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Contributors

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URBAN DISTRICT
OF BOLSOVER
DERBYSHIRE



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

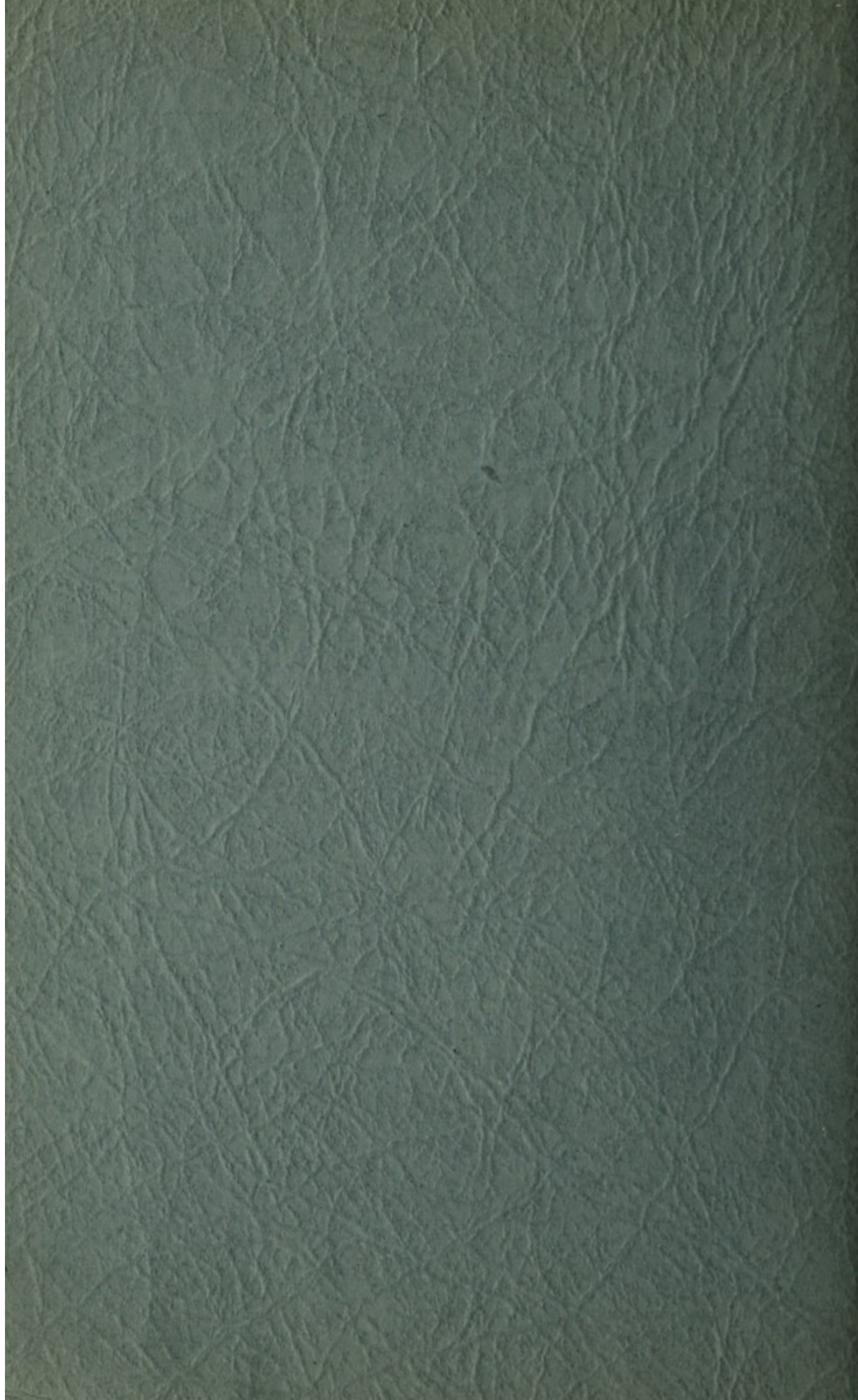
and the

Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1957





URBAN DISTRICT
OF BOLSOVER
DERBYSHIRE



ANNUAL REPORT

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1957

BOLSOVER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(As at 31st December, 1957)

Alderman T. Colledge (Chairman)

Councillor J. W. Bluff	Councillor S. Jennings
Councillor Mrs J. Colledge,	Councillor W. B. Revill
J.P.	
Councillor D. A. Coupe	Councillor J. W. Savage
Councillor F. Cross,	Councillor M. W. Simpson,
Councillor G. Fisher	B.E.M.
Councillor S. T. Fisher	Councillor J. Spray

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF :

Medical Officer of Health :

Dr. A. R. ROBERTSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
"Dale Close," 100, Chesterfield Road South, Mansfield,
(Tel. : Mansfield 811)

Clerk: Miss P. M. WILSON.

Deputy Medical Officer (Part time)

Dr. J. B. McKAY, M.B., Ch.B.

Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :

JOHN F. H. WALTON, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
(Tel. : Bolsover 3255/6)
Council Offices.

Clerk : C. F. THOMSON.

PREFACE

To the Chairman and Members of the
Bolsover Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for 1957. I feel privileged to put it forward for your consideration and, I hope, approval. It seems to me that we can honestly say that we have always tried our best for the health of Bolsover people and I am proud of this.

To all of you go my thanks for your help and interest throughout the year. Also, I thank all the Staff for the willing and courteous help which they invariably give to me.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. R. ROBERTSON,

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

A RURAL DISTRICT

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

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

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

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

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

You know, I think the term Rural District should be abolished. We tend to think of a rural district as being far away. Far away, why, there is no such place in these days when planes travel faster than sound, and whole cities could be destroyed in minutes. The other thing I hate is to hear people say that it costs more in a Rural District.

What if it does? We are people just the same as other people. We do not have an extra eye or cloven hooves or a tail, just because we do not live in a city. By jove, I bet that through our colliers we contribute more than our share to the national kitty, so why can't we have a bit extra back? To me, a Rural District represents a challenge. We must make sure that they are brought up-to-date; they must be invaded by all branches of modern knowledge. Talk of Reform in Local Government is everywhere in the air. May I suggest that the first priority of any such reform is to ensure that people in Rural Districts are given the same rights and amenities as those who live in larger towns and cities.

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

MEAT INSPECTION.

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

At the present moment, there is no law which says that meat must be inspected before it is sold for human consumption. All that is required is that notice of intention to slaughter animals be given to the appropriate Local Authority. This seems inexcusable to me. Everyone knows that we eat a tremendous amount of meat and yet no Government has yet had the courage or the common sense to make meat inspection compulsory. How crazy can you get? It is all the more amazing to me in that I constantly hear praise being given to our Health Services. On all sides I hear that Prevention is better than Cure. In nearly every medical journal there is an article pointing out advances in, or, widening the scope of pre-

ventive medicine. Then, I think of the fact that meat can be legally sold without inspection, and deflation sets in. Surely any thinking person would deem a Member of Parliament to be worthy of impeachment if he did not support compulsory meat inspection. I have heard it said that there is no such thing as black or white, only different shades of grey. Well, if this issue is not black or white, I am completely blind; it seems to me to be as definite as that.

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

	No. of Animals	% Inspected	Over- time
Blackwell R.D.	46,157	100	794½ hrs.
Clowne R.D.	26,886	100	98 hrs.
Bolsover U.D.	2,223	100	95 hrs.

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

that I still see no signs of it appearing on the Statute Book.

Lastly, let us deal with the quality of meat inspection. I back my Public Health Inspectors to the hilt. They know what they are doing and they do it well. I have the utmost confidence in their knowledge and skill. Yet, no matter where I go, I hear rumours that the Veterinary profession feel that they should take over meat inspection. I can see something in favour of this theory, because I must be fair. They should be better at **Ante Mortem** inspection than a Public Health Inspector. But, does it follow that they are necessarily better at **Post Mortem** inspection? I wonder. Surely it depends on the amount of post mortum work which a Vet normally does. I do not know how much they do, but I know that the vast majority of Doctors do very little (of course this analogy may not be true). Further, just what does the Veterinary profession wish to do? Do they want to take their coats off and inspect every animal which has been killed? Or, do they want to be responsible in a consultative manner only? If, as I suspect, they are plumping for the latter, a further tricky point arises. Most of the Vets are in private practice. Are we going to reach the position where a farmer's Vet will adjudicate that farmer's meat? I am not suggesting that justice would not be done but (and in all seriousness) I am suggesting that justice would not necessarily be seen to be done. To my mind both of these should be a *sine qua non* in a democracy like our country. To sum up, I would welcome Vets taking a greater part in meat inspection because I feel they could contribute a lot to it. But, I would insist that they be independent Vets responsible only to an independent organisation like a Local Authority.

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

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

MILK

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

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

1. Pasteurised

There are two methods of pasteurising milk.

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

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

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

3. **Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised**—as the name implies,

this is milk from Tuberculin Tested cows which is then pasteurised by either of the two methods described above.

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

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

Let's have co-operation and a flow of information, but, let's have it both ways. As it is, I can only wonder. And I wonder, are the Ministry's standards higher or lower than mine, or, are they equal. Yes, I wonder, how I wonder. Perhaps some day I shall know.

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

SAFETY ON THE ROADS AND AT HOME

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

1.—DOGS.

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

On the first occasion, my number plate hit the dog and cut it. The dog ran away as fast as it could and I was not able to ascertain the exact degree of injury. Yes,

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

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

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

2.—CYCLISTS

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

“O wad some power the Beastie gie us
Tae see oorsels as ithers see us”.

How I wish cyclists could see themselves as I see them—from the rear. I am driving along quite peacefully behind a cycle when suddenly it starts to sway from side to side, just as a North African danseuse does while doing the “Danse du Ventre”. Or, you are behind a cyclist who suddenly cuts out to overtake, blissfully unaware

that you are behind. I don't know how you feel but I get so mad I could spit! Or, you have the cyclist who suddenly "undertakes" on your blind side while you are enmeshed in a busy stream of traffic.

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

All the above may seem to be destructive, so let me now try to construct. First I would make it compulsory for all cyclists to have a rear mirror. Surely if they used this, they would not sway about so much when a car was at their rear. Also, they would be able to see that the road was clear both fore and aft before overtaking. Secondly, I feel that cyclists should be licensed in the same way that cars are licensed. And, I honestly believe that a compulsory cycling test would save lives. And if it would save lives then surely it ought to be brought into being, no matter what the cost in time or money. When all is said and done, would it cost as much as Atomic or Hydrogen Destructors? Finally, I am wondering about crash helmets. The crack cycle sprinters and long distance road racers are not ashamed to wear some head protection. I put forward the idea that any cyclist using a busy arterial road, might do well to consider the idea of wearing head protectors.

2.—BURNS

Many burns heal beautifully and leave no trace. Alas, many leave behind a Keloid scar. This is the wrinkled, contracted, fibrous scar which we have all seen. I have seen many hideous and tragic things as has any Doctor. However, I still find that a keloid scar simultaneously causes me to feel extreme pity and yet it peculi-

arly repels me. It is vile to see a child whose face and neck is scarred. Plastic Surgery can effect many wondrous changes but not in every case. How much better it would be if Plastic Surgery were never needed. Cliché or not, surely prevention is better than cure in this instance as in every other.

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

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

A LOUSY JOB.

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

Well now, why am I telling you all this? The reason is that one day I watched while a bug infested mattress was being disinfested. The mattress was heavily

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

From the above, it is a short step (in my kind of a mind at any rate) to Refuse Collection. Again, we are dealing with an unattractive but vitally important subject. It is not so very long since the streets of this country were feet deep in ordure and filth, and people died like flies from easily preventable infectious diseases. Believe me, these are not irreversible changes. Bring back the filth and the infections will follow as their shadow. So, Refuse Collection is and always will be vital. Our three districts operate a service for Refuse Collection. I have been here now since November, 1955 and I have only had one complaint about Cleansing, and it was really more of a suggestion than a complaint. Further, I get around the districts as much as I can and there, my own eyes tell me that the men are doing a good job. It is all too easy to forget about the importance of cleanliness, so, let us stop for a moment and take pride in our services. Also, may I (and I hope you will join me) thank the workmen in my three districts for the efficient way in which they do their job.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (acres)	...	...	...	...	4,526
Population (census), 1951	...	...	...	...	10,817
Population mid-year (Registrar General) 1957	...	...	...	...	11,530
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1957)	...	...	...	...	3,642
Rateable Value (as at 31.3.58)	...	...	...	...	£97,851
Sum represented by a Penny Rate 1957	...	...	...	...	£377

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The chief occupations of the inhabitants are coal mining and agriculture. Fruit is grown in the district in large quantities. The general standard of social condition shows little change from previous years.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS.

Live Births :—

	Total	Males	Females	
Legitimate	234	123	108	} Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 21.3
Illegitimate	12	8	4	
Corrected birthrate 21.3				

Still Births	6	2	4	} Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 23.8
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DEATHS.

Total Males Females

95	51	44	} Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 8.2
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Death rate corrected by comparability factor 10.7

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	40.65
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	40.65
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	nil.
Death rate of infants under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births 28.45 (i.e. Neonatal death rate).				

Our local infantile death rate is much higher than the national rate which is 23.0 (provisional). Also our Neonatal death rate is high. The National rate is not avail-

able but for the first three quarters of 1957 it averaged 16.4.

10 infants died in total (this is 4 more than in 1956) 6 of these were under 4 weeks at death. In 4 of these neonatal deaths, prematurity was a factor contributing to death. The remaining 2 neonatal deaths were due to congenital heart disease and to cerebral haemorrhage.

4 babies died between the age of 4 weeks and one year, viz:—

- girl aged 3 months—Acute Intussusception.
- girl aged 7 months—Pulmonary Oedema and cerebral malformation.
- boy aged 3 months—Acute bronchopneumonia.
- boy aged 11 months—Acute purulent tracheobronchitis.

I must repeat my advice concerning ante-natal care. This is available to every mother to be whether wed or not. Further, she will receive the same care and consideration whether wed or not. Ante-natal care can be obtained from the National Health Service, or, from the County Council Clinic.

DEATHS FROM :—

Coronary Thrombosis	...	...	...	7
Tuberculosis (respiratory)	...	...	...	2
Cancer	...	...	...	13
Motor Accidents	...	...	...	4
Other accidents	...	...	...	2
Pregnancy	...	...	...	1

The number of cancer deaths is the same as in 1953. There was again only one death from lung cancer and this was in a woman.

The number of deaths from coronary thrombosis is less than in 1956; the ratio of male to female deaths here is 5 to 2.

It is distressing to see that 6 out of 95 deaths were due to accidents.

The death from pregnancy was due to haemorrhage after childbirth, caused by leukaemia. It would not be completely true to ascribe this to pregnancy alone.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities.

These are provided by the Derbyshire County Council. There is a laboratory at the County Offices at Derby.

Ambulance.

This service is provided by the County Council.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

Derbyshire C.C. provide this service. There is a County Council Clinic in Bolsover.

Chest Clinic.

The nearest clinic is in Chesterfield, under the auspices of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board.

Venereal Disease.

Treatment for such disease can be obtained at Chesterfield Royal Hospital.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water.

This is supplied by the Chesterfield, Bolsover and Clowne Water Board and is satisfactory in quality. All the houses in the district are supplied direct from the town's mains.

Report from Chemist for the Year 1957.

Monthly samples for Chemical and bacteriological analysis were collected at the Bolsover Moor and Hillstown Treatment Plants. At these Plants the various raw hard waters were partially softened and chlorinated before distribution and copies of the results of analysis of the two supplies have been forwarded to M.O.H. throughout the year.

The various raw water supplies to these Plants have also been sampled regularly and a pre-chlorine dose is also applied. Samples of the softened chlorinated supply have all shown the absence of coliform organisms from 100 ml. and agar plate counts have been zero.

Regular samples for bacteriological and physical analysis were also examined from the following distribution points:—

Hillstown Tower.

Hillstown Storage Tanks.

Tap, Gas Works, Bolsover.

Tap, Stratton Road, Bolsover.

Results of these samples have been satisfactory throughout the year.

Results of Examination of Sample of Water.

Taken from Hillstown Softening Plant (Treated) on 8th July, 1957.

Bacteriological Examination.

Agar plate counts per 1 ml.				
2 days at 37° C	...	...	...	0
3 days at 20° C	...	...	...	0
Coliform counts per 100 ml.				
2 days at 37° C	...	...	...	0
Bact. Coli type 1 (44° C)	...	...	...	0

Physical and Physico-Chemical Examination.

Appearance—Clear.

Taste—Normal.

Electrical Conductivity—700 units.

Odour—Nil.

pH—8.1.

Chemical Analysis (Expressed in Parts per million).

Carbonate Hardness (CaCO_3)	...	...	159
Non-Carbonate Hardness (CaCl_2)	...	...	0
Total Hardness (CaCO_3)	...	...	159
Total Alkalinity (CaCO_3)	...	...	170
Excess alkalinity (Na_2CO_3)	...	...	12
Chlorides (Cl)	...	...	60

Remarks.

As supplied to Bolsover U.D.C.

Residual Chlorine.

Free, Trace p.p.m. Combined, Trace p.p.m.

Results of Examination of Sample of Water.

Taken from Bolsover Moor P.S. (Treated) on 8th July, 1957.

Bacteriological Examination.

Agar plate counts per 1 ml.					
2 days at 37° C	...	...	...	...	0
3 days at 20° C	...	...	...	...	0
Coliform counts per 100 ml.					
2 days at 37° C	...	...	...	...	0
Bact. Coli type 1 (44° C)	...	...	...	...	0

Physical and Physico-Chemical Examination.

Appearance—Clear.

Taste—Normal.

Electrical Conductivity—900 units.

Odour—Nil.

pH—7.8.

Chemical Analysis (Expressed in Parts per million).

Carbonate Hardness (CaCO_3)	...	...	141
Non-Carbonate Hardness (CaCO_3)	...	...	0
Total Hardness (CaCO_3)	...	...	141
Total Alkalinity (CaCO_3)	...	...	261
Excess alkalinity (Na_2CO_3)	...	...	127
Chlorides (Cl)	...	...	39

Remarks.

As supplied to Bolsover U.D.C.

Residual Chlorine.

Free, 0.02 p.p.m. Combined, Trace p.p.m.

Closet Conversions.

Conversions continued to be made in 1957. A total of 2 pail closets were converted this year.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The design of the scheme for sewerage of properties in Chesterfield Road, Shuttlewood, is proceeding rapidly. The houses are divided into two groups:—

1. Those adjacent to the existing sewers near St. Lawrence's Church.
2. A small neighbourhood at Bolsover Woodhouse.

Sewage from the first group will be pumped into existing sewers. Sewage from the Bolsover Woodhouse group will be treated through a new Works to be constructed. This Works will consist of two 2-storey settling and digestion tanks in series, together with a bacteria filter and a humus tank.

The emergency works of enlarging the main trunk sewer to the Bolsover Sewage Works were completed this year by the laying of a new 30 in. diameter pipe. Flooding of the adjoining area including the Railway has now been entirely eliminated.

The standard of effluent on all Works is satisfactory.

Housing.

In 1957, 43 new houses were built in Bolsover. 13¹ were built by private individuals and 30 by the Council. This is much less than in previous years and I am sure that we look forward to an increase in building.

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

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

1. Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Inspections	Number of Written Notices
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities	8	29	2
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	19	41	1
(iii) Other Premises in which Sec-7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (excluding outworkers' Premises.)	3	11	1
Total	30	81	4

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

Particulars.	Number of Cases in which defects were found.			
	Found	Remedied	Referred.	
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness	2	2	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences.				
(a) insufficient	2	2	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork.)	—	—	—	—
Total	4	4	nil	nil

3. Outwork.

Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council
Lace, lace curtains and net	6	nil.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk, Meat and Other Foods.

An account of the supervision of milk, meat and other foods will be found in the Public Health Inspector's report.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, SECTION 47.

The Council made no application under this Act.

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the year 1957

Notifiable Disease	Number of Cases notified.													
	At Ages—years												Total cases rem'd to Hospital	
	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 and up
Diphtheria . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	8	..	..	1	..	1	6	..	..	..	..	..	3	..
Encephalitis Lethargica . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	1	..	2
Other forms of Tuberculosis . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pneumonia	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-Spinal Fever . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dysentery . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	4	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	4	..
do. (Non-Paralytic) . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough	37	6	3	4	5	4	14	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Measles	329	15	38	40	39	52	140	5	..	..	..	..	..	..
Para-Typhoid Fever . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gastro Enteritis . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Food Poisoning . . . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL	384	21	42	46	44	58	160	6	..	4	2	1	..	7
														2

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Measles.

As I forecast, we had a large number of cases this year. There were 329 against 4 in 1956. Next year should see many fewer cases.

Whooping Cough.

This year there were 37 cases (108 in 1956). There were no deaths. Again, I advise immunisation against whooping cough. This should be done when baby is about 4 months old, preferably between autumn and spring.

Poliomyelitis.

We had 4 cases of paralytic poliomyelitis (1956—1 paralytic and 3 non paralytic). Vaccination against this illness continued throughout the year. I strongly urge parents to accept this procedure. I have given many of these injections by now, and, I can truthfully say that they are not upsetting.

Scarlet Fever.

There were 8 cases.

Diphtheria.

Once again, there was no case of diphtheria. The last case in Bolsover was in 1948. Let us hope we can go on like this. We can, if we continue to have our children immunised. Dr Morgan (County M.O.H.) has given me the following figures regarding diphtheria immunisation in 1957.

Under 1 year	81
1—4 years (incl.)	39
5—14 years (incl.)	11
	—
Total	131
	—

I feel we should be able to do much better than this.

Food Poisoning.

I am pleased to report that there were no cases of food poisoning to my knowledge.

Tuberculosis.

Our record has gone. In 1955 and 1956 there were no deaths from tuberculosis. I am very sorry to report that there have been two deaths this year. Also, we had 4 new cases again (1955—1 new case, 1956—4 new cases).

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 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
25 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
35 ...	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
45 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
55 ...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	4	...	...	...	2	...	...	...

The phthisis death-rate is 0.17 per 1,000 of the population.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

To the Chairman and Members of the
Public Health Committee

Mr Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my report for the year 1957.

There was a rather sharp decline in the number of houses erected in the district during the year. The Council's contribution was the completion of 30 of the 40 two bedroomed bungalows being erected in Oxcroft Lane. These bungalows were erected quite close to the town centre in pleasant open surroundings and apart from the slum clearance cases which were rehoused, they were let to elderly couples who, frequently, were living in houses rather too large for their requirements. I am very glad that the Council have so far resisted the building of single bedroom bungalows or flats, despite the financial inducement which is offered. I feel that the elderly people should not be deprived of the pleasure of entertaining their families and friends in their new homes, quite apart from the benefit of a second bedroom in time of sickness.

The housing needs of the elderly will increase year by year as the percentage of older persons in the community continues to grow, but I sometimes wonder whether a new approach is needed to the housing requirements of elderly people. As years go by it may not be possible to regard the 65th birthday as the time for retirement, some people are active and healthy long past that date while others have declining physical and mental capabilities before they reach pensionable age. I wonder whether we err on the side of offering alternative accommodation rather too late in life: people in their seventies are not always anxious to move to a small bungalow and many of those who accept tenancies do not live long enough to enjoy the benefits of their new home. I, personally, should like to see increased emphasis on the erection of two bedroomed bungalows so that couples in their late 50's whose children have grown up and left home, could be accommodated while they still

have the financial resources and physical and mental capabilities to properly equip and enjoy their new surroundings.

The economic conditions which retarded house building both by local authorities and private individuals, appear now to be improving and plans for the erection of a number of houses in the West Ward of the district are being prepared. In recent years there has been a gradual increase in the number of private developers and this should be maintained as financial restrictions are eased.

I am sorry that there has been a slight decline in the number of houses improved during the year. I feel that the voluntary scheme as provided for in the Housing Act, 1949 is only tackling the fringe of the problem, and that in due course some legislation will be introduced whereby authorities will have some power to require modernisation of suitable houses. The benefits of modern amenities and conveniences are not being extended to tenanted houses in sufficient numbers and as a nation we must make the very best use of our existing houses.

Some further progress was made on slum clearance but this was restricted due to the reduced house building programme. It should be possible to take further action when the new houses, now being planned, are available.

We are at the beginning of a crusade to secure a cleaner air for all to breathe. Mining districts have their special problems which do not affect other communities, but I do not believe that these problems are incapable of solution and that the benefits of a cleaner air are to be denied the colliery areas.

At the end of another year of progress in many directions, I should like, once again, to express my sincere appreciation of the continued assistance which I have at all times received from the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN F. H. WALTON,

*Public Health Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.*

General Inspection of the Area.

Table showing inspections, etc. undertaken during the year 1957.

Inspection of houses for nuisances and defects	...	658
Revisits to houses	... ..	732
Visits in connection with improvement of houses...		186
Visits re water supply	... ..	12
Visits to infectious disease cases...	... ..	29
Milk Distributors and Dairies	... ..	43
Slaughterhouses—Meat Inspection	... ..	580
Butchers Shops	... ..	121
Bakehouses	... ..	10
Fried Fish Shops	... ..	16
Other Food Preparing Premises	... ..	64
Food Shops	... ..	190
Market Stalls	... ..	39
Ice Cream Premises	... ..	20
Inns and Other Public Buildings	... ..	6
Factories	... ..	81
Knacker's Yard	... ..	31
Schools	... ..	8
Controlled Refuse Tips	... ..	121
Colliery Spoil Banks	... ..	7
re Atmospheric Pollution...	... ..	42
Moveable Dwellings	... ..	19
re Keeping of Animals	... ..	17
Shops Act	... ..	32
Petroleum Licensing	... ..	51
Drainage Works	... ..	170
to Public Baths	... ..	5
Miscellaneous Visits	... ..	26
Interviews with owners, contractors, etc.	... ..	257

Housing and Public Health Act Defects.

The following table shows the defects remedied as a result of action under the Housing and Public Health Acts. Defects in connection with:—

House roofs	...	...	...	...	43
Chimney stacks	...	...	...	...	15
Eaves gutters and rain water pipes	...	...	...	...	46
Pointing and brickwork of walls	...	...	...	...	52
Yard paving	...	...	...	...	19
Waste pipes	...	...	...	...	26
Internal wall and ceiling plaster	...	...	...	...	142
Windows and sash cords	...	...	...	...	63
Doors	...	...	...	...	16
Floors	...	...	...	...	39
Staircases	...	...	...	...	17
Cooking ranges and fireplaces	...	...	...	...	46
Sinks	...	...	...	...	22
Washing coppers	...	...	...	...	14
Rising or penetrating dampness	...	...	...	...	34
Outbuildings	...	...	...	...	38
Dirty houses	...	...	...	...	2
Drains and inspection chambers	...	...	...	...	46
Water closet pedestals	...	...	...	...	19
Closet flushing cisterns	...	...	...	...	36
Walls and fences	...	...	...	...	13
Dilapidated dustbins	...	...	...	...	214
External decoration	...	...	...	...	15

In connection with the foregoing defects 286 informal notices and 31 statutory notices were served.

On the legal notices served, 3 required the abatement of nuisances at dwelling houses, 23 called for replacement of dilapidated dustbins, 3 were under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936, 1 required repair of a defective water closet and 1 dealt with defective drainage arrangements.

There was some increase in the amount of repair and maintenance work to dwelling houses, this arising to a limited extent from the implementation of the Rent Act provisions towards the end of the year.

Housing.

In my report for 1956, I referred to the completion of the Castle Estate, the last house being occupied in December, 1956, and to the Council's intention to erect 40 two bedroomed bungalows on the Oxcroft Lane site. The erection of the bungalows was commenced in January, 1957 and by the end of the year 30 had been completed and occupied and the remaining 10 were nearing completion. In several cases the bungalows provided alternative accommodation to elderly people displaced by slum clearance action. The majority, however, were let to older couples who previously occupied larger houses and many of them had medical reasons for desiring a change of residence. As a result of the Council's action a number of larger houses became available for occupation by married couples with families, thereby improving the general housing situation.

It is pleasing that the needs of some of the elderly were catered for in this manner; their problems will become more acute as the percentage of older persons in the community continues to grow. There appears to be every reason to increase the number of smaller bungalows available for elderly people, thus liberating the larger houses for younger families. In the immediate post-war period the emphasis was placed on the construction of houses to make good the deficiency arising in the war years and to provide houses for families who had never occupied a home of their own. To a great extent that problem is not now so acute and it may be that increasing attention can now be given to the particular needs of older people by providing small and attractive bungalows where they could continue to enjoy independence and privacy without the cares of looking after a larger, and often less well equipped, house.

During 1957, 13 houses were erected by private developers, this was an increase over last year's figure, but it was noticeable that all were completed before September when the economic condition of the country led to an increase in Bank Rate.

In total, the number of new houses erected in 1957 is much less than the figure for the previous two or three years, but it is not to be expected, in a district of this size, that new houses can continue to be provided at the

rate of almost 200 per year. It is, however, very gratifying that the inflationary pressure of last summer and autumn is now easing and the erection of further houses is being planned.

In recent years there has been a substantial increase in the number of houses purchased for owner occupation, and in many cases the Council have been able to assist by advancing loans for house purchase and making grants towards the cost of improvements. The scarcity value apparent in the immediate post war period has largely disappeared and many families are now occupying modernised houses which have not cost too much to acquire and improve.

Radical changes are taking place in the matter of house ownership, and we are progressing towards the end of the era of private ownership of investment type houses. An enormous change has occurred in the last twenty years and nowadays the rising generation is no longer prepared to invest money in the erection of the smaller type tenanted houses. In the immediate post-war period the ownership of investment type houses became very unpopular with most landlords, a period of fixed rents and rising repair costs led to dissatisfaction both to the owners and to the tenants.

The Rent Act of 1957 which was designed to allow increased attention to be given to repair and maintenance may not have the effect of sufficiently arousing the owner's interest in maintaining his houses, especially after the events of recent years. It is too early to comment on the effect of the Act, but there are already indications that it is leading to an increase in the sale of houses to sitting tenants; it may be that some owners have not the ready capital necessary to bring their houses into good repair and certainly many tenants feel that they would prefer to buy their houses rather than pay an increase of 6/- or 7/- per week. We are slowly proceeding towards the time when the vast majority of houses will be either owner occupied or in public ownership.

14 certificates of disrepair which were granted during 1956 under the provisions of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 were revoked in the early part of the year under review. The new legislation affecting rents

year came into operation in July, 1957 and by the end of the year most landlords had served the necessary notices on tenants concerning the increase in rent which was permitted. First indications were that the number of applications for certificates of disrepair were not so numerous as had been expected. To the end of the year 28 applications were received, 3 certificates of disrepair were granted and in the other 25 cases the landlords gave undertakings to carry out the necessary repairs. I have previously expressed my fears that the number of building contractors might prove insufficient to carry out all the repairs within the six months allowed, and there are now indications that undertakings given by landlords are not being honoured in entirety in the specified period. Nevertheless a considerable amount of repair work had been completed by the end of the year and much more work is now in progress.

In 1957 there was a further reduction in the number of houses improved with the aid of grant under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949. 19 grants were made, 4 in respect of tenanted houses and 15 to owner occupiers, many of them immediately following house purchase. To the end of 1957, 116 houses had been improved with grant aid, 50 being tenanted houses and 66 in owner occupation. It is again very disappointing to report the continued lack of interest of most property owners in the improvement of their houses. In previous years I have commented on the provisions of the 1949 Act whereby the local authorities have no powers to require the improvement of suitable houses. At present only a few of the suitable houses are being improved, whereas whole streets could be dealt with if organised programmes could be adopted. The new Rent Act has introduced a basic rent which should enable houses to be kept in reasonable repair, it may well be that the next logical step will be the introduction of legislation requiring provision of modern conveniences and amenities in suitable houses, thus making better use of our existing stock of houses and thereby reducing the number of new houses which are required. Improvement grants enable modern amenities and conveniences to be provided in older houses at a fraction of the cost of erecting a new house; affording to the tenants greater comfort in their present homes, and to the owner a fair return on his share of the cost. In these enlightened days all reasonable tenants desire the benefits of hot

water supply, bathrooms, internal sanitation, etc. and houses which do not possess these amenities become less and less desirable homes. I look forward to the time when these benefits are available to all, for they are now essential to a decent and healthy life.

During 1957 there was some slight reduction in the speed of implementation of the slum clearance programme due to the reduction in the number of houses built by the authority. 19 families were displaced as a result of clearance action and at the end of the year only 3 families were awaiting alternative accommodation. To the end of 1957 a total of 94 families had been displaced since the commencement of the slum clearance programme in the autumn of 1954.

Details of the action taken during the year under review were as follows:—

Cotton Street (No. 1) Compulsory Purchase Order.

This Order affecting the 4 houses, 7, 9 and 11 Cotton Street and 22 Middle Street, Bolsover was confirmed without modification on the 20th September, 1957.

Individual Unfit Houses.

47, 49 and 51 Station Road, Bolsover—Demolition Orders made.

36 and 36A Hill Top, Bolsover—An undertaking to make these houses into one sound house was accepted early in 1957.

Difficulty was again experienced in enforcing demolition of some vacated houses and in several cases the work had to be carried out in default of the owners.

The effect of slum clearance action in the central area of the town is becoming increasingly apparent and the Council have acquired several sites for preservation as open spaces and for road improvement purposes. Some limited redevelopment of several sites has been commenced but the nasty scars of slum clearance action are still rather depressingly obvious.

Caravans and Moveable Dwellings.

To provide facilities for those families who had purchased caravans for permanent occupation and to endeavour to reduce the use of isolated individual sites, the Council provided in 1954 a caravan site of 12 standings with water supply, drainage and sanitary conveniences.

In 1957 the existing site was extended to afford 3 additional standings and a further site adjacent was developed to provide for 8 more caravans with water supply, drainage and sanitary conveniences.

At the end of the year all 23 standings were let and quite frequent enquiries are received for accommodation on the Council's site.

There was, therefore, an increase in the number of occupied caravans during 1957 and although most of them are situated on a site possessing the necessary water and drainage facilities, I still feel that a caravan is not an ideal form of permanent residence. However well equipped a modern caravan may be, married couples with young children would live a fuller and happier life in less cramped conditions.

In one case action was taken to secure the removal of a dilapidated caravan which was being occupied without any drainage facilities or water supply being available

Infectious Diseases and Disinfection.

Particulars will be found in the Medical Officer's Report of the number of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year. 39 visits were paid to houses where cases had occurred.

During the year the Council's disinfecting station continued to be available, if required, for the disinfection of blankets, etc. in cases of infectious disease.

Terminal disinfection is not normally carried out, except where requested by the householder, but disinfectant is available free of charge.

Vermineous Premises.

There was again very little evidence of bed bug infestation of houses in the district, though a number of householders experienced trouble from cockroaches and silverfish.

The advice and assistance of the Department is freely available to householders; D.D.T. powder, Gam-mexane Dust, liquid disinfectant and D.D.T. fly solution continued to be supplied free of charge.

Water Supply.

Every house in the district is supplied with water from the main supply of the Chesterfield, Bolsover and Clowne Water Board. One sample of tap water was sub-

mitted for bacteriological examination and was reported as suitable for drinking purposes.

Premises used for the Preparation or Sale of Food.

During 1957, 184 visits were paid to premises used for the preparation of food (excluding slaughterhouses)—these comprised two bakehouses, 6 fish frying premises, 2 ice-cream manufacturers, 1 jam and canning factory, 10 manufacturers of sausages, etc. and 2 small cafes. With the exception of the bakehouses and cafes, all the above premises are registered under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act.

276 visits were paid to food shops and market stalls, including 31 shops registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the sale of ice cream.

Apart from the 6 fish frying establishments, there are 81 shops selling food, 3 being bakers and confectioners, 11 concentrating on the sale of fruit and vegetables 10 predominantly grocers, 10 Butchers, 1 dealing in made up meat products and 47 general dealers. The vast majority are combined house and shop premises of restricted size where the hygienic storage and display of differing types of food present numerous problems.

During the year action was taken to secure compliance with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations and to impress on all food traders and their staff, the vital importance of strict attention to cleanliness and hygienic practices in all aspects of the preparation and handling of food.

There was, again, no case of food poisoning resulting from food manufactured or processed in this district.

Slaughterhouses

There are four small slaughterhouses in the district providing slaughtering facilities for 7 local butchers and 1 from the adjoining rural area.

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

The following table gives particulars of meat inspection carried out during the year. Every animal slaughtered was examined and much of this work was carried out during the evening and at weekends.

**Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole
or in part.**

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed ...	576	89	11	1,331	216	—
Number inspected	576	89	11	1,331	216	—
All diseases ex- cept Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses con- demned	—	—	—	1	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	45	9	—	7	4	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	7.81	10.12	—	0.60	1.85	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses con- demned ...	2	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	18	18	—	—	1	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tub- erculosis ...	3.47	20.22	—	—	0.46	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	5	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	5	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and tot- ally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

During the year an estimated 3,293 lb. of meat and offals found to be unfit for human food was voluntarily surrendered by the butchers to the local authority. After staining the meat and offal were disposed of to the local knacker and arrangements were made for part of the proceeds to be returned to the butchers concerned.

There was again a further decline in the percentage of bullocks and heifers found to be affected with tuberculosis—this figure has declined each year since slaughtering was resumed in this district in July, 1954. The comparable figure for cows showed a slight increase but it was notable that in every case among cows, the disease was localised. It is also pleasing to note the increase in the number of bullocks and heifers slaughtered and the reduction in the number of cows, which were already much in the minority; again this trend has existed throughout the past 3 or 4 years.

The reduced incidence of tuberculosis among bovine animals slaughtered in this district is an indication of the success of the Government's Attested Herds Scheme which is achieving so much progress in the eradication of the disease.

An agreement exists with the Chesterfield Corporation whereby one of their inspectors undertakes meat inspection in this district during my absence.

The following amount of food, apart from fresh meat was found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered being disposed of by burial at the Council's refuse tips.

Sausages	...	...	...	...	38 lb.
Bacon	...	...	...	...	31 lb.
Canned Meats	...	...	...	...	24 tins
Canned fruit	...	...	...	...	43 tins
Canned tomatoes	...	...	...	...	114 tins
Canned vegetables	...	...	...	...	25 tins
Canned milk and cream	...	...	...	...	11 tins
Canned soup	...	...	...	...	1 tin
Canned fish	...	...	...	...	4 tins
Gravy Salt	...	...	...	...	1 pkt.
Cake	...	...	...	...	10 lb.

Sampling of Food.

Sampling of food under the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act is carried out by the Derbyshire County Council and Mr R. W. Sutton, O.B.E., B.Sc., F.R.I.C., F.C.S., the County Analyst, has kindly supplied the following report:

"44 samples, including 12 milks, were taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, in the area of the Bolsover Urban District Council during the year 1957. All samples were classed as satisfactory".

Milk and Dairies Administration.

The sale of non-designated milk is prohibited in this district by virtue of the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) (No. 3) Order, 1953 which came into operation on the 1st January, 1954.

At the end of the year there were 18 dairy farmers in the district, five of them producing Tuberculin Tested milk.

One producer of Tuberculin Tested milk bottles his milk at the farm and retails it locally, but in all other cases the milk is collected by the local dairy company and pasteurised.

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 to 1954.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1954.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 to 1953.

The registrations and licences granted as at the 31st December, 1957 were as follows:—

Registered distributors of milk	...	...	11
Licensed Dealers in Tuberculin Tested milk	...	...	6
Licensed Dealers in Pasteurised milk	...	...	6
Licensed Dealers in Sterilised milk	...	...	4

Supplementary licences to deal in Pasteurised milk and Tuberculin Tested milk were granted to the local Co-operative Society.

Ice Cream.

There are two small manufacturers of ice cream in the district.

Four samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination, all being reported to be in grade I.

Swimming Baths.

Four samples of swimming bath water were submitted for bacteriological examination, one showing slight evidence of contamination which was absent in the subsequent sample.

I have previously reported on the Council's intention to carry out improvements to the Public Baths in Castle Lane, Boslover, by providing improved and compulsory pre-cleansing and better dressing facilities; unfortunately this work could not be commenced during the year by reason of the restriction on capital expenditure.

Slaughter of Animals Acts, 1933-1951.

At the end of 1957, 11 persons held licences to slaughter or stun animals in Slaughterhouses or Knacker's yards.

Knacker's Yard.

31 visits of inspection were paid to the Knacker's yard.

This is rather a small business in a most remote part of the district, but it was conducted in as satisfactory a manner as its nature and location permits.

Shops Act, 1950.

32 visits were paid to shop premises regarding sanitary conveniences, closing hours and the employment of young persons.

Petroleum Licensing.

51 inspections were made of premises used for the storage of petroleum spirit.

At the end of 1957, 21 licences were in force involving a maximum storage capacity of 305,700 gallons.

Rodent Control

The Department has two trained rodent operatives and one of these men undertakes rodent control work regularly.

The Council carry out free treatment of private houses infested with rats or mice, but business premises, are charged with the cost of the treatment. The Knacker's yard is the subject of a special annual contract and permanent baiting points have been established.

The systematic survey of the district for the presence of rats and mice was continued throughout the year. Permanent baiting points were maintained at the refuse tip and at certain sewage disposal works.

Rodent Control Report for year ended March 31st, 1958.

	Type of Property			
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Business Premises	Agricultural
Total properties inspected	15	2615	231	52
Number of treatments carried out				
Rats	6	36	2	—
Mice	—	15	4	—

Agricultural properties are surveyed, but the majority hold contracts with the County Agricultural Executive Committee for extermination of pests.

Conversion of Pail Closets, etc.

During 1957, two pail closets were converted into water closets, one being at a farm cottage and the other at a house in Whaley which was modernised under the improvement grant scheme.

The vast majority of the houses which are not served by a public sewer are isolated farms and cottages, and most farmers now realise that to attract good workmen they must offer a modernised cottage. Some progress in this direction has already been made and further schemes are expected.

Atmospheric Pollution.

Certain provisions of the Clean Air Act, 1956 came into effect just before the beginning of the year, and some of these concerned the establishment of smoke control areas and the approval of industrial furnaces in new buildings.

It is to be expected that the formation of smoke control areas in mining districts will be somewhat slower than progress in the remainder of the country, especially in their application to residential areas. There is, of course, a long history of dependence on coal for virtually all heating and cooking requirements and the mineworkers were originally required to take part of their wages in the form of coal. It is this question of miners' coal which puts the brake on progress towards the complete implementation of the Clean Air Act provisions and it is a matter which must be amicably settled by both sides in the mining industry. I have previously reported on the steps taken by this authority, together with its neighbours who together form the North East Derbyshire Clean Air Joint Consultative Committee, in discussing this question with representatives of the National Coal Board and of the National Union of Mineworkers. These preliminary discussions at local level could not be expected to solve a question of national application, but they did take place in a cordial atmosphere and served a useful, if not a fruitful, purpose. The Minister of Housing and Local Government has since stated that the National Coal Board will be prepared to extend its "buy back arrangements" to all mineworkers affected by the requirements of a smoke control order. I, personally, do not feel that this action by the National Coal Board has sufficiently opened the way for the establishment of smoke control areas in mining districts. I most sincerely hope that the two sides in the mining industry will amicably negotiate some solution to this problem in the not too distant future. It is only after such a solution has been agreed, that reduction in domestic smoke in mining areas can be achieved in a spirit devoid of intense feeling.

During the year the authorities represented on the Consultative Committee discussed the question of "prior approval" in relation to new furnaces, etc. and agreed to co-operate in the establishment of a panel to assist the constituent authorities in the more complex cases which may possibly arise.

Further experiments were carried out during the year in an attempt to reduce pollution from a carbonising plant in the district. It now appears that equipment can be installed to overcome the very serious pollution which has occurred during the discharge and recharging of the retorts and it is hoped that smoke emission from this source will soon be much reduced.

Public Cleansing.

Refuse Collection.

A weekly collection of refuse was maintained throughout the year.

2 refuse collecting vehicles—a 12 cu. yd. S and D Freighter and a 7 cu. yd. Karrier Bantam, each with a driver and three loaders, are engaged whole time on refuse collection. During holiday periods, etc., a second Karrier Bantam assists on collection duties to maintain the weekly service.

No undue labour difficulties were experienced during the year and I should like, once again, to pay tribute to the loyalty and devotion to duty of all the workmen engaged on public cleansing duties. Their's is not a pleasant occupation but the manner in which they perform their duties is illustrated by the almost complete absence of complaints from the public they serve.

Refuse Disposal.

The disposal of all refuse collected is now concentrated at the New Byron Tip. The new access road which was constructed in the previous year has proved most beneficial and completely eliminated the difficulties which were continually experienced when the former access was in use. Interference with the tip and unauthorised tipping have also been brought under control since the new gate and fence were erected.

As pointed out in last year's report, increased attention was given to segregation of tins from the refuse at the tip and the quantity sold was virtually double the 1956 total.

Emptying of Cesspools, Pail Closets and Privies

The Council provide a free service, except in one special case, for the emptying of cesspools, pails and privies. This service is carried out during the day-time by a 7 cu. yd. Karrier Bantam fitted with a 300 gallon tank and using a three inch trailer mounted mud pump. The contents are conveyed to the sewage works, or to suitable sewer manholes, for disposal.

One day each week, this same vehicle is engaged in collecting waste paper from shops and business premises.

Salvage.

(Referring to the financial year ended March 31st, 1958)

Sales from the 1st April, 1957 to 31st March, 1958 were as follows:—

			T. Cwts.	Q. lbs.	£	s.	d.
Waste paper and cardboard	...	...	135	19	3	7	1190 15 6
Textiles	...	...	...	18	3	0	15 0 0
Scrap tins	...	...	45	16	0	0	190 11 0
Scrap Metals	...	...	3	15	0	0	28 5 0
			186	9	2	7	£1424 11 6

There was a further decline in the sales of waste paper due to restrictions on deliveries to the Mill. These restrictions have now been in operation for 2 years and although they have been slightly modified from time to time they have had the effect of reducing sales by almost 20 tons a year.

During the year under review the loss in revenue from sales of waste paper was more than offset by the increased income from sales of tins recovered from the tip; the total income from all sources showing a slight increase over the previous year.

