

**[Report 1965] / Medical Officer of Health, Bolsover U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Bolsover (England). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1965

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/c8rmhcth>

**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.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

Library



URBAN DISTRICT  
OF BOLSOVER

DERBYSHIRE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

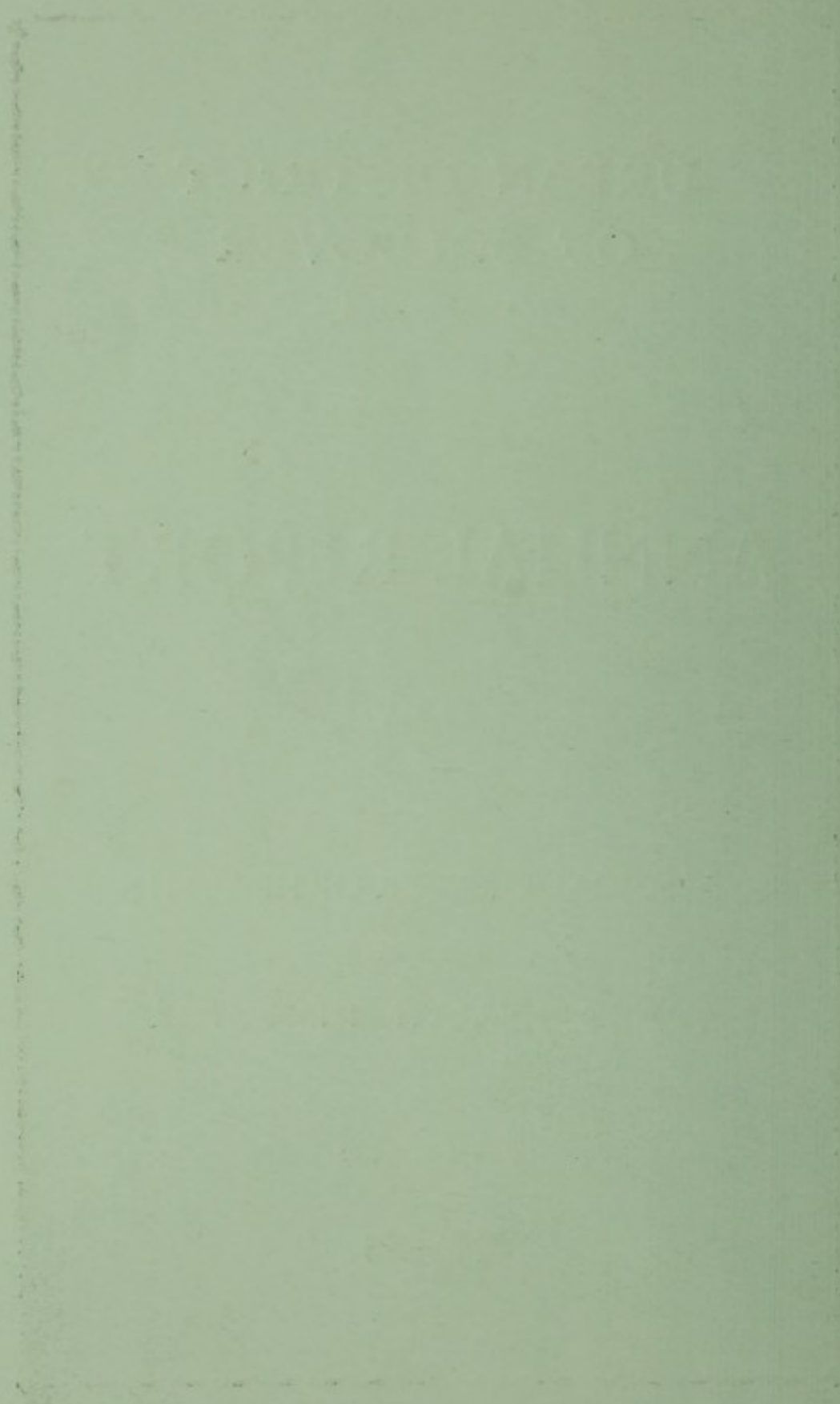
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

**1965**



URBAN DISTRICT  
OF BOLSOVER

DERBYSHIRE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR

**1965**

the  
was  
on  
out  
of  
the  
les  
out  
55  
y  
the

URBAN DISTRICT  
OF BIRMINGHAM

1905

ANNUAL REPORT

1905

HEALTH OFFICER OF BIRMINGHAM

1905

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1905

1905

preparation for the introduction of the 40 hour working week on the 1st January, 1966. This covered trailer was to be used behind the tractor for collection of paper from shops (this has increased quite considerably in recent years) and for transporting ash and other suitable covering material to the refuse tip. The introduction of the shorter working week would require both refuse vehicles to be engaged whole time on refuse collection duties, but the collection rounds were amended at the end of 1965 with the intention of completing work early on Friday afternoon to afford greater time for routine vehicle maintenance.

### **Cesspool Emptying**

Towards the end of 1964, a report on the free cesspool emptying service was considered by the Council and very careful check was made on the frequency with which certain cesspools required to be emptied. In recent years there has been an increase in the number of new houses not connected to public sewers, and an increase in the quantity of sewage to be removed, resulting from the provision of bathrooms, etc., at houses draining to cesspools.

A revised programme of cesspool emptying came into operation during the early summer of 1965 and several months notice was given to all householders concerned. In some cases existing cesspools were enlarged and in other cases arrangements were made for more frequent emptyings to be carried out on a rechargeable basis. Under this re-arrangement a free six monthly service was brought into operation for 42 properties on the Oxcroft Estate of the Land Settlement Association.

Weekly emptying of the few remaining pail closets is also undertaken by the cesspool emptying vehicle.

### **Waste Paper Salvage**

Last year's report referred to the removal to temporary premises at Town End Farm, to the purchase of a 5 h.p. electric baling press and to the removal of all

restrictions on the sales of waste paper to board mills. Steps were taken to publicise the need to save waste paper to help in the balance of payments problem and it is very pleasing to report new record levels for sales of waste paper; especially as the introduction of the new baling press and tractor for loading enabled costs to be kept reasonably stable. During the past two years, sales have increased by over 43 tons from 150½ tons to just over 194 tons (approximately 29%) and income has risen by over £529 from almost £1,248 to almost £1,777 (approximately 42%). Over the same period costs rose by £118 (under 11%) and this increased benefit to the rate fund is very gratifying. This result could not have been achieved without the co-operation of the householders and shopkeepers in this district and it is hoped that their efforts will be maintained and improved so that sales can be lifted above the 200 tons level and eventually to the £2,000 mark.

Sales from 1st April, 1965, to 31st March, 1966 were as follows :—

|                           | T          | C        | Q        | £           | s         | d        |
|---------------------------|------------|----------|----------|-------------|-----------|----------|
| Waste paper and cardboard | 194        | 1        | 0        | 1776        | 18        | 9        |
| Textiles                  |            | 1        | 2        |             | 15        | 0        |
|                           | <u>194</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>1777</u> | <u>13</u> | <u>9</u> |

## ACCIDENTS IN THE HOME

During 1965 some of the general practitioners continued to notify home accidents to me. Below I attempt to analyse these accidents.

Number notified                      ...                      88

### Degree of Injury

| Trivial | Moderate | Severe | Fatal |
|---------|----------|--------|-------|
| 13      | 63       | 12     | -     |

### Accidents in Age Groups

|         |     |     |     |     |    |
|---------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Under 1 | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3  |
| 1       | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4  |
| 2       | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5  |
| 3       | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6  |
| 4       | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| 5-9     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| 10-14   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 |
| 15-24   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 15 |
| 25-44   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 20 |
| 45-65   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 19 |
| 65 plus | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4  |

### Cause of Accidents

Falls — 25.  
 Burns and Scalds — 25.  
 Cuts — 12.  
 Putting too severe a strain on muscles — 8.  
 Trapping fingers — 5.  
 Falls and cuts — 2.  
 Swallowing poison (including alcohol) — 2.  
 Knocking against object — 2.  
 Treading on sharp object and splinters — 2.  
 Foreign body in eye — 1.  
 Foreign body in nose 1.  
 Foreign body in mouth — 1.  
 Improper use of tool — 1.  
 Dog bite — 1.



### Cause of Accidents in Age Groups

|           |                              |   |
|-----------|------------------------------|---|
| Under 1   | Burns and Scalds             | 2 |
|           | Swallowing poison            | 1 |
| Age 1     | Fall                         | 1 |
|           | Burns and scalds             | 1 |
|           | Knocking against object      | 1 |
|           | Foreign body in mouth        | 1 |
| Age 2     | Falls                        | 2 |
|           | Swallowing poison            | 1 |
|           | Burns and scalds             | 1 |
|           | Trapping fingers             | 1 |
| Age 3     | Burns and scalds             | 1 |
|           | Falls                        | 1 |
|           | Foreign body in nostril      | 1 |
|           | Cuts                         | 1 |
|           | Trapping fingers             | 1 |
|           | Treading on sharp object     | 1 |
| Age 4     | Burns and scalds             | 1 |
| Age 5-9   | Burns and scalds             | 1 |
| Age 10-14 | Falls                        | 4 |
|           | Burns and scalds             | 2 |
|           | Fall and cut                 | 1 |
|           | Treading on sharp object     | 1 |
|           | Cut                          | 1 |
|           | Too severe strain on muscles | 1 |
| Age 15-24 | Burns and scalds             | 7 |
|           | Falls                        | 3 |
|           | Cuts                         | 2 |
|           | Too severe strain on muscles | 2 |
|           | Trapping fingers             | 1 |
| Age 25-44 | Cuts                         | 6 |
|           | Falls                        | 5 |
|           | Burns and scalds             | 4 |
|           | Too severe strain on muscles | 3 |
|           | Fall and cut                 | 1 |
|           | Trapping fingers             | 1 |

|             |                                  |   |
|-------------|----------------------------------|---|
| Age 45-65   | Falls                            | 6 |
|             | Burns and scalds                 | 5 |
|             | Too severe strain on muscles     | 2 |
|             | Improper or careless use of tool | 1 |
|             | Trapping fingers                 | 1 |
|             | Foreign body in eye              | 1 |
|             | Cut                              | 1 |
|             | Knocking against object          | 1 |
|             | Dog bite                         | 1 |
| Age 65 plus | Falls                            | 3 |
|             | Cut                              | 1 |

### Comments

1. This year there have been 42 less accidents notified to me. Unfortunately, this does not mean that there were less accidents in my districts. The scheme of notification is purely voluntary and is by no means complete. So the difference in numbers is relative rather than absolute. Again, I must repeat that I believe notifications of home accidents should be a statutory requirement and that the notifying doctor should be well paid for the notification. Apart from the number of accidents, the quality, as it were, is very important. These 88 accidents give a very good idea of the type and range of happenings which can cause accidents in the home.

2. You will see that I have included alcohol as a poison. This may be surprising to some people, but, in fact, alcohol has a poisonous effect on the central nervous system. This effect is only found when either impure alcohol is taken, or when pure alcohol is taken to excess. But, of course, what is a reasonable amount for a seasoned drinker is a toxic amount for a young child. In the accident reported to me, a young child drank alcohol and became comatose. The moral is obvious: alcohol should be treated as a poison, as far as young children are concerned.

3. For the fifth year running, most accidents have been due to falls and burns. I forecast that this would be the case last year and I feel sure that we shall have a similar position next year. Falls and burns are without doubt the most frequent and important cause of home accidents. Everyone must be extremely careful when a naked source of heat is present and when there is any hazard which could cause a fall. In particular, the older you are the more careful you should be about falling. As you can see, most of the accidents over 65 were due to falls and this result only confirms previous experience.

4. As you can see from the degree of injury table, 75 of these accidents were classed as moderate, or severe. Thus 80% of the accidents, notified to me, caused at least moderate injury. Obviously, home accidents are important as a cause of injury.

5. Once again, no accidents due to domestic gas were notified to me.

6. You will see that eight accidents were caused by putting too severe a strain on muscles. Seven of these eight occurred between the ages of 15 and 65. I find this happening regularly and although the numbers are small I believe them to indicate that the dangerous time for muscle injury is in between youth and old age. In other words, the muscles have begun to age a little, but their owner may not have realised it as yet.

## TEN YEARS

As mentioned in the preface, I completed ten years of service in my present appointment during 1965. I said in my preface that I would like to highlight some of the things that have happened during those years and I now attempt to do this.

### (a) Clearance of Unfit Houses

In these ten years we have dealt with some 1,000 unfit houses. I think we should all be proud of this: Indeed, when I want to boost my morale, I drive past some of the new houses which have arisen on sites previously occupied by unfit houses. Unfortunately, there is no sign of clearance of unfit houses coming to an end. Houses are like people; they grow older year by year. I am certain that we will need to deal with the same number of houses in the next ten years.

That is assuming that the present low standards are maintained. At present, a house has to be really bad before it can be classed as, and dealt with as, being unfit. However, many Public Health workers believe that higher standards should be introduced. To give simple examples, surely every house should have a bath and a hot water supply and an indoor w.c. Indeed, surely every house should have the five amenities which can be obtained when a standard grant is given. I have said before that there will be a lot of houses to deal with in future and I must emphasise that this number will be greatly increased if our standards of fitness are made more realistic.

To sum up, we have done well and I hope we shall continue to do so. However, we must remember that this is a never ending job and we shall have to continue at it. I feel we should be proud of what we have done but at the same time we should resolve to do as well, or even better, in the future.

## (b) Atmospheric Pollution

In 1958 and 1960 I dealt with atmospheric pollution in my Annual Reports. I said then that atmospheric pollution was the most pressing and urgent environmental problem of our time. I still believe this statement to be true. We have now had a Clean Air Act in force for several years and I think it is time for me to take stock of any progress which has been made in my area.

Atmospheric pollution in the form of smoke comes from two sources. The first source is industry and the second is domestic. The latest estimate I have seen is that 75% of air pollution is caused by domestic smoke while 25% is caused by industrial. We have made more progress on the industrial side than in the domestic in my area.

I am pleased to report that industrial pollution has been markedly reduced. When I first came here many pit chimneys churned out black smoke for much of the time. Then it was the exception rather than the rule to see a pit chimney which was not smoking badly. Now things have been reversed and the smoking chimney is the exception. I must admit that many times I felt that we were hastening too slowly on the industrial front. However, slowly or not, progress has been made and there is much less industrial pollution now.

Unfortunately, I cannot report similarly about domestic pollution. Only one of my districts is classified as a black area. At one time we hoped to turn the whole district into a smoke control area inside some 15 years and we made a start by making a first control area within the district. Unfortunately, things have changed. After making the first order it was decided to try and revoke it. A Public Inquiry was held and, as a result of this, the order was suspended. Thus, at the end of 1965 there was not one smoke control area in my districts. It would not be true to say that no progress has been made on the domestic side. A little has. Some people have converted to gas or electric fires and many others have in-

stalled more modern solid fuel appliances which do not throw out the same amount of smoke into the atmosphere. So, a little progress has been made. But not enough in my opinion. I know there are many difficulties, especially where miners' concessional fuel is involved, but these difficulties can and should be overcome. As I said in 1960 the English Disease (i.e. chronic bronchitis) caused some 30,000 deaths per year. Everyone agrees that air pollution is one of the most serious factors in the cause of chronic bronchitis. Similarly, most people agree that air pollution plays some part in the causation of lung cancer. These two diseases confront us. We dare not run away just because there are difficulties, great and genuine as these difficulties may be.

Pertaining to atmospheric pollution another aspect has come to the fore increasingly in recent years. We must make our air clean but it also looks as though we must make our houses warm. To over simplify, it looks as though air pollution causes chronic bronchitis but the recovery rate of any particular case is affected by the warmth or lack of warmth in his home. For too long, cold and draughty halls and stairs have been a part of English dwellings. All round heating is much to be desired. So we now have two ways to attack chronic bronchitis, clean air and warm houses.

It is my earnest hope that the whole nation will attack the problem of clean air, with urgency. It is also my hope to live long enough to see a fall in the mortality and morbidity from chronic bronchitis.

#### **(c) Home Accidents.**

Since 1960, I have included a section upon home accidents in my Annual Reports. Home accidents are of great importance. Much more publicity is given to road accidents than to those in the home. Yet the latter cause more deaths. Besides, home should be a place of safety; and it always seems to me the more tragic when an ac-

cidental death occurs at home. Since 1930 some doctors have very kindly notified home accidents to me. This notification is very useful. Notification of home accidents gives us the following information :—

- 1 The cause of accidents.
- 2 Where accidents occur.
3. When they occur.
4. With what tool or utensil they are caused.
5. Which age groups are involved and the commonest causes in any particular age group.

However, notification does not serve merely as a history of accidents which have occurred. It also points out things which can be done to try and prevent further accidents. For instance, in many of our new houses we have been most careful over the siting of the cooker and of electric power points. Again, if an accident has been caused by disrepair, that has been put right at once. Similarly, if the doctor notifying has desired it, a health visitor has visited and helped to instil safer methods into a household.

So I hope you will agree with me that these notifications are a useful weapon in the attack upon the horrible and major problem of home accidents. I have said before, and I say again, that home accidents should be made a matter for statutory notification. I am sure that from them we would get a lot more value than we do from the statutory notification of some infectious diseases (e.g. measles and pneumonia).

#### **(d) Disposable Syringes.**

The Local Health Authority for my areas is Derbyshire County Council. Derbyshire covers a very big area and many maternity and child welfare clinics have to be provided. When I first came many of these clinics were in unsatisfactory premises. I am very pleased to say that the County Council have built many outstanding clinics in the last ten years, so my statement that many

of the premises were unsatisfactory is no criticism of the County Council. In particular I am thinking of the difficulty there was in sterilising instruments at these outlying clinics. No matter how careful you were you could never be absolutely sure that syringes and needles were sterile. As a result of this I was not keen to immunise children in such surroundings. Then disposable syringes were introduced. These are absolutely sterile. They are used once only and are then thrown away. The result has been that many more children are immunised now, and, immunisation can be done safely anywhere.

This may seem a little thing, but little or not, the results are very important. We hear a lot about the huge profits made by the drug industry, we do not always hear about the benefits they produce. This is one benefit for which I am grateful. Also, I must thank the Derbyshire County Council for the speed with which they made these syringes available to their staff.

**(e) Deaths from Leukaemia.**

| Year      | 65 | 64 | 63 | 62 | 61 | 60 | 59 | 58 | 57 | 56 | 55 |
|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Blackwell | 2  | 5  | 3  | -  | 2  | 2  | 2  | -  | 3  | 1  | 1  |
| Clowne    | 1  | 1  | 3  | 1  | -  | 3  | 3  | -  | -  | 1  | 2  |
| Bolsover  | 1  | -  | -  | 1  | -  | 1  | -  | 1  | 1  | 2  | -  |

The above table shows the number of deaths which occurred from leukaemia in my three districts from 1955 to 1965. I think you will agree that there is nothing to cause alarm in these figures, yet in 1959 one of my districts made headline news in the national press. It was said then that there had been five deaths from leukaemia in one village in Clowne R.D. during two or three months of 1959. Indeed, there were only five deaths in all of my districts combined in 1959. Also, you will see that there has been no increase in leukaemia deaths before or since 1959. I was very disturbed by the attitude of the national press in this instance. As I pointed out at the time not one of them made any attempt to get in touch with



me before they printed the story. Anyway, all that is in the past and the main thing is to produce these figures and thereby nail the lie that leukaemia is increasing in my districts.

**(f) Poliomyelitis.**

This disease has been known for centuries. It can cause death and gross disability. In 1956 a vaccine was introduced against this illness. Unfortunately one of the first to be vaccinated in one of my districts developed what was thought to be polio, four to five days after his first injection of vaccine. This was another time when we were headline news, but in this case, all the papers acted very responsibly and checked with me before they published anything. As it turned out we discovered many months later that the illness was not in fact polio. But the interest shown by the newspapers does emphasise how important polio was in 1956 and before.

This country never had as serious outbreaks as many other countries, but when we had an outbreak it was treated as a serious emergency. It is hard to remember what things were like before 1956. It must be even harder for young parents to remember, because to them, polio is just a name. This happy state has come about from the introduction of polio vaccine in 1956. There is no doubt that it has made a tremendous difference to world health. In my own districts, we have not had any polio in Clowne or Bolsover since 1958, while the last case in Blackwell was in 1961.

Each year I advise everybody to be vaccinated against polio. It really is a blessing which has been vouchsafed to us, as anyone who can remember pre-vaccination days will agree. I hope this will show that my advice is not just routine but is well worth heeding. Three lumps of sugar containing three drops of vaccine can prevent an illness which has been a scourge for thousands of years. Surely everyone should take advantage of this most important advance in Public Health.

The above are some of the things which have happened during my first ten years of service. In many ways we have made good progress. I am sure you will join with me in hoping that we can do even better in my second ten. Whether we shall succeed or not remains to be seen but if we fail at least let it not be for the want of trying. Meantime, my sincere thanks to all my Councillors and to the District Council staffs for the help and encouragement they have afforded to myself and my department during those past years.

### **TYPHOID, PINK ELEPHANTS AND PARATYPHOID**

I am sure everyone has seen the type of questionnaire which has multiple answers. You are asked a question and you have to ring the answer which applies. If many were asked to ring the different one of the above three I am sure they would put a ring round Pink Elephants. They would be wrong, because the question is a trick. In fact, all three are the same because they are all concerned with human intestinal illness in this country as I shall show.

In 1964, we had an outbreak of typhoid fever in Aberdeen. Roughly 400 people were infected and became ill. This was held to be caused by imported corned beef which had been infected while being cooled in unsterilised water. This was treated very seriously. Among other things all tins with the same batch number as the indicted tin were withdrawn from sale and to the best of my knowledge they are still being withheld from the public. Altogether a full blaze of publicity was focussed upon this outbreak, and Medical Officers were kept informed as to the position. Also our departments were used to withdraw questionable tins.

Pink Elephants were imported into this country from Hong Kong as novelties for Xmas 1965. They were little plastic elephants which contained water. The idea was

that you popped them into the refrigerator where their water froze. Then you used them instead of ice in drinks. Of course they could be used over and over again. It was discovered that the water in these elephants was not sterile and that some at least contained coliform bacilli. These bacilli are indicators which show that water has been contaminated. Again, this was treated seriously even though no one actually was made ill by them (so far as I know). For instance, questions were asked in Parliament about them and an M.P. suggested that thanks should be given to the M.O.H. who had brought the matter to light. The pink elephants were withdrawn from sale. So we certainly acted fiercely against this hazard to health even though it was potential rather than actual (in that no one had been made ill) at the time of action.

Now we come to paratyphoid. In August, 1965, a family from Clowne R.D. went to Blackpool for their summer holiday. On their return I received notification from the Blackpool M.O.H. that they could have consumed unpasteurised milk which was associated with several cases of paratyphoid B. which had occurred in the Blackpool area. The next step was to send specimens from the family to the laboratory. They were all positive for paratyphoid B. This was the beginning of trial and tribulation for them. They had to receive treatment and the wage earner had to be excluded from work. In all he was excluded from work for four weeks. During this time Clowne R.D. made up his wages but the man would rather have been at work and he felt that his chief loss was one of 'liberty' — a valid point. Bacteriologically, the other three took even longer to clear and the girl had to be excluded from school for several weeks. None of them was poorly but they were worried and anxious, as who would not be? Apart from their upset this caused us a lot of work and expense (including the making up of wages) and it caused a lot of work for the Public Health Laboratory which had to deal with my cases and those from surrounding areas.

Obviously my four were just a little local difficulty. The chief problem arose at the source of infection. After

correspondence with the Blackpool M.O.H. and the M.O.H. for Lancashire Divisional Health Committee No. 3, I discovered that the source of the trouble was a cow which had been infected by paratyphoid B. and which was excreting these bacilli straight into its milk. (It is thought most likely that the cow was infected by vegetable matter which had been imported from the East and compounded in this country into animal feeding stuff). This unpasteurised milk was consumed in holiday establishments in Blackpool with the result that many people became infected. I believe that over 800 were eventually infected. These people were infected by contaminated unpasteurised milk which I doubt was not drunk by them of their conscious choice. To put it another way, I should be very very surprised if more than a small minority of these 800 used unpasteurised milk in their own homes.

As the Medical Officers for the area concerned pointed out no one could have prevented this outbreak. The cow was infected. The organisms were in her milk and her milk was consumed raw. Even if Public Health Officers had been present at every milking and had sent a specimen to the laboratory there would still have been two or three days in which the milk was consumed before a result was obtainable from the lab. No, so long as raw milk can be retailed no one can prevent this sort of outbreak and no one can say that another such outbreak will not occur.

Therefore the responsibility for this outbreak lies with Parliament which in its wisdom allows unpasteurised milk to be retailed to the public at large. Accordingly, I wrote to the Ministries of Health and Agriculture to find out why they allowed unpasteurised milk. At the second attempt I got a reply from a Principal Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health. I quote from his reply :—

“So far as pasteurisation of milk is concerned this Department can only reiterate its belief that on health grounds milk should be heat-treated. This advice has been stated in the Chief Medical Officer's Annual Report,

regularly included in the health education material sent out from here to newspapers, family magazines, etc. and has been the subject of a broadcast "flash". Nevertheless we realise that the COMPULSORY heat-treatment of all milk supplies is not practicable policy at the present time. "Untreated" milk is a special designation permitted by Regulations which could be altered only by fresh legislation. You will realise that — apart from the difficulty of supplying heat-treated milk to rural areas, to which our previous letter referred — there is a sizeable minority of people who prefer to drink their milk untreated".

Quite frankly this reply does not satisfy me. It seems that compulsory heat treatment is not practicable because of (1) the difficulty of supplying rural areas, and (2) the sizeable minority who prefer untreated milk. Surely these can be overcome. As it stands, the tail is wagging the dog and that is undemocratic. In this particular outbreak, no one can describe Blackpool as a rural area and as I have said I doubt very much that the 800 cases chose untreated milk. Like the Ministry of Health I can only reiterate my belief that on health grounds milk should be heat-treated. If we must have exceptions then these could be specified in legislation. Similarly, those who wished could buy untreated. But surely there is no excuse for untreated milk being served in holiday establishments in "the premier seaside resort of Britain". If any caterer wishes to serve untreated milk then I think he should be forced to display a notice to that effect (there is precedent for this in that bakers display a notice when artificial cream is being used).

No amount of argument or discussion can alter the fact that over 800 people were made ill who need not have been. It would be interesting to know the financial cost of this outbreak; there was medical care and treatment, laboratory costs, costs of Public Health Departments and loss of earnings. As for the human cost, that is incalculable, but it must have been very great.

So there we have it, typhoid, pink elephants and paratyphoid are the same. There is just one more point I feel I must make. In my opinion, the most serious of the three was the paratyphoid. But it did not seem to me to be treated so seriously **nationally** as the other two. For example, I do not think intending holiday makers were advised to insist upon pasteurised milk and I do not know if any action was taken to see if any other feeding stuff was contaminated (unlike the typhoid outbreak when Public Health Departments were used to isolate and withdraw suspected tins). Finally, I must pay tribute to the Lancashire Health Officers for the speed and efficiency which they showed in tracking the outbreak to its source. P.S. Always make sure your Pinta is pasteurised.

## STATISTICS OF THE AREA

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Area (Acres)                                 | 4,526    |
| Population (Census 1961)                     | 11,770   |
| Population mid-year (Registrar General) 1965 | 11,800   |
| Number of inhabited houses (end of 1965)     | 3,728    |
| Rateable value (end of 1965)                 | £396.412 |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate 1965         | £1.617   |

## VITAL STATISTICS

### BIRTHS

|  | Total | Male | Female |
|--|-------|------|--------|
| Live Births  | 187   | 89   | 98     |
| Rate per 1,000 population (corrected)  | 14.9. |      |        |
| Illegitimate Live Births   | 9     | 5    | 4      |
| (Per cent of total live births)  | 4.8   |      |        |
| Stillbirths  | 1     | 1    | -      |
| Rate per 1,000 total live and still births   | 5.3.  |      |        |
| Total live and still births  | 188   | 90   | 98     |
| Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)  | -     | -    | -      |
| Infant Mortality Rates :—  |       |      |        |
| Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births  |       |      | Nil    |
| Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births  |       |      | Nil    |
| Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births  |       |      | Nil    |
| Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births)                         |       |      | Nil    |
| Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate (deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births)                     |       |      | Nil    |
| Perinatal Mortality Rate (stillbirths and deaths under one week per 1,000 total live and still births) |       |      | 5.3    |
| Maternal Mortality (including abortion)  |       |      | Nil    |
| Rate per 1,000 total live and still births   |       |      | Nil    |

## Comments

The number of births and the birth rate are both less than last year and the percentage of illegitimate live births has also fallen.

There has been no infant death in Bolsover this year. This of course is not of any importance statistically because the numbers involved are too small. However, it is of undoubted importance in terms of satisfaction to all those concerned with the health of mothers and children in Bolsover. Accident or no, the fact remains that there were no infant deaths in Bolsover and this to me is an occasion to be glad.

We have had no deaths this year. We shall probably have some next year, but we must try to have as few as possible. The best way of doing this is by providing good ante-natal care for expectant mothers. I can only say again how important it is to seek out and accept ante-natal care. General Practitioners and the Local Health Authority are only too keen to provide ante-natal care.

It is nice to see that there has been no maternal death and indeed we have not had such a death since 1957.



## DEATHS

|  | Total | Male | Female |
|--|-------|------|--------|
|  | 96    | 53   | 43     |

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population was 11.1 (corrected). While the national death rate was 11.5 (provisional).

The total number of deaths is 15 less than last year. This decrease has been pretty even between the sexes as there have been six less male and nine less female deaths.

### Causes of Death

|  | Male | Female |
|--|------|--------|
| Cancer, stomach                        | 1    | -      |
| Cancer, lungs                          | 6    | -      |
| Cancer, breast                         | -    | 4      |
| Cancer, other                          | 6    | 5      |
| Leukaemia, aleukaemia                  | -    | 1      |
| Diabetes                               | 1    | -      |
| Vascular lesions of nervous system     | 4    | 5      |
| Coronary disease, angina               | 14   | 4      |
| Other heart disease                    | 5    | 14     |
| Other circulatory disease              | 2    | 2      |
| Pneumonia                              | 1    | 1      |
| Bronchitis                             | 4    | 1      |
| Other diseases of respiratory system   | 4    | 1      |
| Ulcer of stomach and duodenum          | 1    | -      |
| Nephritis and nephrosis                | 1    | -      |
| Other defined and ill-defined diseases | 2    | 4      |
| All other accidents                    | 1    | -      |
| Suicide                                | -    | 1      |

### Comments

There has not been a great deal of change in the pattern of deaths this year. The number of lung cancer deaths remains steady, but I am pleased to report a large decrease in the number of deaths from pneumonia and bronchitis (7 as against 17 for 1964). Again, it is pleasing to see that there has been no death from tuberculosis.

**Causes of Death 1955 - 1965**

|  | 1965 | 1964 | 1963 | 1962 | 1961 | 1960 | 1959 | 1958 | 1957 | 1956 | 1955 |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Tuberculosis, respiratory              | -    | -    | -    | 1    | -    | 1    | 2    | -    | 2    | -    | -    |
| Tuberculosis, other                    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 1    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Syphilitic disease                     | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 1    | -    | 1    | -    | -    |
| Diphtheria                             | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Whooping Cough                         | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 1    | -    |
| Meningococcal infections               | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 1    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Acute Poliomyelitis                    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 1    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Measles                                | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 1    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Other infective and parasitic diseases | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 1    | -    | -    | -    | -    |
| Cancer, stomach                        | 1    | 2    | -    | 4    | 3    | 4    | 2    | 3    | 4    | 2    | 4    |
| Cancer, lung                           | 6    | 7    | 6    | 6    | 4    | 3    | -    | 2    | 1    | 1    | 1    |
| Cancer, breast                         | 4    | 2    | 1    | 3    | 2    | 1    | 2    | 5    | -    | 2    | 3    |
| Cancer, uterus                         | -    | 2    | -    | -    | -    | -    | 1    | 2    | 2    | 1    | 3    |
| Cancer, other sites                    | 11   | 9    | 7    | 7    | 8    | 6    | 6    | 17   | 6    | 7    | 5    |
| Leukaemia, aleukaemia                  | 1    | -    | -    | 1    | -    | 1    | -    | 1    | 1    | 2    | -    |
| Diabetes                               | 1    | 1    | -    | -    | 1    | 2    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 1    | 2    |
| Vascular Lesions of Nervous System     | 9    | 15   | 13   | 17   | 14   | 7    | 19   | 14   | 12   | 15   | 15   |
| Coronary disease, angina               | 18   | 26   | 22   | 14   | 15   | 20   | 17   | 25   | 7    | 15   | 8    |

|  |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |
|--|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Hypertension with heart disease        | -  | 2  | 1  | -  | 1  | 2  | 1  | 2  | 7  | 3  |
| Other heart disease                    | 10 | 10 | 13 | 18 | 17 | 10 | 14 | 14 | 30 | 23 |
| Other circulatory disease              | 4  | 5  | 7  | 5  | 6  | 10 | 6  | 7  | 8  | 5  |
| Influenza                              | -  | -  | 1  | -  | 1  | -  | -  | 1  | -  | -  |
| Pneumonia                              | 2  | 6  | 4  | 9  | 10 | 5  | 3  | 7  | 3  | 2  |
| Bronchitis                             | 5  | 11 | 11 | 7  | 5  | 9  | 5  | 9  | 6  | 9  |
| Other respiratory diseases             | 5  | 1  | 2  | 4  | 4  | 1  | 3  | 2  | -  | 1  |
| Ulcer of stomach and duodenum          | 1  | 2  | -  | -  | -  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 3  | -  |
| Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea     | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | 1  | 1  | -  | -  | -  |
| Nephritis and Nephrosis                | 1  | -  | 3  | -  | 2  | -  | -  | 2  | 1  | 2  |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate                | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | 2  | -  | 3  |
| Other defined and ill defined diseases | 6  | 5  | 9  | 6  | 6  | 9  | 8  | 9  | 9  | 12 |
| Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion        | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | 1  | -  |
| Congenital Malformations               | -  | 2  | 3  | 3  | 3  | -  | 4  | 2  | -  | 2  |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents                | -  | 1  | -  | 3  | 2  | 3  | 1  | 2  | 2  | 3  |
| All other accidents                    | 1  | 1  | 6  | 4  | 6  | 3  | 4  | 6  | 5  | 4  |
| Suicide                                | 1  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 2  | 1  | -  | 1  | 1  |
| Homicide 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

### **Ambulance**

This service is provided by the County Council,

### **Laboratory Facilities**

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

I thank both for their courtesy and efficiency.

### **Chest Clinic**

Sheffield Regional Hospital Board provide such a clinic in Chesterfield, another 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

The water supply to the Urban District of Bolsover is provided by the North Derbyshire Water Board. This supply has been sufficient in quality and quantity throughout the year. The Engineer and Manager to the Board has very kindly sent me the following report. I would like to thank him for this and also for his co-operation throughout the year.

(a) (1) The area derives its source from Bolsover Moor and Hillstown Works where treatment comprises softening and chlorination, distribution is from covered service reservoirs or tanks. The resultant quality of supplied waters is satisfactory.

(2) The quantity proved adequate for normal household purposes although temporary restrictions were imposed on the use of hosepipes.

(b) Chemical and bacteriological analyses are carried out in the Board's Laboratories. All raw treated and distributed waters are examined at least monthly. The number of examinations involved in 1965 being :—

|                 |     |
|-----------------|-----|
| Bacteriological | 256 |
| Chemical        | 256 |

Bacteriological results on treated waters have been consistent with standards laid down by the Ministry of Health.

Chemical results in view of the fact that two sources are involved, vary with location and approximate extremes of variation are :—

|                                 |                 |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|
| pH                              | 7.4 - 8.2       |
| Alkalinity (CaCO <sub>3</sub> ) | 10 - 20 mg/l.   |
| Hardness (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )   | 130 - 160 mg/l. |
| Chloride (Cl)                   | 40 - 130 mg/l   |
| Fluoride (F)                    | 0.1             |

(c) There was no evidence of plumbo solvent action in treated waters.

(d) Before being brought into services all new mains were washed out and sterilized and samples taken to ensure satisfactory bacteriological and physical results were obtained.

No action was necessary in respect of any other form of post treatment contamination.

The waters were monitored to detect any excessive amounts of radioactive substances.

Monthly reports of current bacteriological and physical results were forwarded to the Medical Officer of Health.

(e) The number of dwelling houses in the area is 3,671, all of which are supplied from mains, the population is 11,772.

## Results of Examination of Sample of Water

From Bolsover Moor (Blend)

### Physical Examination

Appearance — clear.  
Colour — 5 Hazen.  
Taste — Normal.  
Electrical Conductivity — 910 Units.  
Odour — Nil.  
pH — 7.6.

### Chemical Examination (Mg/lit)

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Calcium (Ca)   | 32.8  |
| Magnesium (Mg)                                       | 18.2  |
| Sodium (Na)  | 173.0 |
| Potassium (K)  | 1.1   |
| Silicates (SiO <sub>2</sub> )                        | 6.0   |
| T.D.S.   | 663   |
| Carbonates (CO <sub>3</sub> )                        | 153.0 |
| Sulphates (SO <sub>4</sub> )                         | 164.6 |
| Chlorides (Cl)                                       | 50.6  |
| Nitrates (NO <sub>3</sub> )                          | 46.5  |
| Fluorides (F)  | 0.1   |
| Total Hardness (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )                  | 157   |
| Calcium Hardness (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )                | 82    |
| Magnesium Hardness (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )              | 75    |
| Non-Carb. Hard (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )                  | 0     |
| Total alkalinity (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )                | 255   |
| Excess alkalinity (Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> ) | 104   |
| Carbonate Hardness (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )              | 157   |
| Iron (Fe)  | 0.04  |
| Manganese (Mn)                                       | 0.01  |
| Aluminium (Al)                                       | 0.04  |
| Amm Nitrogen (N)                                     | 0.02  |
| Nit Nitrogen (N)                                     | 0.001 |
| Oxygen absorbed (O)                                  | 0.04  |
| Free chlorine (Cl)                                   | 0.4   |
| Combined chlorine (Cl)                               | 0.05  |

## Results of Examination of Sample of Water

From Hillstown (Blend)

### Physical Examination

Appearance — clear.  
Colour — 5 Hazen.  
Taste — Normal.  
Electrical Conductivity — 780 Units.  
Turbidity — 0.05 Units.  
Odour — Nil.  
pH — 8.0.

### Chemical Examination (Mg/lit)

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Calcium (Ca)   | 30.8  |
| Magnesium (Mg)                                       | 17.7  |
| Sodium (Na)  | 130.3 |
| Potassium (K)  | 2.0   |
| Silicates (SiO <sub>2</sub> )                        | 7.0   |
| T.D.S.   | 533   |
| Carbonates (CO <sub>3</sub> )                        | 103.2 |
| Sulphates (SO <sub>4</sub> )                         | 122.2 |
| Chlorides (Cl)                                       | 69.6  |
| Nitrates (NO <sub>3</sub> )                          | 35.0  |
| Fluorides (F)  | 0.1   |
| Total Hardness (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )                  | 150   |
| Calcium Hardness (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )                | 77    |
| Magnesium Hardness (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )              | 73    |
| Non-Carb. Hard (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )                  | 0     |
| Total alkalinity (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )                | 182   |
| Excess alkalinity (Na <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> ) | 34    |
| Carbonate Hardness (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )              | 150   |
| Iron (Fe)  | 0.04  |
| Manganese (Mn)                                       | 0.01  |
| Aluminium (Al)                                       | 0.05  |
| Amm Nitrogen (N)                                     | 0.02  |
| Nit Nitrogen (N)                                     | 0.001 |
| Oxygen absorbed (N)                                  | 0.10  |
| Free Chlorine (Cl)                                   | 0.2   |
| Combined chlorine (Cl)                               | Trace |



## SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL

1. Normal treatment of sewage continues.
2. The Whaley Common plant still awaits repair when a period of stability comes along.
3. The Consulting Engineers are now preparing their detailed scheme for Bolsover Sewage Works and the Town sewers. The Council is under pressure from the Rivers Board and the Consulting Engineers have promised the detailed report for September. Meanwhile the problem of suspended solids in the effluent of the sewage works has been partially dealt with by the conversion of two large concrete beds into secondary humus tanks.
4. The two sewage disposal plants in the North Ward have been investigated by the Consulting Engineers who have submitted their preliminary report. This report has been forwarded to the Ministry and the Consulting Engineers intend to get on with detailed proposals as soon as they have finished those for the main works at Bolsover.

## HOUSING

This has been a poor year for the provision of new houses in Bolsover U.D. The Council did not build any houses but 23 were built for private owners. Thus the total for 1965 is 23. This is more than the total for 1964, but the increase is not sufficient to warrant satisfaction. The last year in which a satisfactory number of houses were built was 1962. In that year 61 houses were built. As I have said before, this is one total which I would like to see increased every year. I know there are many reasons for this slow down and it would take a book, let alone an annual report, to try and discuss them. However, I must report the number, which is 23, which is too low in my opinion.

## **CONVERSIONS**

No conversions were made during the year although this is not as bad as it sounds because there are only nine houses left in the district with pail closets. Nine out of a total of 3,728 is not bad at all.

## **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.

## **COMMON LODGING HOUSES**

The Ministry has requested information about the above. There is no common lodging house in the Bolshover Urban District.

## FACTORIES ACTS 1961

There are 30 factories registered in the Bolsover Urban District which are inspected from time to time, and action taken as it is necessary. Conditions generally were found to be satisfactory.

### 1. Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

| Premises.  | Number<br>on<br>Register | Number of<br>Inspec-<br>tions | Number of<br>Written<br>notices |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6, are to be enforced by Local Authorities                       | 4                        | 19                            | 1                               |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.                        | 21                       | 70                            | 1                               |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.<br>(excluding outworkers' Premises.) | 5                        | 20                            | 2                               |
| Total  | 30                       | 109                           | 4                               |

### 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

| Particulars.                   | Found | Remedied | Number of Cases in which defects were found. |                      |
|--------------------------------|-------|----------|--|----------------------|
|                                |       |          | Referred<br>To H.M.<br>Inspector             | By H.M.<br>Inspector |
| Want of Cleanliness            | 1     | 1        | —  | —                    |
| Overcrowding                   | —     | —        | —  | —                    |
| Unreasonable Temperature       | —     | —        | —  | —                    |
| Inadequate Ventilation         | —     | —        | —  | —                    |
| Ineffective drainage of floors | —     | —        | —  | —                    |
| Sanitary Conveniences          |       |          |  |                      |
| (a) insufficient               | 2     | 2        | —  | —                    |
| (b) unsuitable or defective    | 1     | 1        | —  | —                    |
| Total                          | 4     | 4        | —  | —                    |



## PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASE

### **Diphtheria**

There has not been a case of diphtheria in Bolsover since 1948. We can keep this happy state of affairs by having our children immunised against diphtheria. In this connection I have to report that 187 primary immunisations against diphtheria were completed in 1965. This is 47 more than in 1964. I am very pleased to see this increase and I hope it will be maintained. I would urge that all parents should have their children immunised.

### **Measles**

Last year I pointed out how the accepted pattern had gone awry in Bolsover. Had we run according to the usual way, i.e. one year high, one year low, we should have had a lot of cases in Bolsover in 1965. In fact we had only 84 cases, which is much less than the 264 of last year.

### **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.

### **Whooping Cough**

I am very pleased to report that there were no cases of this distressing illness this year.

### **Scarlet Fever**

Last year there were only two cases. I said then that I doubted whether this happy state of affairs would continue and I am sorry to say that my doubts have been

confirmed. There have been 40 cases of scarlet fever this year but, fortunately, the vast majority of these were very very mild indeed.

### **Food Poisoning**

I am very pleased to report that there have been no cases of food poisoning notified to me in 1965.

## Tuberculosis

The following table gives particulars :—

| Age<br>Periods<br>in years | NEW CASES |   |                   |   | DEATHS    |   |                   |   |
|----------------------------|-----------|---|-------------------|---|-----------|---|-------------------|---|
|                            | Pulmonary |   | Non-<br>Pulmonary |   | Pulmonary |   | Non-<br>Pulmonary |   |
|                            | M         | F | M                 | F | M         | F | M                 | F |
| 0 ...                      |           |   |                   |   |           |   |                   |   |
| 1 ...                      |           |   |                   | 1 |           |   |                   |   |
| 5 ...                      |           |   |                   |   |           |   |                   |   |
| 10 ...                     |           |   |                   |   |           |   |                   |   |
| 15 ...                     |           |   |                   |   |           |   |                   |   |
| 20 ...                     |           |   |                   |   |           |   |                   |   |
| 25 ...                     |           |   |                   |   |           |   |                   |   |
| 35 ...                     |           |   |                   |   |           |   |                   |   |
| 45 ...                     |           |   |                   |   |           |   |                   |   |
| 55 ...                     |           |   |                   |   |           |   |                   |   |
| 65 & upwards               |           |   |                   |   |           |   |                   |   |
| Total                      |           |   |                   | 1 |           |   |                   |   |

There has only been one case of tuberculosis this year and this of the non-pulmonary type. It is very pleasing to see no new case of pulmonary tuberculosis.

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

**PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

and

**CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT**

for the Year 1965

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 1965.

During the year, 23 new houses were built by private developers and a further house resulted from the conversion of a school room at Whaley. This represents a slight improvement over the previous year, but is still a disappointing total when viewed against the national policy of increasing the number of new houses, especially of houses to rent. No private capital is nowadays being provided for building houses to rent and local authorities must inevitably assume this responsibility. It is now three years since the last Council houses were built and at the time of preparing this report, no plans exist for an early resumption of building, apart from two 'wardens' houses, adjacent to existing old persons bungalows and a block of six flats at Shuttlewood. Similarly no plans exist for large scale building by private developers. A much more ambitious building programme, both by the Council and private developers, would be extremely welcome, it would enable more positive steps to be taken to remove unfit houses and would encourage many young married couples to make their homes in this district, instead of being compelled to look elsewhere. In the twenty years since the end of the War, there has been a most



definite improvement in the general standard of housing accommodation in this district — almost 1,300 new houses have been built, well over 400 houses have been improved and 330 unfit houses have been removed. However, a great deal remains to be done and we have a long way to go before every family has a good house with modern amenities.

Reports for the past two years have referred to difficulties in the Council's No. 1 Smoke Control Area and towards the end of 1965, the Minister of Housing and Local Government refused to confirm an Order revoking the Smoke Control Order. The problems of introducing a programme of smoke control have been considered by the Council and several Sub-Committees on numerous occasions over the past two years: special problems arise in mining areas and Bolsover has not been the only place where difficulties have arisen. We now know that the No. 1 Smoke Control Order will come back into operation on the 1st September, 1966, and one can only hope that the vast majority of householders concerned, will look upon this as a measure to improve their health and well being. In some towns and cities, where greater progress has been made, the residents are clamouring for acceleration and extension of smoke control, and it must be realised that the benefits to be derived from a reduction in atmospheric pollution will only be secured by carrying out a systematic and orderly programme.

The same basic problem underlies the question of providing more new houses and implementing a policy of smoke control — it is the matter of finance; whether people can afford and are willing to pay the cost, especially the elderly and the lower paid. Providing good houses for ourselves and ensuring that the air we breathe is cleaner, are questions of vital importance to health. We ought, really, to ask ourselves whether we can afford to be without these necessities, and whether too many of us have become too used to spending too great a proportion of our earnings on less essential and less fundamental things. Inevitably, there will be pensioners, old persons and poorer paid who will need to be helped if

we are to systematically and conscientiously improve the environment in which we live. This is a social and economic problem facing the whole nation and the need for improvement is so patently obvious in very many parts of this country.

It is very pleasing again to report record sales of waste paper. This could not have been achieved without the co-operation of householders, shop keepers and business premises in the district. It is hoped that this co-operation can be further fostered and expanded to produce even better results next time, especially as costs have not risen nearly so much.

I am, Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN F. H. WALTON,  
Public Health Inspector & Cleansing Superintendent.

## General Inspection of the Area

Table showing inspection, etc. undertaken during the year 1965 :—

|   |        |     |
|---|--------|-----|
| Inspection of houses for nuisances and defects  | ...    | 295 |
| Revisits to houses                              | ... .. | 371 |
| Visits in connection with improvement of houses |        | 197 |
| Visits re water supply                          | ... .. | 14  |
| Visits to infectious disease cases              | ... .. | 53  |
| Milk Distributors and Dairies                   | ... .. | 51  |
| Slaughterhouses—Meat Inspection                 | ... .. | 386 |
| Butchers Shops                                  | ... .. | 32  |
| Bakehouses                                      | ... .. | 6   |
| Fried Fish Shops                                | ... .. | 7   |
| Other Food Preparing Premises                   | ... .. | 67  |
| Food Shops                                      | ... .. | 184 |
| Market Stalls                                   | ... .. | 102 |
| Ice Cream Premises                              | ... .. | 58  |
| Inns and other Public Buildings                 | ... .. | 9   |
| Factories and Workplaces                        | ... .. | 109 |
| Knacker's Yard                                  | ... .. | 26  |
| Schools   | ... .. | 3   |
| Controlled Refuse Tips                          | ... .. | 86  |
| Colliery Spoil Banks                            | ... .. | 12  |
| Clean Air Act—Smoke Observations                | ..     | 13  |
| Clean Air Act—Smoke Control Area                | ...    | 91  |
| re Atmospheric Pollution                        | ... .. | 18  |
| Moveable Dwellings                              | ... .. | 27  |
| re Keeping of Animals                           | ... .. | 26  |
| Shops Act                                       | ... .. | 19  |
| Petroleum Licensing                             | ... .. | 52  |
| Drainage Works                                  | ... .. | 146 |
| to Public Baths                                 | ... .. | 17  |
| Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act         | ... .. | 53  |
| Interviews with owners, contractors, etc.       | ... .. | 161 |

## 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                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | 57  |
| Chimney Stacks                      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12  |
| Eaves, gutters and rain water pipes | ... | ... | ... | ... | 42  |
| Pointing and brickwork of walls     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 36  |
| Yard Paving                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7   |
| Waste Pipes                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | 12  |
| Internal wall and ceiling plaster   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 92  |
| Windows and Sash cords              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 21  |
| Doors                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4   |
| Floors                              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13  |
| Staircases                          | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2   |
| Cooking ranges and fireplaces       | ... | ... | ... | ... | 29  |
| Sinks                               | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6   |
| Rising or penetrating dampness      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 71  |
| Outbuildings                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | 13  |
| Drains and Inspection chambers      | ... | ... | ... | ... | 34  |
| Water closet pedestals              | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18  |
| Closet flushing cisterns            | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14  |
| Walls and fences                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7   |
| Dilapidated dustbins                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 104 |

In connection with the foregoing defects 203 informal notices and 14 statutory notices were served.

## **HOUSING**

One of the prime responsibilities of any local authority is to protect and promote the health of the inhabitants of its area by ensuring that enough good houses are available to allow them to live contented and healthy lives. It is a responsibility which will not diminish, for as the general standard of living is raised, so the people will expect a corresponding rise in the standard of housing.

To ensure sufficient good houses requires action on several fronts: by the erection of new local authority houses and old persons bungalows for letting; by ensuring that those persons who aspire to own their own houses are able to do so and are given a reasonable choice, by properly repairing those older houses which still have a useful life and providing modern amenities which are now universally accepted as essential to a decent life; and by the removal and replacement of houses which, by present day standards, are unfit for habitation and no longer capable of providing satisfactory homes.

We shall probably never reach a state of Utopia, and even that would only be of temporary duration, but the objective is to provide good living conditions for as high a proportion as possible of the residents in this area.

## **HOUSING DEVELOPMENT**

During 1965, 23 houses were built in the Urban District, all of them by private developers. Although this represents an increase of five when compared with the number of new houses for the previous year, it is a most disappointing achievement when viewed against the national increase in house building. We are constantly being reminded of the paramount need to adopt modern methods and to limit non essential building work so that the number of new houses can be increased to over 400,000 per year and soon to the half million target. An

ever increasing number of new houses is required to cater for a growing population, to allow for rehousing of families in sub-standard dwellings, to alleviate the sharing of houses and to provide houses for young married couples. The achievement in this district of only 172 new houses during the past six years represents a most inadequate total; of these 172 new houses, 72 were built by the Council and 100 were built by private developers. Results for the previous six years were far more tangible, totalling 674 new houses — 356 provided by Council building, 256 by the Coal Industry Housing Association and 62 by private developers. Quite apart from the need to provide houses for an expanding population and young persons who, nowadays, marry earlier, there is a need of about 50 new houses a year in a district of this size to make good the effects of obsolescence.

The effects of the poor progress made in recent years has now resulted in the virtual cessation of the slum clearance programme and compels a growing number of young married couples to make their homes outside this Urban District. For a number of years we have had too many people who work in the Bolsover area and live in adjoining districts, and it is indeed a great pity that this tendency has increased in recent years. This district cannot afford to fall behind in the drive to erect good houses, there is a need to provide modern, well equipped Council built houses for those families who prefer to rent, and suitable sites for those who prefer and can be encouraged to buy their own homes.

Financial considerations are of very great importance when considering housing development and of course they weigh most heavily in a comparatively small district where a large proportion of the houses are already Council owned. Increased financial assistance is being introduced for Council built houses and the Government also proposes to give help to lower paid people to extend owner occupation. Both these measures are designed to assist the drive to build more houses and it is hoped that in the not too distant future the number

of new houses in this area will show a marked and sustained increase.

It is pleasing to note that there is a move on foot to improve the standard of new houses, for too long have size and standards continued to be reduced in a never ending and losing battle, to counteract increased building costs, land prices and interest charges. The new houses we build to-day must inevitably last a long time and will be occupied by our children and their children too. To say the least, it is difficult to forecast what house design and home requirements will be in say 30 or 40 years, but we ought to try to build houses which will be adequate in most respects for a reasonable length of time. It is so easy to condemn our forbears who built the present day sub-standard houses; we owe it to our descendants to leave this country and this district the better for our labours by trying to avoid some of the mistakes of the past.

It is quite probable that improved standards, to some extent, will absorb the higher subsidies and that the increased help from the Exchequer will not automatically result in much reduced rents — but the tenants will be assured of better equipped homes. Most of the Council owned houses in this district were built when costs were less than they are today and the effects of present day rent levels have not been felt to any marked degree. An ambitious building programme to provide higher standard Council houses would necessarily introduce higher rent levels and the introduction of a rent scheme, which provides some help for poorer families, would seem to be inevitable — indeed this point was referred to in the Government's "Housing Programme 1965 — 1970". Of course, increases in rent levels are never popular, unless families are living in dreadful conditions and are desperate for a better home, but we must seriously ask ourselves whether we do pay a sufficient proportion of our incomes on providing good homes for ourselves — after all, we spend by far the greater part of our lives in our

homes, and a happy home still forms the very foundation of family life.

Last year's report referred to plans for the redevelopment of a cleared site in Castle Street and High Street and to sewerage schemes being prepared for two quite large housing development areas in Oxcroft Lane and Moor Lane. Unfortunately, it is not possible to report any great progress in the implementation of these proposals; the plans for the town centre scheme are now in abeyance, an adverse mining report on the Oxcroft Lane development area will hold up progress for several years and the Moor Lane development area will be subject to mining instability in a few years time. The only positive plans which existed at the end of 1965 were for the erection of two wardens houses, adjacent to existing groups of old people's dwellings, and for the construction of a block of six two bedroom flats, on a small site in Bolsover Road, Shuttlewood. In no case had the work actually commenced at the end of 1965, but it is hoped that next year's report will be able to refer to progress on these schemes.

At the end of 1965, the number of houses in the Urban District had risen to 3728 and of these 1285 are post war houses — 824 erected by the Council, 256 by the Coal Industry Housing Association and 205 by private developers — it is indeed a great pity that the last number in this trio is only a quarter as great as the first number. One of the most unfortunate features of post war housing in this district has been the very limited private development and the absence of any real freedom of choice offered to would be owner occupiers. If positive steps could be taken to rectify this position, much could be done to improve the housing position without placing extra burden on rent and rate levels.



## **REMOVAL OF UNFIT HOUSES**

During 1965, only very limited progress was made on reducing the number of unfit houses in the district. A survey, carried out in December, 1961, estimated the number of unfit houses remaining at that time to be 122 and it was anticipated that these would be dealt with in the following 5 years. Unfortunately, these plans have not materialised, and at the end of December, 1965, there still remained 59 houses where no action had been taken.

The action taken during 1965, to deal with unfit houses, is set out below.

### **Woodhouse Road Clearance Area**

An official representation in respect of the eleven houses numbered 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 Woodhouse Road, was submitted to the Council in February, 1964. The Council decided to negotiate the purchase of these properties, but as many of them are owner occupied, and some of these are foreign nationals, the difficulties experienced were exceptional and none had actually been purchased at the end of 1965.

### **Middle Street Clearance Area**

The official representation in this case was also submitted in February, 1964, and related to the three houses numbered 3, 9 and 11 Middle Street. Here again, the Council decided to negotiate the purchase of the houses, together with two adjoining houses numbered 5 and 7 Middle Street, with the object of securing a site convenient for redevelopment in the very centre of the town. All five properties were purchased during 1965, and by the end of the year two of the families had been rehoused.

### **Individual Unfit Houses**

During 1965, four individual unfit houses were dealt with :—

32 Hill Top, was the subject of a Closing Order in lieu of a Demolition Order.

Highfield Bungalow, Welbeck Road, was the subject of a Demolition Order.

7 High Street, was the subject of a Demolition Order and the tenant was rehoused before the end of the year.

The Railway Bungalow, Shuttlewood Road, was also the subject of a Demolition Order, the tenant was rehoused and the house was demolished during 1965.

Only one unfit house was, therefore, removed during 1965. Carried forward into 1966 were the 59 houses where no action had been commenced, the 11 houses in Woodhouse Road and 4 other condemned or acquired unfit houses where the tenants had not been rehoused.

Last year's report referred to the purchase of fourteen houses in, or adjoining, the Cotton Street (No. 4) Clearance Area. Three of these houses were of architectural and historical value, one of the tenants was rehoused in 1964 and the other two were temporarily rehoused in 1965 to allow extensive works of repair and improvement to be carried out. These were completed by the end of the year, and two of the tenants were returned to their former homes.

During the year 1965, five families, totalling 6 persons, were rehoused from unfit houses.

An early resumption of house building would be welcome as a means of reducing the number of unfit houses in the district. In addition to those houses classified as unfit at the time of the 1961 survey, there are many more houses which are approaching the end of their useful life, which do not make very satisfactory homes and which do not readily lend themselves to being modernised and improved. As the number of unfit houses in the country is steadily reduced the question of reviewing and raising the standard of unfitness will surely arise and this will have a marked effect on the number of new houses required. It clearly demonstrates that the drive to secure better housing conditions is a continuing problem which will further increase the demand for new houses.

## IMPROVEMENT OF HOUSES

Apart from the three houses referred to earlier, which were improved by the Council, 59 privately owned houses were improved during 1965, 14 under the discretionary grant scheme and 45 under the standard grant scheme. This represents quite a good increase when compared with the total of 34 for the previous year. Of the 59 houses improved, 20 were owner occupied and 39 were tenanted, and this is the most pleasing feature of this work for last year. Although 59 is not quite the highest number ever improved in one year, the percentage of tenanted houses dealt with in 1965 is the highest yet achieved.

The total amount paid in grants was £9,639, an average of some £114 per house for standard grants and £321 per house for discretionary grants. Under the standard grant schemes, 44 inside water closets were provided, 38 complete hot water systems, 40 wash-hand basins, 38 baths and 8 ventilated food stores. The discretionary grants related to the erection of new bathrooms, etc. at 13 houses and the conversion of a former school room into a two bedroom bungalow at Whaley, this representing an increase in available housing accommodation.

The following table shows the number of private houses in the Urban District which have been improved under the grant schemes :—

|                           | Owner-Occupied<br>Houses | Tenanted<br>Houses | Total Houses<br>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 Grants)    | 15                       | —                  |                          |
| (Discretionary<br>Grants) | 3                        | 6                  | 24                       |
| 1961 (Standard Grants)    | 15                       | 1                  |                          |
| (Discretionary<br>Grants) | 6                        | 1                  | 23                       |
| 1962 (Standard Grants)    | 27                       | 22                 |                          |
| (Discretionary<br>Grants) | 4                        | 8                  | 61                       |
| 1963 (Standard Grants)    | 40                       | 20                 |                          |
| (Discretionary<br>Grants) | 1                        | —                  | 61                       |
| 1964 (Standard Grants)    | 22                       | 9                  |                          |
| (Discretionary<br>Grants) | 2                        | 1                  | 34                       |
| 1965 (Standard Grants)    | 19                       | 26                 |                          |
| (Discretionary<br>Grants) | 1                        | 13                 | 59                       |
|                           | 272                      | 163                | 435                      |

At the end of 1965, there were 28 cases where applications for grant had been approved, but where the works had not been completed; of these, 11 were owner occupied houses and 17 were tenanted.

Over 37 per cent of all the houses improved have been tenanted and this is thought to be above the national average — it would be pleasing if this proportion were to rise year by year. So far the improvement of housing accommodation has resulted from persuasion rather than the use of compulsory powers introduced in the 1964 Act. I should like to think that this rate of progress can be maintained until the basic amenities of hot water and indoor sanitation are enjoyed by the vast majority of householders in this district. No longer are these amenities a luxury, they are now essential to a decent and healthy life and should be available to all.

It is, of course, quite right that the best possible use should be made of older houses and that as many as possible of them should be made comfortable and attractive houses by the provision of modern amenities. Many of these older houses are occupied by middle aged and elderly people, who, under the present house letting system, have little prospect of being offered the tenancy of a Council house. As the proportion of new and improved houses in the Urban District rises year by year, the comfort and welfare of those families who live in houses without modern amenities must become an increasingly urgent problem. The grants available, afford to the owner, a satisfactory return on his outlay and give the tenant an improved house for a modest increase in rent.

It is more than likely that cases will exist where landlords, possibly because of advanced age, are unwilling, or unable, to bear the cost of improving their houses, and some local authorities are now purchasing suitable houses and improving them. This is a practice which is likely to grow, indeed, the new 1964 Housing Act provides for Councils being required to purchase

houses in improvement areas. These schemes relate only to houses which are suitable for improvement and would not involve local authorities in the purchase of sub-standard houses which are incapable of being transformed into good homes at reasonable cost.

It should, however, be borne in mind that the improvement of housing accommodation, especially the standard grant scheme, is basically designed to provide modern amenities in older houses and to make them into more comfortable homes where people can live happier and healthier lives. Improving a house does not of necessity prolong its life beyond a certain point, or completely eliminate the effect of age on its fabric. By all means every effort should be made to provide more comfortable homes for families, but the scheme is not a substitute for the erection of new houses.

#### **HOMES FOR THE ELDERLY**

There was again no addition to the number of Council owned bungalows and flats suitable for elderly persons. The three small houses in Cotton Street, which were completely reconditioned and improved, were re-let to elderly persons. The total number of ground floor flats, bungalows and smaller houses for older persons now stands at 186.

The proportion of older persons in the community grows year by year and there remains a considerable demand for Council bungalows. Many people look forward to moving to smaller, well-equipped homes, later in life and it would be beneficial if the number of bungalows available, especially those with two bedrooms, were sufficient to allow tenancies to be offered to couples in their late fifties, enabling them to settle down in their new homes, while they still enjoy reasonable health and strength.

During the year, the new Thomas Colledge House, erected by the County Council Welfare Committee, was

opened. It occupies a level site quite close to the centre of the town, providing accommodation for those older and more infirm people, who are no longer able to look after themselves in their own homes. The opening of this new Home gives local people some idea of the type of accommodation now being provided by the Welfare Committee and should do much to remove the memories and fears of the old "Workhouse".

### **Caravans — Moveable Dwellings**

During 1965, five licensed sites, containing individual caravans, remained in occupation, but the number of occupied standings on the Council's caravan site fell by 1 to 10.

The Council's Housing and Planning Committee decided several years ago to close down the municipal site in view of the improvements which would be necessary to comply with the recommended standard. Only very limited progress has been made in this direction and there seems little chance of this site being closed until a positive house building programme is undertaken.

### **Infectious Diseases and Disinfection**

Particulars will be found in the report of the Medical Officer of Health of the number of cases of infectious diseases during the year and 53 visits were paid to houses where cases occurred.

Terminal disinfection is no longer carried out but disinfectant is available free of charge.

### **Verminous 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.

### **Water Supply**

Every house in the district is supplied with water from the main supply of the North Derbyshire Water Board. Ten samples of tap water were submitted for bacteriological examination and were reported as suitable for drinking purposes.

### **Premises used for Preparation or Sale of Food**

During 1965, 132 visits were paid to premises used for the preparation of food (excluding slaughterhouses)—these comprised one bakehouse, four fish and chip shops, two ice cream manufacturers and nine manufacturers of sausages, etc.

379 visits were paid to food shops and market stalls including 47 shops registered under the Food and Drugs Act, for the sale of ice cream, this being an increase of one 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 food and other goods give rise to many problems. Many of the shops, in the central area of the town, are in old premises which have been converted into shops. It is pleasing that the redevelopment 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. Modernisation of several shops in the town centre has already been completed and these offer more hygienic conditions and better facilities for the shoppers.

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



## Slaughterhouses

Regulations regarding Hygiene and Prevention of Cruelty came into full effect in the Urban District on the 1st October, 1961, and by that date, the three private slaughterhouses had been repaired and improved to comply with the requirements of the Regulations. The effect of the new Slaughterhouses 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 carcasses and offal and for efficient inspection of meat.

The number of animals passing through the three slaughterhouses was virtually unchanged from the previous year. Most of the slaughtering continues to be done in small lots on several days of the week and slaughtering was carried out on a total of 210 days. There has been a marked change in recent years in the slaughtering arrangements; when these premises were re-opened, following the end of meat rationing in 1954, the local butchers and their staffs undertook all the slaughtering duties. Nowadays, virtually no slaughtering is done by the butchers themselves and part-time slaughtermen are employed to do this work at the end of their normal day's work, this results in over 80% of all meat inspection having to be carried out during the evenings. The three slaughterhouses provide facilities for nine butchers, six with shops in the Urban District and three trading from premises in adjoining Rural Districts.

During the year, an estimated 1240 lbs. of meat and offals were rejected as unfit for food and were disposed of to the local knacker's yard for sterilisation. Although this figure shows some increase over recent years, it represents only an extremely small amount when compared with the number of animals slaughtered and reflects the high quality of the animals purchased and slaughtered by the local butchers.

A table showing the amount of rejected meat at local slaughterhouses is given below :—

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

|   | Cattle<br>excluding<br>Cows | Cows | Caives | Sheep<br>and<br>Lamba | Pigs | Horses |
|---|-----------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|--------|
| Number killed ...   | 762                         | —    | —      | 1574                  | 4    | —      |
| Number inspected  | 762                         | —    | —      | 1574                  | 4    | —      |
| <b>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</b>  |                             |      |        |                       |      |        |
| Whole carcasses condemned   | —                           | —    | —      | —                     | —    | —      |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned  | 102                         | —    | —      | 45                    | —    | —      |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ... | 13.4                        | —    | —      | 2.9                   | —    | —      |
| <b>Tuberculosis only</b>  |                             |      |        |                       |      |        |
| Whole carcasses condemned ...   | —                           | —    | —      | —                     | —    | —      |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned...   | —                           | —    | —      | —                     | —    | —      |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...                                   | —                           | —    | —      | —                     | —    | —      |
| <b>Cysticercosis</b>  |                             |      |        |                       |      |        |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned...   | 7                           | —    | —      | —                     | —    | —      |
| Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...  | 7                           | —    | —      | —                     | —    | —      |
| Generalised and totally condemned ...   | —                           | —    | —      | —                     | —    | —      |

|                        |                     |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1954 (six months only) | 4,232 lbs. rejected |
| 1955                   | 3,754 " "           |
| 1956                   | 4,501 " "           |
| 1957                   | 3,293 " "           |
| 1958                   | 2,312 " "           |
| 1959                   | 1,708 " "           |
| 1960                   | 1,014 " "           |
| 1961                   | 806 " "             |
| 1962                   | 521 " "             |
| 1963                   | 802 " "             |
| 1964                   | 805 " "             |
| 1965                   | 1240 " "            |

For the fourth successive year no bovine animals inspected in local slaughterhouses were found to be affected by tuberculosis. The most striking feature of meat inspection in the last decade has been the virtual elimination of bovine tuberculosis and this illustrates the remarkable success of the national scheme to eradicate this disease from the cattle in this country.

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%  |
| 1962 | Nil    |
| 1963 | Nil    |
| 1964 | Nil    |
| 1965 | Nil    |

This represents truly great success when we remember that in 1954, one in six of all cattle and nearly one in three of all cows, slaughtered locally, were found to be tuberculous. It is now seven years since the disease warranted the rejection of an entire carcass.

On the 1st October, 1963, the Meat Inspection Regulations came into operation. The main effect of Regulations was to place a duty on local authorities to ensure that all animals, slaughtered for human consumption, are inspected and marked before they are moved from the slaughterhouse and to allow local authorities to introduce charges for meat inspection, as a means of recouping the cost of the service. The introduction of the Regulations created no difficulties, as a 100% inspection service had been maintained since the re-opening of local slaughterhouses in 1954, and the services of Chesterfield Corporation Meat Inspectors, have always been available during my absence. The Council introduced charges of 2/6 per bovine animals, 9d. per calf or pig and 6d. per sheep or lamb, and during 1965, charges amounted to £134 15 0d.

Unfortunately, the Regulations gave local authorities no power to control, or influence in any way, the hours or days of slaughter and Councils were urged to meet the reasonable requirements of the trade regarding times of inspection. Although there is no great volume of slaughtering and the number of animals dressed represents about 60% of local requirements, almost all of this work is done in the evenings, outside normal working hours. There are now indications that some authorities are finding it virtually impossible to carry out a 100% inspection service, without some control over slaughtering hours, and it is possible that revised Regulations may be made to deal with this problem.

The following amount of food, apart from meat arising in slaughterhouses, was found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered for disposal at the Council's refuse tip :—

|                               |                  |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| Cooked meat and meat products | 21 lb.           |
| Canned meats                  | 22 tins—117½ lb. |
| Canned fruits                 | 38 tins—51½ lb.  |
| Canned vegetables             | 20 tins—15¾ lb.  |
| Canned milk and cream         | 5 tins           |
| Canned fish                   | 9 tins—1½ lbs.   |
| Frozen foods                  | 313 packets      |
| Cheese                        | 18 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 J. Markland, B.Sc., F.R.I.C., the County Analyst, has kindly supplied the following report:—

“25 samples of Food and Drugs were taken in the area of the Bolsover U.D.C. during the year 1965. All 25 samples were classed as satisfactory. Due to the prolonged illness of the late County Sampling Officer, no samples of milk were taken in the area during 1965. Sampling is expected to return to normal during the current year.”

### 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.

Eight samples of milk were obtained from the one producer who retails his milk locally and all satisfied the

methylene blue reduction test and all were found to be free from brucella abortus organisms.

Six samples of pasteurised milk were submitted for examination and all were satisfactory.

### **The Milk and Dairies Regulations**

There were in the Urban District, on the 31st December, 1965, 10 registered distributors of milk.

### **Bacteriological Examination of Samples**

During the year there were two small manufacturers of ice cream, and ten samples were submitted for bacteriological examination, with results as follows :—

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Provisional Grade 1 | 7 |
| Provisional Grade 2 | - |
| Provisional Grade 3 | 2 |
| Provisional Grade 4 | 1 |

On ten occasions, samples from the inlet and outlet ends of the Public Baths were submitted for bacteriological examination. Six of the samples were reported as completely satisfactory, but on four occasions, adjustment of the chlorine dosage was recommended to remedy slight contamination.

Ten samples from the main supply of the North Derbyshire Water Board were submitted for examination and all were reported as satisfactory

Eight samples of locally bottled orange juice were all reported as satisfactory.

### **Slaughter of Animals Act**

At the end of 1965, 11 persons held licences to slaughter or stun animals in Slaughterhouses or Knackers Yards.

### **Knacker's Yard**

26 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 permit.

These premises have recently been enlarged and improved to afford much better facilities for storage of meat, offals and waste products and to allow for sterilisation of diseased meat.

Two buildings in Mill Lane, Bolsover, are licensed for lairage of animals.

#### **Pet Animals Act, 1951**

One shop is licensed under the provisions of the above Act, but very little business is done there.

#### **Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963**

This Act came into operation on the 1st January, 1964, but no premises in the Urban District were licensed.

#### **Shops Act, 1950**

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

#### **Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963**

This Act came into operation during the previous year — its main effect is to make provision for the safety, health and welfare of persons employed in non-industrial premises, in a similar way to the Factories Act requirements concerning employees in factories. All premises covered by the Act were required to be registered between 1st May, 1964, and the 31st July, 1964, but offices at factories, local authority offices and schools were required to register with the Factory Inspectorate.

The table below sets out registrations as at 31st December, 1965, and much remains to be done in securing compliance with the requirements of this new legislation.

**TABLE (a) — Registrations and general inspections**

| Class of Premises                                    | Number of premises registered during the year | Total No. of registered premises at end of year | Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year |
|--|---|---|--|
| Offices  | -   | 15  | 2  |
| Retail shops   | 1   | 59  | 25   |
| Wholesale shops, warehouses                          | -   | -   | -  |
| Catering establishments open to the public, canteens | -   | 7   | 2  |
| Fuel storage depots                                  | -   | 1   | -  |

**TABLE (b) — Number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises**

53 — these included three reported accidents.

**TABLE (c) — Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace**

| Class of Workplace                         | Number of Persons employed |
|--|----------------------------|
| Offices                                    | 700                        |
| Retail Shops                               | 190                        |
| Wholesale departments, warehouses          | 14                         |
| Catering establishments open to the public | 22                         |
| Canteens                                   | 10                         |
| Fuel storage depots                        | 2                          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                               | <b>938</b>                 |

Total Males — 559

Total Females — 379



During the year three accidents were reported at premises registered under the Act. Fortunately, two were not of a very serious nature, one lady cut her finger on a piece of mirror, carelessly left on a window bottom and another lady was scalded when she tripped on a stair while carrying a pot of coffee. The third accident involved a girl, aged 16 years, who fractured and lacerated her right index finger while operating an electrically driven listing machine in a printing department. Three such machines were in daily use and no previous history of accident existed, but the manufacturers were approached and they advised that a modified part had been produced and the Departmental Manager was asked to obtain and use these replacement parts, to prevent similar accidents occurring in future.

#### **Petroleum Licensing**

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

At the end of 1965, 21 licences were in force, covering a maximum storage capacity of 287,268 gallons.

In recent years, detailed inspection of all storage installations have been undertaken to secure strict compliance with the Home Office Model Codes. During 1964, nine underground storage tanks, which had been in use for rather a long time, were subjected to pressure test before renewal of licences, for the following year, would be considered.

During 1965, a new installation was tested and licensed at an opencast coal site and a further installation which had not been licensed for a year or so, was pressure tested and brought back into use.

#### **Rodent 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 infected 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, sewage works and in certain lengths of public sewer and this method of treatment has been found to be highly successful.

**Rodent Control Report for Year ended December 31st, 1965**

|                                  | Type of Property |                 |                   |              |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|--------------|
|                                  | Local Authority  | Dwelling houses | Business Premises | Agricultural |
| Total properties inspected ...   | 14               | 1046            | 94                | 28           |
| Number of treatments carried out |                  |                 |                   |              |
| Rats ...                         | 12               | 51              | 11                | 2            |
| Mice ...                         | 4                | 5               | 10                | —            |

The number of treatments carried out shows an increase on 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 rodent control and co-operate wholeheartedly in the task of exterminating rats and mice.

#### **Conversion of Pail Closets, etc.**

During recent years, sewerage schemes serving houses in Chesterfield Road, Shuttlewood, and slum clearance action under Housing Act powers, have drastically reduced the number of pail closets in the Urban District and very few now remain. The nine remaining houses without water closets are in widely scattered parts of the district, most of them far removed from public sewers.

#### **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 officers 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, Woodhouse Lane, Bolsover

|           | 1959  | 1960  | 1961  | 1962  | 1963  | 1964  | 1965  |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| January   | —     | 14.44 | 24.34 | 28.35 | 8.15  | 10.27 | 13.94 |
| February  | 8.50  | 12.65 | 15.14 | —     | 9.04  | 9.24  | 7.75  |
| March     | 13.11 | 12.45 | 10.87 | 7.58  | 13.71 | 11.63 | 11.29 |
| April     | 16.49 | 14.74 | 23.75 | 47.16 | 11.16 | 11.69 | 13.64 |
| May       | 16.10 | 8.38  | 11.76 | 14.67 | 13.55 | 11.43 | 7.88  |
| June      | 19.74 | 17.39 | 13.74 | 10.69 | 13.15 | 8.08  | 16.40 |
| July      | 16.73 | 17.29 | 16.16 | 14.51 | 11.59 | 18.32 | 14.01 |
| August    | 16.79 | 15.63 | 14.98 | 12.55 | 12.52 | 14.67 | —     |
| September | 17.22 | 13.74 | 13.22 | 13.94 | 14.01 | 10.10 | 16.06 |
| October   | 13.14 | 11.29 | 15.87 | 12.65 | 9.17  | 13.78 | 6.52  |
| November  | 16.43 | 13.18 | 11.29 | 15.37 | 13.48 | 9.24  | 18.61 |
| December  | 12.22 | 20.86 | 16.69 | 16.23 | 7.16  | 13.74 | 15.80 |

1959 monthly average — 15.32 tons per sq. mile.  
 1960 monthly average — 14.35 tons per sq. mile.  
 1961 monthly average — 15.65 tons per sq. mile.  
 1962 monthly average — 17.57 tons per sq. mile.  
 1963 monthly average — 11.44 tons per sq. mile.  
 1964 monthly average — 11.85 tons per sq. mile.  
 1965 monthly average — 12.90 tons per sq. mile.

96 Moor Lane, Bolsover

|           | 1959  | 1960  | 1961  | 1962  | 1963  | 1964  | 1965  |
|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| January   | —     | 11.24 | 13.05 | 13.42 | 7.25  | 7.38  | —     |
| February  | 12.15 | 11.41 | 9.29  | 7.35  | 5.87  | 11.07 | 9.36  |
| March     | 12.86 | 10.67 | 6.10  | 9.53  | 14.39 | 14.36 | 16.81 |
| April     | 12.58 | 9.87  | 15.14 | 12.59 | 12.15 | 9.30  | 10.61 |
| May       | 10.60 | 17.89 | 8.25  | 11.27 | 11.98 | 13.69 | 10.20 |
| June      | 16.01 | 13.49 | 8.52  | 6.27  | 8.66  | 13.35 | 11.81 |
| July      | 11.78 | 8.49  | 9.19  | 9.16  | 8.36  | 27.28 | 12.62 |
| August    | 10.60 | 10.59 | 13.19 | 13.39 | 10.20 | 14.26 | 10.97 |
| September | 11.00 | 10.60 | 9.30  | 9.53  | 4.63  | 14.33 | 14.10 |
| October   | 10.17 | —     | 8.26  | 6.55  | 12.51 | 16.88 | 8.89  |
| November  | 12.45 | 9.36  | 7.45  | 10.23 | 12.12 | 7.52  | 15.81 |
| December  | 11.38 | 9.96  | 7.51  | 11.74 | 7.85  | 10.07 | 10.91 |

1959 monthly average — 11.96 tons per sq. mile.  
 1960 monthly average — 11.23 tons per sq. mile.  
 1961 monthly average — 9.60 tons per sq. mile.  
 1962 monthly average — 10.09 tons per sq. mile.  
 1963 monthly average — 9.66 tons per sq. mile.  
 1964 monthly average — 13.19 tons per sq. mile.  
 1965 monthly average — 12.00 tons per sq. mile

### Estimation of Sulphur by the Lead Peroxide Method.

(Mg. of SO<sub>3</sub> per day collected by 100 sq. cm. of Batch  
A PbO<sub>2</sub>) (Louvered cover)

#### 2 Cundy Road, Bolsover

|           | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| January   | —    | 2.21 | 2.47 | 2.89 | 2.11 | 2.31 | 2.10 |
| February  | 2.28 | 2.62 | 2.78 | 2.13 | 2.04 | 1.96 | 1.43 |
| March     | 1.56 | 1.22 | 2.87 | 1.97 | 1.70 | 1.05 | 1.99 |
| April     | 1.87 | 1.90 | 1.36 | 1.64 | 1.44 | 1.55 | 2.02 |
| May       | 1.17 | 0.98 | 1.14 | 1.15 | 1.19 | 0.96 | 1.06 |
| June      | 1.43 | 0.33 | 1.31 | 0.82 | 0.83 | 0.80 | 0.82 |
| July      | 0.87 | 0.97 | 1.27 | 0.67 | 0.71 | 0.87 | 0.77 |
| August    | 1.13 | 1.12 | 1.10 | 0.95 | 0.97 | 1.01 | 0.81 |
| September | 1.20 | 1.03 | 1.05 | 1.01 | 1.21 | 1.08 | 0.89 |
| October   | 1.58 | 1.18 | 1.40 | 1.40 | 1.36 | 1.35 | 1.06 |
| November  | 2.32 | 2.12 | 1.90 | 2.00 | 1.65 | 1.92 | 1.56 |
| December  | 2.47 | 2.87 | 2.89 | 2.76 | 1.62 | 2.20 | 2.13 |

|                      |      |
|----------------------|------|
| 1959 monthly average | 1.62 |
| 1960 monthly average | 1.55 |
| 1961 monthly average | 1.79 |
| 1962 monthly average | 1.61 |
| 1963 monthly average | 1.40 |
| 1964 monthly average | 1.42 |
| 1965 monthly average | 1.38 |

96 Moor Lane, Bolsover

|           | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 |
|-----------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| January   | —    | 2.30 | 2.30 | 3.08 | 3.23 | 3.22 | 2.82 |
| February  | 2.11 | 2.51 | 2.47 | 1.78 | 3.33 | 2.36 | 2.47 |
| March     | 1.43 | 1.07 | 2.34 | 1.94 | 2.48 | 1.57 | 2.39 |
| April     | 1.62 | 1.63 | 1.53 | 1.54 | 1.88 | 1.76 | 1.96 |
| May       | 0.98 | 1.10 | 1.14 | 1.20 | 1.58 | 1.44 | 1.56 |
| June      | 0.88 | 0.83 | 1.16 | 1.06 | 1.20 | 1.34 | 1.39 |
| July      | 0.69 | 0.90 | 1.10 | 0.98 | 1.13 | 0.93 | 0.85 |
| August    | 0.84 | 0.95 | 0.94 | 0.96 | 1.07 | 1.18 | 1.22 |
| September | 1.05 | 1.12 | 1.33 | 1.31 | 1.60 | 1.61 | 1.77 |
| October   | 1.49 | 1.39 | 1.65 | 2.26 | 2.03 | 0.80 | 1.95 |
| November  | 2.57 | 2.27 | 1.91 | 3.12 | 2.33 | 2.43 | 2.24 |
| December  | 2.59 | 2.88 | 3.18 | 3.75 | 2.78 | 2.49 | 3.21 |

|                      |      |
|----------------------|------|
| 1959 monthly average | 1.48 |
| 1960 monthly average | 1.58 |
| 1961 monthly average | 1.75 |
| 1962 monthly average | 1.91 |
| 1963 monthly average | 2.05 |
| 1964 monthly average | 1.85 |
| 1965 monthly average | 1.99 |

It is seven years since the measurement of atmospheric pollution in this district was commenced, and it is now possible to compare the results over a reasonable length of time. The deposit gauge at Hall Farm was sited 700 yards due east of the carbonising works of the Derby-  
Coalite Co., Ltd., 700 yards north east of Bolsover Colliery, these being the main source of industrial pollution, where very considerable quantities of coal are carbonised and burned. The second deposit gauge was sited in the Moor Lane residential area, some 500 yards east north east of the town centre and approximately 3,000 yds. to the south east of the Coalite works and the Colliery. It was to be expected that the greater pollution would be found nearer to the industrial undertakings and for the first four years this proved to be the case; in 1962, one shaft at the Colliery was electrified and in the following year mechanical stokers were fitted to the boilers; during the past three years there has been quite a marked reduction in deposited matter. This improvement was not quite so well maintained during 1965 and this probably results from the erection of further carbonising retorts at the Coalite Works and the extension of the spoil bank at the Colliery to within comparatively short distance from the deposit gauge. The amount of deposited matter in the gauge in Moor Lane has not fluctuated very much over the seven years period, but it is rather disappointing that the records for the past two years are the highest of any for the seven year period, though the monthly average for 1965 does show a welcome reduction over the figure for 1964. The monthly averages for the two recording stations are now closer together than at any period during the seven years, and during 1965, there was very little difference between the deposited matter close to the main industrial undertakings and in one of the residential areas of the urban district.

Apparatus for the measurement of sulphur by the lead peroxide method was also set up at two places in the urban district; at a site in Cundy Road, on the edge of a housing estate some 1,200 yards east of the Bolsover Colliery and 1,330 yards to the east of the Coalite works



and the second site was in the Moor Lane residential area, 500 yards east north east of the town centre and 3,000 yards to the south east of the Coalite works and the Colliery. Initially, there was a higher concentration of sulphur nearer to the industrialised undertakings than in the Moor Lane area, but the levels at Cundy Road have fallen for four years of the seven and those at Moor Lane have risen for five of the seven years; with the result that during the past four years the concentration of sulphur in the Moor Lane area has been higher than at Cundy Road.

The methods adopted to measure atmospheric pollution are admitted to be rather crude and it would be dangerous to reach too definite conclusions from the results of only two recording stations, in quite close proximity, but records for the past seven years would appear to show a reduction in pollution levels nearer to the industrial undertakings, whereas the levels in one of the main residential areas have risen, especially in sulphur. It is now claimed nationally, that domestic premises are responsible for the greater part of atmospheric pollution and local recordings would appear to confirm this statement. The implementation of certain provisions of the Clean Air Act have gone a long way towards introducing much more efficient use of fuel in industrial undertakings but the same drive to secure more efficient use in domestic premises has not been pursued so uniformly throughout the country.

The main sources of industrial pollution in this district are the Bolsover Colliery and the carbonising plant of The Derbyshire Coalite Company Ltd. The electrification of one shaft, the closing of the baths boiler and the fitting of mechanical stokers at the Colliery have resulted in a definite improvement, but instances still occur where because of human failings, the emission of dark smoke is greater than one would wish. Ten observations of the Bolsover Colliery chimney were made during 1965 and on two occasions the amount of dark smoke emitted was in excess of the permitted limit prescribed in the 1958 Regu-

lations. The carbonising processes carried out at the Coalite works are under the control of the Alkali Inspectorate of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government; regular liaison is maintained with the District Inspector and every effort is made to limit the pollution from this source. During 1965, the number of carbonising retorts was further increased and although a great deal has been done to replace and improve the older retorts, there still remain problems to be overcome, especially in reducing pollution from the waste heat boilers. The closing of the spirit recovery unit, following the withdrawal of preferential duty on home produced light hydro-carbon oils raised the calorific value of the gases to the waste heat boilers and produced a darker smoke, especially during warmer weather. Research work to overcome this problem resulted in a flare being used to burn some of the excess gases and in the fitting of orifices to the burners to introduce more air to dilute the gases. Some improvements seem to have been achieved, but this large industrial complex still remains a most obvious source of pollution and one wonders whether the erection of a very tall chimney to which all gases and other emissions could be directed would be feasible and beneficial.

The Council's first smoke control order was made in March, 1962, and confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in November, 1962, to operate from 1st July, 1963. It relates to a housing development area of 86 acres, lying to the south of New Station Road and to the windward side of the town centre. When fully developed, the area could contain about 750 houses and it was decided that the introduction of smoke control would allow houses to be erected without adding to the level of smoke pollution. At the end of 1965, the number of houses in the smoke control area totalled 148, of which 116 were new Council houses and 25 were new private houses. A limited amount of private development is continuing, but there appears to be little prospect of the area becoming fully developed in the comparatively near future. There has been a long tradition of concessionary fuel allowances to the high percentage of mineworkers

in this district, and although an agreement now exists whereby the National Coal Board supply smokeless fuels to beneficiaries living in smoke control areas, many of the retired miners and miners widows, who found that the amount of fuel supplied had very drastically been reduced, complained that the introduction of smoke control had resulted in serious hardship. The Council appointed a sub-committee to consider this question and subsequently, in June, 1964, made an order to revoke the smoke control order. The Minister asked for details of the hardship being caused, and in July, 1965, a local public inquiry was held. The Minister's decision not to allow revocation of the order was received in November, 1965, but the order was suspended until the 31st August, 1966, to allow the Council to arrange for residents, who had experienced difficulty in adapting themselves to the technique of burning smokeless fuels, to be given suitable guidance. The Council's sub-committee held one meeting before the end of the year to decide on the most suitable advice and guidance which could be made available to residents in the area, and several other meetings have been held by the time of writing this report.

One very important basic fact has emerged from the problems and deliberations of the past few years in implementing the policy of smoke control, confirming that the traditional open fire is the most costly and least efficient means of providing adequate warmth. By far the majority of houses in this district have open fires of one type or other, and conversions carried out in the smoke control area could only allow approved open grates. In December, 1965, the Ministry of Housing and Local Government altered this arrangement and in future smoke control areas the whole range of appliances may be used; this will allow grant to be paid on providing firegrates which will burn the cheaper and more plentiful hard cokes and at the same time give a greater degree of warmth. This new arrangement should remove many of the difficulties which have been experienced, but of course, will make the cost of grants dearer to the local authorities while allowing some saving on fuel and great-

er comfort to householders. Quite apart from the introduction of smoke control, our methods of house heating are undergoing very drastic change. The number of central heating installations has increased enormously and young married couples, especially where both are at work, are demanding labour saving appliances, which also give a higher standard of home comfort: the room heater is becoming increasingly popular where solid fuel is the choice. These modern appliances require smokeless fuels and an ever growing number of people are providing improved heating and reducing smoke emission before the introduction of smoke control programmes.

In a few months time the smoke control order will come back into operation and the Council are now making arrangements for the Solid Smokeless Fuels Federation mobile exhibition and demonstrator to visit the smoke control area, to give advice and guidance to householders. The possibility of installing firegrates which would burn the whole range of solid smokeless fuels, and not only the dearer, open fire fuels, is also being considered; but the difficulty will be that the cost of providing more efficient appliances, if it is to be recovered by increased rents, could cancel out the resultant savings in fuel costs to individual tenants. One fact has been made abundantly clear, and this concerns the erection of new houses, whether by local authorities or by private developers: it is essential that much greater consideration should be given to methods of heating—and that where solid fuel is the choice (especially if there is a possibility of smoke control being introduced) the appliances fitted should be the most efficient available and should be capable of burning the whole range of solid, smokeless fuels. The more efficient the appliance and the method of heating, the greater will be the saving on fuel costs in the long run and the higher will be the standard of warmth in the house.

The introduction of the first stage of the Council's smoke control programme was not very popular with

the high proportion of Coal Board employees, especially the retired miners and miners widows. The concessionary fuel agreement seems to be placing a greater burden on the older beneficiaries who are least able to bear it; it has caused deep feeling among retired miners and widows, who have had a life time's connection with the mining industry and have always received adequate allowances of coal. I do not believe that this agreement is incapable of some slight amendment, to remove some of the difficulties which now exist, even if this were to be secured at the expense of new entrants to the mining industry, or of younger men at work, who are better able to supplement their allowances. It is just as important, probably more important, that the benefits of clean air should be brought to mining areas as to any other part of this country, especially as so many people earn their living in dusty and dirty conditions below ground and the incidence of chest complaints is above the national average. I should like to think that in September, when the smoke control order will come back into operation, the residents concerned will co-operate wholeheartedly in this venture to secure a reduction in atmospheric pollution. When the Committee on Atmospheric Pollution reported, over 10 years ago, it was stated that the benefits to be derived from a reduction in air pollution would far outweigh the cost — this is just as true today. We have a responsibility to see that our towns and cities are made cleaner and healthier places in which to live, and we, ourselves, and our children will be the ones to benefit. Atmospheric Pollution pays no regard to local authority boundaries and the need is for all Councils where pollution is greatest, to press forward with well ordered programmes for the reduction of pollution. At present, this task is not being pursued uniformly throughout the country, and the resultant benefits are not as great as they could be: there are now indications that more uniform progress must be achieved, even if this requires some measure of compulsion.

## **Public Cleansing Service**

During the year under review, the Council operated

- (i) an 18 cubic yard Karrier Dual Tip refuse vehicle (purchased in 1960), with a team of 5 workmen on whole time refuse collection duties.
- (ii) a 12 cubic yard Karrier Bantam Dual Tip Junior refuse vehicle (purchased in 1963), with a team of 5 workmen, on refuse collection duties for four days each week. On the remaining day this vehicle was engaged on collection of waste paper from shops and commercial premises in the district.
- (iii) a 1,000 gallon Karrier Yorkshire gully/cesspool emptier (purchased in 1961), on the emptying of cesspools and pail closets, the daily removal of sludge from the main sewage works, the cleansing of street gullies and the periodic flushing of sewers. Two men are employed on this vehicle.
- (iv) a Fordson super Major Tractor (purchased in 1964) with bulldozer, bucket and fork lift attachments, on the levelling and covering of refuse at the tip and the stacking and loading of baled waste paper.

One workman was employed, virtually whole-time, on the sorting and baling of waste paper and a working Foreman carries out pest control measures, operates the free drain rodding service, undertakes vehicle maintenance and assists with all other work at times of sickness or holidays

## **Refuse Collection and Disposal**

The regular and efficient collection and disposal of refuse is a service of vital public health importance. A

weekly collection was maintained throughout the district and very few complaints were received. The collection and disposal of refuse is not a pleasant or attractive occupation, especially in a mining area, where the yield and ash content are higher than average. I should like again to pay tribute to the public cleansing workmen; we are inclined to take their services for granted and it is only on very rare occasions, when something goes wrong, that we notice their existence. It has not always been easy to maintain the regular weekly collection, there were occasions when sickness coincided with annual holidays and as many as six men were away (from work) at the same time. Temporary labour had to be obtained during the summer holiday period and overtime working has had to be carried out from time to time. In a comparatively small staff of fourteen workmen, the effects of sickness and holidays can be extremely important; during 1965 annual and bank holidays account for 269 working days; sickness and other absence amounted to 238 working days, and the regular collection of refuse is not a service which can be put off for a few days until the labour position improves. At such time the devotion and loyalty of the workmen becomes of paramount importance. No undue labour difficulties were experienced during the year, apart from the effects of sickness and holidays, and the workmen continued to receive a plus rate of 3½d. per hour: this has been paid for a number of years, and without it, it is very doubtful whether the service would be able to recruit or retain decent workmen.

The Fordson tractor, which was purchased in the previous year, has proved extremely useful on the refuse tip and has resulted in considerable saving of labour. All refuse is now disposed of in a disused portion of the clay pit at the New Byron Brick Company's works, just outside the boundary of the Urban District. Sludge from the main sewage works is also disposed of by burial with the refuse.

At the end of 1965, a new covered refuse trailer was purchased and a further workman was engaged in

# BOLSOVER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

(As at 31st December, 1965)

|                               |   |                          |
|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Chairman                      | - | Councillor S. T. Fisher  |
| Vice-Chairman                 | - | Councillor D. A. Coupe,  |
| Councillor J. W. Bluff        |   | Councillor R. Raben.     |
| Councillor F. Brothwell,      |   | Councillor W. B. Revill, |
| Councillor S. J. Clarke, J.P. |   | Councillor J. Spray.     |
| Councillor F. Cross           |   | Councillor W. A. Taylor, |
| Councillor T. Fulleylove      |   | Councillor W. Taylor.    |

### **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. J. W. DENT.

#### **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 :** T. G. WINNARD



## PREFACE

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

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen,

Once again I have the privilege of submitting an Annual Report to you. As always, I hope you will find it of interest.

The single most important fact is that there has been no infant death in Bolsover this year. Everybody must be pleased about this. It is also pleasing to record that the death rate has fallen and our figure is now better than the National death rate.

During 1965, I completed ten years of service in my present appointment. These have been interesting years and in this report, I shall try to recall some of the things which have happened during them.

Once again I would like to thank you as a Committee for all your help and encouragement. Also, my thanks to Mr Wright (Clerk of the Council) and to Mr Margerison (Engineer and Surveyor). Finally, I must thank everyone on the staff of Bolsover U.D.C. for their help and courtesy throughout the year.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

A. R. ROBERTSON,  
Medical Officer of Health.

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

To the  
the

Mr

Anna  
H

per  
m  
to  
for

m  
p  
d

f  
t  
i  
t  
s

x





