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BOROUGH OF BUXTON



Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

School Medical Officer

and

Senior Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1940.

Printed at the "Advertiser" Printing Works, Palace Road,
1941.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

**Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Superintendent of
Child Welfare Centre and Medical Superintendent of Isolation Hospital :**

GEORGE COCHRANE, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

W. O. COATES, F.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.

(Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods).

Second Sanitary Inspector :

HARRY PEARSON, Cert. S.I.B., M.S.I.A., A.R.I.P.H. & H.

(On Active Service from 5th June, 1940).

Senior Clerk :

L. R. KNOWLES, Cert. S.I.B.

(On Active Service from 12th September, 1940).

Secretary and Typist :

Miss M. BRADLEY.

Meat Inspector :

R. S. HOWE, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M. (Vict.)

Dental Surgeons :

DENIS H. SUTTON, L.D.S.

HENRY MILLER.

Superintendent Health Visitor and School Nurse :

MRS. DOWNES, S.R.N., A.R.R.C., C.M.B.

Assistant Health Visitor and School Nurse :

Miss U. GOULDEN, S.R.N., Cert. S.I.B., S.C.M.

Matron and Charge Nurse, Isolation Hospital :

Miss M. A. ROBERTS.

Assistant Nurse, Isolation Hospital :

Miss A. M. BLAND.



BOROUGH OF BUXTON.

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BOROUGH OF BUXTON

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

For the Year 1940.

Public HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

PEAK BUILDINGS,

BUXTON.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Buxton.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present the Annual Report on the Health of the Borough of Buxton for 1940.

The statistics for the year are interesting. Thus the live birth-rate per 1,000 population was 15.72 compared with 14.6 for England and Wales. A lower death-rate, viz., 12.28 against that for England and Wales of 14.3 goes to the credit side, and the number of births—302—against deaths—236—speaks favourably.

The diseases which claimed the largest number of deaths were : Heart Disease (68), Cancer (26), Pneumonia (11), and Bronchitis (14).

The outbreak of war brought in Buxton, as in many other towns, peculiar problems and difficulties. The Borough was not scheduled as an official reception area for evacuees. Many of the hotels were earmarked for special purposes, and any persons choosing residence here, other than those sent specifically to the town, came apparently with the object of finding a quieter refuge from the tumult of war. Boarding houses quickly became fully occupied, rooms were promptly taken as lodgings and the population rapidly increased in number. Rents were charged out of proportion to the accommodation afforded, and overcrowding has assumed proportions hitherto unknown. How this can be remedied is not easily told. Many may return to their homes when the danger of air raids appears more remote. One thing is certain—no more houses can be made available for others to come—no further buildings will be erected during the war and there seems to be no further houses available for occupation.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

GEORGE COCHRANE.

Section A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The elevation of the District is from 950 to 1,200 feet above sea-level.

Geology.—The town, famous for its Baths and Waters, is situated in an upland valley surrounded by hills on all sides, and is built partly on limestone and partly on millstone grit. Three lines of railway serve it, and large numbers of people visit the town for the purposes of health and pleasure.

Area of the Borough: 5,959 acres.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, mid-1940: 19,210.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1940): 4,692.

Rateable value: £158,528.

Sum represented by a penny rate: £600.

The chief industries are Lime Stone Quarrying and Agriculture.

Extent of unemployment:—

The Borough of Buxton escapes the problems and worries of unemployment. The quarrying industry absorbs much of the male labour and, with the exception of adverse weather conditions, employment remains fairly constant. There is a regular demand for female labour and the demand is not readily met. During the Summer season there is a marked rise in the employment of women, whose services are required in the larger hotels and boarding houses.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.
Live Births—Legitimate	293	149	144
Illegitimate	9	5	4
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	15.72		
	Total	M.	F.
Stillbirths	12	7	5
Stillbirths—Legimate	11	7	4
Illegimate	1	0	1
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	38.21		

	Total	M.	F.
Deaths	236	119	117

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 12.28

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 24 and 25 of the Registrar-General's Short List):—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births
No. 24—Puerperal sepsis	1	3.18
No. 25—Other puerperal causes ...	1	3.18
Total	2	6.36

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births 58.82

Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 53.69

Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 250.00

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 26

Deaths from Measles (all ages) —

Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) —

Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) 1

There has been no unusual or excessive mortality during the year.

EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

3 deaths from Influenza occurred, giving a death-rate of 0.15 per 1,000.

TUBERCULOSIS OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.

2 deaths occurred, giving a death-rate of 0.104 per 1,000

CANCER.

26 deaths occurred, giving a death-rate of 1.35 per 1,000.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

26 deaths occurred, giving a death-rate of 1.35 per 1,000.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN BOROUGH OF BUXTON DURING YEAR 1940.

Cause of Death.						Males.	Females.	
All Causes	...	...	...	...	...	119	117
1.	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers					—	—	
2.	Measles					—	—	
3.	Scarlet Fever					—	—	
4.	Whooping Cough					—	—	
5.	Diphtheria					4	1	
6.	Influenza					3	—	
7.	Encephalitis Lethargica					—	—	
8.	Cerebro-spinal Fever					—	—	
9.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System					1	1	
10.	Other Tuberculous Diseases					2	—	
11.	Syphilis					—	—	
12.	Cancer, Malignant Disease					12	14	
13.	Diabetes					1	1	
14.	Heart Disease					27	41	
15.	Other Circulatory Diseases					3	4	
16.	Bronchitis					12	2	
17.	Pneumonia (all forms)					8	3	
18.	Other Respiratory Diseases					1	—	
19.	Ulcer of Stomach on Duodenum					3	1	
20.	Diarrhoea, &c. (under 2 years)					1	—	
21.	Appendicitis					—	—	
22.	Other Digestive Diseases					—	3	
23.	Nephritis,					3	8	
24.	Puerperal Sepsis					—	1	
25.	Other Puerperal Causes					—	1	
26.	Congenital Debility, Birth Injury; Infant Diseases					2	1	
27.	Premature Birth					3	1	
28.	Suicide					5	1	
29.	Other Violence					4	2	
30.	Other Defined Diseases					13	15	
31.	All Other Causes					11	15	
Special Causes								
	Small Pox					—	—	
	Poliomyelitis					—	—	
	Polioencephalitis					—	—	
Deaths of Infants under 1 year								
						{ Total	14	4
						{ Legitimate	13	3
						{ Illegitimate	1	1
Live Births								
						{ Total	154	148
						{ Legitimate	149	144
						{ Illegitimate	5	4
Stillbirths								
						{ Total	7	5
						{ Legitimate	7	4
						{ Illegitimate	—	1
POPULATION :—Resident						19,210

Section B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(a) **LABORATORY FACILITIES:** Pathological and Bacteriological Investigations are carried out at the County Public Health Laboratory, Derby, and at the Devonshire Royal Hospital, Buxton.

(b) **Ambulance FACILITIES:** (i) Infectious Cases—Motor Fever Ambulance: (ii) Non-Infectious cases and accident cases are conveyed in motor ambulance which is garaged in the centre of the town, and is under the supervision of the Health Committee.

(c) **NURSING IN THE HOME:** The District Nursing Association provides for general nursing three nurses, who do, in addition, a certain amount of midwifery. A grant of £20 per annum is paid to the Association by the Borough Council for the home nursing and care of patients suffering from Measles, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, etc. During the year sixteen cases were attended: four Influenza, eight Pneumonia, two Puerperal Pyrexia, two Tuberculosis; and the number of visits paid was 440: Pneumonia 100, Influenza 24, Puerperal Pyrexia 30, Tuberculosis 286.

(d) CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES:—

Name and Situation.	Clinic Held.	By whom provided
Maternity and Child Welfare, Bridge Street.	Mon., 2—4. Wed., 2—4.	Borough of Buxton M. & C.W. Com.
Ante-Natal Clinic, Bridge St.	Sat., 10—11.	M. & C. W. Com.
School Clinic, Bridge Street.	Tues., 2—4.	Boro. Ed. Com.
	Mon., Wed.,	} 9—12. „ „
Dental Clinic, Peak Buildings.	Thurs., Fri.,	
Tuberculosis Dispensary, Chinley	Mon., 11—1. 2—4.	Derbys. C.C.
Venereal Disease Clinic, Derby.		

(e) HOSPITALS (Provided or subsidised by the Corporation):—

- (1) Isolation Hospital, Ashwood Dale, Buxton. 26 beds. For cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, etc.
- (2) Small Pox Hospital.—By arrangement with Bakewell R.D.C. A retaining fee of £50 per annum and cost per case admitted. (Situated between Wardlow Mires and Stoney Middleton).
- (3) Other Hospitals:—

- (a) Buxton and District Hospital.
- (b) Devonshire Royal Hospital.
- (c) Ancoats Hospital, Manchester.
- (d) Manchester Royal Infirmary.
- (e) Stockport Infirmary.
- (f) Children's Hospital, Pendlebury.
- (g) Jessop Hospital for Women, Sheffield.
- (h) St. Mary's Hospital for Women, Manchester.
- (i) Tuberculosis Hospitals under Derbyshire C.C.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

1. MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES :—

- (a) Number of midwives practising in the area served by the Corporation for maternity and child welfare at the end of the year : 10.
- (b) Number
 - (1) employed by the Corporation : 0.
 - (2) subsidised by the Corporation : 0.
 - (3) employed by Voluntary Associations : 3.
- (c) Number of cases during the year in which the Corporation paid or contributed to the fee of a midwife : 0.
- (d) Number of cases attended by midwives during the year :—
 - (1) as midwives : 242.
 - (2) as maternity nurses : 103.
- (e) Maternal Deaths :
 - (i) Number of women who died in, or in consequence of, childbirth in the area served by the Corporation for maternity and child welfare during the year :—
 - (1) from sepsis : 1.
 - (2) from other causes : 0.
 - (ii) Number of these cases which died :—
 - (1) at home : 0.
 - (2) in institutions : 1.

2. INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR MOTHERS OR CHILDREN :—

There is no institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants and homeless children, other than The Elms, Chapel-en-le-Frith (Public Assistance Institution, Derbyshire County Council).

3. HEALTH VISITORS :—

- (a) Number of officers employed for health visiting at the end of the year :—

(1) by the Corporation : 2.

(2) by Voluntary Associations : 0.

(b) Equivalent of whole-time services devoted by the whole staff to health visiting (including attendance at infant welfare centres) : $33\frac{1}{3}\%$

(c) Number of visits paid during the year by Health Visitors :—

(1) To expectant mothers ...	First visits : 66
	Total visits : 182

(2) To children under 1 year of age	First visits : 290
	Total visits : 1,373

(3) To children between the ages of 1 and 5 years...	Total visits : 1,253
--	----------------------

(d) Infant Welfare Centres :—

(1) Number of Centres provided and maintained by the Corporation : One.

(2) Number of Centres provided and maintained by Voluntary Associations : Nil.

(3) Total number of children who first attended at the Centres during the year and who, on the date of their first attendance, were :—

(a) under 1 year of age : 224.

(b) between the ages of 1 and 5 years : 99.

(4) Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended at the Centres during the year and who, at the end of the year, were :—

(a) under 1 year of age : 177.

(b) over 1 year of age : 433.

(5) Percentage of notified live births represented by the number in (3) (a) : 74%

(c) Ante-natal and Post-natal Services :—

	Ante-natal	Post-natal
(1) Ante-natal and Post-natal Clinics (whether held at Infant Welfare Centres or at other premises) :—		
(a) Number of Clinics provided and maintained by the Corporation	1	1
(b) Number of Clinics provided and maintained by Voluntary Associations	Nil	Nil
(c) Total number of women who attended at the Clinics during the year	44	12
(2) Total number of expectant mothers ante-natally examined and of cases post-natally examined during the year, under arrangements made by the Corporation with private medical practitioners, excluding cases under (e) (1) (c)	52	73

4. INFANT LIFE PROTECTION (SECTIONS 206 to 220, PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936) :—

(a) Number of persons on the Register who were receiving children for reward at the end of the year	5
(b) Number of children on the Register :—	
(1) at the end of the year	13
(2) who died during the year	0
(3) on whom inquests were held during the year	0
(c) Number of Infant Protection Visitors at the end of the year who were :—	
(1) Health Visitors	2
(2) Female, other than Health Visitors	0
(3) Male	0

5. ORTHOPAEDIC TREATMENT :—

Arrangements are made whereby children attending public elementary schools receive treatment at the Devonshire Royal Hospital, under the direction and guidance of orthopaedic specialists.

Section C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY: The sources of supply are mainly upland surface water, and in a year of normal average rainfall the supplies meet the demand, but prolonged drought might create the desire for larger storage accommodation. The water is controlled by bacteriological examination at least once a month and chemical examinations check any possible excessive plumbo-solvency. Chlorinating Plant for each source has been installed and in this way the whole Borough is safeguarded against risk from accidentally contaminated water.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS: No occasion arose requiring the eradication of bed bugs during the year.

SWIMMING BATHS: There are two swimming pools in the Borough, one owned by the Corporation and one privately owned. Neither pool is supplied with filtration or chlorinating plant.

SCHOOLS: See School Medical Officer's Report.

FACTORIES.

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
Factories with mechanical power	54	25	—
Factories without mechanical power... ..	36	7	—
Other premises under the Act (including works of building and engineering con- struction but not including outworkers premises)	—	—	—
Totals	90	32	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of defects in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	8	4	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4) ...	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences { insufficient	—	—	—	—
(S. 7) { unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—
{ not separate for sexes	3	—	—	—
Other offences (Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937.)	20	17	—	—
Totals	32	21	—	—

Section D.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Year ended 31st December, 1940.

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	41
(b) As part of a Municipal Housing Scheme	0

Section E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(A) MILK SUPPLY.

There are 29 cow-keepers on the register.

There are 31 Cowsheds in the Borough, the cubic space per cow varying from 200 cubic feet to 800 cubic feet. All the sheds are occupied by cows which are habitually turned out to grass during a part of the day throughout the year.

No formal action was taken under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.

Particulars of inspections :—

	No. on Register.	No. of Inspections.
Cowsheds	31	66
Dairies	24	40
Milkshops	29	31

As a result of inspection, 11 structural contraventions were remedied, and 2 other structural improvements effected.

Milk is also supplied from 17 sources outside the Borough, and is generally good.

125 specimens of milk were obtained and subjected to bacteriological examinations. 66 of the specimens were of " Designated " milks, and the remaining 59 were " non-designated."

2 supplies were found to include milk from animals affected with tuberculosis, and were reported to the County Medical Officer under Section 25, Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

A summary of the results of examination is included in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Particulars of licences granted for the sale of milk under the Sale of Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1923, are set out below :—

Dealers in Tuberculin Tested Milk	1
Dealers in " Accredited " Milk	1
Dealers in " Pasteurised " Milk	2
Refusals or revocation of licences	Nil

(B) MEAT.

- (1) Meat Inspection.—See Meat Inspector's Report (Appendix A).
(In case of absence, the Sanitary Inspector carries out this duty.)
- (2) Administration of Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, as regards stalls, shops, stores and vehicles. Inspected by the Sanitary Inspector.
- (3) Slaughterhouses. Shortly after the commencement of the war the Ministry of Food decided to centralise the slaughter of animals for human consumption. All private slaughterhouses were thereupon closed and arrangements were made for killing in one establishment. It may well be that this foreshadows what many authorities have long advocated—the public abattoir wherein all meat will be prepared for food, and the imposition of heavy penalties for illegal slaughtering.

Privately owned slaughterhouses :—

	In 1939	1940
Licensed	4	1
In addition, there are the Private Slaughterhouses owned by the Corporation	3	—

Section F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.—GENERAL.

There was no marked epidemic of infectious disease during the year.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is available free of charge to necessitous cases for prompt use.

There is no definite scheme for immunization against Diphtheria in the Borough, though immunization is practised to some extent privately. It is my hope that artificial immunization will be introduced to protect school children against Diphtheria. Measles serum is not, to my knowledge, used for prophylaxis or attenuation.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES FOR YEAR 1940

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified (all ages)	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths	Analysis of Total Notified Cases in age groups.										Wards.							
				0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65 and over	Central	College	Corbar	Cote Heath	Barns	Stone Bench
				1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65							
Smallpox	...	...	...	1	3	3	4	4	31	24	12	9	6	—	—	21	1	11	28	10	20
Scarlet Fever	97	25	—	3	2	2	1	4	41	16	8	8	2	—	—	18	4	5	32	15	15
Diphtheria	...	86	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	1	—
Pneumonia	...	2	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	2	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—
C.S. Fever	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	1	2	—	1	—	—
Measles	62	—	—	2	1	5	5	3	38	4	1	3	—	—	—	16	10	3	21	6	6
Whooping Cough	27	—	—	4	1	2	—	6	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	9	5	3	2	5
Observation Cases :—																					
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid B.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER TUBERCULOSIS.

There is no special incidence of this disease in the district.

The number of cases notified during the year 27

Pulmonary 17

Non-pulmonary 10

There were 2 deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system.
2 deaths from non-pulmonary form occurred.

In case of death or removal the house is disinfected.

No action taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

The methods of control are :—

(a) The Derbyshire County Sanatorium, which was opened in March, 1915, and has 100 beds—50 for males and 50 for females.

Patients are admitted by sending the patient to the Tuberculosis Officer at Chinley, when, if found suitable, they are put on the waiting list for admission.

(b) The Tuberculosis Dispensary at Lower Lane, Chinley.
OPEN—Mondays.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1940.

Age Periods				New Cases				Deaths			
				Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...
5	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	...	...	...	...
15	...	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
25	...	...	...	3	3	2	...	1	1	...	...
35	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
45	...	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
55	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
65 and upwards	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals				11	6	9	1	1	1	2	...

APPENDIX A.

REPORT OF THE MEAT INSPECTOR.

To The Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Buxton.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting for your consideration my report on meat inspection for the year ending 31st December, 1940.

Public Health Authorities for many years have advocated the closing of all private slaughter-houses and the adoption of centralised slaughtering, so it is with great satisfaction that I am able to report that during the past year all private slaughter-houses within the Borough have been closed by Government Order. All slaughtering is now carried out at one centre.

The Government have taken control of slaughtering and distribution of meat.

In Buxton the meat depot is in Charles Street, and all meat—home killed, or foreign—is distributed from there.

The public should realise that when they are unable to purchase certain cuts of meat, it is not the fault of their butcher. He is only able to supply whatever is allocated to him by the official allocator at the depot.

All meat killed in Buxton is inspected by me both ante and post mortem, and all animals destined for food are killed by mechanically operated instruments under the provisions of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933. The Act also requires all slaughtermen to be licenced, and as the Corporation have discretionary powers in the grant of licences, it is ensured that all animals are expeditiously slaughtered by experienced slaughtermen. No licence has been revoked during the year.

I would like to compliment the slaughter-house staff for the efficient manner in which they have conducted the meat depot, and for their co-operation which has facilitated the meat inspection.

I wish to thank Mr. Coates and his staff for their help during the past year.

Details of slaughter house and meat inspections are set forth in the following tables :—

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected	241	728	243	6,369	1,214
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS—					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	2	2	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	27	82	9	81	30
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other t h a n tuberculosis	11.2	11.4	4.52	1.305	2.553
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY—					
Whole carcasses condemned	6	11	4	0	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was con- demned	19	57	12	0	86
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	10.373	9.34	6.584	0	7.66

Visits made

INSPECTIONS OF SLAUGHTER-HOUSES 273

DISEASED OR UNSOUND MEAT SURRENDERED AND DESTROYED :

lbs. lbs.

- (1) TUBERCULOSIS :
- (a) Generalised. Whole carcasses destroyed :
- Oxen 6,016
- Pigs 572
- 6,588
- (b) Localised.—Portions of carcasses and
Organs :
- Oxen 1,092
- Pigs..... 872
- 1,964
- (2) FLUKY LIVERS (Distomatosis) :
- Oxen 852
- Sheep 281
- 1,133
- (3) Miscellaneous Lesions, Cysts, Abscesses,
Bruised Flesh, &c. 830
- Grand Total 10,515

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. S. HOWE,
Meat Inspector.

APPENDIX B.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOROUGH METEOROLOGIST.

To the Mayor, Alderman and Burgesses of the Borough of Buxton.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1940.

The rainfall for the year was 47.17 inches: this is slightly below the average. Rain fell on 244 days during the year, the heaviest fall being on November 11th when 36.2 m.m. were registered. May and June had exceptionally low rainfall figures.

The temperature varied between -1.0° on January 21, and 82° on June 9th. The minimum temperature was the lowest since 1895 when we touched -11° on February 11th.

During the year 1,177 hours of bright sunshine were recorded, the average throughout the year being 3.22 hours.

N.W. winds were more in evidence than other varieties during the period under review.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. W. PILKINGTON, M.P.S.,
Borough Meteorologist.

BOROUGH OF BUXTON

Annual Report

OF THE

School Medical Officer

For the Year 1940.

To the Education Authority for the Borough of Buxton.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Medical Inspection of School Children in the Borough for the year ending December 31st, 1940.

The Report follows generally the lines laid down in Schedule to Form 6 M., January, 1934, and is as concise as possible.

All the Schools in the Borough were inspected.

1. Staff of the School Medical Service.

School Medical Officer—G. Cochrane.

School Nurse—Mrs. Downes, who devotes about two-thirds of her time to the Schools.

Assistant School Nurse—Miss Goulden, who also gives two-thirds of her time to the Schools.

2. Co-ordination.

(a) The School Medical Officer is also Medical Officer to the Child Welfare Centre.

(b) There are no Nursery Schools.

(c) Provision is made for the care of debilitated children under school age at the Child Welfare Centre.

3. The School Medical Service in relation to Public Elementary Schools.

SCHOOL HYGIENE.

	Silverlands Girls' Senior	Kents Bank Road Boys' Senior	Hardwick Square Junior Mixed	Hardwick Square Infants	Roman Catholic	Burbage Council	Harpur Hill Council	Fairfield Endowed Junior Mixed	Fairfield Endowed Infants
Surroundings ...	V. Good	Good	Good	Good	Mod.	Mod.	Mod.	Mod.	Good
Ventilation ...	V. Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Mod.	Poor	Good
Lighting ...	V. Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Good	Fair	Fair
Warming ...	V. Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Mod.	Fair	Poor	Good
Equipment and Sanitation ...	V. Good	Good	Good	Good	Poor	Poor	Good	Poor	Mod.
Desks and Blackboards	Good	Fair	Good	Good	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair
Sanitary Con- veniences and Lavatories ...	V. Good	Good	Good	Good	Poor	Poor	Fair	Poor	Fair
Playgrounds ...	V. Good	Under- going Repair	Good	Good	Good	Poor	Fair	Poor	Fair
Water for Wash- ing & Drinking	V. Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Poor	Mod.	Mod.	Good
School Baths and Sprays ...	V. Good	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	None
Cleanliness of Rooms ...	V. Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Arrangem'ts for Drying Clothes	V. Good	Good	Good	Good	Fair	Poor	Poor	Mod.	Good

The floors are treated with "Dusmo" before sweeping, to prevent dust.

4. Medical Inspection.

Number of Scholars, 2,101.

(a) The children were inspected

(1) on entry on school life ;

(2) at the age of 8 years ;

(3) on leaving school.

141 entrants were examined ;

126 children 8 years old (intermediates) ;

59 leavers were inspected ;

other Routine 252, making a total of 578 in the routine inspections in the "Code" groups. In addition, 599 children were examined as "special" cases, or were re-examined, making a grand total of 1,177 medical inspections during the year.

Full details are given in Table I at the end of this Report.

- (b) Medical inspections have been carried out at the Schools once every week (Thursdays).

In addition, the School Clinic is held at the Child Welfare Centre on one day in each week (Tuesday), and a morning clinic held daily, on six days a week.

- (c) Any child who does not appear to be well is sent down to the School Clinic by the Head Teacher or by the School Nurse.

The School Medical Officer also watches for any signs of crippling defects at the routine inspections.

- (d) The inspection does not appear to have caused disturbance of school arrangements; in fact, during the year, the work has gone on with great smoothness.

5. Findings of Medical Inspection.

(a) Malnutrition.

The standard of nutrition is on the whole high and there is little evidence of malnutrition.

(b) Uncleanliness.

- (i) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses, 4.
- (ii) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses, 4,903.
- (iii) Number of individual children found unclean, 41.
- (iv) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority, Nil.
- (v) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—

(a) Under the Education Act, 1921, Nil.

(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws, Nil.

(c) **Minor Ailments.**

Total number of cases treated during year, 503.

(d) **Visual Defects and External Eye Disease.**

Vision.

Glasses were prescribed in 55 cases, and provided in 55 cases. Refractive work is carried out satisfactorily.

External Eye Diseases.

43 cases in all; blepharitis, 5; conjunctivitis (infective) 6; squint, 12; other conditions, 20.

(e) **Nose and Throat Defects.**

154 cases were referred for treatment, of which 24 received operative treatment.

In addition, there were 130 cases of slight to moderate degrees of enlargements, which were kept under observation. A large number of these had painting of the throat and tonic treatment at home and at the Clinic.

(f) **Ear Diseases and Hearing.**

There was 1 case of defective hearing and 23 other ear cases.

(g) **Dental Defects.**

See School Dental Surgeon's Report (Appendix 1).

(h) **Orthopædic and Postural Defects.**

The scheme, whereby children suffering from deformities or postural defects can receive treatment at the Devonshire Royal Hospital under the supervision and guidance of an orthopædic consultant, enables 56 children to derive much benefit and in many instances complete cure. The financial arrangements are subject to review at the termination of the yearly agreement.

This clinic is under the supervision of an Orthopædic Surgeon, Mr. H. Platt (and/or Mr. O. Clarke), who should visit monthly. The progress of the child is carefully watched and treatment continued at the clinic, or in the home, as directed by the specialist.

(i) **Heart Disease and Rheumatism.**

There was one case of Heart Disease and one case of Rheumatism.

(j) **Tuberculosis.**

There were no cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis. Four Non-Pulmonary cases were referred for treatment. There were no delicate children.

6. **Following Up.**

When a child is found to be suffering from a physical defect a note is sent to the parent; the School Nurse visits the home and if nothing is done, the child is seen by the School Medical Officer within a month of the first inspection. The School Nurses paid 153 visits to homes.

7. **Arrangements for Treatment.**

- (a) **Minor Ailments** are treated at the Infant Centre in Bridge Street, and at the homes by the School Nurse, under the supervision of the School Medical Officer.

Practically all the minor ailments were cured. No. of dressings done at the morning Clinic, 1,518. No. of children who have been individually treated, 372 (**excluding** Verminous conditions).

- (b) **Tonsils and Adenoids.**

24 cases received operative treatment with successful results in every case.

130 received other methods of treatment.

No cases are submitted for operation until either (1) conservative treatment has been tried for a period of six months and has proved unsuccessful, or (2) the condition of the throat and nose is such as to prejudice the health of the child and to impede his or her development.

- (c) **Tuberculosis.**

4 cases treated.

- (d) **Skin Diseases.**

All cases of Impetigo were cured.

It is interesting to note there were no cases of Ringworm (head and body) during the year.

- (e) **External Eye Disease.**

5 cases of Blepharitis were cured, and also 6 cases of Conjunctivitis ("pink eye").

(f) **Vision.**

Glasses were prescribed in 55 cases and obtained under the Authority's scheme in 55.

(g) **Ear Diseases and Hearing.**

The proposal to commence a Clinic under the supervision of an Aural Surgeon had unfortunately to be postponed on account of the unsettled state of affairs. It is however hoped to revive this suggestion at an early date, provided contact can be made with the Visiting Surgeon from Manchester.

8. Infectious Disease.

The diseases which called for attention were Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria.

The steps taken to prevent the spread were :—

In Diphtheria—swabs from contacts taken.

In Scarlet Fever—exclusion from school of children residing in same house.

In Measles—exclusion of particular scholars.

Disinfection of classrooms.

Immunization against Diphtheria had not commenced before the end of the year.

9. Open Air Education

There is no provision of facilities for any of the under-mentioned :—

- (a) Playground classes ;
- (b) School journeys ;
- (c) School camps ;
- (d) Open-air classrooms ;
- (e) Day open-air schools ;
- (f) Residential open-air schools.

10. Physical Training.

The arrangement with the County Education Authority for the supervision of the teaching, by the school teachers, of physical training, by two county organisers, ceased on March 31st, 1939. Since that time physical training has been carried out by certain of the staff who were deemed competent in this branch. In my opinion physical training is now a highly specialised study and can most properly be carried out by one who has chosen this as a vocation. The appointment of a fully qualified Instructor would, I feel sure, lessen in large measure the number of cases of early deformity and would well repay the expense incurred. The whole of the elementary schools in the Borough might profit by physical culture and healthy deportment.

11. Provision of Meals.

No meals are provided, but milk has been supplied on a voluntary basis at the schools. A number of children who in the opinion of the School Medical Officer or of a school teacher seemed to be under nourished were supplied free. This cost is defrayed by the Education Authority. In certain instances where a child is unable to attend school, owing to illness or during a vacation, the Buxton Rotary Club has very kindly arranged for a supply of free milk. The greater part of the milk supplied is "Pasteurised."

12 (a) Co-operation of Parents.

Every parent is informed, by written notice, of the day school inspection is held. It is noted in the case of young children that one or other of the parents usually attends, and advice is given to the parent on any abnormal condition found.

(b) Co-operation of Teachers.

The Head Teachers have, without exception, given cordial assistance at the time of medical inspections and are usually present, but do not take part in the following-up and treatment of the children, this being left to the School Nurse.

(c) Co-operation of School Attendance Officer.

The School Attendance Officer has given much help in the checking of the attendances, for orthopædic treatment, at the Devonshire Royal Hospital, and he reports cases of non-notifiable disease and also cases which have, as the result of serious illness, received certificates from their own doctors that they are unfit to attend school. The cause of absence from school is illness in about 80 per cent. of cases.

(d) Co-operation of Voluntary Bodies.

These take no part in medical inspection, but the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children will, if a bad case is reported to them, take action.

13 and 14. Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Children.

There are no blind, deaf, or epileptic children attending the Public Elementary Schools. No children are partially deaf or partially blind. There are 2 mentally deficient children, i.e., feeble-minded, who attend Public Elementary Schools. There is no special school for the cases, but at the Girls' School, Hardwick Square, a special class is held for backward children. There is one crippled child attending a Public Elementary School.

There are no delicate children attending Public Elementary Schools.

15. Nursery Schools.

There are no Nursery Schools, but it is my hope that Nursery Classes in one or other of the Schools may be instituted.

16. Secondary Schools.

No Secondary Schools are inspected.

17. Parents' Payments.

Where children have undergone an operation for the removal of tonsils and adenoids the parents are called upon to bear all or such part of the cost as is commensurate with their means.

18. Health Education.

No special demonstrations or health lectures were given during the year.

19. Special Enquiries.

There were no special enquiries.

20. Miscellaneous.

(i) Employment of Children and Young Persons.

The School Medical Officer examines children over 12 years before they are allowed to undertake any part-time employment.

As Medical Officer to the Welfare Centre the S.M.O. has the child under observation from the infant up to 5 years of age. As School Medical Officer he inspects the child periodically from 5 to 13 years of age.

Children over 12 years were examined and certificates given for employment at special hours.

I regret to report that many children are allowed by parent or employer to commence work, in the distribution of newspapers or milk, without prior medical examination.

Arrangements have been made whereby the medical history of a school child, about to commence employment, is available for the confidential information of the employer.

(ii) **Statistical Tables.**

Six Tables are appended, showing :—

- I. (A) Routine Medical Inspection.
(B) Other Inspections.
- II. Classification of the Nutrition of Children Inspected.
- III. Return of Defects Treated.
(Group I) Minor Ailments.
(Group II) Defective Vision and Squint.
(Group III) Defects of Nose and Throat.
- IV. Dental Inspection and Treatment.
- V. Uncleanliness and Verminous Conditions.
- VI. Blind and Deaf Children.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

GEORGE COCHRANE.

MEDICAL INSPECTION RETURNS.—YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1940.

**TABLE I.—MEDICAL INSPECTIONS OF CHILDREN ATTENDING PUBLIC
ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.**

A. ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups.

Entrants	141
Second Age Group	126
Third Age Group	59
Total	326
Number of other Routine Inspections	252
Grand Total	578

B. OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections and Re-Inspections	599
---	-----

TABLE II.

**CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED DURING
THE YEAR IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.**

Age Groups	Number of Children Inspected	A (Excellent)		B (Normal)		C (Slightly subnormal)		D (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants	141	112	79.43	28	19.86	1	.71	—	—
Second Age Group	126	90	71.43	34	26.98	2	1.59	—	—
Third Age Group	59	32	54.24	24	40.68	3	5.08	—	—
Other Routine Inspections ...	252	195	77.38	50	19.84	7	2.78	—	—
Total	578	429	74.22	136	23.53	13	2.25	—	—

TABLE III.

GROUP I. TREATMENT OF MINOR AILMENTS.

Total Number of defects treated or under treatment during the year

under the Authority's Scheme 503

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I).

	Number of defects dealt with		No. of children for whom spectacles were			
	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Prescribed (a)		Obtained (b)	
			Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.	Under the Authority's Scheme.	Otherwise.
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) (Operations for squint should be recorded separately in the body of the Report)	85	—	55	—	55	—
Other Defect or Disease of the eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I)	—	—				
Total	85	—	55	—	55	—

GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

Number of Defects.			
Received Operative Treatment.		Received other forms of Treatment.	Total number treated
Under the Authority's Scheme in Clinic or Hospital.	By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.		
24	—	130	154

TABLE IV.—DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist		(5) Half-days devoted to :—	
Age :		Inspection	11 }
5. 160		Treatment	166 } Total 177
6. 190		(6) Fillings :—	
7. 239		Permanent teeth	773 }
8. 272		Temporary teeth	16 } Total 789
(a) Routine age. 9. 200		(7) Extractions :—	
10. 195		Permanent teeth	355 }
11. 197		Temporary teeth	704 } Total 1,059
12. 167		(8) Administrations of general	
13. 157		anæsthetics for extractions	Nil
14. 47		(9) Other Operations :—	
(b) Specials		Permanent teeth	104 }
(c) Total (Routine and Specials) 2,082		Temporary teeth	226 } Total 330
(2) Number found to require treatment			
1,379			
(3) Number actually treated			
1,001			
(4) Attendances made by children for treatment			
1,605			

TABLE V.—UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(i.) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	4
(ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses	4,903
(iii.) Number of individual children found unclean	41
(iv.) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority	0
(v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—	
(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	0
(b) Under School Attendance Byelaws	0

TABLE VI.
BLIND CHILDREN.

A blind child is defined by Section 69 of the Education Act, 1921, as one who is "too blind to be able to read the ordinary school books used by children." This definition covers (a) children who are totally, or almost totally, blind and can only be appropriately taught in a school for blind children, and (b) children who have partial sight and can be appropriately taught in a school for partially sighted children. **Only the children in category (a) should be included below.**

No.	Age.	Address.	At a Public Elementary School.	At another Institution.	At no School or Institution.
Nil	—	—	—	—	—

DEAF CHILDREN.

A deaf child is defined by Section 69 of the Education Act, 1921, as one who is "too deaf to be taught in a class of hearing children in an elementary school." This definition covers (a) children whose hearing is so defective and whose speech and language are so little developed that they require education by methods used by deaf children without naturally acquired speech or language, and (b) children who have partial hearing and can be appropriately taught in a class for partially deaf children. **Only the children in category (a) should be included below.**

No.	Age.	Address.	At a Public Elementary School.	At another Institution.	At no School or Institution.
1	9	At Royal Residential Schools for the Deaf, Manchester.	—	1	—

MENTAL DEFICIENCY (NOTIFICATION OF CHILDREN) REGULATIONS, 1928

STATEMENT OF THE NUMBER OF CHILDREN NOTIFIED DURING THE
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1940, BY THE LOCAL EDUCATION
AUTHORITY TO THE LOCAL MENTAL DEFICIENCY AUTHORITY.

Total number of children notified 0

APPENDIX.

DENTAL CLINIC,
PEAK BUILDINGS,
BUXTON,

17th June, 1941.

DEAR DR. COCHRANE,

I have pleasure in forwarding the Dental Report for the year 1940.

There has been a routine inspection of the children's teeth in all the schools during the twelve months under review. The percentage of sound mouths is slightly higher than in previous years.

It is to be regretted that so many of the scholars, and their parents, are indifferent to the welfare of their teeth, and do not accept the treatment offered to them by the School Authorities. No thought seems to be given to the masticating of food, even if they realise that there is such a stage in the consumption of food.

It is deplorable that so many children's teeth are sacrificed that might otherwise have been saved. They seem to think if a tooth is at all "bad"—have it out and done with. This apparent neglect reduces the proportion of sound, healthy mouths. I am quite sure you will appreciate this.

The slight decline in attendance at the Clinic was due to the rough and severe weather experienced at the early part of the year.

Again, Mr. Sutton and I would like to thank Nurse Downes and the Head Masters, Head Mistresses and Staff at the Schools for their generous help and co-operation.

Yours faithfully,

H. MILLER.

BOROUGH OF BUXTON

Annual Report

OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

For the Year 1940.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

PEAK BUILDINGS,

BUXTON.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Buxton.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my annual report for the year 1940.

This report has been drastically curtailed for reason of economy, many statistical details and other matters usually appearing in my reports being deleted.

Messrs. H. Pearson, the Second Sanitary Inspector, and L. R. Knowles, Senior Clerk, were called up for military service in June and September respectively, and the vacant posts were not filled by temporary appointments. This depletion of staff together with "war" conditions and the addition of emergency duties resulted, in comparison with 1939, in further curtailment of the routine of the Department.

I have pleasure in recording that Mr. L. R. Knowles, before joining H.M. Forces, passed the qualifying examination of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspector Examination Joint Board for Sanitary Inspectors, in July.

Mr. H. W. Mycock was admitted to the department as Pupil Sanitary Inspector in April.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE, REMOVAL OF PATIENTS TO
HOSPITAL, DISINFECTIONS, Etc.

The following table gives the number of patients suffering from notifiable, and other infectious diseases, that were removed to the Borough Isolation Hospital during the year:—

				Buxton Borough	Other Authorities
Diphtheria	...	...	...	86	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	25	—
Paratyphoid	...	...	...	1	—
Observation Case : Diphtheria	...	...	...	3	3
				—	—
			Totals	115	3
				—	—

The remaining cases notified were treated at home, and kept under observation by your officers.

The number of rooms disinfected during the year are given in the table below, the causes for such disinfections being indicated :—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	117
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	138
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Verminous premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Other diseases and causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Total							300

221 different premises are concerned in the above total.

Other details in connection with disinfections are as follows :—

Corporation non-infectious ambulance (motor) disinfected times	52
Library books destroyed	19
Library books disinfected	96
Number of articles of bedding, etc., disinfected in the rooms given in the above table	14,541
Number of articles disinfected at the disinfecting station	8,176
Number of visits paid to premises in connection with infectious disease and disinfections	403

The disinfecting station is situated in the grounds of the isolation hospital, the machine being of the "Washington Lyons" type, operated by a steam supply from the refuse destructor.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

The principal details of the year's working at this institution are given below :—

Total number of patients treated :—

Admitted during the year, 1940.....	118
Carried over from the year, 1939.....	13
	— 131

Total number of days' maintenance :—	
Patient days	5,393
Staff days	1,705
	— 7,098
Average number of patients per day treated 14.69	
Average length of detention per patient 5 weeks, 6.15 days	
Average cost per day for maintenance (Provisions only exclusive of preparation) 1s. 4.7d.	

ASHPITS—DUSTBINS.

Provision of regulation covered galvanised iron dustbins continues to be enforced under Section 78, Buxton Corporation Act 1927.

Of the comparatively few ashpits in existence, the residue of the considerable number in the "added area" at the date of the Borough extension in 1934 the majority are located outside the "cleansing area."

The following particulars show the number of ashpits and dustbins in use at 31st December, 1940, and the number of new bins provided during the year.

Number of Ashpits	18
Number of houses provided with dustbins or other portable receptacles	4,687
New standard galvanised iron dustbins provided	229
Ashpits abolished and standard dustbins provided	0
Percentage of houses with defective dustbins or unsuit- able portable receptacles	1.5%

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Suspension of the Sewerage Extension Scheme for Harpur Hill area, due to "war-time" restrictions has compelled, for the time being, retention of "cesspool" drainage for a considerable number of houses.

Details of drain tests made, and of reconstructual repairwork carried out during 1940 are given in the following table.

Primary smoke tests applied to old drains	2
Primary chemical tests applied to old drains	3
Water tests applied to new drains	2
Smoke tests applied to repaired drains	4
Coloured water tests for tracing leaks and connections ...	56
Sewers renewed (Sec. 24, P.H.A., 1936)	3

House drains reconstructed	1
House drains repaired	4
New inspection chambers constructed	2
Obsolete traps replaced by stoneware trapped gullies ...	2
Gully settings and surrounds repaired	6
New soil pipes and vent shafts constructed	2
Old soil pipes and vent shafts repaired	15

The suspension of the Harpur Hill sewerage extension scheme compelled also the retention in use of a substantial number of privies and pail closets.

A summary of the closet accommodation at dwelling house on 31st December, 1940, is given below.

Number of houses provided with water closets	4,459
Number of houses provided with privies	31
Number of houses provided with pail closets	220
Number of houses provided with trough closets	8

Conversions and other work effected during 1940 are as hereunder.

Number of privies converted to water closets	0
Number of privies converted to pail closets	0
Number of pail closets converted to water closets	1
New galvanised iron receptacles provided for pail closets	2
Additional water closets provided	3

HOUSING.

Housing inspection and associated work was drastically curtailed by war conditions, and as no formal action under the Housing Act 1936 was taken, the detailed statement usually included in this part of my annual report is omitted.

Regulations in respect of "underground rooms" were adopted and confirmed in 1939.

Work done under the Housing and Public Health Acts during the year 1940 is summarised below:—

(a) HOUSING ACT 1936.

Number of houses inspected under Housing Act ...	34
--	----

(b) PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Number of houses inspected for defects under Public Health Acts	1,019
Number of houses at which defects were found and dealt with under the Public Health Acts	761

Number of houses at which defects were remedied :—

(1) By owners after notice under the Public Health Acts	658
(2) By the Corporation :—	
(i) In default of owners	74
(ii) By agreement with owners following informal action	7
	—
	81
	<hr/>
	739
	<hr/>

FOOD INSPECTION, ETC.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

The work of meat inspection, together with the administration of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations and the Corporation's Byelaws with respect to Slaughterhouses, is carried out by the Meat Inspector, Mr. R. S. Howe, M.R.C.V.S. During his absence from duty on holiday or from other causes, the work is carried on by your Sanitary Inspector. Your Sanitary Inspector is responsible for the inspection and examination of food, other than meat.

The inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector and his staff in connection with Slaughterhouse and Food Inspection are set out below.

Visits to Slaughterhouses	272
Inspection of Butchers', Fishmongers', etc., Shops and Market Stalls	497

UN SOUND FOOD SURRENDERED :—

(1) MEAT :—

Tuberculosis Localised :

Pigs.....	144 lbs.
-----------	----------

(2) OTHER FOODS :—

Bacon	171 lbs.
Canned Boneless Ham	17 "
Fillets of Fish	28 "
Cabbage	40 "
Tomatoes	12 "
Plums	168 "
Meat Pies—30	27 "
Jellied Squares	144 Articles
Canned Herrings	27 "
„ Salmon	6 "
„ Sardines	20 "
„ Fruits—various	450 "
„ Vegetables	37 "

COWSHEDS AND DAIRIES.

The milk supply of Buxton is derived from 46 sources ; and of these, 37 per cent. are farms situated outside the Borough.

The table below provides an analysis of the supplies :—

Producer/retailers : within the Borough	23
Producer/wholesalers : within the Borough.....	6
Producer/retailers : from without the Borough	10
Producer/wholesalers : from without the Borough	7
	—
Total	46
	—

Three producers within the Borough supply milk wholesale to dairies in Manchester, and/or a Co-operative Society for pasteurisation.

During the year a number of structural defects were remedied and other improvements effected, details of these being included in the concluding table appended to this section.

In the following table details are given respecting the persons and premises registered and the inspections made during the year :—

Number of Persons or Firms registered as Cowkeepers, Dairy-men or Purveyors :—

From within the Borough	66
From without the Borough	10
	—
Total	76
	—

Number of Dairy Premises registered :—

(a) Cowsheds	31
(b) Dairies	24
(c) Retail Milk Shops	29

Inspections of Dairies:—

(a) Cowsheds	66
(b) Dairies	40
(c) Milk Shops	31
	—
Total	137
	—

Contraventions of Order: Nuisances found and dealt with,
Improvements, etc., effected:—

Drainage provided	1
Default in limewashing during prescribed months	2
Milking stools cleansed	2
New dairy constructed	1
Milk cooler installed	1
Cowshed floors partially re-paved	4
Cowshed drains unstopped	1
Cowshed floor cleansed	1

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF MILK.

The routine service of milk sampling for purposes of bacteriological examination suffered drastic curtailment in consequence of depletion of staff and the addition of "war-time" duties. As in other sections of this report, some tabular statements have been reduced in detail, and others deleted.

Methylene Blue Reduction tests, tests for *Bacillus Coli*, and Bacterial "Plate Counts" of samples, whether "Designated" or "Non-designated" milk were carried out at the Devonshire Royal Hospital Bacteriological Laboratory, Buxton. Guinea pig inoculation tests for Tubercle Bacilli were carried out at the Derby County Public Health Laboratory, Derby.

In the case of milk which failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue Reduction test, and/or showed presence of *Bacillus Coli*, or showed an excess of organisms on "Plate Count" examination, cautionary letters were sent to the producer, and followed up by prompt re-sampling of the milk. If the farm was situated outside the Borough, the matter was referred to the Health Officer for that district for investigation.

Milk showing presence of Tubercle Bacilli were referred to the County Medical Officer of Health for action under Section 25, Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Particulars as to the samples obtained and results of examination are set out in the following tables:—

(1) **Samples Taken—Description and Purpose:—**

(a) **For "Count": *B. Coli*: Methylene Blue Tests.**

	Number of samples
(i) Primary Routine Samples	56
(ii) Repeat Samples (unsatisfactory milks)	15

(b) **Guinea Pig Inoculation Tests (Tubercle Bacilli).**

Routine Samples	54
Total	125

(2) **Bacterial Plate Counts :—**

Designation.	No. of Samples	Bacterial Content per ml.	Standard limit of bacterial content for "Pasteurised" Milk.
" Pasteurised "	3	1,000 6,500 30,500	100,000 per ml.

(3) **Methylene Blue Reduction Tests :—**

(i) Primary Routine Samples.

Designation or otherwise.	Satisfied Test.	Failed Test.	Totals
"Tuberculin Tested" Milk	—	1	1
"Accredited" Milk	16	6	22
"Pasteurised" Milk	1	2	3
Non-designated Milk ...	29	—	29
Totals	46	9	55

(ii) Repeat Samples (unsatisfactory milks).

Designation or otherwise.	Satisfied Test	Failed Test.	Totals.
"Tuberculin" Tested Milk	2	2	4
"Accredited" Milk	8	2	10
"Pasteurised" Milk	1	—	1
Totals	11	4	15

(4) **Bacillus Coli Tests :—**

(i) Primary Routine Samples.

Designation or otherwise.	Negative.	Positive.	Totals.
"Tuberculin Tested" Milk	1	—	1
"Accredited" Milk	22	—	22
"Pasteurised" Milk	1	3	4
Non-designated Milk ...	27	2	29
Totals	51	5	56

(ii) Repeat Samples (unsatisfactory milks).

Designation or otherwise.	Negative.	Positive.	Totals.
"Tuberculin Tested" Milk	1	3	4
"Accredited" Milk	10	—	10
"Pasteurised" Milk	1	—	1
	—	—	—
Totals	12	3	15

(5) Tests for Tubercle Bacilli (Inoculation) :—

Designation or otherwise	Neg.	Pos. (Guinea Pig died).	Failure	Totals
"Tuberculin Tested" Milk...	1	—	—	1
"Accredited" Milk	20	1	—	21
"Pasteurised" Milk	2	—	—	2
Non-designated Milk	28	1	1	30
	—	—	—	—
Totals	51	2	1	54

Special Samples :—

Four samples were taken from the milk produced at, and supplied to one dairy, in connection with an investigation as to the possibility of scarlet fever being "milk borne"; 19 persons consuming milk delivered from the dairy having been notified as scarlet fever patients.

The results of examination were :—

Number of Samples.	Hæmolytic Streptococci.	
	Positive.	Negative.
4	2	2

WATER SUPPLY—SAMPLING.

Samples from the town's three principal reservoir supply areas, viz. :—Stanley Moor, Lightwood and Burbage, were taken each month for analysis by the Bio-chemist, Mr. J. Race, at the Laboratory, Devonshire Royal Hospital. The number of samples was :—

For chemical examination	36
For bacteriological examination	36
	—
	72
	—

Reference to this service is also made in the Medical Officer of Health's report.

FACTORIES.

There are 141 Factories on the Register including 19 Bakehouses. Apart from baking, the trades concerned are mainly :—Boot Repairing, Cabinet-making, Dressmaking, Joinery, Laundry Work, Millinery, Motor Repairing, Printing, and Tailoring.

No lists concerning outworkers were received during the year from employers.

The table below furnishes details of the work done during the year in connection with Factories and Workshops :—

Number of Inspections made	89
Number of notices received from H.M. Inspector of Factories	0

Number of defects found and dealt with :—

	Factories.			
	With Mechanical Power.	Without Mechanical Power.	Bakehouses.	Total.
(a) Defects found	18	4	10	32
(b) Defects remedied ...	11	5	5	21

Classification of above defects :—

	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness	8	4
Want of drainage of floors	1	0
Sanitary Accommodation :—		
Not separate for sexes.....	3	0
Other Offences under Factories Act	20	17
	—	—
Totals	32	21
	—	—

SHOP ACTS.

The Corporation is the Local Authority for the administration of the above Acts within the Borough, and your Inspectors have been appointed Inspectors under the Act of 1912.

The work done during the year in connection with administration of the Acts is summarised below :—

Number of shops entered in Register	457
Number of inspections of shops made during 1940.....	279

Sanitary conveniences provided	1
Washing facilities provided.....	1
Number of notices and/or cautions issued in respect of contravention of Acts	25
Prosecutions	Nil.

Sundry trades or businesses, in addition to those enumerated in the Second Schedule of the Act of 1912, have, by an Order of the Corporation dated 1925, been exempted from the provisions of Section 4 (1) in respect of the obligation to close on the weekly half-holiday.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Following the issue of Home Security Circulars Nos. 139/1940 and 211/1940, the work of smoke observation and operation of the Corporation's Byelaw was suspended.

The Byelaw imposing a limit in the emission of "black smoke" of two minutes in any period of thirty minutes was adopted and confirmed in 1939.

THEATRES, MUSIC HALLS, Etc.

There are four places of amusement in the Borough, viz. : The Opera House, The Pavilion Gardens, The Spa Cinema, and The Playhouse.

All the establishments are well managed, and have, during recent years, been modernized.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

One statutory offensive trade only—that of a tripe boiler—is established in the Borough.

The business is carried on in a building in connection with the Corporation's slaughterhouses in Charles Street.

14 inspections of the premises were made, and on every occasion they were found scrupulously clean.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.

The Corporation is the Local Authority for the purposes of the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, having accepted the delegation of powers offered by the County Council.

During the year, a considerable amount of time was devoted by your Sanitary Inspector and the sanitary workmen to rats destruction. The methods of extermination principally used were, the laying of poison baits, "rat-lime" trays, "blocking," and gassing.

For a number of years now it has been the practice to supply poison baits and "rat-lime" trays to occupiers of premises infested by rats or mice, free, on application at the Public Health Office.

The principal details of the work done in connection with rats and mice destruction during the year are given below :—

Number of visits paid to infested premises	1,316	
Number of poison baits supplied to the public	7,946	
Number of "Rat-lime" trays or traps issued	51	
Number of rats and mice killed :—		
	Rats.	Mice.
(1) As a result of the issue of poison baits by the Health Department	880	464
(2) As a result of the issue by the Health Department of "Rat-lime" trays	40	67
(3) As a result of "Blocking" and/or "Gassing" operations (mainly at the Refuse Destructor)	125	—
Totals	1,045	531

INSPECTIONS, NOTICES SERVED, NUISANCES ABATED, ETC.

Particulars as to the classification and number of inspections made, notices served and other action taken, and the number and nature of the nuisances abated and sanitary improvements effected as a result of such action, are set out in Appendices I, II and III.

In concluding this report, I desire to express my thanks for the support I have received from the Council, and from the members of the Health Committee ; also for the ready help, kindness and courtesy that I have received from my brother Officers.

Further, I would express my thanks to the Public Health Department Staff for their loyal service.

I have the honour to be, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

WM. OWEN COATES,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

APPENDIX I.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE.

Infectious Disease.—Investigations and Disinfections	...	...	403
Houses Inspected under Housing Acts	...	...	34
Houses inspected for defects under Public Health Acts:—			
On Complaint	...	...	52
Routine Inspections	...	...	967
		—	1,019
Complaints (General) investigated	...	...	63
General Inspections	...	...	632
Inspections of Cowsheds	...	...	66
„ „ Dairies	...	...	40
„ „ Milkshops	...	...	31
„ „ Ice Cream Shops	...	...	1
„ „ Factories	...	...	32
„ „ Workshops	...	...	26
„ „ Bakehouses	...	...	31
„ „ Laundries	...	...	1
„ „ Slaughterhouses	...	...	56
„ „ Butchers', Fishmongers', etc., Shops and Market Stalls			497
„ „ Food Preparation Premises	...	...	45
„ „ Fried Fish Shops	...	...	3
„ „ Offensive Trades	...	...	14
„ „ Stables	...	...	4
„ „ Drainage work in progress	...	...	58
„ „ Theatres and places of Amusement	...	...	3
„ „ Schools	...	...	23
Smoke observations	...	...	1
Shop Acts—Visits and Inspections	...	...	279
Sundry visits	...	...	268
Re-inspections	...	...	2,499
		Total	6,129

APPENDIX II.

NOTICES, &c.

Informal Notices served :—

Verbal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	80
Letters	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Written Notice	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Total									126

Statutory Notices served :—

(a) Public Health Act, 1936.

Section 24—Unstop Sewers	...	...	...	...	51
Section 24—Relay Sewers	...	...	...	...	2

Buxton Corporation Act, 1927.

Section 56—Repair Drain ...	...	...	...	...	2
Section 78—Defective Dustbins	...	...	...	...	104

Total ... 159

APPENDIX III.

NUISANCES ABATED AND SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

Houses—Structure repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	43
„ Dampness remedied	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Window frames and/or sashes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	16
„ Sash cords renewed	...	...	...	...	...	8
„ Cooking ranges renewed, repaired, or replaced	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ Water fittings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ Water supply provided, restored, or improved	...	...	...	...	...	7
Houses and premises cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Eaves, gutters, and rain water pipes repaired	...	...	...	...	...	459
Drains—Reconstructed	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ Unstopped and cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	129
„ Obsolete traps replaced by stoneware trapped gullies	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Gullies and gully settings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ New inspection chambers constructed	...	...	...	...	...	2
Soil pipes and vents—New soil pipes constructed	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ Old repaired	...	...	...	...	...	15
Pail closets—Converted to water closets	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ New pails provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Water closets—Structure reconstructed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ Obsolete closets replaced by approved pedestals	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ „ Fittings repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	6
„ „ New flushing cisterns provided	...	...	...	...	...	5
„ „ Additional provided	...	...	...	...	...	3
Sinks—New sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Waste pipes—New waste pipes provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	3
„ „ Trapped	...	...	...	...	...	1
Portable galvanised bins provided	...	...	...	...	...	229
Yards Unpaved yards paved	...	...	...	...	...	16
„ Defective pavings relaid	...	...	...	...	...	89
„ Additional area paving provided	...	...	...	...	...	2
Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	11
Improper keeping of animals discontinued	...	...	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	...	...	...	...	...	18
Total						1,185

