	Bun- galows	Flats
Blackwell ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	32	14*	8
Glapwell ...	8	2*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pinxton ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	22	18*	—
Shirebrook ...	82	32*	—	16	16	—	34	6	12
South Normanton	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—
Total ...	90	34	—	16	16	—	96	38	20

*Includes 2 Paraplegic Bungalows.

FACTORIES ACT

There are 42 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	42	25	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	44	38	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	39	6	—
Total	125	69	—

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number Found	Number Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector
Ineffective drainage of floors	1	1	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—				
(a) Insufficient	2	2	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	3	3	—	—
Total	9	9	—	—

3.—OUTWORK.

Nature of Work.	No. of Out-workers	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council
Wearing apparel, making, etc.	32	—
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets	1	—
Total	33	—

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

A report will be found in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report about this aspect of public health.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT

I am pleased to report that the Council made no application under this Act.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Diphtheria

For yet another year there was no case (last case 1949). I urge that we keep this up by having our children immunised. Dr. Morgan (County M.O.H.) has kindly supplied the following figures which show how many children were immunised in 1957.

Under 1 year	....	....	....	....	....	160
1—4 years (incl.)	....	....	....	....	....	81
5—14 years (incl.)	....	....	....	....	....	54
						<hr/> 295
						<hr/>

I feel we could do better than this. Parents should remember that it would be too late for immunisation if there were to be an epidemic.

Scarlet Fever

59 cases as against 95 in 1956. It continued to be mild in character.

Poliomyelitis

There were 6 cases and they were all paralytic in character (1956, 4 non-paralytic) 5 of these occurred in children under the age of 5 years. The other case was in an adult 35—45. At present children between the age of 6 months and 15 years and expectant mothers can be immunised against this illness. Two injections are necessary. After giving many of these, I can state confidently that they cause no local reaction. Consent forms can be obtained at any County Clinic.

Food Poisoning

There was no case to my knowledge in 1957.

Measles

As forecast, there were a large number of measles, 744 (1956, 15). We shall have a low number next year. Half of the cases occurred in the age group 5—10. There was one case in the adolescent age group of 15—20.

Whooping Cough

The number here is half that for 1956. 36 as against 79. I continue to advise immunisation.

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	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
15	3	4	—	2	—	—	—	—
25	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
35	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
45	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	4	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals	16	10	4	4	2	—	—	—

The phthisis death-rate is 0.05 per 1,000 of the population.

This table is very disturbing. The only good thing is the decrease in deaths, 2 as against 3 in 1956. Otherwise, the picture is gloomy. There were 34 new cases of Tuberculosis (26 of pulmonary and 8 of non-pulmonary). This is the second year in a row that we have had an increase in the number of new cases.

1955—15 new cases.

1956—25 new cases.

1957—34 new cases.

I am particularly disturbed by the fact that there were 9 Male and 10 Female new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis which occurred in people under the age of 35. This is completely contrary to the pattern of the nation as a whole. As to why it should be, I do not know. However, I shall see if the Chest Consultant for the area can throw any light upon the problem.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1957.

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases notified												Total Cases notified in each Parish of the District									Total Cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths		
	At all Ages	At Ages—years											Shirebrook	S. Normanton	Pinxton	Tibshelf	Blackwell	Pleasley	Scarliffe	A. Hucknall	Glapwell				
		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	
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	59	1	7	5	5	36	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12	3	4	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other forms of Tuberculosis	8	1	—	1	—	1	1	2	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	17	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	—	5	2	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebral-spinal fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	6	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
" (Non ")	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	744	18	82	99	93	362	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	36	4	3	6	7	10	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Para-Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastro-Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Meningitis	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	901	24	88	98	114	107	410	13	5	20	9	6	7	362	48	4	110	128	132	60	34	57	—	2	—

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report on the work of the department during the past year. Details of the various sections of the work are set out in the following pages under appropriate headings.

Whilst the Housing Programme approved in July, 1955, was somewhat in arrear at the end of the last year, it has been brought up to date during the year and this has necessitated an increased amount of time being spent on inspection work and preparation of details for Inquiries. As a result the number of cases in hand on the department's register is higher than at any other time. All these cases need frequent checking and inspection to ensure re-housing and demolition at the appropriate time, and have considerably increased the work of your staff.

There was a slight reduction in the number of animals slaughtered and requiring inspection, but this had little effect on the frequency with which inspection work was necessary at week-ends and in evenings after normal working hours. The inspection of this meat is regarded as one of the most important duties of the department. It is carried out in accordance with the Ministry's recommendations contained in Memo. 3/Foods, and a 100% inspection has been maintained throughout the year. Your Committee has continued to press for control of the hours of slaughter and I consider this one of the most important outstanding items.

Atmospheric Pollution, with the passing of the Clean Air Act, has been well to the fore, and whilst progress on the reduction of industrial smoke, except in the cases of Glapwell and Brookhill Collieries, has been good, there appears to be little hope of progress with the reduction of domestic smoke until the vexed question of miners' concessionary coal has been satisfactorily overcome.

The flooding of the River Erewash and the Blackwell Brook has resulted in the creation of nuisances, and much inconvenience to the people living in these areas. Whilst representations and negotiations for the improvement of these conditions were well in hand at the end of the year, the necessary remedies had not been effected. This river and brook are outside the area maintained by the Trent Rivers Board, and in consequence it is necessary to take action against riparian owners or persons responsible for silting up the brook or river. This is a cumbersome procedure resulting in many delays in the abatement of the nuisances. There is undoubtedly a good case for the re-examination of the responsibilities for the maintenance of rivers such as the Erewash and the Blackwell Brook. They are collecting points for surface drainage for a wide area, and it is essential to the well being and good management of the district that they should be maintained in a satisfactory condition.

I am pleased to be able to draw attention to the section dealing with salvage, to record the highest income since this work was commenced and to rexpess my appreciation to the cleansing staff for their efforts in achieving this result and maintaining a high standard of refuse collection throughout the year.

I appreciate the assistance and co-operation I have had from Dr. Robertson and colleagues in other departments, the way in which all members of the staff have worked together, and thank the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their keen interest and encouragement in the work of the department.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT CLARKSON, M.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.
Chief Public Health Inspector.

STAFF

Chief Public Health Inspector :—

ROBERT CLARKSON (a) (b)

District Public Health Inspector :—

JAMES A. YOUNG (a) (b)

Additional Public Health Inspectors :—

GEOFFREY G. EITE (a)

ARTHUR T. SINGLETON (a) (b)

- (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	....	....	....	....	....	....	67
Water Supplies	....	....	....	....	....	....	167
Drainage	....	....	....	....	....	....	969
Drains tested	....	....	....	....	....	....	62
Stables and Piggeries	....	....	....	....	....	....	16
Accumulations	....	....	....	....	....	....	58
Colliery Spoilbanks	....	....	....	....	....	....	22
Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins					....	....	166
Re-inspections of Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins							115
Fried Fish Shops	....	....	....	....	....	....	10
Tents, Vans and Sheds			....	....	....	....	126
Public Conveniences	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Factories and Bakehouses			....	....	....	....	64
Refuse Collection	....	....	....	....	....	....	40
Refuse Disposal	....	....	....	....	....	....	95
Street Cleansing	....	....	....	....	....	....	31
Rats and Mice	....	....	....	....	....	....	1460
Schools	....	....	....	....	....	....	64
Cinemas	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
River Pollution Prevention			....	....	....	....	32

Shop Acts	....	....	....	....	....	....	9
Petroleum Acts	....	....	....	....	....	....	129
Smoke Observations	....	....	....	....	....	....	34
Inquiries re cases of Infectious Disease	....	....	....	....	....	....	93
Interviews and Appointments	....	....	....	....	....	....	1777
Miscellaneous Visits	....	....	....	....	....	....	1105

Housing :

Number of houses inspected under Public Health Acts	....	....	....	....	....	457
Re-visits to houses inspected under Public Health Acts	....	....	....	....	....	1581
Number of houses inspected under Housing Acts	....	....	....	....	....	178
Re-visits to houses inspected under Housing Acts	....	....	....	....	....	704
Number of houses inspected re overcrowding	....	....	....	....	....	5
Re-visits paid to houses re overcrowding	....	....	....	....	....	9
Number of verminous houses inspected	....	....	....	....	....	72
Re-visits to above houses	....	....	....	....	....	51
Miscellaneous Housing Enquiries	....	....	....	....	....	349

Meat and Food Inspection :

Visits to Slaughterhouses	....	....	....	....	....	3188
Shops and Stalls (re meat)	....	....	....	....	....	125
Street Vendors and Hawker's Carts	....	....	....	....	....	656
Other Food Premises	....	....	....	....	....	284
Milk Distribution....	61
Ice Cream Premises	36
Canteens, Cafes, etc.	27

Miscellaneous :

Salvage	53
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SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH

	Served during 1957	Complied with during 1957	Out- standing on 31/12/57
Informal Public Health Act Notices	566	501	353
Statutory Public Health Act Notices	41	56	12
Informal Housing Act Notices	—	—	—
Statutory Housing Act Notices....	1	—	1
	<hr/> 608	<hr/> 557	<hr/> 366
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS

Dwelling Houses :

[illegible]

Drainage :

Drainage provided, re-laid or repaired	22
Drains cleansed	....	....	....	162
Gullies provided or repaired	....	....	....	10
Inspection chambers provided or repaired	....	....	....	14
Ventilators repaired	....	....	....	4
Premises drained by provision of cesspool	....	....	....	2
Cesspools repaired	....	....	....	5

Cesspools abolished	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Drains connected to sewer	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Septic tank and filter provided	....	....	....	....	....	....	1

Sinks :

New Sinks provided	....	....	....	....	....	....	31
New sink waste pipes provided	....	....	....	....	....	....	34
Sink waste pipes repaired	....	....	....	....	....	....	5

Closet Accommodation :

Buildings repaired	....	....	....	....	....	....	37
Closets cleansed	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Water closet cisterns provided or repaired	....	....	....	....	....	....	24
Water closet pedestals renewed or repaired	....	....	....	....	....	....	29
Water closet service pipes repaired	....	....	....	....	....	....	15
Closet pails renewed	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Privy/Middens abolished	....	....	....	....	....	....	2

Miscellaneous :

Dangerous, defective and dilapidated buildings demolished	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Accumulations removed	....	....	....	....	....	....	23
Urinals provided, repaired and cleansed	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Nuisances abated from keeping of animals	....	....	....	....	....	....	3
Other nuisances abated	....	....	....	....	....	....	10

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

Whilst only 16 pail closets have been converted to the water carriage system during the year it should be noted that since 1950, 2,372 pail closets have been converted, so that at present only 245 pail closets are in use in the District. In all these cases drainage difficulties exist, particularly in the Parish of Ault Hucknall. Preparations are in hand with a view to improving the sewerage of some of these areas.

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 31/12/57
Ault Hucknall	....	....	1	73
Blackwell	....	....	2	55
Glapwell	....	....	—	2
Pleasley	....	....	—	18
Pinxton	....	....	1	24
Scarcliffe	....	....	3	14
Shirebrook	....	....	2	6
South Normanton		....	6	26
Tibshelf	....	....	1	27
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			16	245
			<hr/>	<hr/>

HOUSING

The erection of new houses has continued at a reasonable rate, 183 (124 Council houses and 59 private houses) having been completed during the year. These, together with those completed during recent years, have relieved most of the cases where two or more families were occupying the same house, and there has consequently been a reduction in the number of complaints received regarding unsatisfactory housing circumstances. There are 30 known cases of overcrowding.

Work on the Slum Clearance Programme approved in July, 1955, has continued and during the year 8 Clearance Areas have been represented, 6 of which are being dealt with by Compulsory Purchase. The latter sites are chiefly frontages of main streets through Parishes, and it is intended to re-develop these and so remove the scars which Clearance Area work frequently leaves.

The Areas referred to include 110 houses, and in addition 18 other houses have been individually represented as being unfit. Since work under this Slub Clearance programme was commenced, a total of 231 houses have been dealt with. The houses which have been dealt with in the Programme are those with the worst housing features, but it must be remembered that there are many

more sub-standard houses, built during the past 50/70 years, which require attention. In this category there are some 1,200 houses in the central area of Shirebrook, and after consideration of several reports, the Health Committee approved a proposal to make a survey of this area in conjunction with the Town Planning Authority and Engineer's Department. On completion of this survey it is hoped to prepare a plan for the re-development of the area during the next 10/20 years.

Towards the end of the year negotiations were entered into with the owners of sub-standard property in Park Lane, Pinxton, with a view to the District Council purchasing, improving and re-conditioning.

Applications for Improvement Grants continue to be dealt with by the Engineer's Department, along with the plans which it is necessary to submit for Building approval. During the year 82 Grants were approved in respect of 209 houses. Whilst many of these are from owner/occupiers, it is interesting to note that the National Coal Board are proceeding with a scheme for repair and improvement of 161 houses in the Model Village, Shirebrook.

Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 :

Number of Certificates of Disrepair issued	....	....	....	163
Number of Certificates of Disrepair revoked	....	....	....	99

Rent Act, 1957

Number of applications received for Certificates of Disrepair				26
Number of Certificates of Disrepair issued	....	....	....	5

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) 635
- (b) No. of inspections made for this purpose 2920

2.	(a)	No. of dwelling houses (included under 1a) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Regulations	....	....	....	....	131
	(b)	No. of Inspections made for this purpose	....				882
3.		No. of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation	....	....	....	....	128
4.		No. of dwelling houses found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation....	....	....	....		250

B. Remedy of Defective Dwelling Houses :

1.		Unfit houses redereed 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	....	....	....	176
2.		Public Health Acts—action after service of formal notice.				
		Houses in which defects were remedied :				
	(a)	By owners	....	....	....	31
	(b)	By local authority in default of owners	....			—
3.		Housing Act, 1957—action after service of formal notice (Sections 9 ; 10 ; 11 and 16) :				
		Houses made fit :				
	(a)	By owners	....	....	....	5
	(b)	By local authority in default of owners	....			—

C. Demolition or Closure of Dwelling Houses

1.	Housing Act, 1957.		
		No. of Houses	No. of persons displaced
(a)	Demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure (Section 16)	33	73
(b)	Closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by owners	—	—

D. Overcrowding

Parish	No. of Houses Overcrowded on 31/12/57	Cases of Overcrowding abated during 1957	No. of Persons affected by abatement
Ault Hucknall	1	—	—
Blackwell	6	1	11
Glapwell	—	—	—
Pleasley	—	—	—
Pinxton	7	—	—
Scarcliffe	1	—	—
Shirebrook	—	—	—
South Normanton	13	1	3
Tibshelf	2	—	—
	<hr/> 30	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 14
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

E. Houses subject to Demolition and Closing Orders :

Parish	Still occupied	Vacant and awaiting Demolition	Total
Ault Hucknall	4	3	7
Blackwell	6	—	6
Glapwell	—	1	1
Pleasley	—	1	1
Pinxton	20	8	28
Scarcliffe	4	1	5
Shirebrook	1	1	2
South Normanton	15	16	31
Tibshelf	3	—	3
	<hr/> 53	<hr/> 31	<hr/> 84
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

ERADICATION OF VERMIN

A total of 123 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	....	....	....	7
No. of private premises disinfested	....	....	....	8

Cockroaches

No. of Council houses disinfested	....	....	....	9
No. of private houses disinfested ....	....	....	....	3
No. of schools disinfested ....	....	....	....	2
No. of business premises disinfested	....	....	....	1

Other Vermin

No. of premises dealt with for woodworm infestation	5
No. of Council houses dealt with for ant infestation	1
No. of Council houses dealt with for cricket infestation	2
	<hr/>
	38
	<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 and Gammexane Liquid (L.044).

Bed Bugs and

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

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

The inspection of meat at 15 private slaughterhouses, 2 of which carry on wholesale businesses, has continued to take up a large proportion of the Department's time. There has been a slight reduction in the number of animals slaughtered during 1957 as compared with 1956, the average number of animals examined being 887 per week. This kill continues to be considerably in excess of the needs of the Rural District, and the wholesale butchers

regularly send consignments to the meat markets at Birmingham, Sheffield and Chesterfield, and supply many butchers in adjoining districts. Slaughtering still continues on most days after 5 p.m., on Saturday afternoons and on Sundays. It has always been the aim of the Department to carry out 100% inspection of meat and this has only been possible by Inspectors working in excess of normal hours. The system of inspection rotas to cover work after 5 p.m. each evening and also to cover weekend duty has worked satisfactorily throughout the year.

The problems created by the large number of animals slaughtered, particularly late evening and at weekends, and the necessary meat inspection, have continued to cause the Committee concern. Whilst there have been slight improvements in the hours of slaughter, the Committee still considers that Local Authorities should have more control over the hours of slaughter and for this purpose representations have been made to various Local Authority Organizations, and the local Member of Parliament, has been asked to press the Committee's cause.

No. of Animals slaughtered and examined :

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Total
Wholesale Private Slaughterhouse, Tibshelf	2275	774	150	7338	5192	—	15729
Wholesale Private Slaughterhouse, Pleasley	1436	107	104	6989	14049	—	22685
Other Private Slaughterhouses (North)	370	61	8	1174	883	—	2496
Other Private Slaughterhouses (South)	614	485	23	2055	2070	—	5247
	4695	1427	285	17556	22194	—	46157

Condemnation of Carcases and Offal

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci. Whole carcases condemned	—	1	1	10	25	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	631	407	—	313	995	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. and Cysticerci	13.44	28.59	0.35	1.84	4.55	—
Tuberculosis only Whole carcases condemned	4	8	1	1	3	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	254	235	1	—	226	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	5.49	17.03	0.70	0.006	1.03	—
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	10	2	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	10	2	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally Condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Meat and offal amounting to 21 tons 13 cwts. 104 lbs, has been condemned, and 88 lbs. of other unsound food and 1,203 tins of food have also been dealt with.

The number of carcases affected with Localised *Cysticercus Bovis* and dealt with by cold storage was 12, compared with 21 in 1956, and 3 in 1955. For the first time I have to report a case of

Tuberculosis in sheep. In this case it was necessary to condemn the carcase and offal of a sheep for Generalized Tuberculosis. The offal was heavily infected with wide spread infection of carcase lymph glands. Confirmation of the presence of Tuberculosis was obtained after examination of specimens by the Public Health Laboratory and Messrs. Boots' Veterinary Science Department.

All condemned meat and offal is stained "green" and disposed of by manufacturing into animal feeding stuffs and fertilisers, except for flukey livers. At the two wholesale slaughterhouses these are retained in cold store and disposed of for pharmaceutical purposes. There is no sale of raw unsound meat for animal feeding, the whole of the unfit meat, except flukey livers, being completely sterilised in the process of making it into fertilisers and animal feeding stuffs. At the two large slaughterhouses the condemned meat and offal is removed daily and the butchers are credited with the salvage value.

Where meat is condemned at the smaller private slaughterhouses it is immediately removed by one of the department's 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. This system has worked satisfactorily and there has been no ground for complaint.

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

Condemnations for Tuberculosis :

Beef	7,123 lbs.	Veal	34 lbs.
Beef Offal	12,816 lbs.	Veal Offal	16 lbs.
Pork	3,155 lbs.	Mutton	40 lbs.
Pork Offal	452 lbs.	Mutton Offal	10 lbs.

Condemnations for Cysticercus Bovis :

Beef	72 lbs.	Beef Offal	720 lbs.
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Condemnations for diseases other than Tuberculosis and Cysticercus Bovis :

Beef	1,252 lbs.	Mutton	869 lbs.
Beef Offal	13,849 lbs.	Mutton Offal	1,159 lbs.
Pork	2,739 lbs.	Veal	30 lbs.
Pork Offal	4,258 lbs.	Veal Offal	6 lbs.

LICENSED SLAUGHTERHOUSES

In January 1955—15 private slaughterhouses were granted licences to expire on 30th June, 1959. This was a reduction of 10 on the number in use prior to the de-control of meat. of these 13 are in regular use. They have generally been maintained in a satisfactory condition and many improvements added.

The large number of animals killed at one slaughterhouse, which drains to a small sewage works, has continued to cause difficulties in the purification of the sewage effluent. The waste from this slaughterhouse is now being dealt with as trade effluent, and a special screening and sedimentation tank has been constructed in the slaughterhouse yard, so that all effluent passes through this tank before being discharged into the sewer.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS 1933—54

Number of licences issued (included 4 to new applicants to work under the supervision of an experienced licensed man) 71

FOOD PREMISES

There are 493 food premises within the district. A classified schedule of these is set out below.

Business	Tibshelf	Pinxton	South Normanton	Blackwell	Ault Hucknall	Glapwell	Pleasley	Scarcliffe	Shirebrook	Total
Ice Cream Manufacturers	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Canteens, Cafes and Restaurants	2	3	2	5	3	1	3	6	7	32
Meals Served	3	4	6	3	—	—	—	—	—	16
Bakehouses	3	1	4	1	—	—	1	—	1	11
Butchers Shops and Making Up Rooms	5	7	8	3	—	—	1	4	14	42
Confectionery, Bread and Cakes	3	3	3	—	1	—	—	3	12	25
Fish Friers	3	4	6	3	2	—	—	2	5	25
Grocers	5	8	15	5	—	1	4	10	22	70
Wet Fish and Greengrocers	1	2	6	—	—	—	—	3	7	19
Mixed Business	13	23	29	22	11	6	9	23	25	161
Public Houses	8	10	16	10	3	2	4	15	12	80
Corn Merchants	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Market Stalls	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	9
TOTAL	46	66	96	53	20	10	22	66	114	493

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

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

The premises registered for the manufacture, storage and sale of ice cream have been closely supervised during the year and attention has also been paid to the vans used for the sale of ice cream within the district. A total of 27 samples of ice cream have been submitted for examination.

Details of premises registered under Section 16 and the results of samples submitted for examination are set out below :—

Premises registered :

(a)	Manufacture and sale of ice cream	....	....	....	2
(b)	Sale of ice cream	....	....	....	3
(c)	Sale of pre-packed ice cream....	....	....	....	133
					<hr/>
					138
					<hr/>

Results of ice cream samples :

Ice Cream		Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV	Total
Complete Cold Mix	....	2	2	—	—	4
Pasteurised	....	6	1	—	—	7
Pre-packed	....	18	—	—	—	18
		<hr/>				
Total	....	26	3	—	—	29
		<hr/>				

In addition to the above samples, 3 samples of ice cream have been submitted for analysis and the fat content reported to be satisfactory, and 3 samples of iced lollies have also been examined and found to be satisfactory.

REGISTRATION OF PREMISES FOR PREPARATION OF PRESERVED FOOD, etc.

There are 19 premises within the district registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 for the preparation/manufacture of sausages, preserved food, etc.

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS 1955

The systematic survey of all food premises commenced in 1956, has continued, with the inspection of 75 food premises during the present year, making a total of 153 premises dealt with since the survey was commenced. Whilst this survey is not being completed as quickly as desired, it does ensure that in due course all food premises within the District will have been brought up to the standard of these Regulations. Due to the pressure of other work there has been little opportunity to carry out educational work, apart from that done by Inspectors in their daily contacts with the food trade and public.

As a result of the survey work, 91 preliminary notices have been served, and 50 were fully complied with during the year. In 29 cases improvement work was in progress and in 5 instances premises were closed (3 butchers, 1 bakehouse, 1 cafe), the occupiers considering that the expense of complying with the Regulations did not justify the quantity of business being conducted.

There has been a progressive improvement in the type of van and mobile shop used for the sale and distribution of food. It is considered that all vans used for this purpose should be provided with adequate washing facilities, but there is weakness in the Regulations in this respect, much depending on the definition of "food for immediate consumption." All premises using vans and mobile shops have been circularized, emphasizing the need for adequate washing facilities, to enable them to retail food in a clean and hygienic manner, and by the end of the year 51 vans and mobile shops had been provided with adequate facilities in this respect.

A summary of improvements is given below :—

Hot water supplies provided	....	....	....	....	1
New sinks provided	....	....	....	....	7
New Washbasins provided	....	....	....	....	16
Premises cleansed	....	....	....	....	13
Notices re "washing hands"	....	....	....	....	6
Drainage improved	....	....	....	....	4
Floors, walls, ceilings, etc., repaired or renewed	....	....	....	....	36
Fixtures provided or improved	....	....	....	....	18
Increased protection for open food	....	....	....	....	19

First-aid kits provided	....	....	....	....	....	1
Lighting and ventilation improved	....	....	....	....	....	2
Rodent and insect proofing carried out	....	....	....	....	....	12
Hand dryers repaired	....	....	....	....	....	1
Clothes storage improved	....	....	....	....	....	1
Closet accommodation improved	....	....	....	....	....	2

The Shirebrook privately owned Market still causes concern, and in this connection it is considered that the Regulations are weak. It is most unsatisfactory to expose for sale in the open air, food such as fresh meat, cooked meats, and cakes (particularly those with artificial cream fillings). Under the most suitable conditions there is still danger of contamination during inclement weather and food traders from nearby shops, which have been brought up to the standard of the Regulations, continually complain that the market trader can conduct his business under less stringent conditions.

Early in the year negotiations were commenced with the owners of the Market, and after correspondence and several meetings it was agreed that a kiosk should be erected on the Market to provide continuous hot and cold water supplies, sinks and wash bowls for use of Market food traders, and also to allow for the improvement of the artificial lighting by the provision of electric lamps in place of the existing paraffin flares. Unfortunately the Town Planning Authority objected to the type of building proposed to be erected, and whilst negotiations were proceeding, these objections had not been withdrawn at the end of the year.

MILK DISTRIBUTION

The sale of loose and raw milk has been prohibited in this area since January 1955.

The supervision of the distribution of milk has resulted in 61 inspections being made and 54 samples being submitted for examination.

There are 55 registered distributors of milk and one dairy within the district. The dairy is a pasteurisation plant at Pleasley and Pleasley Hill Co-operative Society Limited and is under the supervision of the Derbyshire County Council.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS 1949

Number of dealers' licences (Tuberculin Tested milk)	33
Number of Supplementary dealers' licences (Tuberculin Tested milk)	2

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

Number of dealers' licences (Pasteurised Milk)	37
Number of dealers' licences (Sterilised Milk)	21
Milk of Supplementary dealers' licences (Pasteurised Milk)	2
Number of Supplementary dealers' licences (Sterilised Milk)	2

MILK SAMPLES

Tuberculin Tested Milk

Methylene Blue Test	8 satisfactory. 1 unsatisfactory.
Biological Test	6 satisfactory.

Pasteurised Milk

Methylene Blue Test	16 satisfactory
Phosphatase Test	19 satisfactory

Sterilised Milk

Turbidity Test	4 satisfactory.
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WATER SUPPLY

The water supply of the district has been satisfactory both in quantity and quality. From the table it will be seen that 136 samples have been examined of which 7 were found to be unsatisfactory. All these samples were from three wells and steps are being taken with a view to the improvement of these supplies.

WATER SAMPLES

	<i>Bacteriological Examination</i>	<i>Chemical Analysis</i>
District Supplies	101 satisfactory.	19 satisfactory
Other district supplies	6 satisfactory	1 unsatisfactory
Well Supplies	2 satisfactory 7 unsatisfactory	

A schedule giving details of the water supplies to dwelling houses is set out below. From this it will be noted that 13,307 houses (99.61%) are provided with a piped supply of district water, 36 houses (.27%) are provided with district water by means of external stand pipes and 16 houses (.12%) 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 using wells, etc.	Population (estimated)
Pinxton	1,437	5,124	1	2	—	—
South Normanton	2,151	6,611	32	130	—	—
Tibshelf	1,149	3,130	2	9	—	—
Blackwell	1,292	4,352	1	1	—	—
Shirebrook	3,359	9,881	—	—	9	27
Scarcliffe	2,181	7,578	—	—	2	8
Ault Hucknall	516	2,337	—	—	1	3
Glapwell	470	1,289	—	—	—	—
Pleasley	752	2,619	—	—	4	11
	13,307	42,921	36	142	16	49

It will be noted that the majority of the houses without an internal district supply of water are in the South Normanton Parish. 30 of these will be dealt with in the Slum Clearance Programme during 1958.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT :

It has been necessary to deal with 72 complaints regarding infestation by rats and mice. These investigations and other survey work have necessitated some 1,460 inspections and visits. In many cases the complaints have been in respect of minor mice infestations which it has been possible to deal with by advising occupiers and making available suitable poisons. Statutory action has not been necessary.

The complaints are investigated by the Public Health Inspectors and subsequent work is carried out under their supervision. A combined Disinfector/Rodent Operator is employed, together with a trained part time Operator, as required. These men carry out routine inspection and baiting of Council premises and sewers and such other work as is undertaken by the Council at the owner/occupiers' cost, and during the year 2 members of the staff have attended a Refresher Course organised by the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food.

Summary of Work Done :**Council Premises**

Number of premises examined	....	....	....	106
Number of premises treated by use of Warfarin bait containers for rat infestation	....	....	....	8
Number of Council houses treated by use of Warfarin bait containers for rat and mouse infestation	....	....	....	19
Number of pre-baits laid	....	....	....	1120
Number of poison baits laid	....	....	....	366
Number of post-baits laid	....	....	....	314

Private and Business Premises

Number of premises treated	....	....	....	19
Number of pre-baits laid	....	....	....	42
Number of poison baits laid	....	....	....	3
Number of post-baits laid	....	....	....	3
Number of premises treated by use of Warfarin bait containers	....	....	....	14
Number of farms treated by use of Warfarin bait	....	....	....	2
Numbers of burrows gassed by Cymag	....	....	....	112

Sewer Manholes

Number test baited	....	....	....	....	....	284
Number baited with poison	60

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

Number of premises licensed	1
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NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

Arrangements were made in one case for the burial of a person without suitable means. It was not necessary to take statutory action under the provisions of Section 47, but 4 cases of aged persons living in unsuitable conditions were dealt with in co-operation with the Medical Officer of Health. In 2 cases the persons were removed to an Institution on a voluntarily basis, the third was removed as a temporary measure, and in the 4th case, the aged person died before arrangements could be made for other treatment and care.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

There are no recognised camping grounds and the control of individual vans, to prevent duplication of licences, etc., is exercised under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Acts. There were more difficulties by casual vans than for many years, and altogether it was necessary to temporarily supervise, and eventually secure the removal, of some 43 vans. The chief difficulty arose in Carnfield Hill, South Normanton, where a spare piece of land purchased by the Derbyshire County Council for road widening, was frequently used by gipsies. This matter has been referred to the County Council, but there is no indication of definite steps being taken to restrict its use by this type of living van.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937—48

During the year 64 inspections were made and 4 notices complied with.

A summary of improvements effected is given below :

Sanitary Accommodation—provision of additional	....	4
—cleansed	....	1
—suitably lettered	....	2

Washing facilities provided	....	....	....	....	4
Improved arrangements for disposal of waste materials					1
Improved means of escape in case of fire			1

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS 1928—36

Number of licensed premises	56
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Following the receipt in April of Home Office Circular No. 84/57 enclosing a Model Code of Principles of Construction and Licensing conditions, consultation took place with the Derbyshire Fire Service. As a result a new set of Conditions for the issue of Licences was agreed and approved by the District Council in November, and these will operate as from the 1st January, 1958. All licenced premises have been carefully surveyed in consultation with the Fire Service, and it has been found that 34 underground storage tanks will require testing and at 40 premises minor adjustments will be necessary to comply with the new Licencing Conditions. In 3 cases the present arrangements for petrol storage are most unsatisfactory, and in 1 instance constitute a major fire hazard, requiring extensive alterations to comply with the new Licencing Conditions. These are being dealt with as priority cases and it is hoped to secure the necessary amendments early in 1958.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The passing of the Clean Air Act, 1956, part of which became operative from the 31st December, 1956, is most noteworthy for the year under review. This Act provides the District Council with increased power to deal with this problem, but like all other previous legislation on Smoke Abatement, there will be many difficulties in applying it.

To secure uniform action, and for the exchange of information and discussions of problems arising from the passing of this Act, the North East Derbyshire Smoke Abatement Joint Consultative Committee was formed. Quarterly meetings are held at Chesterfield, and all Local Authorities in North East Derbyshire have co-operated. The domestic problem of Smoke Abatement is extremely difficult in this area, due to the large proportion of the population employed in the Mining Industry and in receipt of concessionary coal. Arrange-

ments exist with the National Coal Board for the buy back of concessionary coal, and whilst an increased number of miners are taking some advantage of this by not accepting the whole of the concessionary coal to which they are entitled, the number doing so throughout the District is still small. Before any progress can be made with Smoke Control Areas it appears that a more satisfactory solution must be found for replacing concessionary coal with smokeless fuels. In an endeavour to secure some progress, the Housing Committee decided to fix Parkray ranges in all new Council houses. These are approved appliances capable of burning coal with a considerable reduction in smoke emission. To do this they must be properly used by tenants, but it remains to be seen whether these appliances will secure the improvement hoped for. During the year 2 members of the staff have attended a Course at Nottingham organised by the Coal Utilization Council.

The efforts of the past few years to reduce industrial pollution have continued, and with the co-operation of the National Coal Board, a large measure of success has been achieved, particularly where Hodgkinson Ram type mechanical stokers have been fitted. Problems are, however, still outstanding at the Glapwell and Brookhill Collieries, where the emission of black and dark smoke is still excessive. After lengthy correspondence a meeting with National Coal Board officials was held at Glapwell in September, following which the National Coal Board stated that the Colliery would be electrified in 4 years, and as a short term measure chain grate stokers would be fitted on the low pressure boilers. At the end of the year this work was proceeding. Earlier in the year part of the Brookhill Colliery was put on to electric power through the grid, leaving 6 Lancashire boilers to raise steam for the winding gear. This change has made very little difference to the amount of smoke emission from these old hand-fired boilers. It is the intention of the National Coal Board to provide power for the winding gear through the electric grid as soon as it can be arranged.

COLLIERY SPOILBANKS

These have been well maintained except for the following instances :—

Langwith Colliery : A serious fire and dust nuisance arose in November, when part of the old spoilbank collapsed due to removal, by a contractor, of red shale for road making. With the co-operation of the National Coal Board Officials, work was immediately stopped, the nuisance abated, and a system agreed for the future removal of this material

Shirebrook Colliery : The new spoilbank showed signs of fire in parts and it was necessary to spray and seal these. A bulldozer is being used for consolidation, but due to the height from which the spoil is tipped, the maximum advantage has not been obtained. More co-operation on the part of the National Coal Board Engineers in the early stages of the arrangements for this spoilbank could have avoided many unsatisfactory features.

Measurement of Atmospheric Pollution

Three recording stations are now being operated, 2 as from the 1st February, 1957, and the third commenced on the 1st October, 1957. Details of the reports in respect of these are set out below, but in view of the absence of previous recordings it is too early to comment on them.

DEPOSIT GAUGES

Month	Deposited Matter—Tons per square mile.		
	Hamlet Lane, South Normanton	Sookholme Lane, Shirebrook	Glapwell Hill
February	8.5	15.0	—
March	11.1	14.3	—
April	9.0	8.7	—
May	13.5	19.2	—
June	14.7	12.4	—
July	9.2	12.1	—
August	10.2	14.7	—
September	10.7	19.5	—
October	7.4	11.8	16.7
November	5.8	8.1	11.5
December	10.6	13.0	17.6
Monthly Average	10.1	12.7	15.3

LEAD PEROXIDE INSTRUMENTS

Month	SO ₃ —Milligrams per 100 sq. c.m. per day		
	Hamlet Lane, South Normanton	Sookholme Lane, Shirebrook	Glapwell Hill
February	2.2	2.2	—
March	1.6	1.3	—
April	1.7	1.3	—
May	1.5	1.0	—
June	1.1	1.1	—
July	0.9	1.0	—
August	0.8	1.1	—
September	1.3	1.4	—
October	1.4	1.7	1.0
November	2.3	2.1	1.3
December	2.3	2.2	1.5
Monthly Average	1.6	1.5	1.3

The Committee is now a Member of the Standing Conference of Co-operating Bodies on Atmospheric Pollution and representatives attend meetings of this Conference.

SHOP ACTS

During the year 9 inspections were made, and the following improvements secured :—

Additional sanitary accommodation	....	....	....	2
Provision of intervening ventilated space	....	....	....	1
Provision of washing facilities	....	....	....	1

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 reconstruction work, and where plans are submitted 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, and is referred to under the heading 'Food Hygiene Regulations.'

COMPLAINTS

A total of 537 complaints were received and investigated (238 at the South Normanton Office and 299 at the Shirebrook Office).

The majority of these complaints were found to be fully justified. A summary of them is set out below :—

Housing Defects	....	....	....	....	....	146
Drainage Defects	....	....	....	....	....	142
Sanitary Conveniences	....	....	....	....	....	37
Dirty and Verminous Premises	....	....	....	....	....	33
Refuse Collection	....	....	....	....	....	19
Rats and Mice	....	....	....	....	....	72
Keeping of Animals	....	....	....	....	....	9
Accumulation	....	....	....	....	....	10
Other matters	....	....	....	....	....	69

ASHBINS—SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE OF

The Scheme adopted as from the 1st April, 1951, for the renewal of defective ashbins as a general rate charge, has continued to work satisfactorily. Details of the bins provided since this scheme commenced are set out below :

<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
1956-57	....	....	....	....	....	1,714
1957-58	....	....	....	....	....	1,388

The bins provided are 3½ cu. ft. galvanised iron B.S.S., and in order to assess whether there is any neglect or misuse on the part of the occupier, it has been estimated that with proper use each bin should last approximately 10 years.

As the scheme has now been in operation 7 years and many houses in the district are still using bins provided by owners prior to April, 1951, it would seem that this estimate is reasonably correct. A careful record is kept of all issues so that if a bin needs replacement due to neglect or misuse, the occupier can be required

to make a contribution before a new bin is issued. Under this heading 2 cases arose during 1957, and amounts of 20/-d., and 17/-d. were paid by occupiers.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The collection and disposal of refuse is dealt with by direct labour in the whole of the rural district.

Collection and Disposal

This work, which is undertaken by motor transport (details of vehicles below), has resulted in the removal of 6,314 loads of refuse, night soil and cesspool contents, and the vehicles have covered 48,229 miles.

One S. & D. Fore and Aft Tipper (16 cub. yds.) supplied January, 1958—Diesel engine.

One S. & D. Fore and Aft Tipper (16 cub. yds.) supplied April, 1955—Diesel engine.

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 1956.

The new Diesel S. & D. Fore and Aft Tipper was purchased in January, 1958, and takes the place of the old Karrier Bantam. The increased capacity of this vehicle will be helpful in dealing with additional premises which have been erected during recent years. The old Karrier Bantam has not been disposed of, but has been retained for rough work on tips, such as moving soil, etc.

Number of Premises served

Ashbins	....	....	....	14,081 (cleansed weekly).
Ashplaces, etc.	....	....	....	11 (cleansed monthly).
Closet Pails	....	....	....	245 (cleansed weekly).
Cesspools	....	....	....	128 (cleansed quarterly).

The regularity of the cleansing service, which includes a 7 day collection of domestic refuse, has been well maintained. This has been made possible by the reliability of what may be described as the 'back-bone' of the workmen, i.e., those employees who have been on this work for a long period and are reliable and conscientious in contrast to the majority engaged during recent years. Whilst the recruitment of cleansing employees is not so difficult as a few years ago, it is still difficult to get good workmen. During the year absenteeism, chiefly due to certified sickness and accidents, was 9.7% compared with 9.5% the previous year. This represents a loss of some 10,856 working hours (246 weeks) and the ease with which Medical Certificates are obtained, leaves me convinced that in a number of cases advantage has been taken of the scheme for the payment of wages during absence due to sickness.

The fleet of refuse collection vehicles has remained the same during the year, and the arrangements under which these vehicles are maintained at the South Normanton Depot have been very satisfactory. Maintenance and repairs are carried out promptly and practically no time has been lost due to break-downs.

Domestic refuse continued to be disposed of by controlled tipping, with the maximum recovery of salvageable materials. Use of muledozers has greatly improved the control of all tips, these being maintained in a satisfactory condition throughout the year. Nine sites have been in use during the year for refuse disposal, the chief ones being Sookholme Lane, Shirebrook, 'B' Winning Playing Fields, and Wharf Road, Pinxton. At a fairly early date it will be necessary to consider additional facilities for the disposal of refuse at Shirebrook, as the space available at Sookholme, Shirebrook, is being rapidly filled. During the year a total of 2,000 loads of refuse was disposed of at this site, weighing approximately 7,490 tons. Work on the cultivation of completed parts of this tip has commenced. Tipping at the site loaned by the Glapwell Colliery has now ceased and this tip has been suitably levelled, covered and handed back to the National Coal Board. In September a new tip was commenced at Rowthorne where a disused railway cutting and tunnel is being filled. Up to the end of the year 119 loads of

refuse have been deposited at this site. In the Southern part of the District work is still proceeding at the 'B' Winning Welfare Playing Fields with a view to providing new playing areas for cricket and football. During the year 760 loads of refuse have been disposed of, making a total of 7,262 loads (approximately 23,000 tons) since work commenced at this site. The extension of the Wharf Road Tip, is proceeding satisfactorily, 610 loads of refuse having been disposed of during the year. The completed portion of the tip is at present seeded with grass and in a satisfactory condition.

The cleansing employees at the South Normanton Depot have good facilities for washing, meals, the storing and drying of clothes, etc., and whilst the facilities for the employees at the Shirebrook Depot are still crude, it is pleasing to note that the Council's Architect has been instructed to prepare a scheme for the erection of a new garage, including workshop for paper baling, and suitable mess facilities for the workmen.

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.	1956/57	....	....	....	£565	£1,660
2.	Nearest comparable	figures—Costing				
	Returns 1956/57	....	....	....	£670	£2,006
3.	1957/58	....	....	....	£618	£2,053

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	6,121	220	6,341	1,136	8	—	42
S. & D. Freighter (1949) NRA 730	6,919	90	7,009	1,095	—	—	17
S. & D. Freighter (1952) RRB 300	7,107	645	7,752	292	96	337	126
S. & D. Freighter (1951) RNU 378	4,661	1,019	5,680	747	8	7	146
S. & D. Freighter (1953) TNU 478	6,433	490	6,923	768	8	61	87
Karrier Bantam (1946) JRB 68	4,661	503	5,164	177	40	490	90
S. & D. Fore/Aft Diesel (1955) XRA 56	7,510	50	7,560	823	—	—	109
S. & D. Fore/Aft Diesel (1958) 502 FRA	1,780	20	1,800	221	—	—	3
	45,192	3,037	48,229	5,259	160	895	620

Comparative costs of Operation of Lorries :

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.)	349	17	3	70	5	3	330	13	3	750	15	9	2/4½d.
NRA 730 (S.&D.)	98	0	5	70	5	3	333	3	2	501	8	10	1/5d.
RRB 300 (S.&D.)	71	18	4	69	7	6	232	15	6	374	1	4	11½d.
RNU 378 (S.&D.)	166	12	10	68	17	7	229	15	9	465	6	2	1/7½d.
TNU 478 (S.&D.)	101	5	3	68	9	6	262	16	3	432	11	0	1/3d.
XRA 56 (S.&D.) Diesel	114	4	3	107	11	9	191	8	9	413	4	9	1/1d.
502 FRA (S.&D.) Diesel	9	4	0	106	7	2	49	10	1	165	1	3	1/10d.
JRB 68 (K.B.)	63	15	2	44	5	6	138	13	10	246	14	6	11¼d.
	972	17	6	605	9	6	1768	16	7	3349	3	7	1/4½d.

MULEDOZERS

Two Fordson muledozers (one purchased in 1949 and using T.V.O., and the second purchased in 1956, and operating on diesel), continued to be used with good effect for consolidation of refuse

and restoring completed surfaces. These machines used without special tracks, the rear tyres being water ballasted, are economical for this class of work. Details of the operation of the machines is set out below :—

Refuse Tips

					Hours operated	
					ONU 56	44 CNU
					(T.V.O.)	(Diesel)
'B' Winning Playing Fields	....	....			—	378
Bateman, South Normanton		....			—	273
Wharf Road, Pinxton	....	....			—	158
Manor Farm, Tibshelf....	....	....			—	92
Newton Wood, Newton	....	....			—	17
Sookholme Tip, Shirebrook		....			1210	30
Glapwell	....	....	....	....	64	—
Hillstown	....	....	....	....	24	—
Rowthorne	....	....	....	....	21	—

Other Jobs

South Normanton Depot	....	....			—	5
Pinxton Sewage Works	....	....			—	3

The cost of operating these machines, including an allowance for depreciation was :—

ONU 56	—£438	3s. 9d. or 6s. 8d. per hour.
44 CNU	—£501	10s. 0d. or 10s. 6d. per hour.

SALVAGE

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

1957-58 :	847 tons	0 cwts.	45 lbs.	£7,137 13s. 9d.
1956-57 :	762 tons	9 cwts.	105 lbs.	£6,245 1s. 1d.
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.

The various materials dealt with are summarised below :

	Tons.	Cwts.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	525	10	28	4,463	4	4
Ferrous Metal	36	8	28	131	0	8
Non-ferrous Metal	1	12	36	125	5	9
Baled Tins	236	8	28	2,087	18	9
Textiles	19	14	65	322	17	7
Miscellaneous	27	—	—	7	6	8
	847	—	45	£7,137	13	9

The organisation for the recovery of salvage has functioned smoothly and although paper sales have been governed by quotas, the income of £7,137 13s. 9d. is the highest since this work was commenced. Waste paper continues to be collected by using large trailers at the rear of the refuse collection vehicles, supplemented by special collections from shop and business premises. Loose tins are segregated at the tips and transported to the South Normanton Depot for baling. The recovery of this material has increased to almost 20 tons per month— a splendid effort on the part of the workmen.

The system of paying Cleansing workmen a bonus in respect of salvage has continued, and there is no doubt that this incentive results in an all round benefit to workmen and ratepayers. The bonus is at present 12½% of the gross sales, payable monthly, and under the scheme workmen have received during the year just over £21 0s. 0d. each.

The N.E. Derbyshire Cleansing and Salvage Officers Committee has continued to meet, and has included a Joint Meeting with the Bradford and District Committee. These meetings are still of great help in dealing with the problems which arise in this work.

