[Report 1961] / Medical Officer of Health, Bolsover U.D.C.

Contributors

Bolsover (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1961

Persistent URL

https://wellcomecollection.org/works/re4tywqk

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



URBAN DISTRICT OF BOLSOVER DERBYSHIRE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1961



URBAN DISTRICT OF BOLSOVER DERBYSHIRE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1961

BOLSOVER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(As at 31st December, 1961)

Councillor J. W. Savage (Chairman)

Councillor J. W. Bluff

Councillor S. J. Clarke,

Councillor F. Cross.

Councillor F H. Cutts

Councillor S. T. Fisher

Councillor T. Fulleylove

Councillor E. Griffiths

Councillor Mrs J. Colledge, Councillor W. B. Revill, J.P.

Councillor W. A. Taylor,

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. (Telephone: Mansfield 811/2).

Clerk: Miss P. M. WILSON.

Deputy Medical Officer (Part time) Dr. R. R. LANE.

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 and Gentlemen,

I am proud to have the privilege of submitting another Annual Report to you. I hope you will find it to be interesting and useful. I must thank all of you for your encouragement and for the interest you have shown in my department throughout the year. I must also thank Mr Margerrison (Engineer and Surveyor) for his contribution to this report.

I would also like to thank everyone on the staff of Belsover U.D.C. for their help and courtesy throughout the year. And of course, I owe many thanks to Mr Wright (Clerk of the Council) who is always willing to help and advise.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

A. R. ROBERTSON Medical Officer of Health.

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

ACCIDENTS IN THE HOME 1961

You will remember that towards the end of 1930 I got in touch with the general practitioners and asked them if they would notify home accidents to me. Many of them have done so and the fruit of their endeavours is shown here. I have tried to present these figures in fair detail because I feel they are worth study. These accidents occurred in Blackwell, Bolsover and Clowne. I have no way of knowing how complete these notifications are.

Number	notified		108
T. A. SCHARLE CO.	ALC: SARE C. SE	***	A 1010

Degree of Injury

Trivial	Moderate	Severe	Fatal
24	62	18	4

Accidents in Age Groups

Under 1-5.	4-7.	25-44-18
1-8.	5-9-10.	45-65-22
2-7.	10-14-7	65 plus—12
3-4.	15-24-7.	Unknown-1

Cause of Accidents

Falls-41.

Burns and Scalds-27.

Walking carelessly-5.

Electric Wringers, wringers and mangles-8.

Knives-8.

Dog Bite-1.

Splinter-1.

Burn and fall-3.

Carrying too heavy a weight-3.

Dropping an object on oneself, or having it dropped upon one-6.

Stubbing foot-2.

Careless use of tool-1.

Foreign body in eye-1.

Violence-1.

Cause of Accidents in Age Groups

Under 1.	Burns and scalds Dropping object Fall	3. 1 1.
Age 1.	Burns and Scalds Dropping object Falls Burn and Fall Electric wringer	2. 2. 2. 1. 1.
Age 2.	Falls Burns and scalds Electric wringer	3. 2 2.
Age 3.	Burns and Scalds Fall	3. 1.
Age 4.	Falls Burns and scalds Electric wringer Violence	3. 2 1. 1.
Age 5-9.	Burns and scalds Electric wringer Splinter Burn and Fall Walking carelessly Stubbing toe Fall Careless use of tool Knives	2. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1.
Age 10-14	Burns and scalds Fall Knives Electric wringer Foreign body in eye	3. 1. 1. 1. 1.
Age 15-24.	Burns and scalds Knives Burn and Fall Dropping object Stubbing toe	2. 2. 1. 1. 1.

Age 25-44.	Falls	8.
	Knives	3.
	Burns and scald's	2.
	Electric wringer	2.
	Dropping object	2.
	Walking carelessly	1.
Age 45-65.	Falls	10.
	Burns and scalds	4.
	Walking carelessly	3.
	Too heavy a weight	3.
	Dog bite	1.
	Electric wringer	1.
Age 65 plus.	Falls	10.
	Burns and scaldist	2.
Age unknow	n. Fall	1.

Fatal Accidents

- A little boy of 2 fell into a washing boiler full of very hot water. He suffered from very extensive scalds. He was admitted to hospital where he died.
- 2. A lady of 74 fell downstairs and fractured her skull.
- A lady of over 80 tripped over a rug, fell and fractured her femur. She died.
- A lady of 76 fell over a draught board on the kitchen door. She iractured her femur. For this, she had an operation, but, unfortunately she died.

As mentioned previously, we do not know how complete these figures are. Therefore, we cannot be too dogmatic when drawing inferences from them. Even so, I feel the following points are worth taking:—

- 1. They are scattered through the age groups. At any age, accidental injury is a possibility.
- 2. About 80% of accidents (in this series) caused an injury of more than trivial severity. Therefore accidents are important as a cause of injury.
- 3. The causes appear to be legion, with FALLS AND BURNS being the chief causes. ELECTRIC WRINGERS are also dangerous—in one instance, a mother switched off the wringer at the machine and at the point when

eral obstacles, operated both switches and then had his arm caught in the wringer—this may indicate how careful you need to be when using an electric wringer when children are around. As for **KNIVES**, they should be treated as an offensive weapon, even when they are being used defensively.

- 4. 'Accidents in Age Groups' shows that all sorts of things happen at all ages but there are two important points to be made. What a lot of falls are notified from 25 upwards and especially over the age of 65. Also, "too heavy a weight" (i.e. pulling, pushing, lifting or carrying one), caused three accidents—not very many—but all in the age group 45-65, suggesting that one's physical power may have gone more than one realises at this age.
- 5. There are two causes missing from our figures to my surprise. No accident was caused by the careless taking of medicine or by domestic gas. Whether there were any, which were not notified, is a matter for conjecture. However, in national figures these two are usually quoted as pretty common causes.
- 6. What can we learn from the fatal accidents? Well, when any source of heat (water, electricity, fires, etc.) is being used, great care must be taken with children. The same size of degree of burn or scald will cause a lot more damage to a child than to an adult. Children are very susceptible to burns and scalds. At the opposite end of life, old people are susceptible to falls and these falls cause very serious injury. A fall which a young person would hardly notice can cause a fracture in an old person. It seems to me there are two sides to this. First, all housing authorities should design their dwellings for old people with fall prevention as a first priority. Second, the old people in these houses should shun polish like the very devil and be careful when walking over raised edges like rugs.

Can anyone doubt now that home accidents are important? It seems to me that they can be tackled by collecting and breaking down the above sort of figures on a much larger scale. Meantime, I consider we are very lucky to have had these notified to us and I would like to thank all the doctors who have done so.

CARE OF THE FEET

This year Derbyshire County Council began to provide chiropody services at many of their clinics. Hearing of this made me think about feet in general.

Napoleon is reported to have said that an army marches on its stemach. I do not know what he thought or said, but, I do know what he did. Go by car in Northern France and you will see many straight roads shaded on both sides by tall trees. Napoleon built these for his soldiers—in other words, he did all he could to save their feet. Again, if you look at that wonderful painting (the epitome of despair), of the Retreat of the Grand Army from Moscow in 1812, the first thing you will notice is the inadequate manner in which Napoleon's routed army is shod and the way in which they are dragging their feet. That was many years ago but the same thing happened to the German soldiers serving on the Russian front during the last war. So, the feet and the mobility of an army and of civilians are all important.

Well, how can we keep our feet in good condition. Like every other part of the body, they need exercise, cleansing, etc. But we clothe our feet in shoes and they become vital. I feel sure that the biggest cause of foot deformity is defective shodding. This applies particularly to children whose feet are softer and are growing rapidly. Shoes should always be the correct size in length and width. Shoes should not be passed down from an older child to a younger child. Children's shoes should not be bought as Sunday best. If they are, they are usually too small by the time they are used for every day wear. No pair of shoes should ever be bought without the feet being measured and they should be measured standing (the foot widens on standing).

The above really sounds too easy. So easy, that feet should never be submitted to ill-fitting shoes. Alas, there are snags. I make no bones about placing most of the blame on the sellers of shoes. Let me give some reasons. Becently, my wife was talking about shoes to her class of 13 year old girls (remember, teen agers are very fashion conscious). Not one of them knew that shoes could

he had in different widths. Again, my wife requires a AA width in shoes. In a city the size of Sheffield we know of only one shop which consistently stocks this width and even then, there is not a wide range of styles. I said feet should be measured, but what happens. I have just bought an expensive pair of shoes and a very cheap pair. In each case the salesman said "What size? He should say "May I measure your feet?" Recently, I read an article by a consultant, at the London Foot Hospital, who said he walked out of the shop if the salesman said "What size?". I agree with him but I can assure him he'd have to walk out of an awful lot of shops if he lived anywhere round here.

I have blamed the shops. But after you have read this, be it on your own head in future. Before buying a pair of shoes have your feet measured and preferably in a standing position. And, this applies double if you are buying for a child.

A doctor in Glasgow examined many people who were deaf. She found that most of the deafness was due to long standing and neglected wax in the ears. I am certain the same would apply if one examined many old people who did not walk very well. It's surprising how neglected toe nails, long standing corns, callouses or bunions can affect one's ability to walk.

Cynically, it has been said that the only difference between man and beast is that man walks upright. There is always a lot of truth in cynicism. Feet are of fundamental importance to us even if they are not the "only difference". It is up to all of us to look after our feet.

All of this has arisen out of a chiropody service at our clinics. You will now know why I welcome this service so deeply. I sincerely hope that there will soon be one in every district in the County and I know the County Health Committee will do their utmost to give this service to every district.

Meantime I do urge everyone (who is eligible) to take advantage of the chiropody service. But, even more do I urge all parents to see that their children do not need chiropody nor have deformed feet. Have children's feet measured standing, and, most foot deformities will never arise.

If you think the above seems a bit excessive look at the following figures which were obtained from surveys in various parts of the country.

By the age of 15:-

- 4 children out of 5 have big toes bent over, and even more have other toes crooked.
- 2 out of 5 have corns on the little toes.
- 1 girl in 5 has blisters on her feet.
- 3 Gut of 10 have stiffness of one or more joints, mainly toes.
- Other foct defects ,some even more serious than these, are common.

IMMUNISATION

Year after year I recommend that all children should accept immunisation against whooping cough. Of course, figures have been issued showing that whooping cough immunisation is beneficial. However, figures do not mean an awful lot to me. I remember the American Public Health Association published a book called 'Public Health is People'. Well, that is my view and I decided to see what people thought about whooping cough immunisation.

This year, 47 cases of whooping cough were notified to me (in Blackwell, Bolsover and Clowne). I visited every one and asked if the child had been immunised, I also asked if they had been ill and whether the parents thought whooping cough immunisation was worthwhile. So far as I know I did not ask any leading questions, nor did I put any words into anyone's mouth. For instance, I

always said I was trying to find out if the immunisation helped and I did not express any opinion until I had heard the parent's views.

There were 47 cases. 33 were in children who had not been immunised and 14 in children who had. So far as I know the percentage of immunised children in the population lies between 40 and 50. Therefore it seems to me that this difference cannot be explained by differences in the number of immunised and non-immunised. As regards the severity of the illness in the two groups, the following table shows what happened:—

		No. parents said were ill	TO STATE OF THE PARTY OF THE PA	
Non-Immunised	33	14	42%	
Immunised	14	1	7%/0	

Earlier on, I said that figures did not mean too much to me and in contradiction I have just given you some. However, these are not just figures. They are people whom I have seen and questioned. I would like now to tell you what the parents said to me. All the parents whose children had been immunised but had still caught whooping cough, were satisfied and they all said they would do it again. Even the mother whose child had been ill took the view that the child might have been more ill without it. As for those children who had not been immunised, over half of their parents expressed regret that they had not been and said any future children would be. I feel I must quote from two in this group:—

- "My child played closely with four other children ,three of them had been immunised and they did not develop whooping cough, the other one had not been immunised and did develop it".
- "Those children in contact with mine, who had been immunised, did not develop whooping cough".

Well, there it is. The above satisfied me and the people concerned. We feel whooping cough immunisation is worth while. I make no claim that the above is of any scientific value but it convinces me and you, I hope. You will see that quite a number of cases were in people who had been immunised—This was no surprise. No-one has ever claimed that whooping cough immunisation is anything like so effective as diphtheria but I am satisfied it is well worthwhile.

I wish to end with my recommended time table for immunisation in infants.

2 months—1st Triple injection (against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus)

3 months-2nd

4 months—3rd

5 months—Vaccination against smallpox.

6 months-1st anti poliomyelitis by mouth.

7 months-2nd

8 months—3rd

18 months-4th Triple injection to boost immunity.

Of course the above is not fixed. Our knowledge increases from time to time and leads to changes. It looks as though there may soon be an efficient vaccine against measles for example. Also, recent experimental work suggests that it may be possible to immunise against whooping cough virtually at birth. However, these are for the future. Meantime, I urge parents to follow my timetable; a lot of protection is conferred by it, and, a lot of illness can be saved by it.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area (acres)	4,526
Population (Census) 1961	11,770
Population mid-year (Registrar General) 1961	11,780
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1961)	3,690
Rateable value (end of 1961)	£114,217
Sum represented by a Penny Rate 1961	£457

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

Total Male Fe	emale
Live Births 220 112	108
Rate per 1,000 population 18.7 (corre	cted)
Illegitimate Live Births (per cent of total live births)	3.2
Stillbirths 1 1	-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	4.5
Total Live and Still Births 221 113	108
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year) 8 3	5
Infant Mortality Rates	
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	36.4
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate	
live births	37.6
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate	
live births	Nil
Nec-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks	
per 1,000 total live births)	31.8
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under	
1 week per 1,000 total live births)	27.3
Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths	
under 1 week combined per 1,000 total	
live and stillbirths)	31.7
Maternal Mortality (including abortion)	Nil
Rate per 1,000 live and still births	Nil

Comments.

The number of live births and the corrected birth rate are both slightly lower than last year. However, the fall is very very slight and our rate is higher than the National one.

It is very pleasing to see fewer still births than last year.

I am very pleased to see a fall in the infantile mortality rate but, unfortunately, the neo-natal mortality rate has risen. There has also been a fall in the perinatal mortality rate. On the whole it has been a pretty good year.

Let us see how our figures compare with the National ones:-

В	olsover	England & Wales (provisional)
Infant Mortality Rate	36.4	21.6
Nac-Natal Mortality Rate	31.8	15.5
Perinatal Mortality Rate	31.7	32.2

It is sad to see our figures so much worse than the National ones.

7 infants died under the age of four weeks—one more than last year. The causes of death were :—

Congenital abnormality	2
Bronchopneumonia	1

Prematurity, as it so often is, has been the biggest cause of nec-natal deaths.

One infant died between the age of four weeks and one year, the cause of death was acute bronchopneum-

About these deaths—I can only say again how important it is to try and prevent prematurity occurring, and to remind parents that respiratory infections in an infant can be serious. To prevent prematurity there is only one way, the obtaining of good antenatal care. Every expectant mother should see that she has good antenatal care.

DEATHS.

Total	Male	Female	
111	70	41	

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population was 12.3 (corrected), while the National death rate was 12.0 (provisional).

There has been a slight increase in the number of deaths and in the death rate. However, our death rate is only slightly higher than the National one.

Causes of Death	Male	Female
Cancer (stomach)	2	1
Cancer (lung)	4	-
Cancer (Breast)	-	2
Cancer (Other sites)	7	1
Diabetes	-	1
Vascular lesions of Nervous System	9	5
Coronary disease, angina	12	3
Hypertension with heart disease	-	1
Other Heart Disease	8	9
Other circulatory disease	4	· 2
Influenza	1	-
Pneumonia	6	4
Bronchitis	2	3
Other respiratory diseases	4	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	1
Congenital malformations	-	3
Other defined and ill defined diseases	4	2
Motor Vehicle accidents	2	7
All other accidents	4	2
Suicide	-	1 .

Comments.

Again, it is pleasing to record the absence of any maternal death.

The pattern of deaths is similar to previous years, I am sorry however to see a total of 8 accidental deaths, and one death from suicide. As you may remember, I look upon these as being avoidable deaths and I think a total of 9 such deaths is far too high. I am pleased to see there were no deaths from tuberculosis this year.

Causes of Death 1955-1961

	1961	1930	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954
Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	1	2	-	2	-	-	2
Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Syphilitic disease	-	-	٦	-	1	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-+	-	-	1	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-		-	-	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cancer, stomach	3	4	2	3	4	2	4	3
Cancer, lung	4	3	-	2	1	1	1	5
Cancer, breast	2	1	2	5	-	2	3	-
Cancer, uterus	-	-	-	2	2	1	3	1
Cancer, other sites	8	6	G	17	6	7	5	14
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1	-	1	1	2	-	-
Diabetes	1	2	1	1	1	1	2	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	14	7	19	14	12	15	15	8
Coronary disease, angina	15	20	17	25	7	15	8	10
Hypertension with heart disease	1	2	-	1	2	7	3	3
Other heart disease	17	10	14	14	10	30	23	22
Other circulatory disease	6	10	6	7	11	8	5	5
Influenza	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	1
Pneumonia	10	5	3	7	5	3	2	4
Bronchitis	5	9	5	9	8	6	9	7
Other respiratory diseases	4	1	3	2	-	-	1	-
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	1	1	1	-	3	-	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	-	-	2	-	1	2	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
Congenital Malformations	3	-	4	2	2	-	2	2
Other defined and ill defined diseases	G	9	8	9	12	9	12	3
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	3	1	2	4	2	3	-
All other accidents	6	3	4	6	2	5	4	4
Suicide	1	2	1	-	1	1	1	-
Hemicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-	-	-		

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Maternity and Child Welfare and School Clinics.

These are provided by the Derbyshire County Council

Chiropody Service

It is very pleasing to report that the County Council, now provide such a service at their Clinic in Creswell Boad, Clowne.

Ambulance.

This service is provided by the County Council.

Laboratory Facilities.

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

I thank both for their courtesy and efficiency.

Chest Clinic.

The nearest Clinic is in Chesterfield, under the auspices of the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board. Another Clinic is held at the Victoria Hospital, Worksop (Watson Road Clinic) and Mansfield hold one at Kings Mill Hospital.

Venereal Disease.

Treatment and advice can be obtained at Derby Royal Infirmary, Chesterfield Royal Hospital, Victoria Hospital, Worksop, and Mansfield and District General 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 Year 1961

Monthly samples for Chemical and Bacteriological analysis were collected from the softening plants at Bolsover Moor and Hillstown. Both plants supply a treated water with an average hardness of 150 p.p.m. CaCO3 and all treated water samples gave satisfactory bacteriological results.

Regular samples for bacteriological and physical analysis were taken from the following distribution points:

HILLSTOWN TOWER.
HILLSTOWN STORAGE TANKS.
TAP, STRATTON ROAD, BOLSOVER.
TAP, GAS WORKS, BOLSOVER.

which was changed to tap, Bolsover Colliery, later in the year for more convenient sampling.

All samples gave satisfactory bacteriological and physico-chemical results throughout the year.

The softener at Hillstown was taken out of service during December in preparation for overhaul and refilling with new softening media, during which time the consumers were supplied with a water of hardness 265 p.p.m. CaCo3.

Results of Examination of Sample of Water.

Taken from Tap, Gas Works, Bolsover, on 13th March, 1961.

Bacteriological Examination.

Agar plate counts p	er 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 (4	40 C)	 	0

Physical and Physico-Chemical Examination.

Appearance—Clear.

Taste-Normal.

Colour-Nil.

Electrical Conductivity-880 Units.

pH.—7.7.

Chemical Analysis (Expressed in mg. per litre.)

Carbonate Hardness (CaCO ₃)	 133
Non-Carbonate Hardness (CaCO,)	 0
Total Hardness (CaCO ₃)	 133
Total Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	 266
Excess Alkalinity (Na ₃ CO ₃)	 141
Chlorides (Cl)	 37.7

Residual Chlorine.

Free 0.38. Combined Nil.

Closet Conversions

Details of these will be found in the Public Health Inspector's report.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

General

The three main Sewage Disposal Plants at Bolsover, Shuttlewood and Stanfree and the two small Septic Tanks and Filters in the village of Whaley continue to operate reasonably satisfactory, although Whaley Moor Plant is, at the present time, suffering from cracking, owing to mining subsidence.

Bolsover

The scheme to carry sludge from the works to the town tip is running satisfactorily, but it has been necessary to increase the size of the sludge storage tanks at the works in order to increase the dewatering of the sludge prior to its removal. At this works also, it is proposed this year, to increase the humus settling capacity in order to cut out the excess suspended solids in the effluent, mentioned in last year's report.

North Ward

The schemes mentioned in last year's report for the drainage of properties in Chesterfield Road, Shuttlewood, are now virtually complete. A small pumping station is pumping sewage from houses, which are now converted to the water carriage system, into the existing gravity sewers and at a lower level a small Sewage Disposal Plant came into operation in March, 1962. This Plant is working satisfactorily but the filter, which is of the bacteria type, is not yet fully alive, so that the effluent is not yet as good as it will be when the filter is in proper bacterial condition.

Valley Estate

So far the houses which are being built on this estate by both the Council and private enterprise, can be drained into the existing gravity sewers, but a time is arriving when further sewerage will be required.

HOUSING

In 1961 only 9 houses were built in the district. These were all built by private development. The reasons for no Council building are given in the Public Health Inspector's report.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959

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.

	Number	Nun	nber of	
Premises.	on Register	Inspec- tions	Written	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2 3, 4, and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities		17	_	
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	20	60	1	
(iii) Other Premises in which Sec- 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. excluding outworkers' Premises.)	2	15	2	
Total	26	92	3	

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Number of Cases in which defects
were found.
Referred
To H.M. By H.M.
Particulars. Found Remedied Inspector Inspector

* HILLIOUMILO!		110111041104	THE PERSON	mepector	
Want of Cleanliness	1	_	_	1 -	_
Overcrowding		-	_	-	-
Unreasonable temperature		-	_	-	_
Inadequate ventilation		-	-	-	_
Ineffective Drainage of Floors Sanitary Conveniences.	-	-	-	-	
(a) insufficient	1	1		-	
(b) unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	-	
(c) not separate for sexes	-	_	-	-	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relat-					
ing to Outwork.)			-	-	
Total	3	3	_	1 -	

-	-	-			
3.	O	112	337	or	15
**			·		ъ.

Nature of Work

No. of Outworkers default in sending lists to the Council

Wearing apparel making, etc.

11

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 ACTS, 1948 and 1951.

No action was taken during the year.

Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the year 1961

_		to Hosnital Total Deaths				:		:	:	:				:	:			:		:	:	1
τ	o, m	Lotal cases re											_									-
1		du pue 59		-																	:	-
		\$9 of \$ \$:					:	-		:	:				:					-	-
		24 of 25	:		:	:		-	1		:	:	-						:		:	63
-		26 of 02	1		:		-	:		:				-				:			:	-
tified		15 to 20			-								2				7				:	5
S 110	Vears	či ot Oi			2					-						1	00					12
Case	Ses -	01 01 8	:		2								3			3	129					137
r of	At Ag	€ of ₱			-								3			-	55	:			:	09
Number of Cases notified,	V V	₽ 01 E	:		CI							:					47		:		:	49
ž		2 to 3	:							:			-			-	50		:	:	:	52
	1 to 2	:		-		:										47				:	48	
		Under 1	1 .				:										24			:	:	25
		29gA Ils 1A		-	6		-		2	1			10			7	462					393
																						TOTAL
		Notifiable Disease	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Encephalitis Lethargica	Puerperal Pyrexia , .	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other forms of Tuberculosis	Pneumonia	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Dysentery	Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	do. (Non-Paralytic)	Whooping Cough	Measles	Para-Typhoid Fever	Gastro Enteritis	Food Poisoning	Meningococcal Meningitis	TOI

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Measles

I forecast that we would have a lot of cases in 1961 and my forecast has been correct. We have had 462 cases. Only 10 of these occurred in people over the age of 10. We shall not have many cases next year.

Whooping Cough.

We did not have many cases this year. There were only 7 A note about these will be found earlier on in my report.

Poliomyelitis.

Again, there was no case of poliomyelitis. I can only repeat that it is my belief that all who are eligible for vaccination against this illness, should accept vaccination as soon as possible. Vaccination can now be done by mouth

Scarlet Fever.

Here again there was a big reduction in the number of cases. We had only 9 as against 27 in 1960.

Diphtheria.

There has not been a case in Bolsover since 1948. I am happy that 1961 did not break this record. I believe that the easiest way to keep this going is by continuing to have our children immunised. Dr. Morgan (County M.O.H.) has kindly supplied the following figures regarding diphtheria immunisation:—

1961	1960	1959	1958	1957
172	146	165	156	131

These figures relate to primary immunisations. I am pleased to see that the figures for 1961 are better than those for 1960, indeed, they are the best since 1957.

Food Poisoning

Again no case was notified nor came to our know-ledge.

Dysentery

You may remember that towards the end of 1960, there were 10 cases of dysentery. This outbreak continued into 1961 when we had another 10 cases. They soon recovered after treatment.

TUBERCULOSIS

The following table gives particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and of all deaths from this disease during the year:—

		NEW	CASES	DEATHS					
	Age Periods in years	Pulmonar M. I		monary	No Pulmo M.				
0									
1									
5									
10			1						
15									
20		1 1 2							
25									
35		1							
45		1							
55.									
65 8	k upwards	3							
	Totals	1 1	1						

This has been a much better year. Last year we had six new cases and this year there have only been two of pulmonary tuberculosis and one of non-pulmonary. I do hope this will continue.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

For the Year 1961

To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS of the BOLSOVER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my report for the year 1961.

Several of the paragraphs in the part relating to housing deal with finance, and although this is not strictly the province of the public health inspector, it does very seriously affect the provision of houses in a local authority's district. A recent Parliamentary question produced a reply that the total inclusive cost of building a 900 sq. ft. standard Council house at the beginning of 1951 on the basis of 100 per cent loan repayable over 60 years amounted to £2,582, and the comparable cost for a similar type of house built at the end of 1961 amounted to £7,326. A further report has stated that Council house building costs have risen by 123 per cent during the past year. These figures would seem to emphasise the great need to preserve and improve the existing houses in the district and for the introduction of some measure of compulsion to secure this objective. Almost without exception, householders are anxious to have hot water and bathrooms, etc., in their homes, and in those houses where these amenities can be installed quite easily and

cheaply the work should be done in an attempt to make families happier in their homes, and thereby help to limit the demand for new Council houses while costs and interest rates are high.

The report also refers to the steps being taken to reduce atmospheric pollution, which is one of the main public health problems of our time, and I hope that increasing progress can continue to be made in the coming years.

I should like to thank the Council for their unfailing help and encouragement which has always been given to me in carrying out my duties.

I am, Mr Chairmen and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN F. H. WALTON.

Public Health Inspector & Cleansing Superintendent.

General Inspection of the Area

Table showing inspections, etc. undertaken during the year 1961.

Inspection of houses for nuisance and o	defects		473
Revisits to houses			629
Visits in connection with improvement	t of hou	ises	191
Visits re water supply			4
Visits to infectious disease cases			29
Milk Distributors and Dairies			63
Slaughterhouses—Meat Inspection	a '		289
Butchers Shops			91
Bakehouses			12
Fried Fish Shops			15
Other Food Preparing Premises			74
Food Shops			115
Market Stalls		****	61
Ice Cream Premises			. 76
Inns and Other Public Buildings			. 12
Factories and Workplaces			92
Knacker's Yard			27
Schools			6
Controlled Refuse Tips			65
Colliery Spoil Banks			8
re Atmopheric Pollution			31
Moveable Dwellings			35
re Keeping of Animals			16
Shops Act			31
Petroleum Licensing			58
Drainage Works			201
to Public Baths			7
Miscellaneous Visits			25
Interviews with owners, contractors, et	c		286

Housing and Public Health Act Defects

The following table shows the defects remedied as a result of action under the Housing and Public Health Act.

Defects in connection with-

House roofs			***		65
Chimney stacks				***	11
Eaves gutters and	rain wa	ater pipe	S		34
Pointing and Brick	werk o	f walls			29
Yard paving					14
Waste pipes					19
Internal wall and	ceiling	plaster			86
Windows and sash	cords				20
Doors					7
Floors					19
Staircases					8
Cooking ranges at	nd firep	laces			30
Sinks					9
Washing Coppers					4
Rising or penetrat	ing dan	npness			46
Outbuildings					20
Dirty houses	. L.,				2
Drains and Inspec	tion cha	mbers			73
Water closet pedes	stals				14
Closet flushing cist	erns				19
Walls and fences					2
Dilapidated dustbi	ns		***		174

In connection with the foregoing defects 148 informal notices and 7 statutory notices were served.

Housing Development

In last year's report reference was made to the proposal to erect a further 52 dwellings—12 two bedroomed houses, 16 three bedroomed houses, 16 one bedroomed bungalows and 8 two bedroomed bungalows—on the Valley Estate as the Council's 1960 building programme. Unfortunately there was some delay in releasing this land for building purposes and the development was not commenced during 1961: the result was that no new houses were provided by the Council during the year. Work on this site commenced early in 1962 and the next annual report should record some progress in erecting new houses.

The next programme provides for the construction of dwellings in the more central area of the town on sites which have become available through the removal of unfit houses, and the provision of dwellings for older people in this central area should be especially welcomed.

During 1960, private developers built 9 houses in the Urban District (compared with 15 the previous year) and at the end of the year there were 22 further privately built houses in course of erection, this being an increase of 16 on the total being erected twelve months earlier.

By the time the first of the 52 houses and bungalows becomes available for occupation there will have been a period of slightly over 2 years since the last Council house was built. At one time this would have given rise to untold anguish among the young married couples and the occupants of sub-standard houses who were relying Council to provide them with houses. During the past 16 years, since the end of World War II, 1,155 houses have been built in the district and nowadays there is no longer an acute housing shortage. Inevitably there has been some delay in providing houses for applicants on the waiting list and proposals for dealing with unfit houses have also been held up, but the large increase in Council owned houses during the post-war period now results in a greater number of houses becoming available for re-letting.

Another outstanding feature in recent years has been the really remarkable increase in the number of houses in owner occupation. If figures were available to compare the present position with that of only 10 years ago an amazing difference would be seen. It is perhaps somewhat disappointing that this increase in owner occupation is so closely related to the older houses in the district. The large amount of building by the Council and the provision of houses by the Coal Industry Housing Association in the post war years has overcome the acute housing shortage and older houses have been sold in recent years at quite reasonable prices: the scarcity value of the immediate post war years having entirely disappeared. In most cases landlords have been prepared to sell their investment type houses and whether these have been purchased by families anxious to own a house of their own, or by sitting tenants desirous of securing modern amenities which the landlord would not provide, the fact remains that a considerable number of such houses have been bought and modernised at a cost which bears very favourable comparison with the rent of a Council house. It is, however, rather noticeable that of the 1,155 houses built in this district since the was only 127 are privately owned and of course no new houses have been built for letting. One would assume that in this respect the proportion of new privately owned houses is appreciably below the national average, whereas the ever-all preportion of new houses in Bolsover is somewhat above the national average. The trend throughout the country in recent years has been for Council house building to recede and for private building to increasethis has not been the experience here.

The question of housing and the financial aspect with which it is so closely related is a subject on which many people have the most intense feelings. 1961 was another year of economic difficulties facing the country, of high Bank rate, high interest rates, purchase tax surcharges, pay pauses and other often unpleasant measures designed to restrict demand and to prevent costs rising more sharply than production. Inevitably these financial measures must have their effect on housing, and the high in-

terest rates and increased building costs now result in Council houses being more expensive to build than ever: the economic rent of a new three bedroomed house now in course of erection will be of the order of $\pounds 3$ 5 0d. per week exclusive of rates and water charges—not far off $\pounds 4$ 0 0d, in total.

Although this Council pursues a realistic rents policy and on average charges slightly more than £2 0 0d. per year per £1 of Gross Value for its Council houses, if comparable rents were charged for houses now being constructed there would be a loss of the order of £2 0 0 per house per week-approximately £5,000 per year on the 52 houses scheme. Inevitably this leads to rent reviews and or further charges on the rates, both rather unpleasant and unwelcome measures. Equally inevitably as the proportion of new houses in a community continues to rise, and especially if building costs and interest rates rates remain high, the difference between the rent of an old house with no modern amenities and that of a new modern house will continue to widen. This poses the question as to the extent that we, as individuals and as a nation, are prepared to go, in paying higher rents or repayment charges for better homes.

Some little help with this problem came with the reintroduction of subsidies for all houses under the new Housing Act of 1961, but perhaps the most pleasing feature of all is that such good progress was made several years age when building costs and interest rates were appreciably lower, that the need for new houses in the district is not nearly so great as it might have been.

I trust I may be forgiven for referring at such length to housing finance which is not strictly a matter for the Public Health Inspector, but I have tried to set out the facts as they exist, as they have so close a bearing on the question of improving and making better use of the older houses in the country.

Improvement of Houses

However much progress is made in the erection of new houses in the district, it is inevitable that a considerable number of families will continue to occupy older houses which were built about 60 years age. The vast majority of these hoses are not so old or dilapidated as to be definitely unfit for human habitation, but they have none of the modern amenities which we all regard as essential to a decent and healthy life in this day and age, and they cannot be very attractive homes. In very many cases it is a comparatively simple and inexpensive matter to provide hot water and bathrooms in these houses and to make them infinitely more comfortable homes.

This is a challenge which laces this Council and almost every other town in the country. Some progress is being made but it is not nearly fast enough. For a number of years grants have been available to encourage cwners to provide older houses with modern amenities. but unfortunately the landlords of rented houses are not taking advantage of this scheme, and the vast majority of applicants are owner occupiers who can see the chance of securing a modernised house at a comparatively cheap cost Councils have no power to require houses to be improved and many blocks, in fact whole streets, of houses are only having isolated ones improved where they are owner occupied. At last year's annual conference of the Association of Public Health Inspectors this problem was discussed in the presence of the then Minister of Housing and Local Government. While it is appreciated that the över-riding priority in many of the older towns is still the removal of the slums, there is now an increasing number of districts where slum clearance is no longer the main problem and where more attention can be turned to the task of improving the lot of the tenants of older but not unfit houses. The new Housing Act of 1961 has introduced measures designed to make the grants more attractive and has corrected an anomaly of the old 1959 Act so as to require an inside water closet wherever possible. Landlords can now increase rents of improved houses by 12½% of the Landlords share of the cost, against the previous 8% limit. It remains to be seen whether this added incentive will produce the desired result, but I cannot feel very optimistic, and perhaps it is rather significant that the Minister of

Housing and Local Government has recently said that he does not rule out the necessity to introduce some measure of compulsion.

There are very many houses in this district which now let at a rent of around 19/6s, per week inclusive of rates and water charges and which are capable of being provided with hot water, bathrooms, inside water closets and satisfactory food stores for about £250, of which the owner would meet half the cost.

The increased rent, after improvement, would be 26/- per week inclusive and I am convinced that the vast majority of tenants would gladly pay an extra 6/6d. or even more for the added amenities which their houses contained. Quite a number of these houses have been improved, though unfortunately most have been owner occupied, and it is one of the most satisfying features of my work to see and hear how thrilled they are with their improved homes.

To most of us it is easier and much more possible to make the best of what we have than to replace it with something new, and this is equally true of housing accommodation. These houses which lend themselves to improvement are mostly terraced houses, frequently without large gardens, and from the modern planning aspect might be rather undesirable development. They are, however, the homes of a considerable proportion of the community and these people deserve a little more comfort out of life. It seems to me to be more realistic to pursue a policy of improving these houses rather than to allow them to deteriorate to such an extent that they eventually considerably swell the slum clearance problem. What is now required is a new standard for housing, one which requires the sound, older houses, which are capable of being improved, to be provided with modern amenities, and those which are not capable of being brought up to that standard should form the slum clearance problem of the future. To those areas where the existing slum clearance problem is particularly acute, this might appear to be somewhat premature, but progress in large areas of the country cannot be unduly delayed because of exceptional difficulties facing a few towns. The days of the private landlord are passing and certainly most of them in this district are elderly rather than young people; there may genuinely be cases where the requirement to provide modern amenities would give rise to financial difficulties, but I am convinced that a satisfactory scheme could be devised, even if this involved payment of the increased rent to the Council until the cost had been recovered, and if all else failed local authorities could acquire and modernise suitable houses.

The crying need is to make faster and more orderly progress; the longer we delay, the more difficult will the problem become, and the less chance will there be of saving so many houses from deteriorating into slums.

The following table summarises progress made in recent years in improving houses with the aid of grant:—

	Owner-Occupied Houses	Tenanted Houses	Total Houses Improved
1954	3	-	3
1955	25	40	65
1956	23	6	29
1957	15	4	19
1958	- 19	6	25
1959	32	-	32
1960 (Standard Gr (Discretionary	ants) 15	-	
Grants)	3	6	24
1961 (Standard Gra (Discretionary		1	
Grants)	6	1	23
	156	64	220

The figures for 1961 are disappointing, showing a slight reduction in total and a bigger reduction in tenanted houses. However, at the end of the year there were 35 cases where applications had been approved but

where the works had not been completed—these being 23 standard grants (6 tenanted and 17 owner occupied houses) and 12 discretionary grants (8 tenanted and 4 owner occupied houses). There is therefore every reason to believe that next year's report will record more satisfactory progress and I trust that this trend will be maintained and increased.

Earlier on in this report I referred to present day, high cost of building new houses which inevitably leads to increased rents or rates, and I should now like to refer to costs incurred by Councils in encouraging improvement of houses. Of course the two operations are quite different, for in the improvement of houses the properties belong to private owners who pay at least half the cost of the works. The Council pay half the cost of providing standard amenities or other improvement works and 75% of the Council's costs are recoverable from the Exchequer.

To the end of 1961 the Council had paid grants to-wards improving 220 houses and the cost to the rate Fund has, of course, been rising progressively each year as the number of houses improved has increased; for the year ended 31st March, 1962, the cost had reached £580 — very slightly more than the equivalent of a 14d. rate product, and even this is offset somewhat by the extra rates payable by owners of improved houses.

This then is a scheme which makes older houses more comfortable for the occupants for a quite modest increase in rent, affords the owners a reasonable return on their cutlay and places only a slight burden on the ratepayers. It is therefore, sensible that it should be widened in its scope and that the living conditions of an appreciable proportion of the community should be made more pleasant and comfortable.

Clearance of Unfit Houses

Due to no new houses being available during the

year, no representations in respect of clearance areas were submitted to the Council during 1961 and only one in respect of an individual unfit house. There was, however, continued action in respect of unfit houses dealt with during the previous year, as follows:—

Bentinck Read (No. 1) Clearance Area

This area comprised the sixteen houses, 99, 101, 103, 105, 107, 109, 111, 113, 115, 117, 119, 121, 123, 125, 127 and 129 Bentinck Road, Shuttlewood. A Clearance Order made in September, 1960, was subsequently confirmed without modification by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in April, 1961, after the holding of a Public Inquiry. At the time of making the Clearance Order, 8 of these houses had been purchased by the occupiers, and of these five were Italian nationals; three of them having purchased their houses too late to qualify for slum clearance compensation. In confirming the clearance order the Minister directed that payments for good maintenance should be made in respect of thirteen houses and the removal of these unfit houses is proving to be the most costly of any area so far dealt with. Although no new houses were constructed the increase in the number of houses available for reletting enabled progress to be made in rehousing the families, and at the end of the year only 6 families remained to be rehoused.

Hill Top (No 2) Clearance Area

This area comprised the six houses 45, 47, 49, 51, 53 and 55 Hill Top. Early in 1961, the two remaining tenants were rehoused and the site was cleared.

High Street (No 3) Clearance Area

This area comprising the houses 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 and 14 High Street was purchased by negotiation, the remaining tenants were rehoused and the site cleared.

Hill Top (No 4) Clearance Area

This area comprised three houses, 4, 6 and 8 Hill Top and was the subject of negotiations to purchase the site with a view to extending an open space. One house was purchased in 1960 and a second during 1961 and those tenants were rehoused, but negotiations in respect of the third house were not completed until early 1962.

Individual Unfit Houses

54 Station Road, Bolsover.

Demolition Order made tenant rehoused and house demolished

In all 18 families (61 persons) were displaced by slum clearance action during 1961 and of these 14 families accepted alternative accommodation offered by the Council. A total of 25 houses were demolished, 13 in clearance areas and 12 individual unfit houses. To the end of 1961 a total of 144 houses had been demolished or closed, and being carried forward into 1962 were the sixteen houses in Bentinck Road (No. 1) Clearance Area where 6 families remained to be rehoused, and the three houses in Hill Top (No. 4) Clearance Area where one family was still in occupation.

In 1955 and in accordance with the requirements of the 1954 Housing Repairs and Rents Act a survey of the houses in the district was carried out and it was estimated that there were then 151 unfit houses to be dealt with Since that time good progress has been made in dealing with these unfit houses, and a number of others which had been found to require slum clearance action; last year it was felt that a further survey should be undertaken of the remaining poorer houses in the district. Those houses included in the original estimate were the most unfit ones in the district and in no case has any clearance order not been confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government, and in the light of experience gained in implementing the slum clearance programme it was thought advisable to conduct this second survey. The results were submitted to the Council towards the end of the year and contain 122 further houses, including a few carried forward from the previcus programme, it was thought that they should be considered in relation to the Housing Act standard during the next five years. Some further action in respect of unfit houses will be taken to coincide with the new housing development at Valley Estate.

The Housing Act contains a standard below which houses are regarded as being unfit for human habitation, and Local Authorities have the duty to secure the demolition, closure, or repair of all such houses. This task will be pursued until all unfit houses have been dealt with, but as the years pass by an ever increasing percentage of the population will be living in better houses with modern amenities and those remaining in the poorer houses will justifiably be demanding better homes and the modern amenities which the majority enjoy. course this is a national problem, and progress being made in the removal of houses unfit by present standards is much slower in those parts of the country where the number is particularly great. It is hoped however that as the country makes progress in increasing the standard of living, the standard of unfit houses will progressively be raised to enable the benefits of modern homes to be extended to an ever increasing percentage of the population; and that action in this direction will not be unduly delayed by reason of the acute problems which confront some of the older industrial areas.

It has frequently been stated that there is a need of some 6 million new houses throughout the country during the next 20 years and that the present rate of house building, which has been declining in recent years, will not supply this demand. Houses will continue to be required to allow for clearance of the unfit houses, to provide homes for young couples who are marrying at an earlier age and for the increasing proportion of elderly people in the community. However much progress is made on improving houses to make them more comfortable for the next 20 years or so, there are very many older houses which do not readily lend themselves to being improved and though they may not yet be unfit by the present standard, they must be replaced as the

general standard of housing is raised. The provision of new houses and the removal of the sub-standard ones therefore becomes a continuing duty, and one designed to assist in providing a healthier and happier community.

Caravans and Moveable Dwellings

In last year's report I referred to the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act which came into operation in the Autumn of 1960. At the commencement of the year, there were 8 sites throughout the district containing single caravans, another near the town centre having 4 caravans and the Council's own site with standings for 23 caravans and which had been in existence about 6 years. Applications for site licences from all the owners were obtained and submitted to the planning authority.

The planning authority's decisions were early in 1961 and site licences were granted in respect of 6 individual caravans; these contained conditions designed to secure reasonable standards for water supply, sanitary conveniences, drainage, the storage of refuse and the provision of hard standings for the caravans. The Council's Housing and Planning Committee considered the future of the Council's caravan site in relation to the recommended standard for sites and decided to close this site by April, 1963, in view of the fact that it had originally been provided as a temporary measure and would require considerable expenditure to achieve a satisfactory standard. To the end of 1961 some of the standings had been vacated and 15 were still occupied. There was thus an over all reduction of 11 caravans in the district during the year.

The effect of the new Act is to allow the use of sites for caravans on a permanent basis provided these do not interfere with amenity and can be afforded proper facilities for water supply, drainage and sanitary conveniences, etc. This does away with temporary permissions which had been granted in the past and allows those

people who want to live in caravans a means of doing so provided they occupy properly equipped caravans and properly laid out sites.

Infectious Diseases and Disinfection

Particulars will be found in the report of the Medical Officer of Health of the number of cases of infecticus diseases notified during the year and 29 visits were paid to houses where cases had occurred.

The Council's extremely old and obsolete disinfector which had not been used for several years was disposed of during the year; terminal disinfection is no longer carried cut, but disinfectant is available free of charge.

Vermineus Premises

There was again virtually no evidence of bed bug infestation, though several houses experienced trouble from cockroaches and control measures were carried out; suitable powder and liquid insecticides are available free of charge to affected properties.

One family displaced by slum clearance action had their furniture and household goods disinfested before transfer to alternative accommodation, and the services of the Chesterfield Corporation were used in this case.

Water Supply

Every house in the district is supplied with water from the main supply of the Chesterfield, Bolsover and Clowne Water Board. Three camples of tap water were submitted for bacteriological examination and were reported as suitable for drinking purposes.

Premises used for the Preparation or Sale of Food

During 1961, 210 visits were paid to premises used for the preparation of food (excluding slaughterhouses)—these comprised one bakehouse, five fish frying premises, two ice cream manufacturers, ten manufacturers of sausages, etc., and one small cafe. One local bakehouse closed down during the year.

246 visits were paid to food shops and market stalls, including 43 shops registered under the Food and Drugs Act for the sale of ice cream, this being an increase of 2 compared with last year.

During the year action continued to be 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. The vast majority of shops are combined shop and house premises of restricted size where the hygienic storage and display of a large variety of foods and other goods gives rise to numerous problems. Most of the shops in the central area of the town are in old premises which have been converted into shop premises. It is pleasing that the redevelopment of of the town centre is due to take place fairly soon and that the resultant new premises will have been properly designed for the purpose.

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

Slaughterhouses

I referred last year to the effect of the new Slaughterhouses Act and the Regulations dealing with Hygiene and the Prevention of Cruelty. These Regulations came into full effect in the Urban District on the 1st October, 1961, and by that date the three slaughterhouses had been repaired and improved to comply with the requirements of the Regulations.

The effect of the new Act and Regulations is to ensure the lairing, handling and slaughtering of animals in a humane manner, and to secure hygienic conditions for the handling of carcases and offal and for efficient inspection of meat. One of the serious public health problems of our times is the incidence of food poisoning, and

meat is known to be the most frequent cause of food poisoning. It is of course, right that animals should be prepared for food in a hygienic manner, and strict observance of the new Regulations can go a long way towards ensuring that meat is clean when it leaves the slaughterhouse.

Inspection of Meat and other Foods

The following table gives particulars of meat inspection carried out during the year, and although quite a fair amount of the slaughtering is done in the evenings or at weekends, once again all the carcases were inspected.

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

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	horses
Number killed	629	12	-	1453	106	-
Number inspected	629	12		1453	106	_
All diseases ex- cept Tuberculosis and Cysticerci Whole carcases con- demned		_	_	2	_	_
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	39	1	-	1	1	_
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	6.20	8,33	-	0.21	0.94	_
Whole carcases con- demned	_	-	-	_	-	_
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	_	_	_	2.0	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tub- erculosis	(.16		_	_	1.90	-
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5		_	_	_	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	4	- 45	_	-		-4
Generalised and tot- ally consemned	-	-	- to	-		-11

During the year an estimated 806 lbs. of meat and effals were rejected as unfit for human consumption and were disposed of to the local knacker's yard for sterilization.

The quantity of meat rejected at the slaughter-houses has declined steadily since the premises were recpened in 1954 on the decontrol of meat; the following table gives details:—

1954 (six months only)	-	4,232 lbs. rejected	
1955	-	3,754 lbs. "	
1956	-	4,501 lbs. "	
1957	-	3,293 lbs. "	
1958	-	2,312 lbs. "	
1959	-	1,708 lbs. "	
1960	-	1,014 lbs. "	
1961	-	806 lbs. ",	

The number of animals passing through the slaught-crhouses increased by about 35% last year, due almost entirely to a butcher from the adjoining rural district using the facilities available in this urban area. The small amount of meat rejected pays great tribute to the quality of animals purchased by the local butchers, and although there must inevitably be a small amount of meat which is rejected, the trend established in previous years is being well maintained in 1962.

The most striking trend in meat inspection in recent years has been the very sharp reduction in the number of bovine animals found to be affected by tuberculosis. The success of the Government's scheme to eradicate this disease from the cattle of this country is now patently obvious in the meat inspection service. The following table gives the percentage of bovine animals,

slaughtered in this area, found to be affected by tuberculosis:-

1954	-	16.40%
1955	_	10.39%
1956	-	7.82%
1957	-	5.71%
1958	_	5.51%
1959	-	3.06%
1960	_	2.11%
1961	-	0.15%

This represents truly amazing success, and in 1961 only one bovine animal displayed evidence of the disease. It is now four years since this disease warranted the rejection of the entire carcase of an animal, and in recent years the disease, when found, has only affected the animal to a very limited degree.

An agreement exists with the Chesterfield Corporation Public Health Department 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 tip.

Sausages	67 lbs.
Bacon	25½ lbs.
Cooked Meats	773 lbs.
Canned Meat	28 tins
Canned Fruits	93 tins
(including tomatoes)	
Canned Vegetables	22 tins
Canned milk and cream	37 tins
Canned Soup	6 tins
Canned Fish	2 tins
Cakes	4 lbs.
Cheese	5 lbs.
Butter	½ lb.
Tomatoes	6 lbs.
Cocoa	2 pkts.
Rice and Sago	5 pks,

91 - 30

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:

"49 samples, including 6 Milks were taken under the above Act, in the area of the Bolsover Urban District Council during the year 1961.

Four samples of Flavouring Essence (3 of one brand and 1 of another) all contained artificial colour prohibited from use in food manufacture in this country by The Colouring Matter in Food Regulations, 1957. Enquiries disclosed they were all very old stock. In each case only a small number of bottles remained and these were destroyed by the two retailers concerned.

With the above exceptions the samples were found to comply with the Regulations and were returned as genuine."

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.

One producer of Tuberculin Tested milk bottles his milk at the farm and retails it locally, but from all other dairy farms the milk is collected by dairy companies for pasteurisation or sterilisation.

Samples of milk were obtained from the one producer who retails his milk locally and four consecutive samples showed the presence of coliform organisms. Subsequent samples were satisfactory and the assistance of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food was sought in improving the supply.

The Milk and Dairies Regulations

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations

The registrations and licences granted as at the 31st December, 1961, were as follows:—

Registered distributors of milk			10
Licensed Dealers in Tuberculin	Tested	milk	6
Licensed Dealers in Pasteurised	milk		6
Licensed Dealers in Sterilised	milk		4

Bacteriological Examination of Samples

There are two small manufacturers of ice cream in the Urban District and 11 samples were submitted for examination with results as follows:—

Provisional	Grade	1	 	 	 10
Provisional	Grade	2	 	 	1
Provisional	Grade	3	 	 	-
Provisional	Grade	4	 	 	-

Ten samples of water from the inlet and outlet ends of the Public Baths were submitted for bacteriological examination. Three of these samples were not quite satisfactory and the chlorine dosage was adjusted to give satisfactory results in later samples.

Three samples from the main supply of the Chesterfield, Bolsover and Clowne Water Board were reported as being satisfactory

Three samples of orange juice, bottled locally, were submitted for examination and found to be free from coliform organisms.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

At the end of 1961, 10 persons held licences to slaughter or stun animals in Slaughterhouses or Knacker's yards.

Knacker's Yard.

27 visits of inspection were paid to the Knacker's Yard. This is a rather small business in a very remote part of the district, and it was conducted in as satisfactory a manner as its nature and location permits.

Shops Act, 1950.

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

Fet: cleum Licensing

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

At the end of 1961, 17 licences were in force covering a maximum storage capacity of 271,768 gallons.

During the previous year detailed inspections of all storage installations were undertaken to secure strict compliance with Home Office Model Codes and all licences were allowed a reasonable time in which to carry out improvements and alterations. As from 1st January, 1961, several licences were not renewed and a new form of licence based on the Model Code was introduced.

Redent Control

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

The Council undertake free treatment of domestic premises infested with rats or mice, but business premises are charged with the cost of treatments carried out. Four business premises were the subject of annual contracts and systematic inspections, and treatments as and when required, have resulted in these premises being kept well under control. Most of the other industrial and agricultural premises in the district have annual contracts with a private operator who was once an employee of the Ministry's rat and mouse destruction service.

The systematic survey of the district for rats and mice was continued throughout the year and the treatment of the sewers revealed very little evidence of infestation. Permanent baiting points were maintained at the refuse tips and sewage works and this method of treatment has been found to be highly successful.

Redent Control Report for year ended March 31st, 1962

		Type of Property						
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses	Business Premises	Agricul- tural				
Total properties inspected	18	1791	209					
Number of treatments carried out Rats	6	21	1	3				
Mice	_	10	4	_				

The number of treatments carried out shows little variation from the previous year. There was no major infestation, and those found were of a minor character. The general public now realise that a free service is offered for redent control and co-operate wholeheartedly in the task of exterminating rats and mice.

Conversion of Pail Closets, etc.

The schemes to provide sewers to serve a total of 22 houses in Chesterfield Road, Shuttlewood were almost completed by the end of 1961. 21 of these houses were served by pail closets and with the exception of 2 houses all the cwners have applied for grants to install modern amenities. In only one case was the work completed by the

end of the year—at No. 146, Chesterfield Road—but the report for 1962 should report the satisfactory completion of these schemes.

One other house, 139 Shuttlewood Road, was also connected to the sewer and provided with a water closet in place of an existing pail closet, as part of an improvement grant scheme.

Atmospheric Pollution

The measurement of atmospheric pollution in this district was commenced on the 1st February, 1959, and the instruments were sited with the co-operation of oficers of the Warren Spring Laboratory of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. One deposit gauge was sited at Hall Farm in fairly close proximity, to the Bolsover Colliery and the carbonising plant of Coalite and Chemical Products Ltd., which are the main sources of industrial pollution in the Urban District; the second gauge was sited in Moor Lane, to the east of the town centre, to give records of deposited matter in the residential area. Two lead peroxide instruments were sited in Cundy Road and Moor Lane.

The results obtained since 1st February, 1959, are set out below:—

Deposited Matter

(Total solids, tons per square mile)

	Hall Farm				Moor	Lane
	1359	1980	1961	1959	1960	1961
January	-	14.44	24.34	-	11.24	13.05
February	8.54	12.65	15.14	12.15	11.41	9.29
March	13.11	12.45	10.87	12.86	10.67	6.10
April	16.49	14.74	23.75	12,58	9.87	15.14
May	16.10	8.38	11.76	10.60	17.89	8.25
June	19.74	17.39	13.74	16.01	13.49	8.52
July	16.73	17.29	16.16	11.78	8.49	9.19
August	16.79	15.63	14.98	10.60	10.59	13.19
September	17.22	13.74	13.22	11.00	10.60	9.30
October	13.14	11.29	15.87	10.17	_	8.26
November	16.43	13.18	11.29	12.45	9.36	7.45
December	12.22	20.86	16.69	11.38	9.96	7.51

Hall Farm—1959 monthly average—15.32 tons per sq. ml.
1960 monthly average—14.34 tons per sq. ml.
1961 monthly average—15.65 tons per sq. ml.

Moor Lane—1959 monthly average—11.96 tons per sq. ml.

1960 monthly average—11.23 tons per sq. ml.

1961 monthly average— 9.60 tons per sq. ml.

As was expected the level of pollution proved to be somewhat higher closer to the industrial premises.

Estimation of Sulphur by Lead Peroxide Method

(Mg. of SO₃ per day collected by 100 sq. cm. of Batch A PbO₂) (Louvered cover)

	Cur	Cundy Road			Moor Lane		
	1959	1960	1961	1959	1960	1961	
January	-	2.21	2.47	-	2.30	2.30	
February	2.28	2.62	2.78	2.11	2.51	2.47	
March	1.56	1.22	2.87	1.43	1.07	2.34	
April	1.87	1.90	1.36	1.62	1.63	1.53	
May	1.17	0.98	1.14	0.98	1.10	1.14	
June	1.43	0.33	1.31	0.88	0.83	1.16	
July	0.87	0.97	1.27	0.69	0.90	1.10	
August	1.13	1.12	1.10	0.84	0.95	0.94	
September	1.20	1.03	1.05	1.05	1.12	1.33	
October	7.58	1.18	1.40	1.49	1.39	1.65	
November	2.32	2.12	1.90	2.57	2.27	1.91	
December	2.47	2.87	2.89	2.59	2.88	3.18	

Cundy Road—1959 monthly average—1.62 1960 monthly average—1.55 1961 monthly average—1.79

Moor Lane—1959 monthly average—1.48
1960 monthly average—1.58
1961 monthly average—1.75

Regarding pollution from industrial sources, the local jam and canning factory with coal burning plant was closed down in 1960 and re-opened last year by a Shef-

field cutlery firm using only smokeless fuels. One shaft at Bolsover Colliery was electrified during the year and plans exist for the hand fired boilers to be converted to mechanical stoking in the future. The other major industrial undertaking, Messrs Coalite and Chemical Products Ltd., where large scale carbonisation of coal is carried out, were transferred, under the Clean Air Act, to the Alkali Inspectorate and are no longer under the Council's jurisdiction for clean air purposes. The Company are actively engaged on replacing the older and more smoky carbonising retorts, and improving and modifying others, to materially reduce pollution during the cooling process and in the charging and discharging of the batteries. Last year significant progress was made and for the first time one of the batteries was made capable of well-nigh smokeless operation. Other batteries are being similarly modified and it is expected that these plans when fully implemented should materially reduce the amount of smoke emitted. I am particularly anxious that pellution from industrial sources should be reduced to satisfactory levels before the Council's plans for dealing with the domestic problem are brought into effect.

For the first time, it is very pleasing to be able to report progress in dealing with domestic pollution. The significant feature of the year was the agreement reached between the National Union of Mineworkers and the National Ccal Board regarding the supply of smokeless fuels to mineworkers living in smoke control areas. This is a mining area where a high percentage of householders received concessionary coal, and quite naturally the Council have been reluctant to proceed with the establishment of smoke control areas until an arrangement covering the supply of smokeless fuel to the mineworkers had been introduced. Once the agreement had been completed, the Council authorised steps to be taken to create the first smoke centrol area, and for plans to be drawn up for the creation of further areas to cover all the Urban District. The first smoke control area to be created is one of 86 acres to the south of New Station Road and to the south west of much of the Urban District; it is

an area earmarked for quite considerable housing development, containing some 73 houses of which 64 are very new Council houses. Further development is taking place in the area, both by the Council and a local building contractor and when fully developed could contain up to 750 houses. The creation of a smoke control area in this part of the district would ensure that new housing development taking place would not add to the level of pollution from domestic sources. The Council's proposals to create a smoke control area received considerable publicity in the local press and the meeting at which the proposal was approved, was attended by nearly all the local doctors, thereby demonstrating their interest and support in this venture.

The Smcke Centrol Order is now at the Ministry awaiting confirmation and the Council have approved a programme to create six further smoke control areas to cover the whole of the Urban District by 1973-1974. It now remains to be seen whether the Council's plans for reducing domestic pollution are to be welcomed by the inhabitants of the district. Inevitably there is always opposition to change, and especially will this be so in an area so intimately connected with the mining of coal, but much of the criticism which has been heard has been more concerned with the terms of the agreement with the Coal Board than with the principle of reducing atmospheric pollution.

The harmful and costly effects of atmospheric pollution have been emphasised repeatedly in recent years and the Beaver Committee which considered this question reported that "air pollution on the scale with which we are familiar in this country is a social and economic evil which should no longer be tolerated" and stated that proposals for abating air pollution "if carried out will secure happier and more healthy living conditions for millions of peopple and that on all counts the cost and cure will be far less than the national loss in allowing the evil to continue". In his Presidential Address to the 1961 Annual Conference of the National Society for Clean Air, the Rt. Hon. Lord Cohen, a most eminent

physician, spoke on the harmful effects of air pollution, referring to the high incidence of chronic bronchitis in this country, and asked "are we not justified for health reasons alone in proceeding with the implementation of the Clean Air Act, with much greater speed? Why is there such opposition and delaying tactics to this splendidly worthwhile social enactment, when it would yield such dividends and lessen illness, death and human misery, diminish medical costs and absenteeism, increase productivity and significantly decrease our expenditure on artificial illumination, on the repair and renovation of buildings, on damage to crops and animal welfare, and improve our fuel resources"?

The first steps in reducing the domestic pollution in this district have now been taken and this represents an act of very considerable faith by the local authority in a predominently mining area where so many receive concessionary coal and where 8 out of the 12 Councillors are affected in that way.

This is a district in which a premium grade solid smokeless fuel is manufactured in considerable quantity, and it is the availability of suitable alternative fuels to coal which will govern the progress made in creating smoke control areas both in this district and throughout the country. I feel that much greater progress and a reduction of opposition to smoke control could be achieved if there were available increased quantities of reactive smokeless fuels with properties similar to those of coal except in respect to smoke emission. The need is to increase the production of such fuels until the total requirements of the domestic market could be met, and thereafter it would be possible to limit the supply of raw coal to those users who could burn it smokelessly and efficiently.

I look forward to the days when atmospheric pollution is no longer a serious public health problem. We all rightly expect that the food and drink we consume are free from contamination or pollution, it is equally important that the air we breathe from the moment we are

born to the time that we die should also be as free from pollution as possible.

Public Cleansing Service

Last year's report referred to the re-organisation of certain parts of the cleansing service involving the purchase of a larger rear loading vehicle and a 1,000 gallon cesspool/gully emptier. The refuse collection vehicle was delivered in the Autumn of 1960 and the cesspool/gully emptier was delivered in April, 1961. The purchase of this special vehicle would enable cesspools and pails to be emptied more speedily and economically than with the older equipment and it would also be available for the cleansing of street gullies and the disposal of sludge from the sewage disposal works without any increase in the labour force engaged on public cleansing. The vehicle has carried out all the work envisaged and has also been loaned one day each week to a neighboring local authority for gully cleansing.

Apart from the two men who operate the cesspool emptier, there are two vehicles and 11 men engaged on the collection and disposal of refuse and the collection, sorting and baing of salvage materials. In addition, the working foreman carries out rodent control measures and operates a free drain rodding service, together with other public cleansing work and vehicle maintenance.

The collection and disposal of refuse and the emptying of cesspools and pails are duties of vital public health importance. A weekly collection was maintained throughout the year and the almost complete absence of complaints from the public pays high tribute to the efficiency and devotion to duty of the workmen who perform this far from pleasant task. Throughout a great part of industry modern methods and machines have gone a long way towards improving working conditions, but the refuse collection service has not benefitted very greatly. It is still a dirty and not very pleasant job, especially in an area such as this where the ash content of the refuse is high, and I should like, once again, to pay a very sincere tribute to the men who perform this service of

such vital importance to all of us.

No undue labour difficulties were experienced during the year and the men engaged on public cleansing continued to receive a plus rate of 3½d, per hour. This plus rate was introduced a number of years ago at a time of acute labour difficulties and without it, it is very doubtful whether the service would be able to recruit or retain decent workmen. An ever increasing number of local authorities have been forced to introduce collection and salvage bonus schemes to attract suitable workmen, but these involve increased clerical and administrative work and are not very easy to apply in smaller areas where workmen cannot always be employed on the same work all the time.

The disposal of all refuse is now undertaken in a disused portion of the clay pit at the New Byron Brick Company's works just outside the boundary of the Urban District. A new long term agreement was negotiated with the new owners of the brickworks and they also agreed to sludge from the Bolsover Sewage Works being disposed of with the refuse. There is ample tipping space for very many years and disposal of refuse should present no difficulties in the foreseeable future.

The Council provide a free service, except in one special case, for the emptying of pails and cesspools, and the contents are disposed of into suitable manholes near the various sewage works. In recent years there has been some reduction in the number of pail closets but there has been a greater increase in the number of cesspools to be emptied. Nowadays all householders desire the benefits of modern sanitation and amenities and an increasing number of isolated cottages now have larger cesspools to empty. There have also been cases of new development beyond the town's public sewers and these add to work to be done. The use of the new 1,000 gallon machine has been of great benefit and enables this work to be carried out in only a little over half the time required by the old equipment.

Salvage

(Referring to the financial year ended 31st March, 1962)

Sales from the 1st April, 1961, to the 31st March, 1962; were as follows:—

		T	Ç	Q	L	£	s.	d.
Waste paper and								
cardboard	 	157	0	1	0	1346	4	10
Textiles	 		11	2	22	7	16	11
Scrap metals	 	8	14	3	0	70	0	0
Loose tins	 	10	2	2	0	21	5	0
		176	19	0	22	1445	6	9

Compared with the previous year the amount sold rose by almost $2\frac{1}{2}$ tons and the income increased by £150. Sales of waste paper established a record, but towards the end of the year there were indications that sales of this commodity would have to be curtailed in the coming months. The plans to move from the present cramped and inadequate waste paper sorting and baling premises did not progress in 1961. If new premises of adequate size, incorporating a power baling press were brought into use, the cost of handling and baling paper and cardboard could be well-nigh halved, giving a bigger profit to the rate fund.







