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BLACKWELL
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1958

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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"Dale Close," 100 Chesterfield Road South, Mansfield.
(Tel. Mansfield 811)

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)

T. G. ROBINSON (a) (b)

Commenced 1st March, 1958. Terminated 25th May, 1958.

STANLEY H. PRICE (a) (b)

Commenced 1st September, 1958.

- (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.

PREFACE

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the privilege of submitting to you my Annual Report for the year 1958. I hope you will find it to be of value. As always I must record my appreciation for the interest you show and for the help and encouragement which you have given to my department throughout the year. Mr. Williams and Mr. Wells have very kindly given me some information for this report and I wish to thank them for it.

Finally, I must again thank everyone on the staff of Blackwell R.D.C. for their help throughout the year. I have had good advice from Mr. Evans and I can only hope that he will continue to be as kind in the future because without his invaluable help my job would be a lot harder.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. R. ROBERTSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

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

HOUSE ALTERATIONS FOR A PHYSICALLY HANDICAPPED PERSON

During the year one of my Councils received a letter from a hospital for nervous injuries and illnesses. Unfortunately, a lady in her thirties had suffered an injury to her back. The result was that she had become a paraplegic. We were asked in the letter if we could re-house her.

Now, we provide special bungalows for paraplegics but this would not have been satisfactory in this case. The lady was single but she lived with her mother and siblings and a bungalow would not have been large enough. Accordingly it was decided that an ordinary house should be altered to suit the disability as much as possible.

The following alterations were made. The entrance gate was widened and a good tarmac path was laid down. Room was provided so that a garage could be erected for the lady's invalid tricycle. A bar was placed above the toilet and the bath. The door to the bathroom was widened to allow passage of a wheel chair and some extra doors were provided to allow easy progress from one room to another on the ground floor. In effect the ground floor is a bungalow for the lady while the rest of the family have an ordinary house upstairs.

Before moving into this new home, the family were living in an ordinary house in the older part of the town where they were one of a long row. There was no bath and no inside W.C. There was no garden and very little privacy. Now, has the move made any difference? The lady herself is delighted. Even to be able to get out to the back of the house, with ease, means a lot. Then, if she wishes to go further, her tricycle and garage are only a few feet away. As for the lady's mother, she says that the difference between the new home and the old one is comparable to the difference between heaven and hell.

So, without superhuman skill or effort we have given great help to a physically handicapped person. However, while I am

proud, I am not satisfied. Too often, too little is done for people with handicaps. I well remember one of my teachers at Glasgow University telling us that you had to treat symptoms as well as the disease. For example, if a man has headache due to high blood pressure, he will not thank you if you lower his pressure but leave him with headache. The same applies to disabilities. If we can't cure them then we must try to alleviate them. And we must remember that not all disabilities are so sudden or so dramatic as spinal injuries leading to paralysis. For instance, shortness of height can be a disability even though the person may be in perfect health. Even being left handed can be a bit of a handicap when everything is made for the right handed.

Can we do anything to help? Well I have given one example which has helped a great deal. In addition we can help with gadgets and appliances. One of the London hospitals has a department where such things are designed and tried out. They are kept as simple and as inexpensive as possible. And, you would be surprised at how much difference a simple thing can make. For instance, a long handled comb is a boon to a woman who cannot raise her arms. Surely every hospital management committee should try to provide such a department. And, wouldn't it be a good idea if all housing authorities visited such a department?

The Lancet has published a book called "*Disabilities and how to live with them*". Read this and you will be humble before the spirit shown by some of our fellows in their adversity, often without help. Let us resolve to offer help in every way that we can. In place of sympathy and pity, let us offer practical help and encouragement.

INVALID TRICYCLES, AND CARRIAGES

Whenever I think of these, I think of Ibrox Stadium, the home of Glasgow Rangers Football Club. There is a running track around the pitch and the tricycles park on this and allow their occupants to have a first-class view of the game. I can remember when there were no tricycles but only chairs with wheels. These were propelled by 1 H.P., not horse power but human power, and there was no lack of voluntary human power when it came to attending a football match. The next step was the chair propelled by a chain, like a bicycle. A step forward, but the propellant power was still human and quite a lot of human power was needed for an incline. Then we had the introduction of small motors and that was a blessing indeed. (Again, let me refer to Ibrox Stadium. We now had one or two races when two carriages would decide that they each wanted the same parking spot. This afforded much good humour to the spectators and the drivers alike. And jolly good luck to them both say I). Since then many of the carriages have become bigger and better and the introduction of head cover has brought a lot more comfort.

Thus, quite a lot of progress has been made in my life time. Have we reached the millenium, then? I fear not. There is one way in which we have made no progress. These carriages are and always have been single. Husband and wife cannot go out together in them. Surely we should be ashamed of this. And it is important. Whenever I ask a disabled person what he thinks of his carriage, he replies "It is really wonderful, I am terribly grateful and I do not know what I would do without it, BUT . . ." Then comes the heartfelt wish "If only I could take my wife, or husband, or friend with me." How much pleasanter it would be if they could. Companionship is essential to you and me. How much more is it needed where a normal married life cannot be led (to use a well worn euphemism) and this is often the case. Think of all the extra work that falls upon the wife of a disabled man. If she were working in industry she would be given a bonus for this. Let us give her a bonus by allowing her to travel with her husband.

The North Notts. Group of the Invalid Tricycle Association has 23 members. And there are others who are not members of the Association. So even locally there are a lot of people who use these carriages. One of the members has told me that there are some 15,000 invalid carriages in use in the whole country.

I do not know why we have only single carriages and I do not care. Whether the drawback is in the increased purchase price of a larger vehicle or in more expensive comprehensive insurance costs, I do not care. I can think of no difficulty in this case which cannot be easily overcome. If it means more money being spent, who cares? Is there a more worthwhile way in which money could be spent?

In a physiology text book I remember reading that "Oxygen is the golden key which unlocks the store of energy in the body." Well, surely an invalid carriage is the golden key which unlocks the cell door for the severely disabled. But I feel that the door is only partly unlocked. I believe that a double carriage would complete the job, and I hope they will be provided in future.

NOTES

From the "*Magic Carpet*," which is the quarterly magazine of the Invalid Tricycle Association, I have obtained the following information.

Capital Cost of a Two Seater Vehicle

In 1955 it was stated in Parliament that the estimated additional capital cost was £75 per machine. A further parliamentary statement in 1956 put the additional cost at £40—£50. By 1957 this figure had come down to £25 according to a third statement in Parliament.

Insurance for a Two Seater Vehicle

The Ministry of Health insure for third party risks the invalid carriage they issue. In 1958 a Ministry spokesman stated that their insurance policy covers the carrying of a passenger.

BLACK DIAMONDS

I live and work in mining districts. In last year's reports I paid tribute to the way in which our local miners managed to top the league in coal output. It is my considered opinion that they are doing an essential job and that they are doing it well. I have no quibble with what happens in the getting of coal to the surface, but I am very much concerned by what happens after it gets there. I believe we use our coal in a criminal and sinful way.

The criminal part is the amount of atmospheric pollution we produce by the burning of raw coal. There is no doubt pollution causes ill health and shortening of life. There is no need to go into this too much but it is always worth while to reiterate some of the important examples.

1. In 1952, 4,000 people were killed in a London smog which lasted for five days.
2. Every year some 25,000 people die because of chronic bronchitis. Atmospheric pollution causes a good deal of this.
3. Lung cancer causes about 20,000 deaths per year in the United Kingdom. I think it would be fair to say that it is generally accepted that atmospheric pollution plays a hand in this. I think few would disagree with that statement but there are many opinions as to the degree to which pollution is involved.

Surely it is criminal to carry on affecting our health in this way.

But, atmospheric pollution does not only affect our health, it also affects our pockets (and as a true Scot, I can't help feeling this to be a tragedy). It has been estimated that atmospheric pollution costs us £80,000,000 per year. Also 3,000,000 tons of coal go uselessly up the chimneys as smoke each year. On a more personal scale, Dr. Graham (M.O.H., Chesterfield R.D.C.) has shown that pollution causes a housewife to spend more money and time on household washing. A fact which my wife has known for some time. When the coal fires are roaring, it is as well to stay out of the way when the washing is being done. Only too often she puts out a white sheet which inside a few minutes becomes a white sheet with

black spots, due to soot from household chimneys. Even opening windows causes work. If you open your windows you invite soot to come in and land on the sills and furniture. An invitation which is nearly always accepted. Could it honestly be said that I exaggerate by referring to the above as criminal? I think not.

Now, where does the sin come in? Well, I think of the Parable of the Talents. Here, it was shown to be sinful not to make the best use of Talents. The one who simply buried his Talents and then dug them up again was treated as an object of scorn. Do we do any better with our coal? The title of this little piece is "Black Diamonds" which I consider to be a synonym for Coal. Coal can make anything is a statement which is not very far from the truth. From coal you can get gas or electricity or even petrol (and I can aver that a private car can run quite satisfactorily on petrol made from coal). From coal you can get countless chemicals. And, even after you have obtained these valuables, you are often left with a residue which can then be burned as a satisfactory fuel and as a fuel which will not cause atmospheric pollution with all the resultant evils it brings in its wake. Is not our misuse of coal sinful? If I were to split every pound note into two ten shilling notes, spend one and burn the other, I would treat money the way we treat coal. Could anything be sillier?

The above is sufficient to satisfy me that my hypothesis is correct. I am firmly convinced that we use coal in a criminal and sinful way. What should we do to rectify this? I would humbly suggest that we never burn a piece of raw coal again. Thus, we would greatly reduce atmospheric pollution. Also, I would suggest that we increase the production of coal as much as possible. This coal I would use for the production of the things I have already mentioned. Would not this give us the best of both possible worlds? By this we would increase the health and wealth of the country simultaneously. Could anyone ask for more? Many of my public health colleagues feel that reduction in atmospheric pollution will only be achieved if it goes along with a National Fuel Policy. I agree and feel such a policy is long overdue. Further I feel that my two suggestions could form a reasonable keystone for the erection of such a policy.

HOSPITALS AND THE AGED SICK AND INFIRM

The word hospital is derived from the Latin word *hospitium*—a place where guests are received. The modern usage of the word is a place in which the sick are received and treated. In England the word hospital was used both in the sense of a permanent retreat for the poor, infirm or for the insane and also for a regular institution for the temporary reception of sick cases. Nowadays, of course, we also accept the modern usage.

Now a bit about the history of hospitals.

In the Third Century B.C. there were hospitals in India.

Constantine the Great was the first Christian Emperor of Rome. In A.D. 335 he closed all the pagan hospitals in Europe. From then on monasteries undertook the work of these hospitals as a christian duty.

In 529 A.D. St. Benedict built a monastery at Monte Cassino in Italy for the care of the sick. St. Benedict formulated the rule that care of the sick should be placed above and before every other christian duty.

In Britain there were no hospitals until the Eleventh Century then the following were built :—

1078 St. Bartholomews, Rochester, for lepers.

1118 Leper Hospital, St. Giles, Holborn.

1123 St. Bartholomews Hospital, London.

At the beginning of the Thirteenth Century, St. Thomas' Hospital, London.

From 1536 to 1540 the monasteries of England were suppressed. This was a grievous blow to hospitals in England. From now on the responsibility was secular and very little was done. No hospital was built in England for 200 years.

In the first half of the Eighteenth Century 10 hospitals were built. In the whole of the Eighteenth Century 11 hospitals were built in London, 37 in the Provinces and 9 in Scotland. By 1925 there were 909 voluntary hospitals in the United Kingdom and they provided 60,000 beds.

Along with these voluntary hospitals went the Poor Law Institutions. The Elizabethan Poor Law was passed in 1601 and this made each parish responsible for the sick poor. Generally speaking the Infirmary wards were poor.

In 1834 there was an Act passed reforming the Poor Law and by this Act, local Boards of Guardians were formed.

From now on there was a gradual improvement and by 1870 the Boards of Guardians had developed hospital branches which worked side by side with voluntary hospitals. By 1897 only trained nurses were allowed and pauper nurses were forbidden.

These Institutions continued until 1929 when the Local Government Act enabled County and County Borough Councils to take them over. Some Local Authorities did well and some did not. Some of them even built new hospitals where the need arose.

Thus by 1930 we had voluntary and Local Authority hospitals working alongside each other. While most people would award the palm for efficiency to the voluntary hospital there is to my mind one way in which the others were far superior. The Poor Law Institutions could never refuse to admit any patient. As late as 1952 in Glasgow I can confirm that this tradition still existed in the general hospitals which had been Local Authority hospitals prior to the passing of the National Health Service Act.

The National Health Service Act which I have just mentioned was passed on 5th July, 1948. Under this Act voluntary and Local Authority hospitals are joined together in the one hospital service and they are administered by Regional Hospital Boards.

What then is the position as regards the aged and hospitals since the passing of the National Health Service Act? It seems to me to be pretty bad. At times it would seem to be easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle than for an old person to get into hospital when they are suffering from chronic sickness rather than an acute illness. Even when compulsory admission is sought under the National Assistance Act (and this is only used as a last resort in desperate and tragic cases), it is still very difficult to find a place for an old person. This year I had to take action under the emergency procedure of the Assistance Act in order to secure the admission of an old lady to hospital. This necessitates the

recommendation of two doctors and the approval of a Justice of the Peace. In other words it is not undertaken lightly. Yet even after this, I had a job to find a place for the old lady.

Why is there this difficulty? The inescapable fact is that there are not enough beds. There has not been any new hospital built since the passing of the National Health Service Act. Yet between 1929 and 1939 (the same period of time) some Local Authorities built new hospitals, surely this is a tribute to the oft maligned Local Authorities. Whose fault is this? It is easy to blame the Governments which have been in power and it is even easier to blame the Regional Hospital Boards. But we live in a democracy and, therefore, I feel the blame rests fairly and squarely upon your shoulders and mine and those of every elector.

What should be done to ameliorate this position? I would like to make the following suggestions.

1. Provision of more beds. This should be treated as a matter of great urgency. New hospitals are needed and should be built (I think our history in hospital building is by no means sparkling and I can only pray that our future conduct will be better.) Also more beds might be provided by altering the use of some existing beds. (e.g. in Tuberculosis wards).
2. I would like to see us revert a bit to the old meaning of hospital, 'a permanent retreat for the poor infirm' (the word poor can usually be deleted nowadays). In other words, I would like to see hospitals become a bit more human and a bit less clinical and detached. I have never liked the use of 'an interesting case' to describe a patient, because it carries the implication that an uninteresting case is not so important nor so worthy of treatment.
3. At present Local Authorities provide care and attention for Part 3. patients and there are the hospitals for old people who are acutely ill. Facilities for these are inadequate in my opinion but I am even more concerned about the 'Part 2' people. They are the ones who have a foot in both camps, i.e. not well enough for Part 3 and not ill enough for hospital. I feel that special attention should be paid to these people. They

are increasing in number and they will continue to increase as the age structure of the population alters.

4. There is the anomaly of no 'right of admission' which I feel should be attacked. Under the Poor Law (instituted as far back as 1601) we had legal right of admission to a Poor Law Institution. As far as I am aware no-one has a legal right of admission to hospital under the National Health Service Act. Have we not taken two smart steps backwards instead of forwards?

Finally, I must repeat St. Benedict's rule, the care of the sick should be placed above and before every other christian duty.

STATISTICS FOR THE AREA

Area (acres)	....	....	....	....	....	21,922
Population (Census 1951)	....	....	....	....	....	43,112
Population mid-year (Registrar-General, 1958)	....	....	....	....	....	43,370
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1958) according to						
Rate Books	....	....	....	....	....	13,359
Rateable Value, 1958	....	....	....	....	....	£308,229
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, 1958	....	....	....	....	....	£1,223 9s. 8d. (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

6 treatments were given at the Disinfestation Centre to cases of Verminous Heads. They were from the parish of Blackwell.

Scabies

No treatments were given at the Disinfestation Centre this year.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

	<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Live Births	759	385	374
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population. 16·9 (corrected).			
Still-births	23	12	11
Still-births Rate per 1,000 live and still-births 29·4.			
Total Live and Still-births	782	397	385
Infant Deaths	30	17	13
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births			39·5
Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate			38·2
Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate			74·1
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births (Deaths in first four weeks)			28·98
Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Births			28·98
Maternal Deaths (including abortion)			1
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live and Still-births			1·3

COMMENTS

There were 26 more births this year than last, and the Live Birth Rate (corrected) is slightly higher.

The number of Still-births and the Still-Birth Rate are both appreciably lower.

The Infant Mortality Rate and the Neo-Natal Mortality Rate are both higher—a grievous thing to report. In addition we had 2 deaths in illegitimate infants as against none last year. As last year, these rates are very much higher than the national ones, viz :—

	<i>England</i>	<i>Blackwell and Wales</i>
Infantile Mortality Rate	39·5	22·5
		(provisional)
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate	28·98	*16·1

*Provisional average for first three quarters of 1958.

Twenty-two infants died under the age of 4 weeks and both the illegitimate deaths are in this group. The causes of death were :—

Prematurity	....	....	....	....	....	....	12
Haemolytic Disease of Newborn	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Acute Bronchopneumonia	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Congenital abnormalities	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Intestinal Obstruction	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Lack of attention at birth	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Atelectasis	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Difficult Delivery	....	....	....	....	....	....	1

(Broncho pneumonia also played a part in five of the prematurity deaths).

Eight infants died between the age of 4 weeks and one year. The causes of death were :—

Bronchopneumonia	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Bronchopneumonia plus Congenital Abornality	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Tracheobronchitis	....	....	....	....	....	....	1
Lobar pneumonia	....	....	....	....	....	....	1

From the above it is noticable that prematurity played a part in 40%, bronchopneumonia in 43 $\frac{1}{3}$ % and the percentage from respiratory infection is 50%.

I must also point out that there was one maternal death this year.

Again, the only recommendation I can make concerning these infant and maternal deaths is the acceptance of ante-natal care. Every pregnant woman should attend for ante-natal care. It may be difficult when she has other children but for her sake and for the baby's, it is well worth while.

DEATHS

<i>Total</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
439	260	179

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 12.7 (corrected), national death rate 11.7.

The total number of deaths and the corrected death rate are both lower than in 1957.

CAUSES OF DEATH

					<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
Respiratory Tuberculosis	....	....	....		3	1
Meningococcal Infections	....	....	....		—	1
Cancer (stomach)	....	....	....		7	4
Cancer (lung)	....	....	....		5	—
Cancer (breast)	....	....	....		—	8
Cancer (uterus).	....	....	....		—	4
Cancer (other sites)	....	....	....		22	13
Diabetes	....	....	....		2	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system				....	32	32
Coronary disease	....	....	....		34	13
Hypertension with heart disease	....	....			1	3
Other Heart Disease	....	....	....		40	32
Other Circulatory Disease	....	....	....		10	6
Influenza	....	....	....		4	4
Pneumonia	....	....	....		24	9
Bronchitis	....	....	....		27	10
Other respiratory disease	....	....	....		4	—
Peptic Ulcer	....	....	....		6	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	....	....			2	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	....	....	....		4	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	....	....	....		4	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	....	....			—	1
Congenital Malformations	....	....	....		1	4
Other defined and ill defined diseases	....				17	27
Motor Vehicle Accidents	....	....	....		3	1
All other accidents	....	....	....		7	—
Suicide	....	....	....		1	1

COMMENTS

Heart and Circulation Deaths are ten more than last year. This remains the greatest cause of death. It covers a lot of illnesses.

Cancer deaths have decreased by 8. There were 9 fewer male deaths and 1 more female death. There were 5 deaths from cancer of the lung as against 8 in 1957. These were all male deaths.

Coronary Thrombosis caused 47 deaths as against 50 in 1957. There were 34 male deaths and 13 female and this sex distribution is the same as last year.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis caused 3 male deaths and 1 female whereas there were 2 male deaths in 1957. I am very sorry to see this increase.

Accidents caused a total of 11 deaths which is 2 more than last year. Here, there were 10 male deaths to only 1 female, definitely not something for males to be proud about.

Finally, I am sorry to report that there were 2 suicides after last year's clean bill.

CAUSES OF DEATH 1954-58

	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
Tuberculosis, respiratory	4	2	3	6	12
Tuberculosis, other	0	0	0	0	3
Syphilitic disease	0	1	0	0	1
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping cough	0	0	0	0	0
Meningococcal infections	1	0	1	1	0
Acute poliomyelitis	0	0	0	1	0
Measles	0	0	0	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0	1	1	0
Cancer, stomach	13	9	12	15	16
Cancer, lung	5	8	12	6	12
Cancer, breast	8	4	5	6	3
Cancer, uterus	4	1	2	4	4
Cancer, other sites	35	49	44	33	40
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	0	3	1	1	1
Diabetes	3	6	1	7	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous system	64	70	49	82	60
Coronary disease, angina	47	50	42	48	34
Hypertension with heart disease	4	5	6	4	6
Other heart disease	72	62	85	55	54
Other circulatory disease	16	15	22	18	10
Influenza	8	6	1	0	1
Pneumonia	33	20	26	18	11
Bronchitis	37	24	25	23	37

	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
Other respiratory diseases	4	9	7	6	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	7	5	7	2	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	3	2	0	1	3
Nephritis and nephrosis	6	5	3	8	6
Hyperplasia of prostate	4	3	6	1	3
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	1	0	0	0	0
Congenital Malformations	5	5	7	3	8
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	44	48	54	58	47
Motor vehicle accidents	4	2	7	4	3
All other accidents	7	7	15	17	12
Suicide	2	0	6	4	4
Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0	0	0

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.

1. Analytical—provided by the County Council.
2. Bacteriological—provided by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

I thank both for their courtesy and efficiency.

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

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

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

Mr. Williams, the Surveyor and Water Engineer, has kindly supplied the following report. I must thank him for his help and co-operation throughout the year.

1. WATER SUPPLY

(a) Pumping Stations

During the year 1,026,310,000 gallons of water were pumped from Budby Pumping Station of which some 732,365,000 gallons were repumped from Stoney Houghton to Whiteborough Reservoirs. Hours of pumping from Budby amounted to 8,431 of a possible 8,760 and the average rate of pumping per hour was 121,700 gallons.

Water was delivered in bulk to the following consumers :—

(i)	Blackwell Rural District Council	458,798,000	gallons.
(ii)	Warsop Urban District Council	132,545,000	„
(iii)	Chesterfield, Bolsover and Clowne Water Board	112,613,000	
(iv)	Sutton-in-Ashfield Urban District Council	299,184,000	„
(v)	Gleadthorpe Grange	1,045,000	„
TOTAL		1,004,185,000	„

The difference of 22,125,000 between this total and the amount recorded as being pumped from Budby represents the discrepancy of the meters. This is 2·23% which is less than the maximum 2·5% variation to which makers guarantee their instruments.

The pumping stations at Stoney Houghton and Budby are subject to daily maintenance and repairs and improvements are carried out by station staff. Only items of a highly specialised nature are dealt with by Contract.

Budby

No. 3 surface pump at Budby has been taken down for overhaul and repair as part of the general maintenance programme, a new

section of the body and an impeller required replacement and these are awaited from the manufacturers. This pump was brought into commission in 1946 and met, almost wholly, the demand up to the end of 1958, supplying in the period about Ten Thousand Million gallons of water.

Coal extraction has taken place close to the pumping station and subsidence cracks have appeared. The matter was taken up with the National Coal Board who have agreed the claim. Settlement is now almost complete.

A new central heating boiler for No. 1 Station has been fixed and electrical heating installed at No. 2 Station.

The whole of the exterior and part of the interior of the Station have been painted by Contract and the remainder together with all machinery painted by Station Staff.

The system of remote control of the pumps at Stoney Houghton and of the 12" motorised valve at Whiteborough is now in operation and working satisfactorily. The official re-organisation took place in October 1958.

Stoney Houghton

External and internal painting has been carried out by Contract and painting of pumps and motors has been done by Station Staff.

Both Stations have been heated electrically by 2 No. 5.K.W. fan heaters.

Houses

The three houses occupied by Station Attendants have been painted externally and minor repairs executed.

(b) Night Tests

Fifteen Night Tests were carried out during which 13 bursts and 219 defective overflows and stop taps were located.

(c) Meters

An additional four new meters were fixed in the district and 34 defective meters were replaced.

(d) New Services

A total of 107 new services were installed.

(e) General Inspections

Water inspectors made 40,311 inspections with a result that 965 defective notices were issued to owners. In this period, 4,251 taps were washered, 34 service pipes repaired, 51 stop taps repaired, 138 inspections made of plumbers' work and 54 hydrants flushed and cleaned. 23 bursts on Council's mains were repaired.

(f) Mining Subsidence Claims Act, 1957

Claims submitted under the above Act total 20 of which 16 have been admitted by the National Coal Board.

(g) Water consumption

The daily average domestic consumption during the year was 21.5 gallons/head/day, 0.2 less than last year. Comparative figures are shown below :—

				1956/57	1957/58	1958/59
Domestic	....	....	....	21.6	21.7	21.5
Trade	....	....	....	7.4	7.2	7.3
Total	....	....	....	29.0	28.9	28.8

(h) Pumping Main

Three bursts have occurred on the Pumping Main between Stoney Houghton and Whiteborough. Two of these were on the 16" main at Norwood, Pleasley and the other on Wild Hill. All these were caused by subsidence.

Night Tests have been carried out on the whole of the length from Budby to Whiteborough.

(i) Reservoirs

Nos. 1, 2 and 3 sections of the reservoirs at Whiteborough have been emptied, cleaned, painted, tested and put back into commission.

Covers have been raised on section 5 at Stoney Houghton and on Sections 1, 2 and 3 at Whiteborough.

A concrete bay together with tarmac roadway has been provided to the side of the store shed at Whiteborough.

(j) Examination of Water**(i) At the source.****By Public Analysts**

During the year 31 Bacteriological Examinations were carried out and 9 Chemical Analyses.

No coliform organisms were present in any of the samples examined and the following are typical chemical analyses for the 3 boreholes taken during the year :—

	No. 1 <i>Borehole</i>	No. 2 <i>Borehole</i>	No. 3 <i>Borehole</i>
Total Solids	530	548	395
Chlorides in terms of Chlorine	90	125	86.2
Sodium Chloride	148.3	206.1	142.2
Nitrate	2.9	4.5	4
Total Hardness	310	332	246
Temporary	162	144	108
Permanent	148	188	138
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs. @ 80°F	.26	.34	.35
Free Ammonia	.010	.004	.005
Albuminoid	.040	.014	.010
P.H. Value	7.6	7.5	7.65

It might be of some interest to compare the above with the following salient features of the character of water in the year 1935.

	No. 1 Borehole
Chlorides	21
Temporary Hardness	63
Permanent	52
Total	115

(ii) By the Engineer's Department

Staff at Budby Pumping Station undertake daily routine tests for residual chlorine and Hardness.

98 Bacteriological and 162 residual chlorine tests have been taken in addition to those taken by the Public Health Department.

Chlorine and ammonia are injected at 0.35 and 0.14 p.p.m.

(k) Batley Farm

The trustees of the Chatsworth Settlement applied to the

Minister of Housing and Local Government for permission to sink a borehole at Batley Farm to provide sufficient water for domestic and agricultural needs. The existing supply was from a ram pump some 400 yards away connected by $\frac{3}{4}$ " galvanised iron pipe which was in need of extensive repair. The application was granted and a borehole some 115 ft. deep has been sunk.

(l) Irrigation

In May 1958 a proposal was put forward by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food for irrigation of land at Gleadthorpe Farm, Warsop. The Scheme provides for the abstraction of up to 250,000 gallons per day from the River Meden, the actual amount being governed by weather conditions. Discussion revealed that a possible effect would be a rise in both Chloride content and Hardness of the Committee's water. Records of analyses are being compiled with particular reference to Chloride and Hardness, which will be passed on to the Ministry for their observations.

(m) Mains Extensions

Water main extensions have been carried out as follows :—

- (i) Gloves Lane, Blackwell—396 lin. yds. 4" diameter main.
- (ii) Arthur Street, Pinxton—23 lin. yds. 4" diameter main.
- (iii) Meadow Lane, South Normanton—116 lin. yds. 4" diameter main.
- (iv) Hardwick Fields—Ault Hucknall—450 lin. yds. 6" diameter main.
- (v) Booth Avenue, Pleasley—200 lin. yds. 3" diameter main.
- (vi) Terrace Lane, Pleasley—250 lin. yds. 4" diameter main.

2. SEWAGE DISPOSAL

(a) Langwith

Emergency repair work was undertaken to the settlement tanks damaged by subsidence. A scheme for extensive repair has been formulated.

(b) Pleasley

Filter bed walls have been rebuilt and a new arm fitted to the filter at the Upper Works whilst work on a filter distributor and the fixing of a new filter has been carried out at the Lower Works.

(c) Birchwood

New sludge bay and roadway have been constructed.

(d) Carnfield

A sludge bay and humus bed have been completed at these works.

(e) South Normanton

The construction of a flume channel and the fixing of a Lea Recorder to record flow of sewage to the works has been carried out. The construction of a roadway at the works has also commenced.

(f) Blackwell

A gauging chamber has been constructed and also a new sludge bed.

(g) Tibshelf

The rebuilding of a sludge bed has been undertaken at these works.

(h) Septic Tank—Primrose Terrace

The septic tank at Primrose Terrace has suffered damage due to subsidence and the National Coal Board has accepted liability.

(i) General

General daily maintenance is carried out at all works and reports on conditions recorded.

(j) Samples

124 samples from the Sewage Disposal Works have been taken and tested in Council's laboratory.

3. SEWERAGE**(a) Hillstown**

The relaying of some 364 lin. yards of 12" diameter concrete sewer from the site of the old sewage disposal works at Hillstown to the junction of Selwyn Street and Wells Street has now been completed. Work was carried out in very hard rock, the average depth of excavation being about 10' 0" deep and the maximum some 13' 0" deep. In order to progress at a reasonable speed it was necessary to blast the rock and these operations were carried out until the proximity of dwellings rendered this impracticable.

(b) South Normanton

A pumping station housing 2 Lister diesel engines driving 5" Barrington pumps has been constructed in connection with the above for dealing with sewage at the outfall to the South Normanton Works. Each pump is capable of discharging 540 gallons per minute to the main works and as the average dry weather flow is about 145,000 gallons per day ample provision for the normal requirement of 6 x D.W.F. to be discharged to the works has been provided. The cost of construction of the pump house and well was just over £1,000 and the pumps and engines cost £2,220. Connection from the pumping station to the existing manhole entailed the laying of some 60 yards of 15" concrete pipes and that together with 110 yards of 9" cast iron rising main to the existing works was laid by direct labour.

These operations were made necessary due to subsidence and the whole of the cost will be borne by the National Coal Board.

(c) Routine inspections of sewers and manholes is carried out and sewers are regularly flushed and dragged.

(d) 12 further properties at Stubbins Wood and Thickley Bank have been connected to Council's sewerage system.

4. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

There are 17 public conveniences throughout the District and maintenance is carried out as a matter of routine but damage due to vandalism continues at a high level.

5. BUILDINGS

385 plans have been received for scrutiny under the Building Byelaws and 364 Unauthorised Buildings have been discovered.

CONVERSIONS

<i>Parish</i>					<i>Pail Closets converted into water closets</i>
Glapwell	....	....	....	....	1
Pinxton	....	....	....	....	2
Tibshelf	....	....	....	....	2
					—
Total	....	....	....	....	5
					==

HOUSING

150 dwellings were completed by the Council and 65 were built privately. This gives a total of 215. I am pleased that this is a higher number than 1957 when only 170 new dwellings were completed in the district.

I must thank Mr. Wells, the Architect, who has supplied the table shown below which shows how we are progressing as regards Council building.

Parish	Dwellings completed 1st January, 1958 to 31st December, 1958			Dwellings completed 1st January, 1959 to 31st May, 1959			Dwellings in course of erection or contracts approved 31st May, 1959		
	Houses	Bun- galows	Flats	Houses	Bun- galows	Flats	Houses	Bun- galows	Flats
Blackwell ...	18	—	—	14	14*	8	—	—	—
Pinxton ...	22	18*	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shirebrook ...	50	22	12	—	—	—	12	12	4
South Normanton	8	—	—	—	—	—	70	24*	12

*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	15	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	44	27	5
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	44	5	—
Total	130	47	6

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number Found	Number Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient	3	1	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	5	5	—	
Total	8	6	—	—

3.—OUTWORK.

Nature of Work	No. of Out-workers	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council
Wearing apparel, making, etc.	35	—
Lace, Lace Curtains and Nets	1	—
Total	36	—

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 the ninth successive year there was no case. Our last case was in 1949. Again I advise that we keep this up by immunisation. Dr. Morgan (County M.O.H.) has kindly supplied the following figures which show how many children were immunised in 1957 and 1958.

					1958	1957
Under 1 year	....	....	....	....	182	160
1—4 (incl.)	....	....	....	....	66	81
5—14 (incl.)	....	....	....	....	65	54
					<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	....	....	....	....	313	295
					<hr/>	<hr/>

1958 is better than 1957 but I still feel that we could do better.

Scarlet Fever

We had 41 cases against 59 in 1957 and 95 in 1956. This disease continued to be mild in character.

Poliomyelitis

There were 3 cases of paralytic poliomyelitis. They were all in young children between the age of 1 and 4. In 1957 there were 6 cases of paralytic poliomyelitis. I advise all who are eligible to seek vaccination against this illness. It can be done at a County Clinic or by General Practitioners.

Food Poisoning

For the second year running there were no cases.

Measles

This was the year when we only had a few cases, 76 as against 744 in 1957. There were only 2 cases above the age of 10. One in the age group 10—15 and one in the age group 15—20.

Whooping Cough

We had more this year, 54 against 36 in 1957, 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	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	—
35	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
45	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and upwards	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	13	3	1	—	3	1	—	—

The phthisis death rate is 0.09 per 1,000 population. This table, on the whole, is a little better than last year. There were 17 notified cases against 34 in 1957. We have now come down to the 1955 level and I hope that we shall now start to diminish. The numbers for 1955 to 1958 are :—

1955. 15 new cases.

1956 25 new cases.

1957. 34 new cases.

1958. 17 new cases.

Against this improvement in the number of new cases, must be set the increase in number of deaths. There are 4 deaths this year ; 2 in 1957. Still I am pleased at the decrease in new cases and if this can be maintained, we shall be on the right way.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1958.

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases notified												Total Cases notified in each Parish of the District									Total Cases removed to Hospital	Total Deaths	
	At Ages—years												Shirebrook	S. Normanton	Pinxton	Tibshelf	Blackwell	Pleasley	Scarcliffe	A. Hucknall	Glapwell			
	At all Ages	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65												65 & upwards
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	41	1	5	4	4	18	8	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	4	7	—	—	10	40	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorium	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	1	6	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	2	—	—	4
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	11	2	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	3	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebral-spinal fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	3	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—
“ (Non “)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	76	3	11	10	10	14	26	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	11	22	15	6	15	—	—
Whooping Cough	54	4	8	9	7	10	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	16	—	8	9	3	—	—
Para-Typhoid Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gastro-Enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	203	9	21	25	23	28	63	9	4	6	1	10	4	35	9	3	19	32	26	33	16	30	42	4

REPORT OF CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report on the work of the department during the past year. Statistics and comments on the various sections are set out in the following pages.

The improvement of housing accommodation is one of the most important duties of this department and the past year has been one of intense activity in this field. The representation of Clearance Areas and individual unfit houses has continued in excess of the Programme prepared in July, 1955, and there will be no difficulty in completing the original Programme by 1960. Since the preparation of the Programme 341 houses have been dealt with and the majority of the families re-housed in new houses. Without question this is of tremendous benefit to the health and comfort of the persons affected and children can be educated to enjoy a much higher standard of hygiene than was possible in the older and defective houses lacking the amenities of a new house. In many cases it is pleasing to note the improvement in families where there was a grave doubt as to their suitability for a new house.

Whilst all this is progress in the right direction, a large housing problem remains. In this 'Atomic Age' it is sad to reflect that although I have been engaged in public health work for a quarter of a century, there has been almost no advance in the standard for assessing unfit houses. Whilst baths, hot water supplies and suitable accommodation for household washing are universally accepted as essential accommodation, many houses are without such facilities, and there are no powers to enforce them. In this direction the recent refusal of the Ministry to confirm a Clearance Area involving 6 houses with pail closets, leaking cesspool, unpaved yards, windows, doors and other items defective has been a surprise and shock to the department. It is almost unnecessary to add that 5 of these houses are without baths and hot water supplies, and there is no hope of securing such facilities. Surely the time has arrived when every house should have a fixed bath and hot water supply.

The maintenance of a 100% meat inspection service continues to be regarded as an essential and has been achieved, as in past years, by Inspectors working in the evenings and at week-ends on a rota system. Although there has been a reduction in the number of animals slaughtered and some improvement in the hours of slaughter, it has had little effect on the frequency with which evening and week-end work has been necessary. The Council has continued to press for amendment of legislation governing hours of slaughter and the local M.P. has supported the representations, but so far these efforts have had little effect. Surely it is unreasonable to expect the Council to provide this essential service, yet allow butchers to slaughter animals almost as and when it suits their purpose.

The Clean Air Act, 1956, has continued to receive careful consideration, including a special Health Committee to consider its various aspects. Whilst good progress has been made in reducing industrial smoke, it has been decided that in present circumstances it is impractical to proceed with 'Smoke Control Areas'. This is essentially a mining area with the extensive use of 'concessionary' coal, and at present there is no acceptable solution of this problem.

Cleansing and salvage work has been maintained at a high level, and I appreciate the work of the foremen and staff in this section. The men often have to work in difficult weather conditions, yet only on rare occasions has the frequency of the 7 day collection service been disturbed.

Dr. Robertson and colleagues in other departments have continued to give me their full co-operation and assistance as required—this is fully appreciated and frequently brings a quicker solution of outstanding difficulties. All members of the staff have worked well together and I 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.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS

General Sanitation :

Atmospheric Pollution	....	....	....	....	....	....	43
Water Supplies	....	....	....	....	....	....	181
Drainage	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,386
Drains tested	....	....	....	....	....	....	148
Stables and Piggeries	....	....	....	....	....	....	39
Accumulations	....	....	....	....	....	....	85
Colliery Spoilbanks	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins	....	....					371
Re-inspections of Sanitary Conveniences, Ashplaces and Ashbins							149
Fried Fish Shops	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Tents, Vans and Sheds	....	....	....	....	....	....	32
Public Conveniences	....	....	....	....	....	....	15
Factories and Bakehouses		....	....	....	....	....	47
Refuse Collection	....	....	....	....	....	....	51
Refuse Disposal	....	....	....	....	....	....	160
Street Cleansing	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Rats and Mice	....	....	....	....	....	....	1,217
Schools	....	....	....	....	....	....	45
Cinemas	....	....	....	....	....	....	35
River Pollution Prevention		....	....	....	....	....	31
Shop Acts	....	....	....	....	....	....	8
Petroleum Acts	....	....	....	....	....	....	311
Smoke Observations	....	....	....	....	....	....	13
Inquiries re cases of Infectious Disease				....	....	....	44
Interviews and Appointments	....		....	....	....	....	1,560
Miscellaneous Visits	....	....	....	....	....	....	991

Housing :

Number of houses inspected under Public Health Acts	....	443
Re-visits to houses inspected under Public Health Acts	....	1,491
Number of houses inspected under Housing Acts	....	207
Re-visits to houses inspected under Housing Acts	....	1,110
Number of houses inspected re overcrowding....	....	53
Re-visits paid to houses re overcrowding	....	128
Number of verminous houses inspected	....	91
Re-visits to above houses	....	41

Miscellaneous Housing Enquiries	....	....	....	....	294
Shirebrook Housing Survey—Inspections	....	....	....	....	412
Re-inspections	....	....	....	....	87

Meat and Food Inspection :

Visits to Slaughterhouses	....	....	....	....	....	2,774
Shops and Stalls (re meat)	....	....	....	....	....	107
Street Vendors and Hawker's Carts	....	....	....	....	....	597
Other Food Premises	....	....	....	....	....	140
Milk Distribution	77
Ice Cream Premises	60
Canteens, Cafes, etc.	29

Miscellaneous :

Salvage	119
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SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH

	Served during 1958	Complied with during 1958	Out- standing on 31/12/58
Informal Public Health Act Notices	611	608	335
Statutory Public Health Act Notices	15	17	7
Informal Housing Act Notices	—	—	—
Statutory Housing Act Notices....	—	—	1
	<hr/> 626	<hr/> 625	<hr/> 343
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS

Dwelling Houses :

Cleansed	....	....	....	....	....	14
Vermin Disinfestation	....	....	....	....	....	32
Lighting improved	....	....	....	....	....	—
Ventilation improved	....	....	....	....	....	7
Windows repaired	....	....	....	....	....	190
Walls rendered free from dampness	....	....	....	....	....	140
Plasterwork repaired	....	....	....	....	....	105
Floors re-laid or repaired	....	....	....	....	....	80
Woodwork renewed or repaired	....	....	....	....	....	63

Fireplaces and grates repaired	....	....	....	....	96
Cooking facilities improved	....	....	....	....	55
Kitchen boilers repaired or improved	....	....	....	....	85
Food stores improved	....	....	....	....	28
Coal stores improved	....	....	....	....	51
Washing accommodation provided or improved	....	....	....	....	4
Internal water supply provided	....	.....	....	....	—
Roofs repaired	....	....	....	....	123
Walls pointed and brickwork repaired....	....	....	....	....	98
Chimney stacks repaired	....	....	....	....	94
Damp proof course provided	....	....	....	....	—
Eaves gutters and downspouts repaired	....	....	....	....	75
Yards and passages paved or repaired	....	....	....	....	59
Yards cleansed	....	....	....	....	2
Living vans removed	....	....	....	....	5
Baths provided	....	....	....	....	222

Drainage :

Drainage provided, re-laid or repaired....	....	....	....	....	34
Drains cleansed	....	....	....	....	114
Gullies provided or repaired	....	....	....	....	10
Inspection chambers provided or repaired	....	....	....	....	29
Ventilators repaired	....	....	....	....	9
Premises drained by provision of cesspool	....	....	....	....	6
Cesspools repaired	....	....	....	....	1
Cesspools abolished	....	....	....	....	1
Drains connected to sewer	....	....	....	....	2
Septic tank and filter provided	....	....	....	....	1

Sinks :

New sinks provided	....	....	....	....	45
New sink waste pipes provided	....	....	....	....	47
Sink waste pipes repaired	....	....	....	....	8

Closet Accommodation :

Buildings repaired	....	....	....	....	57
Closets cleansed	....	....	....	....	5
Water closet cisterns provided or repaired	....	....	....	....	29

Water closet pedestals renewed or repaired	....	....	41
Water closet service pipes repaired	....	....	27
Closet pails renewed	....	....	4

Miscellaneous :

Dangerous, defective and dilapidated buildings demolished	6
Accumulations removed	22
Urinals provided, repaired and cleansed	3
Nuisances abated from keeping of animals	10
Other nuisances abated	13

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

There has been little progress during the year in the conversion of pail closets, chiefly due to the lack of satisfactory sewerage of some areas, particularly the rural parts of the Ault Hucknall Parish. Schemes for the improvement of the sewerage of these areas are well in hand, but delays have arisen in negotiations for land required.

Five pail closets have been converted making a total of 2,377 since 1950. This leaves 235 pail closets still in use—details are set out below :—

Parish	Pail Closets converted to water closets during 1958	Pail Closets in use on 31/12/58
Ault Hucknall	—	73
Blackwell	—	55
Glapwell	1	1
Pleasley	—	21
Pinxton	2	18
Scarcliffe	—	12
Shirebrook	—	6
South Normanton	—	22
Tibshelf	2	27
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5	235
	<hr/>	<hr/>

HOUSING

The completion of new houses has proceeded at a satisfactory rate, a total of 215 (150 Council houses and 65 private houses) being erected during the year. This has enabled the work of re-housing families from Clearance Areas and houses subject to Demolition Orders to proceed—86 families involving 272 persons have been provided with new houses. It has also been possible to secure the demolition of 52 houses. Few complaints are now received regarding overcrowding, and two or more families occupying the same house. There are, however, still 12 known cases of overcrowding. Some of these need houses with at least 4 bedrooms.

Good progress has been made on the representation of unfit houses, provided for in the Slum Clearance Programme approved in July, 1955, a total of 104 houses being represented including 46 houses in 6 Clearance Areas. This makes a total of 341 houses dealt with since the commencement of the programme referred to above.

Whilst it is noted that an increasing number of houses are being repaired by owners, without this department having to make representations—presumably this is due to increases allowed under the Rent Acts—there are many sub-standard houses still requiring attention. These were chiefly built during the past 50/70 years, and are chiefly in blocks with unpaved rear roads/or yards and lack modern facilities such as fixed baths and hot water supplies. This category includes some 1,200 houses in the centre of Shirebrook, a survey of which was commenced in March. Staff difficulties has delayed this work and it will now be well into 1959 before the work is complete.

Negotiations proceeded throughout the year regarding the purchase by the District Council of sub-standard property in Park Lane, Pinxton, with a view to improvement and repair.

Applications for Improvement Grants continue to be dealt with by the Engineer's Department, along with plans submitted for Building By-law approval.

The majority of these continue to be from owner/occupiers, but it is interesting to note the National Coal Board has completed repair and improvement work at 161 houses in the Model Village of

Shirebrook. During the year 76 grants were approved in respect of 85 houses.

Housing Repairs and Rent Act, 1954—Certificates of Disrepair :

Number issued during 1958	....	....	....	....	....	—
Total issued since operation of Act	....	....	....	....	....	163
Number revoked during 1958	....	....	....	....	....	28
Number revoked since operation of Act	....	....	....	....	....	127

There are 36 Certificates still operative, some of these being issued in 1954.

Rent Act, 1957—Certificates of Disrepair :

Number of applications received during 1958	....	....	....	....	....	34
Number of applications received since operation of Act	....	....	....	....	....	61
Number of Certificates issued during 1958	....	....	....	....	....	18
Number of Certificates issued since operation of Act	....	....	....	....	....	23
Number of Certificates cancelled during 1958	....	....	....	....	....	6

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) 650
- (b) No of inspections made for this purpose 3,251
2. (a) No. of dwelling houses (included under 1a) which were inspected and recorded under the the Housing Regulations 104
- (b) No. of Inspections made for this purpose 1,317
3. No. of dwelling houses found to be unfit for human habitation 104

B. Remedy of Defective Dwelling Houses :

1. Unfit houses rendered fit and houses in which defects were remedied during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Housing or Public Health Acts 218
2. Public Health Acts—action after service of formal notice.
Houses in which defects were remedied :
 - (a) By owners 6
 - (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	....	....	....	....	4
(b) By local authority in default of owners	....	....	....	....	—

C. Overcrowding

Parish	No. of Houses Overcrowded on 31/12/58	Cases of Overcrowding abated during 1958	No. of Persons affected by abatement
Ault Hucknall	—	1	6
Blackwell	2	5	40
Glapwell	1	—	—
Pleasley	—	—	—
Pinxton	4	6	48
Scarcliffe	1	—	—
Shirebrook	—	—	—
South Normanton	4	9	57
Tibshelf	—	2	18
	12	23	169
	==	==	==

D. Houses subject to Demolition and Closing Orders :

Parish	Still occupied	Vacant and awaiting Demolition	Total
Ault Hucknall	3	3	6
Blackwell	19	17	36
Glapwell	—	—	—
Pleasley	—	4	4
Pinxton	6	9	15
Scarcliffe	16	18	34
Shirebrook	2	6	8
South Normanton	103	16	119
Tibshelf	4	1	5
	153	74	227
	==	==	==

ERADICATION OF VERMIN

A total of 132 inspections and re-inspections have been made of houses and other premises and in 32 cases work has been carried out by this department. This is a slight reduction on the previous year. There has been no instance of re-infestation.

A summary of this work is given below :—

Bed Bugs

No. of Council houses disinfested	....	....	....	7
No. of private premises disinfested	....	....	....	2

Cockroaches

No. of Council houses disinfested	....	....	....	6
No. of private houses disinfested	....	....	....	4
No. of business premises disinfested	....	....	....	2

Other Vermin

No. of Council houses dealt with for ant infestation	....	5
No. of private houses dealt with for cricket infestation		2
No. of premises sprayed as a precautionary measure	....	4
		<hr/>
		32
		<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 pump.

Ants and

Crickets —Spraying with Gamodex containing Dieldrin.

Bed Bugs and

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

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

The inspection of freshly killed meat is an important and essential duty and it is pleasing to be able to report that 100% inspection has been achieved notwithstanding the difficult times at which slaughtering takes place. Whilst there has been a reduction

in the number of animals slaughtered and some improvement in the hours of slaughter, it is still necessary for inspection on most evenings after 5 p.m., on Saturday afternoons and Sundays. These additional duties are undertaken by the staff on a rota system.

Inspection work, carried out in accordance with Memo. 3/Foods, has resulted in the condemnation of slightly over 27½ tons of meat and offal, an increase of almost 6 tons compared with the previous year.

There are 15 private slaughterhouses (2 of which carry on wholesale business), and the inspection of 40,180 animals at these premises has comprised quite a large proportion of the department's work. For some years this kill has been considerably in excess of the needs of this district, and consignments are regularly despatched to wholesale meat markets and to retail butchers in adjoining local districts.

I have referred in my opening remarks to this report to the Council's continued dissatisfaction with Regulations which do not adequately control slaughtering hours nor make 100% inspection compulsory.

No. of Animals slaughtered and examined :

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses	Total
Wholesale Private Slaughterhouse, Tibshelf	1828	845	72	5912	4229	—	12886
Wholesale Private Slaughterhouse, Pleasley	1587	506	56	8012	9583	—	19744
Other Private Slaughterhouses (North)	376	55	5	1024	1017	—	2477
Other Private Slaughterhouses (South) ...	532	445	5	2005	2086	—	5073
	4323	1851	138	16953	16915	—	40180

Condemnation of Carcasses and Offal

	Cattle ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci. Whole carcasses condemned	—	1	3	17	11	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	790	593	3	376	701	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B. and Cysticerci	18.51	32.04	4.33	2.32	4.21	—
Tuberculosis only Whole carcasses condemned	6	10	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	218	382	—	—	185	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	5.04	20.64	—	—	1.09	—
Cysticercosis Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	8	1	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	8	1	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Meat and offal amounting to 27 tons. 10 cwts. 80 lbs. has been condemned, and 65 lbs. of other unsound food and 1,567 tins of unfit food have also been dealt with. This is a substantial increase on previous years having regard to the smaller number of animals slaughtered, and appears to be mainly due to the increase in

Tuberculosis in cows (20·64% as against 17·03%), and a large increase in the number of bovine livers affected with 'Fluke'.

The number of carcasses affected with Localised *Cysticercus Bovis* and dealt with by cold storage was 9 compared with 12 in 1957 and 21 in 1956.

All condemned meat and offal is stained green and disposed of by manufacture into animal feeding stuffs and fertilizers, except in two instances. At one wholesale slaughter-house flukey livers are sent for mink feeding after staining and at the other wholesale slaughterhouse flukey livers (unstained) are retained in cold store and disposed of for pharmaceutical purposes.

At the two large wholesale slaughterhouses unsound meat is removed daily, and the butchers credited with the salvage value. At other slaughterhouses where there are substantial amounts for removal these are collected by the salvage firm and the value credited direct to the butcher. Small amounts of unfit offal are collected in the department's van and delivered to the processing plant. Where this takes place the salvage payment is made to the District Council as part payment for the removal service.

These arrangements have operated smoothly and without complaint.

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

Condemnations for Tuberculosis :

Beef	11,462 lbs.	Veal	—
Beef Offal	16,202 lbs.	Veal Offal	—
Pork	2,114 lbs.	Mutton	—
Pork Offal	323 lbs.	Mutton Offal	—

Condemnations for *Cysticercus Bovis* :

Beef	54 lbs.	Beef Offal	900 lbs.
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Condemnations for diseases other than Tuberculosis and *Cysticercus Bovis* :

Beef	1,947 lbs.	Mutton	884 lbs.
Beef Offal	19,723 lbs.	Mutton Offal	2,612 lbs.
Pork	2,813 lbs.	Veal	173 lbs.
Pork Offal	3,471 lbs.	Veal Offal	31 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 decontrol of meat. Of these 13 are in regular use.

These have continued to be maintained in a satisfactory condition and further improvements have been effected at two premises including a new stunning pen, gut room and manure pit. The chief difficulty in the operation of these slaughterhouses arises from the effluent at the two wholesale premises. This causes serious difficulties in the sewers and at the purification works. The only complaints received in respect of these premises have been of noise arising from the proximity of lairages to dwelling-houses. Whilst improvements have been secured with the co-operation of the users of the slaughterhouses, it is a matter of some concern that amended legislation takes no account of the proximity of these premises to dwelling houses.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS 1933—54

Number of licences issued (including 2 to new applicants to work under the supervision of an experienced licensed man	62
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FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations 1947

The majority of the ice cream sold in the area is pre-packed, and there has been an increase of 13 in the number of premises registered for this. All premises registered and persons retailing from vans have been closely supervised and I am able to report that all vans comply with the Food Hygiene Regulations, and have satisfactory supplies of hot and cold water, etc. A total of 32 samples (details below) have been examined.

Premises registered :

(a) Manufacture and sale of ice cream	2
(b) Sale of ice cream	3
(c) Sale of pre-packed ice cream....	146
	<hr/>
	151

Results of ice cream samples :

Ice Cream		Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV	Total
Complete Cold Mix	....	2	2	—	—	4
Pasteurised	....	4	3	2	1	10
Pre-packed	....	10	4	1	—	15
Total		16	9	3	1	29

In addition to the above samples, 2 samples of ice cream have been submitted for analysis and the fat content reported to be satisfactory, and 1 sample of iced lollies has also been examined and found to be satisfactory.

FOOD PREMISES

There are 489 premises within the district. A classified schedule of these is set out below :—

Business	Tibshelf	Pinxton	South Normanton	Blackwell	Ault Hucknall	Glapwell	Pleasley	Scarliffe	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	6	3	—	—	1	4	12	38
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	94	53	20	10	22	66	112	489

REGISTRATION OF PREMISES FOR PREPARATION OF PRESERVED FOOD, etc.

There are 22 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 complete survey of all food premises commenced in 1956, is continuing steadily and as quickly as the pressure of other work permits. Since this survey commenced a total of 195 premises have been examined. These include the most important handlers of food and the majority of the premises still requiring detailed attention are the small shops. The School canteens are among the premises which now satisfy the requirements of these Regulations.

A Food Hygiene film has been shown at all local cinemas, but there has been little opportunity to carry out other education work, apart from that done by Inspectors in their daily contacts with the food trade and public.

As a result of the survey work, 18 preliminary notices have been served. In 34 cases work was in progress at the end of the year and 19 notices have been fully complied with. Rather than carry out improvements one butchers shop has been closed, and a building temporarily used as a school canteen has also been closed.

It is the policy of the department to continue to press for washing facilities on all vans used for the sale and distribution of food, notwithstanding the weakness of the Regulations in this direction. A good measure of success has been achieved and most traders now appreciate the need for these facilities. As old vans are replaced, the new ones are being provided with the necessary facilities.

To enforce compliance with the Regulations it was necessary to take proceedings against one butcher in respect of his shop premises. The Magistrates imposed a fine of £6 0s. 0d. and awarded an advocate's fee of £3 0s. 0d. Two warnings have been given regarding smoking whilst handling food.

A summary of improvements is given below :—

Internal water supplies provided ....	....	....	....	2
Hot water supplies provided ...	....	....	....	2

New Sinks provided	....	....	....	....	....	6
New Washbasins provided	....	....	....	....	....	8
Premises cleansed	....	....	....	....	....	12
Notices re "washing hands"	....	....	....	....	....	2
Drainage improved	....	....	....	....	....	3
Floors, walls, ceilings, etc., repaired or renewal	....	....	....	....	....	15
Fixtures provided or improved	....	....	....	....	....	11
Increased protection for open food	....	....	....	....	....	6
Improved storage for waste	....	....	....	....	....	2
First-aid kits provided	....	....	....	....	....	1
Lighting and ventilation improved	....	....	....	....	....	2
Rodent and insect proofing carried out	....	....	....	....	....	6
Clothes storage improved	....	....	....	....	....	4
Closet accommodation improved	....	....	....	....	....	3

The Shirebrook privately owned market, in which all types of food are sold in the open, continues to function. It is obviously a source of intense irritation to traders nearby who have spent appreciable sums of money in bringing their premises up to the standard of these Regulations, and it is time much more stringent Regulations were applied to open markets.

After long negotiations the Town Planning Authority granted a limited permission for the erection of a kiosk on this market to provide hot and cold water supplies for stall holders and to house electrical connections to enable the stalls to be more adequately lighted and to dispense with paraffin flares. At the end of the year the kiosk had been erected, but not completely fitted out.

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 77 inspections being made and 54 samples have been submitted for examination.

There are 57 registered distributors of milk and one dairy within the district, and two farmers retail their own T.T. milk. 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. The County Council has examined 17 samples of milk pasteurised at this dairy, all of which have satisfied the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase tests.

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

Numbers of dealers' licences (Tuberculin Tested milk)	36
Number of Supplementary dealers' licences (Tuberculin Tested milk)	2

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

Number of dealers' licences (Pasteurised Milk)	39
Number of dealers' licences (Sterilised Milk)	22
Number 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	8 satisfactory.

Pasteurised Milk

Methylene Blue Test	16 satisfactory.
Phosphatase Test	17 satisfactory.

Sterilised Milk

Turbidity Test	2 satisfactory.
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Raw Milk

Methylene Blue Test	2 satisfactory.
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FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955 :

The Food & Drugs Authority for this area is the Derbyshire County Council and the County Analyst has very kindly supplied the following statement :—

"101 samples, including 35 Milks, were taken under the above Act in the area of the Blackwell Rural District Council during the year 1958. No serious irregularities were disclosed and no proceedings were taken. Two samples of Strawberry Jam—an informal sample followed by a formal sample—were deficient in fruit. Caution notices were issued to both the vendor and the manufacturer. The remaining samples were classed as satisfactory. Samples submitted by your Authority included Canned Corned Beef which was found to be contaminated with lead to an extent sufficient to class the remainder of the stock as unfit for food. Samples of milk and of potatoes which were the subject of consumer complaint were also investigated."

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply of the district has been satisfactory both in quantity and quality. From the table (page 50) it will be seen that 146 samples have been examined, of which 20 were found to be unsatisfactory. All the unsatisfactory samples were from 4 wells and springs. Arrangements are proceeding with a view to providing district supplies in lieu of the wells, and improvements are being made for the chlorination of the spring supply.

WATER SAMPLES

	<i>Bacteriological Examination</i>	<i>Chemical Analysis</i>
District Supplies	88 satisfactory.	14 satisfactory.
Other district supplies	11 satisfactory	1 satisfactory.
Well and spring supplies	12 satisfactory. 20 unsatisfactory.	

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

It has been necessary to investigate 67 complaints, many of which have been minor infestations by mice. Most of these have been dealt with by advising occupiers and making available (at cost) suitable poisons. Investigation of these complaints and other survey and treatment work has necessitated some 1,217 inspections and visits. Only one serious rat infestation has been dealt with. This involved a sewer storm water overflow and it was necessary to use $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. of bait base and poison—155 bodies were picked up.

A schedule giving details of the water supplies to dwelling houses is set out below. From this it will be noted that 13,322 houses (99·64%) are provided with a piped supply of district water, 35 houses (·26%) are provided with district water by means of external stand pipes and 13 houses (·1%) 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	1,424	5,085			—	—
South Normanton	2,149	6,605	32	130	—	—
Tibshelf	1,153	3,142	2	9	—	—
Blackwell	1,300	4,374	1	1	—	—
Shirebrook	3,367	9,905	—	—	6	18
Scarcliffe	2,183	7,584	—	—	2	3
Ault Hucknall	513	2,328	—	—	1	2
Glapwell	472	1,295	—	—	—	—
Pleasley	761	2,646	—	—	4	11
	13,322	42,964	35	140	13	34

The majority of the houses with external stand pipes are now subject to Demolition Orders.

Following notification by the Ministry of Agriculture of the termination of the Contract System for the treatment of farms, farmers have been informed that the District Council will carry out treatment as required on a cost basis. Some have taken advantage of this service, whilst others are employing commercial service firms. This department is now undertaking regular routine inspection of farm premises.

The District Council have two employees who have had Ministry training and they undertake work, as required, under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors, but they are not employed full time on this work. Regular six monthly treatment of sewer manholes continues.

Summary of Work Done :

Council Premises

Number of premises examined	....	....	....	....	202
Number of premises treated by use of Warfarin bait for rat and mouse infestation	....	....	....	....	6
Number of Council houses treated by use of Warfarin bait for rat and mouse infestation	....	....	....	....	3
Number of Council houses treated by use of Zinc Phosphide for rat and mouse infestation....	....	....	....	....	1
Number of premises treated by use of Zinc Phosphide for rat and mouse infestation	....	....	....	....	35
Number of premises treated by use of Cymag for rat and mouse infestation	....	....	....	....	4
Number of premises treated by use of Cymag for rabbit infestation	....	....	....	....	1

Private Premises

Number of private and business premises treated by use of Warfarin bait for rat and mouse infestation	....	26
Number of private and business premises treated by use of Zinc Phosphide for rat and mouse infestation	....	6
Number of private and business premises treated by use of dogs and ferrets	....	2

Sewer Manholes

Number test baited....	....	....	....	....	....	222
Number baited with poison	41

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, and it was pleasing to receive a letter of appreciation from a friend of the deceased in which he wrote—“Many thanks for the kindness and courtesy shown by your department—it was a grand funeral and neighbours were very surprised.”

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

There are no recognised camping grounds and the control of individual vans to prevent duplication of licences, etc., continues to be exercised under the provisions of the Town and Country Planning Acts. The problem of casual vans still causes concern. 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 again 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 47 inspections were made, 4 notices complied with, and 1 Certificate of Means of Escape in Case of Fire issued.

A summary of improvements effected is given below :—

Provision of additional sanitary accommodation	....	1
Improvement of washing facilities	....	2
Discontinuance of use of unsuitable premises	....	1

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACTS 1928—36

Number of licensed premises 52

The new conditions for the issue of licences for the storage of petrol, to comply with the recommendations in Home Office Circular No. 84/47, became operative as from 1st January, 1958, and an increased amount of work involving 311 inspections and visits has been made to secure compliance with these new conditions. In this connection I appreciate the co-operation and assistance received from the Derbyshire Fire Service.

By the end of the year improvements had been completed at 23 premises, including 2 complete new installations and 2 extensive re-constructions. In 5 instances storage of petrol was discontinued, and of 27 tanks tested, 4 failed and have been withdrawn from service.

One serious emergency arose where a supply line from a storage tank to a petrol pump leaked and affected the nearby drains and sewers. It was necessary to cordon off a substantial area for some 24 hours to trace the leakage and clear the dangerous fumes, and subsequently the storage premises were extensively re-constructed.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The Clean Air Act, 1956, has received much consideration throughout the year and the Council has continued to support the National Society for Clean Air and the North East Derbyshire Clean Air Joint Consultative Committee. Three atmospheric pollution stations are now operating and support is given to the Standing Conference of Co-operating Bodies on Atmospheric Pollution. All Inspectors have attended the special Courses arranged by the Coal Utilisation Council.

As a result of these efforts very good progress has been made in reducing industrial smoke, but I regret the same cannot be said in respect of domestic smoke. Whilst many individual householders are for a variety of reasons reducing the amount of coal used and this is bound to have some effect, the district is essentially a mining community with the use of 'Concessionary Coal'

The question of Smoke Control Areas has been considered on several occasions, including a special meeting of the Health Committee in June, 1958, but the difficulties in this type of area appear too great. It has now been decided that no steps can be taken in this direction until there is a more workable solution than the present buy back system in respect of miners' concessionary coal.

COLLIERY SPOILBANKS

These continue to receive regular supervision and have generally been maintained in a satisfactory condition and free from nuisance. The Shirebrook Colliery Spoilbank was the only one which called for special attention and an increase in the arrangements for water spraying satisfactorily dealt with the smouldering parts of the dirt tip.

MEASUREMENT OF ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Three atmospheric pollution recording stations are in operation at South Normanton, Shirebrook and Glapwell, each having a soot deposit gauge and lead peroxide instrument. The first readings were taken in February 1957, and the monthly averages of the first two years working were :—

				<i>Deposit Gauge</i> (Tons per sq. mile)	<i>Lead Peroxide</i> (MG.SO ₂ per sq. c.m. per.day)
Hamlet Lane, South Normanton					
1957	....	....	....	10.1	1.55
1958	....	....	....	10.1	1.7
Sookholme Lane, Shirebrook					
1957	....	....	....	12.7	1.5
1958	....	....	....	14.9	1.8
Glapwell Hill					
1957	....	....	....	15.3	1.3
1958	....	....	....	21.2	1.0

Monthly readings for 1958 are recorded hereunder :

SOOT DEPOSIT GAUGES

These record the solid matter deposited in the area around the instrument, giving readings in TONS per SQUARE MILE per MONTH.

DEPOSIT GAUGES

Month	Deposited Matter—Tons per square mile.		
	Hamlet Lane, South Normanton	Sookholme Lane, Shirebrook	Glapwell Hill
January	12.42	20.21	21.98
February	11.68	12.27	16.94
March	11.48	10.87	22.08
April	12.85	8.60	18.39
May	11.71	15.41	15.61
June	12.72	15.34	21.48
July	—	—	—
August	7.11	12.44	9.09
September	7.65	—	14.06
October	7.49	—	14.09
November	7.85	13.97	41.92
December	8.52	25.41	37.62
Monthly Average	10.13	14.95	21.20

LEAD PEROXIDE INSTRUMENTS

These are specially coated cylinders which record the amount of sulphur in the atmosphere. The readings represent milligrams per square centimetre per day. These sulphur readings, due to the position of the instruments, reflect to a large extent the degree of pollution from domestic sources, i.e., the open fires of private householders.

Month	SO ₃ —Milligrams per 100 sq. c.m. per day		
	Hamlet Lane, South Normanton	Sookholme Lane, Shirebrook	Glapwell Hill
January	2.18	2.80	1.39
February	1.77	2.53	1.30
March	1.94	1.85	1.08
April	1.86	1.77	0.96
May	1.15	1.39	0.68
June	1.07	0.90	0.68
July	—	—	—
August	0.84	0.82	0.47
September	1.15	1.04	0.64
October	1.42	1.75	0.94
November	2.60	2.32	1.32
December	2.56	3.00	1.47
Monthly Average	1.69	1.83	0.99

SHOP ACTS

During the year 8 inspections were made, apart from inspections made of shop premises for other purposes. These resulted in improved sanitary accommodation and mess room facilities at 2 shops and in another instance an unsuitable shop was closed and replaced with a mobile van.

LICENSED PREMISES

These premises are being dealt with as other work permits and improvements are being steadily secured. During the year work has been completed on improved sanitary accommodation, and washing and glass sterilising facilities at 6 premises, and similar improvements are in hand at other premises.

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 662 complaints were received and investigated (380 at the South Normanton Office and 282 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	....	....	....	....	....	....	186
Drainage Defects	....	....	....	....	....	....	158
Sanitary Conveniences	....	....	....	....	....	....	63
Dirty and Verminous Premises	....	....	....	....	....	....	38
Refuse Collection	....	....	....	....	....	....	32
Rats and Mice	....	....	....	....	....	....	67
Keeping of Animals	....	....	....	....	....	....	15
Accumulations	....	....	....	....	....	....	12
Other matters	....	....	....	....	....	....	91

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

very 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
1958—59	....	....	....	....	....	1,437

The number of new bins issued this year is slightly in excess of normal requirements due to the withdrawal of 103 bins where the welding of the bottom hoop was insufficient. These were repaired by the manufacturers free of cost and will be re-issued in due course. The bins provided are B.S.S. $3\frac{1}{4}$ cu. ft. galvanised bins, except in a few cases where it is apparent that a $2\frac{1}{2}$ cub. ft. is sufficient.

Although this scheme has now been in operation 8 years there are many houses still using bins provided by owners prior to April, 1951. Experience is confirming the estimated life of 10 years per galvanised bin. This estimate is used in assessing and investigating cases where there appears to have been neglect or misuse of the bin provided free by the Council. All issues are carefully recorded and enquiries made if renewal is required under 10 years. Two cases arose under this heading during 1958 and occupiers paid sums of 15/-d. and 12/6d. as compensation before the issue of new bins.

The cost of this service was £2,133 12s. 6d., and represents a rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ d.

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 6,107 loads of refuse, night soil and cesspool contents, and the vehicles have covered 46,709 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 1946.

There were no changes in the fleet of vehicles during the year. The Karrier Bantam has only been retained in use for rough work on tips, such as moving soil, etc.

Numbers of Premises served

Ashbins	....	....	....	14,219 (cleansed weekly).
Ashplaces, etc.	....	....	....	9 (cleansed monthly).
Closet Pails	....	....	....	235 (cleansed weekly).
Cesspools	....	....	....	124 (cleansed quarterly).

It is the practice to remove domestic refuse weekly and with few exceptions this regularity has been maintained. This has been made possible by the fact that recruitment of labour is not so difficult as it was a few years ago, although it still remains difficult to secure good and reliable workers. -Many employed on this work stay only for a short period during which time absenteeism is usually high. This seems to arise more from a dislike for work rather than the class of work being undertaken.

Absenteeism, chiefly due to certified sickness and accidents, was 8·14% ; slightly less than the two previous years. This represents a loss of 9,275 working hours (211 weeks) or the equivalent for 4 men for 1 year. Medical certificates are still obtained for the most trivial reasons.

Refuse is disposed of by tipping, with the maximum recovery of salvageable materials, and muledozers are used for consolidation and control of the tips. Generally it is difficult to obtain suitable and sufficient material for the immediate covering of the refuse, but on all sites top soil is stripped and stacked so that on completion

the surface can be restored. To help with this work a set of disc harrows was purchased during the year.

In the past refuse in this area has had a large ash and cinder content so that immediate covering has not been so essential. It is, however, noted that the character of the refuse is gradually changing and that at present it is lighter and there is what the workmen describe as "more rubbish". This is without doubt due to improved and modern fire ranges and the use of less coal for heating and cooking. As this continues it may be necessary to pay more attention to the covering of refuse immediately it is tipped.

During the year refuse has been disposed of as follows :—

1. Sookholme Lane, Shirebrook—1,712 loads—this site will be filled at an early date and an extension will be necessary or an alternative site required.
2. Disused Railway Cutting Rowthorne—469 loads (total at this site since commencement in September, 1957—584 loads).
3. Hillstown Tip—257 loads.
4. Wharf Road, Pinxton—692 loads.
5. B'Winning Welfare Playing Fields—625 loads (7,887 loads since work commenced on improvement of these Playing Fields).
6. Birchwood Lane (Bateman), South Normanton—557 loads.
7. Newton Wood (Ball)—654 loads.
8. Manor Farm, Tibshelf—Work has commenced on the completion of this tip by soiling and seeding for handing back to the owners.

All cleansing employees are now provided with protective clothing consisting of two pairs of overalls per year, gloves as required and donkey jackets every 2/4 years as needed. The South Normanton Depot has adequate toilet, washing and mess room facilities, with a drying room for clothing, but improvements at Shirebrook have not yet commenced. It is, however, pleasing to note that progress has been made to remedy the poor garage and depot facilities and that a contract has been let. It is expected work will commence early in 1959. The need for these facilities has become more urgent since the fire which destroyed the salvage paper storage and baling shed on the Shirebrook tip.

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.	1957/58	....	....	....	£618	£2,053
2.	Nearest comparable figures—Costing Returns 1957/58				£612	£1,822
3.	1958/59	....	....	....	£601	£1,938

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	5,980	333	6,313	1,206	—	—	62
S. & D. Freighter (1949) NRA 730	7,166	131	7,297	1,094	—	—	25
S. & D. Freighter (1952) RRB 300	6,771	547	7,318	266	96	326	119
S. & D. Freighter (1951) RNU 378	4,777	944	5,721	658	7	79	174
S. & D. Freighter (1953) TNU 478	5,348	553	5,901	279	51	508	105
Karrier Bantam (1946) JRB 68	443	125	568	—	1	1	73
S. & D. Fore/Aft Diesel (1955) XRA 56	6,586	152	6,738	765	—	—	104
S. & D. Fore/Aft Diesel (1958) 502 FRA	6,635	218	6,853	780	—	—	37
	43,706	3,003	46,709	5,048	155	914	699

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.)	69	16	6	69	7	3	268	8	5	407	12	2	1/3¼d.
NRA 730 (S.&D.)	52	10	3	69	7	3	308	3	0	430	0	6	1/2d.
RRB 300 (S.&D.)	63	7	11	70	0	6	204	9	11	337	18	4	11¾d.
RNU 378 (S.&D.)	72	15	3	68	17	7	230	18	2	372	11	0	1/3¼d.
TNU 478 (S.&D.)	68	19	6	68	9	6	213	15	4	351	4	4	1/1½d.
XRA 56 (S.&D.) Diesel	132	15	3	106	17	10	161	17	2	401	10	3	1/2d.
502 FRA (S.&D.) Diesel	2	8	2	104	14	7	153	3	2	260	5	11	9d.
JRB 68 (K.B.)	7	11	9	31	10	9	13	11	4	52	13	10	1/10¼d.
	470	4	7	589	5	3	1554	6	6	2613	16	4	1/1¼d.

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 (T.V.O.)	44 CNU (Diesel)
B'Winning Playing Fields	....	....	—	251
Bateman, South Normanton	....	....	—	206
Wharf Road, Pinxton	....	....	—	30
Manor Farm, Tibshelf....	....	....	—	19
Newton Wood, Newton	....	....	—	82
Mount Pleasant, Newton	....	....	—	41
Sookholme Tip, Shirebrook	....	....	1,187	—
Glapwell	....	....	5	—
Hillstown	....	....	184	12
Rowthorne	....	....	243	—

Other Jobs

South Normanton Depot	....	....	—	8
Housing Site, Tibshelf	....	....	—	16
Miscellaneous Jobs	....	....	7	13

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

ONU 56	—	£489 18s. 10½d. or 6/-d. per hour.
44 CNU	—	£318 1s. 1½d. or 9/5½d. per hour.

SALVAGE

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

1958—59 :	793 tons 9 cwts. 84 lbs.	£5,945 11s. 11d.
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.

The various materials dealt with are summarised below :

	Tons.	Cwts.	lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	528	11	84	4,304	7	10
Ferrous Metal	19	0	28	79	7	8
Non-ferrous Metal	1	18	56	159	3	7
Baled Tins	218	6	28	1,144	1	4
Textiles	22	13	0	250	3	6
Miscellaneous	3	0	0	8	8	0
	793	9	84	5,945	11	11

Whilst the arrangements for the recovery of salvage have continued to function smoothly, the same cannot be said of the sales side. The recession in the steel industry has had its effect on the sale of scrap metal, and the disposal of light iron and galvanised iron has been almost impossible. New markets for baled destructor scrap have had to be found at reduced prices and the Joint Scrap Survey District Committee has been disbanded. This Committee withdrew its contribution to the cost of the recovery and baling of loose tins on 31st January, 1959.

With these difficulties a fall in income was inevitable, so that the sale of salvage to the value of £5,945 11s. 11d., compared with last year's record figure of £7,137 13s. 9d., is regarded as very satisfactory. Cleansing workmen continue to receive an incentive bonus of 12½% of the gross salvage, payable monthly. Under this scheme each man was paid £15 14s. 5d. during the year.

Following the destruction of the shed at the Shirebrook tip, which was used for baling and storing paper, this work was transferred to the Church Drive Garage at Shirebrook. A new Camco electric power baler was purchased so that the ease and quality of this work has been vastly improved. In addition a Lister Industrial Power (electric) loader was purchased to help with loading paper lorries.

The N.E. Derbyshire Cleansing & Salvage Officers Committee has continued to meet quarterly. The exchange of information and discussion of problems is still very helpful.

MOTOR VEHICLE MAINTENANCE

In 1952 a section under the control of this department was organised for repair and maintenance of all Council motor vehicles and similar equipment. This includes cleansing lorries and lorries and vans used by the Engineer and Housing Architect. From time to time programmes are arranged for all vehicles to attend at the garage for examination and service, and this enables most major jobs to be noted and suitably planned. Without doubt this scheme has :—

1. Improved the standard of service and maintenance.
2. Reduced delays arising from break-downs, major repairs and overhauls—so that vehicles are more available for the work required of them.
3. Reduced the costs of this work (details set out below). The size of the Council's fleet makes it possible to secure good discounts on materials, parts and accessories purchased.

This section has worked most successfully and my task of organising and supervising it has been considerably eased by the enthusiasm and efficiency of the mechanic (Mr. Truswell).

SUMMARY OF VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT MAINTAINED WITH NUMBER OF EXAMINATIONS DURING 1958/59

Cleansing Department

<i>Class of Vehicle</i>	<i>No. of Vehicles, etc.</i>	<i>No. of occasions Examined, Serviced, or Repaired.</i>
Refuse Lorries	8	124
Vans	3	38
Tractors	2	16
Paper and Metal Presses	3	24
Pumps	2	2
Other Equipment :		
Bin Trolleys	8	22
Trailers	6	
Atco Mower	1	
Night Soil Tanks	2	
	17	

Engineer's Department

Lorries	2	27
Vans	4	42
Compressors	2	9
Tractors	3	18
Other Equipment :		
Allen Scythes	2	1
Portable Pumps	4	
	6	

Meden Valley Waterworks

Van	1	17
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Architect's Department

Lorries	2	25
Vans	2	33
Other Equipment :		
Allen Scythes	(2)	2

MAINTENANCE COSTS, EXCLUDING ESTABLISHMENT CHARGES

Department and Vehicle	Year Purchased	Parts Renewals etc.	Oil etc.	Tyres Tubes Tyre Repairs etc.	Batteries	Labour	Total	Mileage	Cost Per Mile	
									1958/59	1957/58
CLEANSING										
S. & D. NRA. 729	1949	£ s. d. 13 15 4	£ s. d. 4 10 5	£ s. d. 47 11 10	£ s. d. 8 9 4	£ s. d. 29 9 5	£ s. d. 103 16 4	6,313	3,95d.	14-77d.
S. & D. NRA.730	1949	27 11 0	8 10 11	16 9 11	8 9 4	18 18 8	79 19 10	7,297	2-63d.	4-03d.
S. & D. RRB.300	1952	33 3 3	5 2 5	30 3 8	—	19 9 4	87 19 8	7,325	2-88d.	3-89d.
S. & D. RNU.378	1951	26 1 0	4 3 4	46 14 3	—	22 14 5	99 13 0	5,888	4-06d.	7-87d.
S. & D. TNU.478	1953	36 6 6	7 2 10	32 13 0	—	55 7 1	131 9 5	6,160	5-12d.	4-25d.
S. & D. Fore & Aft XRA.56	1955	76 17 5	6 9 1	55 17 10	—	61 8 11	200 13 3	6,813	7-07d.	4-27d.
S. & D. Fore & Aft 502.FRA	1958	2 8 3	5 11 4	—	—	7 4 4	15 3 11	6,853	-53d.	2-53d.
Karrier Bantam JRB.68	1946	6 6 2	14 0	1 5 7	—	7 12 6	15 18 3	658	5-80d.	3-87d.
Muledozer ONU.56	1949	32 18 0	3 0 4	—	—	18 18 7	54 16 11	—	—	—
Fordson Diesel 44.CNU	1956	13 2	2 1 10	63 17 2	17 14 10	1 17 0	86 4 0	—	—	—
Bedford 12 cwt. Van NVO.464	1953	10 7 6	1 3 7	12 5 11	—	20 11 10	44 8 10	9,090	1-17d.	4-24d.
Johnson 3" Mud Pump (South)	1945	5 10 2	—	—	—	16 2	6 6 4	—	—	—
Johnson 3" Mud Pump (North)	—	2 9 4	—	—	—	1 6 11	3 16 3	—	—	—
Other Equipment	—	8 18 5	12 8	9 6 10	—	21 3 6	40 1 5	—	—	—
Bulk Oil Supply	—	—	44 17 9	—	—	—	44 17 9	—	—	—
SALVAGE										
Trailers, Presses etc.	—	44 1 3	—	14 18 0	—	55 17 6	114 16 9	—	—	—
DISINFECTING										
Morris 10 cwt. Van NNU.81	1949	1 6	8 9	—	5 17 7	1 0 8	7 8 6	4,057	-44d.	-42d.
Morris 5 cwt. Van 280.ARR	1958	3 18 1	2 0 1	—	—	3 16 7	9 14 9	8,472	-28d.	—
MEDEN VALLEY WATER BOARD										
Bedford 12 cwt. Van UNN.711	1956	14 7 8	2 6 5	30 13 1	—	14 0 10	61 8 0	—	—	—
ENGINEERS										
Bedford 12 cwt. Van VAL.37	1956	3 4 11	1 6 6	7 16 1	—	7 11 8	19 19 2	9,228	-52d.	1-02d.
Bedford 12 cwt. Van WVO.539	1957	8 12 1	2 5 8	34 3 10	—	11 7 0	56 8 7	13,994	-97d.	-84d.
Bedford 30 cwt. Van MNN.33	1951	1 0 9	1 18 2	—	—	6 2 6	9 1 5	7,574	-29d.	3-87d.
Bedford 30 cwt. Van MVO.278	1952	9 11 10	3 17 11	25 6 8	7 1 2	13 3 1	59 0 8	10,419	1-36d.	1-99d.
Bedford 30 cwt. Van 229.BNN	1959	5 6 0	5 3	—	—	3 15 4	9 6 7	2,495	-90d.	—
Bedford 3 Ton TNN.997	1955	14 17 8	3 12 4	25 6 8	7 1 2	14 5 8	65 3 6	11,318	1-38d.	1-84d.
Bedford 3 Ton NRR.401	1952	69 10 10	2 19 4	63 12 0	—	12 5 9	148 7 11	9,803	3-63d.	-85d.
Ferguson Tractor OAL.422	1953	17 5	—	4 10 0	—	1 11 0	6 18 5	—	—	—
Ferguson Tractor WVO.347	1957	5 9 11	3 14 11	—	—	5 1 5	14 6 3	—	—	—
Ferguson Tractor 542.AVO	1958	1 14 11	14 3	12 14 8	—	1 4 4	16 8 2	—	—	—
Broome & Wade Compressor (S)	1957	8 0	1 1 5	—	9 6 2	2 16 3	13 11 10	—	—	—
Broome & Wade Compressor (N)	—	8 14 11	—	—	—	11 17 8	20 12 7	—	—	—
Other Equipment	—	—	—	—	—	6 1 9	6 1 9	—	—	—
Bulk Oil Supply	—	—	33 14 8	—	—	—	33 14 8	—	—	—
ARCHITECTS										
Bedford 12 cwt. Van TRR.974	1955	31 14 4	1 12 4	34 10 10	5 17 6	18 19 6	92 14 6	18,642	1-19d.	-51d.
Bedford 12 cwt. Van VAL.528	1956	8 2 6	2 14 6	21 17 8	—	10 9 3	43 3 11	11,396	-91d.	-78d.
Bedford 3 Ton PAL.842	1954	9 0 10	2 10 2	38 9 8	—	10 14 10	60 15 6	13,118	1-11d.	-81d.
Bedford 3 Ton MVO.559	1952	20 6 1	1 16 7	—	7 1 2	5 6 2	34 10 0	8,782	-95d.	1-47d.
Bedford 3 Ton 274.AVO	1958	7 1 0	3 6 1	—	—	5 11 9	15 18 10	6,987	-55d.	—
Other Equipment	—	4 8 11	—	—	—	17 7 1	21 16 0	—	—	—
Bulk Oil Supply	—	—	22 0 6	—	—	—	22 0 6	—	—	—
GENERAL JOBS										
	—	18 0	8 1 6	—	—	55 1 8	64 1 2	—	—	—
TOTAL FOR ALL DEPARTMENTS										
1958/59	—	556 14 11	196 7 10	630 5 2	76 18 3	582 7 11	2042 14 1	—	—	—
COMPARATIVE COST FOR 1957/58	—	952 1 10	211 7 1	761 14 10	27 9 7	545 4 7	2497 17 11	—	—	—



