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BOROUGH OF BUXTON



Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Senior Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1950.

Public Health Officers of the Authority

Medical Officer of Health :

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

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

A. H. CORNHILL, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., M.R.I.P.H. & H.
(Cert. Inspector of Meat and Other Foods).

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

H. MADDOCK, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Senior Clerk :

Miss V. M. HAMBLETON.

Junior Clerk :

Miss J. V. YATES.

Pupil Sanitary Inspector :

D. W. M. MORTEN.

Meat Inspector :

CHARLES E. HALL, M.R.C.V.S.

BOROUGH OF BUXTON.



CONTENTS:


I. Medical Officer's Report for 1950.

- A. Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.
- B. General Provision of Health Services for the Area.
- C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.
- D. Housing.
- E. Inspection and Supervision of Food.
- F. Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and Other Diseases.

Appendix A.—Meat Inspector's Report.

Appendix B—Meteorological Report.

II. Report of Senior Sanitary Inspector for 1950.



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BOROUGH OF BUXTON

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health.

For the Year 1950

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 the year, 1950.

The contents of the report have been compiled in a manner to comply with the suggestions made by the Ministry of Health, and the vital statistics are based on the information supplied by the Registrar General.

The Registrar General's estimate of the civilian population for 1950 is 19,200.

The Birth Rate for 1950 was 15.1, against 16.7 for 1949. The Death Rate for 1950 was 13.07, against 13.04 for 1949. The Infant Death Rate decreased to 10.3, compared with 50.6 for 1949.

Infectious Disease: The two infectious diseases of note were Scarlet Fever with 47 cases and Whooping Cough (38 cases), and for the previous year the numbers notified were 22 and 63 respectively. There were no cases of Diphtheria.

Cases of infectious diseases are now treated by the Regional Hospital Board and the patients are transferred either to the High Peak Hospital, at Chinley, or to the hospital at Stockport.

The two diseases accounting for the largest number of deaths were Malignant Neoplasm and Heart Disease or Disturbances of the Circulatory System.

The former contributed 45 of the total number and the latter 100 (17.9% and 39.8%).

It is with a degree of satisfaction that I can say no cases of Acute Poliomyelitis were reported.

There are two matters to which I should like to refer ; and both reflect great credit on the enthusiasm and zeal of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Cornhill. The first is the unfailing efforts to secure hygiene and cleanliness in those premises which prepare food. It requires constant supervision and endless tact to enable the work to be carried out with the loyal co-operation of the food caterer.

There is, secondly, the continuous battle to control and eliminate the menace of rodents. Rats have been ruthlessly attacked and I am glad to report that few, if any, places remain with any real rat infestation. It entails much patient work.

I must devote a few words to the removal of household refuse. There are, perhaps, many complaints made about the irregular or infrequent emptying of the dustbins, but the difficulties encountered by the Sanitary Staff are many and great. Without the loyal support and ready willingness of the men to cope with the removal of the refuse, it is well nigh impossible to maintain that regular collection which is duly planned.

I should like, in conclusion, to express my thanks to the various members of the Health Staff for their continued loyalty and willing help, and for the courteous manner in which they carry out their daily work.

I beg to remain,

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.

Area of the Borough : 6,337 acres.

Civilian Population : 19,200.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

		M.	F.
Live Births—Legitimate	281	137	144
Illegitimate	9	4	5
Total	290	141	149
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population	15.1		
Stillbirths—Legitimate	6	M. 4	F. 2
Illegitimate	1	1	0
Total	7	5	2
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births	23.5%		
Deaths.....	251	M. 119	F. 132
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated civilian population	13.07		
Deaths from puerperal causes :—		Rate per 1,000 total	
Puerperal sepsis	Deaths 0	(live and still) births 0.00	
Other puerperal causes	0	0.00	
Total	0	0.00	
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—			
All infants per 1,000 live births			10.3
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			10.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			00.0
Deaths from Malignant Neoplasm (all ages)			45
Deaths from Measles (all ages)			0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)			0

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

EPIDEMIC DISEASES.

No deaths from Influenza occurred.

TUBERCULOSIS OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM.

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

MALIGNANT NEOPLASM.

45 deaths occurred, giving a death-rate of 2.34 per 1,000.

RESPIRATORY DISEASES.

19 deaths occurred, giving a death-rate of 0.98 per 1,000.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN BOROUGH OF BUXTON
DURING YEAR 1950.

Causes of Death.				Males.	Females.
All Causes	...	...	...	119	132
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	1	2
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	-	1
3.	Syphilitic Disease	...	...	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	-	-
6.	Meningococcal Infections	...	...	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	-	-
8.	Measles	...	...	-	-
9.	Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	...	...	-	-
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	...	...	6	1
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	5	-
12.	Malignant Neoplasm, breast	...	...	-	4
13.	Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	...	...	-	2
14.	Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	...	14	13
15.	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...	1	2
16.	Diabetes	...	...	-	1
17.	Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	...	13	22
18.	Coronary Disease, Angina	...	...	19	13
19.	Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	8	3
20.	Other Heart Disease	...	...	12	35
21.	Other Circulatory Disease	...	...	3	7
22.	Influenza	...	...	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	2	-
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	7	6
25.	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	...	2	2
26.	Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	2	-
27.	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	1	1
28.	Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	-	2
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	2	-
30.	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	...	...	-	-
31.	Congenital Malformations	...	...	2	1
32.	Other defined and ill-defined Diseases	...	...	7	12
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	2	-
34.	All Other Accidents	...	...	6	1
35.	Suicide	...	...	4	1
36.	Homicide and Operations of War	...	...	-	-
Deaths of Infants under 1 year				2	1
{ Total				2	1
{ Legitimate				-	-
{ Illegitimate					
Live Births				141	149
{ Total				137	144
{ Legitimate				4	5
{ Illegitimate					
Stillbirths				5	2
{ Total				4	2
{ Legitimate				1	-
{ Illegitimate					

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:** This service is run by the County Council.

(c) **NURSING IN THE HOME:** This service is administered by the County Council.

(d) **CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES:—**

Name and Situation.	Clinic held.	By whom provided.
Maternity & Child Welfare, Bridge Street.	Mon., 1-30—4. Wed., 1-30—4. 1st and 3rd Tues. in each month.	Derbys. County C'ncl.
Ante-Natal Clinic, Bridge St.	1-30—3-30.	" "
School Clinic, Bridge Street.	Tues., 10—11.	" "
Eye Clinic.	1st, 3rd & 4th Monday in each month.	" "
Orthopædic Clinic, Bridge St.	4th Thursday in each month	Regional Hosp. Board
Tuberculosis Dispensary, Throstle Grove House, Great Egerton Street, Stockport.	Mon., 2—4.	" " "
Veneral Disease Clinic, Stockport.		" " "

(e) **HOSPITALS:** Administered by the Regional Hospital Board.

Section C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY: The Borough is almost entirely covered by a piped supply, the sufficiency of which has caused on several occasions, during dry periods, some apprehension. The provision of further supplies has frequently been discussed and in the earlier part of this year work was commenced on a new Bore Hole on Stanley Moor—at some little distance from the existing reservoir. A further scheme had the object of constructing a small reservoir on Corbar hillside, to serve as a Balancing Reservoir, holding a million gallons, for supplying that part of Buxton to the North and East, mainly Fairfield, but the work had not commenced by the end of the year.

The water supplies of the Borough are mainly upland surface water. The supplies are tested chemically and bacteriologically at least once a month and daily examinations are conducted for the pH. A Chlorinating Plant is installed at each reservoir.

Section D.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Year ended 31st December, 1950.

Number of New Houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	49
(b) As part of a Municipal Housing Scheme	46
(c) Private Enterprise	3
(d) Existing Houses converted into Flats (4)	9
(e) New Flats	—

Section E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(A) MILK SUPPLY.

Milk production is now controlled by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and the local authority is concerned only with milk distribution. For many years this local authority has religiously exercised all the powers at its command to safeguard the milk supplies to the town, whether they be designated raw milk, pasteurised milk, or untreated non-designated milk. The Ministry, with added powers which the local authorities never had, find that their limited staffs can only cope with designated milk supplies. The production of raw undesignated milk which carries the greatest risk to public health receives practically no attention from the Ministry. Therefore our milk sampling has been re-organised and increased and we are now concentrating more on the undesignated milk supplies as we are chiefly concerned with the safeguarding of the public health and not with the commercial aspect of any particular type of milk production.

Full details of our milk supplies, sampling methods and a summary of the results of examination will be found in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's Report.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS
1949 AND 1950.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND
STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949 AND 1950.

Particulars of Licences granted for the sale of milk under the above Regulations are set out below:—

Dealers in Tuberculin Tested Milk	3
Dealers in "Accredited" Milk	1
Dealers in "Pasteurised" Milk (Supplementary Licence)	1
Dealers in "Sterilised" Milk (Supplementary Licence)	1

(B) MEAT.

(1) Meat Inspection.—See Meat Inspector's Report (Appendix A).

(2) Administration of Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, as regards stalls, shops, stores and vehicles. Inspected by the Sanitary Inspector.

(3) Slaughterhouses.

Privately owned slaughterhouses. None in use, owing to wartime legislation.

Meat for the Borough is distributed from a Government controlled slaughterhouse in an adjoining authority.

Section F.

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

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

Immunisation against Diphtheria is the responsibility of the County Council and is carried out in the Clinic at Bridge Street. Medical Practitioners were invited by the County to take part in immunisation

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES FOR YEAR 1950.

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified (all ages)	Adm't'd to Hospital	Total Deaths	Analysis of Total Notified Cases in age groups.																			
				0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-60	60 and over	Unknown							
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Malaria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Smallpox... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	47	33	—	—	2	—	5	3	31	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	12	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C.S. Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	13	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	38	—	—	—	3	5	5	5	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Observation Cases :— Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER TUBERCULOSIS.

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

Number of cases notified during the year	11
Pulmonary	9
Non-pulmonary	2

There were three deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system, and one 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) Sanatorium treatment administered by the Regional Hospital Board.
- (b) The Tuberculosis Dispensary at Throstle Grove House, Great Egerton Street, Stockport.

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1950.

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

APPENDIX A.

REPORT OF THE MEAT INSPECTOR.

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

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present the report on Meat Inspection for the Borough of Buxton from the 1st January, to the 31st December, 1950.

The Ministry of Food continues to control the marketing and slaughtering of all livestock and allocates them to specified slaughter-houses which serve large areas.

All meat consumed in Buxton comes from the New Mills depot.

This report deals only with home-killed meat—the frozen meat being inspected at the ports.

All home-killed meat, after examination, is stamped and can be identified as having been inspected.

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

Your obedient Servant,

C. E. HALL, M.R.C.V.S.,

Meat Inspector.

Details of Slaughterhouse and Meat Inspections are set out in the following tables:—

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Inspected	521	783	1,271	4,171	22
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS—					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	6	22	17	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	124	306	1	295	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	23.99	39.28	1.81	7.07	22.72
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY—					
Whole carcasses condemned	15	60	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	130	310	—	—	5
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	27.83	47.25	—	—	22.72

Visits to Slaughterhouse 186

DISEASED OR UNSOUND MEAT SURRENDERED AND DESTROYED:—

(1) TUBERCULOSIS:

(a) Generalised. Whole carcasses destroyed:—

Oxen 75
Pigs 0

(b) Localised. Portions of carcasses and organs:—

lbs.
Oxen 440
Pigs 140

(2) FLUKY LIVERS (Distomatosis):

Oxen 558
Sheep 295

(3) Miscellaneous Lesions, Cysts, Abscesses, bruised flesh, etc.

791

APPENDIX B.

BOROUGH OF BUXTON.

Meteorological Station,
Buxton.

To The Mayor, Corporation and Citizens of Buxton.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting the annual report for the year, 1950. No outstanding figures were recorded.

During eleven months the prevailing wind was from N.W.—S.W. : only in May did a north easterly wind prevail. In spite of the westerly air stream, the temperature was slightly below normal during eight months, the honourable exceptions being January, February, March and June. The maximum temperature reached during the year was 84 deg. F. on June 6th, while exactly six months later, on December 6th, the temperature reached the lowest for the year, 15 deg. F.

Less than the average rainfall fell during seven months : in May the total fall was 40 mm., just half the average for the month. The total fall for the year was 1,284 mm., 108.25% of the average. The wettest day was February 9th, when a 41.0 mm. were recorded.

The brightest month was June, with sunshine recorded every day, a total of 211.2 hours for the month, and the sunniest day of the year was on June 11th, with uninterrupted bright sunshine for 14.0 hours. January was at the bottom of the class, when we could only muster 11.0 hours during the whole month. During the year we recorded 1,145.1 hours of bright sunshine on 281 days, an average of 3.13 hours a day throughout the year. This is slightly below the average, but there were many hours of genial sunshine, tempered by a slight haze, which prevented any recording on the card.

I should like to thank my deputy, Mr. Morgan, for his willing help whenever requested.

During the summer there were frequent visits by scholars from the local schools, to the Slopes enclosure, for talks and demonstrations.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. W. PILKINGTON,
Borough Meteorologist.

BOROUGH OF BUXTON

Annual Report

OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

For the Year 1950.

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 submit my Annual Report for the year, 1950. As an economy measure, the Report has again been compiled as briefly as possible.

Housing is still a very vexed problem. Apart from the shortage of houses, the inability of landlords to maintain existing property in a proper state of repair due to the increasing costs of labour and materials with no corresponding increase in rents, is adding to the already considerable housing difficulties which face local authorities.

An instance may be cited where a row of 20 cottages had outworn their useful life and needed a large sum of money spending on them to make them reasonably habitable. To deal with them under the Housing Act would have meant condemning them right away as being incapable of being rendered in all respects fit for human habitation at a reasonable cost. This would also have entailed the earmarking of 20 Corporation houses out of an annual allocation of 40 for re-housing purposes when there were already about 800 families on the Housing list waiting for Corporation houses. The landlord who had not long purchased the property was also concerned about losing it before he had seen any return on his capital outlay. An agreement was reached whereby the owner undertook to carry out those repairs which were absolutely essential to make the houses reasonably comfortable for a few years. This appeared to solve the problem temporarily for the local authority, the landlord and the tenants, many of whom were reluctant to leave the houses in which they had lived at low rentals for many years.

Unfortunately, the owner did not keep to his part of the bargain and the local authority decided to serve Abatement Notices under the Public Health Act, 1936, as the only course open to them. The owner did not comply with the notices and legal action taken was to enforce compliance. The Court of summary jurisdiction made an order requiring the owner to comply with the notices, but an appeal was made to Quarter Sessions. Here it was implied by the Court that the cost of repairs would be unreasonable and furthermore it was wrong for a local authority to attempt to utilise the provisions of the Public Health Act when a Housing Act existed for such cases whatever the consequences might be. The local authority were advised by Ministry of Health Officials against accepting the property as a gift and it was agreed that the houses should be dealt with as a clearance area.

No one is sorry to see the end of worn-out sub-standard houses and local authorities should be prepared to make provision for displaced persons on their lists of applicants for Council houses. At the same time legislation should be devised to prevent premature decay and abandonment of property where it is at all practicable to extend its life in these days of acute housing shortage.

Our contribution towards cleaner and safer food has included the adoption of Byelaws with respect to the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and Sale of Food in the Open Air, the provision of free washing facilities including lavatory basins, hot and cold water, liquid soap and paper towels, at the public conveniences on the Market Square, and the securing of the replacement of an unsuitable type of meat delivery van by a modern hygienic one.

The weekly collection of house refuse is difficult to maintain owing to labour shortage, but we have every reason to believe that our service compares very favourably with that of the majority of local authorities in the country. The delivery of a new S & D side loading freighter has been of considerable help. The lack of suitable cover material, the shortage of labour, bad weather conditions and the absence of ideal tipping sites within reasonable distance, make the disposal of refuse a difficult problem in this area.

At the beginning of the year the collection of salvage became an uneconomic proposition and it was discontinued, but with an improvement in the prices for salvage towards the end of the year a new electric baling press was purchased and this service was resumed.

Once more we have completed a year with no changes in the staff and I again record my appreciation of the help I have received from each of my colleagues. I also thank the members of the Council and officials in other departments for their interest and co-operation.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. H. CORNHILL,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND DISINFECTION.

When the infectious diseases hospital with its ambulance and disinfecting apparatus were under the direct control of the local authority infected rooms, bedding and clothing were dealt with expeditiously, and if there were any virtue in disinfection, advantage was taken of it. Modern medical science does not recognise the need for disinfection (except after smallpox) which is just as well, for with the disintegration of the Health Services a medical practitioner now arranges for his cases to be transferred to a Regional Hospital Board Institution in a County Council ambulance and if neither the doctor, the ambulance driver, nor the hospital authorities notify the department, then it may be several days before knowledge of the case filters in through unofficial channels. Disinfection then becomes a farce anyway, but this loss of control by the local authority is a serious matter when it is realised how easy it is for contacts to continue at school, working in food preparing premises or at dairies before the Medical Officer of Health becomes aware of the fact.

For the time being disinfection is being carried out in this area details of which are as follows:—

Number of rooms disinfected	66
Number of articles of clothing, bedding, etc., disinfected at the disinfecting station	443
Library books destroyed	0
Library books disinfected	26
Number of visits paid by Sanitary Inspectors to premises in connection with infectious disease and disinfections	61

The disinfecting station is situated in the grounds of the Ashwood Dale Hospital, the machine being of the "Washington Lyons" type.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Connections of drains to the new sewers in the Harpur Hill area are proceeding as quickly as circumstances permit and will be carried out in conjunction with a scheme for converting pail closets during the next three years.

No. of Houses in the Borough connected to sewers ...	4,646
No. of Houses not connected to sewers	242
No. of connections made during the year:—	
(a) Existing houses	2
(b) New houses	49
(c) Other premises	1
No. of conversions of pail closets to W.C's	2

Further details of tests applied and work carried out in connection with sewers and drains during the year are given in Appendix III.

HOUSING.

In addition to the 20 houses, referred to in my introduction to this Report, which were scheduled as a Clearance Area, Closing Orders were made on basement rooms at the following addresses:—

- 11, 15 and 16, Bath Road.
- 1c, Parkhurst, Park Road.

The following is a summary of work done under the Housing and Public Health Acts during the year:—

(a) HOUSING ACT, 1936.

Number of houses inspected under the Housing Act	33
Number of unfit houses closed and undertakings not to re-let for human habitation accepted ...	0
Number of Closing Orders made on parts of buildings unfit for human habitation	4

(b) PUBLIC HEALTH ACT.

Number of houses inspected for defects under Public Health Act	502
Number of houses at which defects were remedied :	
(1) By owners after informal notice	83
(2) By the Corporation:—	
(i) In default of owners	0
(ii) By agreement with owners following informal action	70

FOOD INSPECTION, Etc.

Food inspection by the Sanitary Inspectors was mainly confined to food other than meat. Inspection of meat at time of slaughtering was wholly performed by the Veterinary Surgeon who has been appointed Meat Inspector for this purpose.

Details of the work are set out below:—

Inspection of Shops and Market Stalls	466	
UN SOUND FOOD SURRENDERED:—	No. of	Weight
Fish: Wet	Articles	in lbs.
Tinned	—	238
Lobsters	101	—
Meat: Fresh	—	23
Tinned	—	171½
Pressed	127	—
Vegetables: Tinned	—	22
Potatoes	170	—
	—	6,160

	No. of Articles	Weight in lbs.
Fruit : Bottled	8	—
Tinned	105	—
Dried.....	32	—
Fruit Juice	8	—
Milk	133	—
Soup	25	—
Jams and Marmalade	26	—
Cheese.....	6	—
Sausage	—	6
Sugar	—	6
Bacon	—	71½
Tomatoes, Tinned	77	—
Cereals	21	1
Cake	144	30
Rabbit	3	—
Eggs	54	—
Toffee	—	4½
Salad Cream	432	—
Puddings.....	3	—
Sweet Spread	10	—
Fats	—	7
Peaches (boxes)	10	—
Dates (boxes).....	5	—
Tomato Ketchup (bottles)	2	—
Coffee Essence (bottles)	2	—

MILK AND DAIRIES.

The milk supply of Buxton is derived from 42 sources, as follows:—

Producer/retailers : within the Borough	16
Producer/wholesalers : within the Borough.....	5
Producer/retailers : from without the Borough	4
Producer/wholesalers : from without the Borough	17
	—
Total	42
	—

Several of the above-mentioned producers within the Borough sell their surplus milk wholesale to dairies in Manchester, and in addition there are a few producers who sell all their milk wholesale at Manchester.

The Food and Drugs Authority (the Derbyshire County Council) are responsible for the control of the two pasteurising establishments in the Borough, and after March the County Sanitary Inspector undertook the sampling of pasteurised milk. Hitherto, the Borough Inspectors had done this work on behalf of the County Medical Officer of Health.

No. of Registered Dairies	9
No. of Registered Milk Distributors	9
No. of Inspections made	36
No. of Visits, Milk Sampling	217

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF MILK.

Number of samples taken in 1950 was 251, as against 300 for the year 1949.

The reduction in the number of samples does not indicate any relaxation in this work. In fact sampling has now been intensified in certain directions. Formerly, two samples were taken from each purveyor, approximately once every four months. One sample was submitted to the Devonshire Royal Hospital for Methylene Blue Reduction and Bacillus Coli tests and one sample was sent to Derbyshire County Public Health Laboratory for biological test for Tubercle Bacilli.

The Bacillus Coli test has ceased to be officially recognised and the County Laboratory now carry out both the methylene blue and biological tests, so that it is now only necessary to take one sample instead of two from the dairyman. The sampling of pasteurised milk has also been transferred to the County Sanitary Officer.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries now sample all designated milk supplies once per month for the methylene blue reduction test (keeping quality), but they do not carry out any biological tests. They do not make any tests of raw non-designated milk supplies. Following discussions with the Ministry's officials, I have now arranged to sample all designated milk supplies once every three months for biological test only, and all non-designated milk supplies once per month for both biological and methylene blue tests.

Details of samples taken and results of tests are summarized in the accompanying table.

ICE CREAM.

During the year 98 visits were made to ice cream premises and 13 additional premises were registered for the sale of ice cream.

28 samples of ice cream were submitted for the methylene blue reduction test and were graded as follows:—

Provisional Grade 1.....	9
" " 2.....	12
" " 3.....	4
" " 4.....	3
	—
	28
	—

The Food and Drugs Authority (Derbyshire County Council) analysed 6 samples and all were found to be satisfactory.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK SAMPLES.

DESIGNATION OF MILK.	DESCRIPTION AND RESULTS OF TESTS.									
	No. of Samples	TUBERCLE BACILLI (Guinea Pig Inoculation)			BACILLUS COLI (In 0.01 M/L)		METHYLENE BLUE REDUCTION TEST		PHOSPHATASE TEST	
		Negative	Positive	No Result	Absent	Present	Passed	Failed	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
PRIMARY SAMPLES :—										
Non-Designated	142	6	2	2	2	114	20	—	—	
Tuberculin Tested	39	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	
Accredited	61	2	1	5	3	10	1	—	—	
Pasteurised	9	—	—	—	—	9	—	8	1	
Total Primary Samples	251	8	3	8	5	136	21	8	1	

PASTEURISED MILK SAMPLES TAKEN BY COUNTY COUNCIL.

No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
10	10	Nil

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The Derbyshire County Council is the "Food and Drugs" Authority for the area and I am indebted to the County Analyst for the following report in respect of samples obtained within the Borough and action taken during the year, 1950.

(1) Total number of samples taken	78
(2) Milk samples included in above total	24

The Milk and Ice Cream samples were classed as satisfactory and no serious adulteration was disclosed in the examination of the other foods.

Two informal samples described as "Jelly Dessert" and "Jellset" did not comply with the Food Standards Order for Table Jellies. The marketing of sub-standard articles under descriptions which are different from those normally used is receiving consideration at the Ministry of Food and in these circumstances no proceedings were taken.

One informal sample of Golden Pudding Mixture was seriously deficient in available carbon dioxide. Enquiries disclosed that this was old stock which had deteriorated and it was withdrawn from sale.

The remaining samples were found to be genuine.

WATER SUPPLY—SAMPLING.

From January to October, 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.

Since October, when Mr. Race retired, the bacteriological examinations have been carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Stepping Hill Hospital, and the chemical examinations have been carried out by the Sewage Works Manager at the Corporation's Sewage Works laboratory.

The number of samples was :—

For chemical examination	37
For bacteriological examination	37
	—
	74
	—

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

FACTORIES.

Particulars as to registered factories and work done under the Factories Act, 1937, are given below :—

1. INSPECTIONS (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors) :

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspect'ns	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	6	—	—
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	81	41	*2	—
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	4	1	—	—
TOTAL	96	48	*2	Nil

* Informal.

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found :

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp'tr	By H.M. Insp'tr	
Want of cleanliness	1	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drain'ge of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :					
(a) insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) unsuit'ble or def'tive	2	—	—	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	—	—	—	Nil

Outwork in unwholesome premises ... Nil.

SHOP ACTS.

Work done during the year is summarised below :—

Number of shops entered in Register	428
Number of inspections of shops made during 1950.....	326

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Two smoke observations were taken during the year, but no nuisance was recorded.

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.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Particulars as to offensive trades established in the Borough and inspection of premises are given below :—

Established Trades—Tripe Boiler	1
Inspections Made	11

RODENT CONTROL.

Two full-time Rodent Operatives are employed and the work is organised in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Local Authority Circular N.S. No. 19, dated 9th February, 1948.

SEWER TREATMENT.

The total number of manholes in foul and connected systems is 977.

In February the second maintenance treatment for the year April, 1949—March, 1950 was carried out, sausage rusk and zinc phosphide being used.

Test baiting of approximately 10 per cent. of the manholes in the areas not previously affected was carried out in June. This was followed by the first maintenance treatment in July. On both these occasions bread mash and arsenic were used.

Details of the test and treatments are as follows :—

MAINTENANCE TREATMENTS :	Feb.	July
1. Number of manholes baited	221	142
2. Number of manholes showing pre-bait take	56	38
3. Number of manholes showing complete pre-bait take (on one or both days)	56	35
4. Number of manholes test-baited in conjunction with this treatment and not included in No. 1 above	Nil	11
TEST BAIT :		June
1. Number of manholes baited		21
2. Number of test bait takes		10

SURFACE TREATMENTS.

Free treatment for the destruction of rats and mice is given at private premises.

A routine search of all premises throughout the district is maintained, local authority premises are inspected at regular intervals, and complaints are attended to immediately. The following are the number of treatments carried out during the year :—

THIRD PARTY PREMISES.

(a) Private Dwellings	260
(b) Business Premises	115

LOCAL AUTHORITY PREMISES.

(a) Refuse Tips	9
(b) Other Properties	40

REFUSE AND SALVAGE.

In the main we are able to carry out a weekly collection of house and trade refuse with additional collections from hotels and restaurants as required. There are occasions when collections get into arrear owing to shortage of labour and bad weather conditions, but we get back into our stride again as quickly as possible. One S. and D. side-loading freighter has been replaced during the year by a new one of the same make. The old one has been utilised for the collection of salvage from business premises.

For most of the year salvage was discontinued as an uneconomical proposition, but was resumed towards the end of the year when the market for salvaged materials improved. A new electric baling press was purchased in order to speed up operations and it is giving very good service.

The total quantity of materials salvaged during the year is as follows :—

	T.	C.	Q.	£	s.	d.
Paper, cardboard and books	52	18	2	262	5	2
Rags, sacking and string		—		20	7	0
Bones	0	3	0	0	16	6
Total value.....				£283	8	8

APPENDIX I.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS MADE.

Infectious Disease and Infected Premises	57
Housing Acts	27
Houses—For Defects under the P.H. Acts	230
On Complaint	193
Re-inspections	759
Infectious Disease visits	83
Dairies and Milk Distributors	36
Milk sampling	217
Ice Cream Premises	98
Factories	48
Workplaces	1
Bakehouses	23
Smoke Observations	2
Food Shops and Stalls	548
Hotels and Restaurants	33
Food Preparation Premises	34
Offensive Trades	11
Stables and Manure Heaps	0
Piggeries	23
Schools	4
Theatres and Places of Amusement	6
Tents, Sheds, Vans, Etc.	3
Shop Acts—Routine	18
Evening	63
Wednesday	163
Sunday	82
Public Sanitary Conveniences	419
Miscellaneous Inspections and Visits	946
Complaints—General	61
Houses Let in Lodgings	6
Controlled Tip Inspections	198
Dustbin survey	1,603
Water sampling	64
Rodent Control	33
	6,092

APPENDIX II.

NOTICES, &c.

INFORMAL NOTICES SERVED :—

Verbal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Letters	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Written Notices	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	128
								Total	151

STATUTORY NOTICES SERVED :—

Buxton Corporation Act, 1927.

Section 56—Unstop Drain	...	...	...	...	0
Section 78—Defective Dustbins	...	...	...	...	4

Public Health Act, 1936.

Section 24—Repair Public Sewers	...	...	...	18
Section 44—Provide Water Closet	...	...	...	0
Section 47—Conversion of Pail Closet to Water Closet	...	...	...	2
Section 45—Repair Water Closet	...	...	...	1
Section 56—Paving of Paths, Etc.	...	...	...	1
Section 93—Abate Nuisance	...	...	...	2

Housing Act, 1936.

Section 12	...	...	...	...	4
Section 9	...	...	...	...	6

APPENDIX III.

NUISANCES ABATED AND SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

Unfit Houses, parts closed	4
Overcrowding abated	2
Rooms Disinfected after Infectious Disease	66
Bedding and Clothing disinfected	443
Bedding and Clothing destroyed	1
Library Books disinfected	26
Verminous Rooms disinfested	10
Verminous articles disinfested	139
Walls repaired internally	4
Ceilings repaired or renewed	4
Windows repaired or renewed	8
Floors repaired or renewed	4
Firegrates repaired or renewed	4
Food stores provided or improved	1
Sinks provided or renewed	4
Lavatory basins provided or renewed	2
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	2
Water supply improved	70
Water fittings repaired or renewed	1
Roofs repaired	3
Chimney stacks repaired	1
External walls repaired	1
Steps and sills repaired	1
Eaves gutters repaired or renewed	3
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	1
Public sewers repaired or renewed	7
Public sewers unstopped and cleansed	28
Drains repaired or renewed	10
„ unstopped and cleansed	56
„ additional provided	5
„ old drains tested	27
„ new drains tested	12
Gully traps provided or renewed	5
Inspection chambers provided or repaired	6
Cesspools abolished	1
Water closets provided in lieu of pail closets	2
„ „ repaired or renewed	5
Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed	1
Yard and passage paving provided or repaired	7
New dustbins provided	29
Accumulations or deposits removed	6
Public Conveniences—structures repaired or improved	10
„ „ fittings repaired or renewed	61
Factories—Sanitary Conveniences improved or repaired	2
Food Premises—Washing facilities provided	2
„ „ Other defects remedied	1
	1,088

