### [Report 1949] / Medical Officer of Health, Cheadle R.D.C.

### **Contributors**

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# Cheadle Rural District Council

Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer
of Health

For the Year Ending December, 31st, 1949

G. A. HOLMES, PRINTER, HIGH ST., CHEADLE, STOKE-ON-TRENT.

TEL. 3162



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### Cheadle Rural District Council.

## Report of the Medical Officer of Health

for the Year ending December 31st, 1949.

### 1. Introduction

To the Chairman and Members of the Cheadle Rural District Council Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year ending 31st December, 1949.

Coming into office as I did in November most of the year's work was undertaken by my predecessor, and it is largely from his records and with the help of your Sanitary Inspectors, Messrs. Keey and Comley, and of your Engineer and Surveyor, Mr Burton, that this report has been compiled.

The good services given to you by my predecessor, Dr. Wilson, over more than a quarter of a century are well known to you. I can only add that he made the "take over" easy.

During the year 1949 the work of the department proceeded smoothly, and the community's health would appear to have remained satisfactory.

Apart from the retirement of Dr. Wilson the year is noteworthy as being the first full year of working of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

A section of my report has been devoted to the general provision of Health Services under this Act. It is perhaps yet too early to make comment on their efficiency.

My further comment is contained in the main body of this report.

I am,
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant.

E. H. TOMLIN. September, 1950.

Council Offices,

Cheadle, Staffs.

### PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, 1949

Chairman: Mr. JOSEPH HURST.

Vice-Chairman:

Members: Mrs. R. Berry, Mrs. H. M. Gardner, Revd. F. W. Henshall, Messrs. J. H. Aberley, A. R. Appleby, W. A. Ashton, J. M. Berresford, J. Byatt, R. L. Carr, P. Clowes, J. C. Cope, J. W. Crossley, J. Finnikin, A. E. Foreman, J. R. Goodwin, S. E. Goodwin, W. H. Hewitt, J. S. Jackson, W. S. Lees, T. H. Martin, T. Mottram, J. Prince, G. H. Shaw, J. T. Slack, A. Smith, H. Snow, D. Heath.

### PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

E. H. TOMLIN, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

A. P. KEEY, M.S.I.A., Senior Sanitary Inspector, Food Inspector.

R. COMLEY, M.S.I.A., M.R.S.I., Sanitary Inspector, Food

Inspector.

### K. M. Bedson, Clerk.

A. B. Whittingham, Temporary Sanitary Assistant.

### GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)		60,291
Registrar General's estimate of resident population,		
Mid. 1949		32,340
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Book,		
Mid. 1949		8,583
Rateable Value	. £1	104,240
Sums represented by a penny rate		£405

### Social Conditions

### INCLUDING THE CHIEF INDUSTRIES OF THE DISTRICT

There has been no obvious change in social conditions in recent years. No new major industries have arisen in the District and unemployment has been negligible.

The approximate number of "employed" persons working in

Industries in the Rural District is as follows:

Non-ferrous metal	(includes 240 females) 2,19
National Coal Board	55
Engineering	
Textiles (4 factories)	(includes 750 females) 97
Paper Mills	80
Quarries	
Colour Manufacture	25
Milk Dairy	25

Brickworks		 	 	 	 	35
Gravel Pits	 	 	 	 	 	70
Building	 	 	 	 	 	250
Agriculture		 	 	 	 	250

In considering these figures it must be remembered that they do not include the "self employed". There are in the district over 300 shops, mostly small family businesses, nearly 90 Public Houses and 20 odd garages. In agriculture too the majority of the farms are

of the nature of family holdings used for dairy farming.

The District may be said to consist of the small market town of Cheadle, out-lying villages and to the west a small area of dormitory suburb on the fringe of the Pottery towns. Bus services to and from main places of work and into the Potteries are adequate but over the greater part of the District the village remains the centre of social life.

One way in which the social conditions of the population is being altered is in a greater need to travel considerable distances to work. It has been estimated that almost 1,400 persons living in the Rural District have to travel to work outside it. Factors contributing to this include the fact that housing shortage has checked the natural free emigration and immigration to localities near work places, the fact that increased mechanisation of agriculture will tend to reduce the demand for labour from village residents, and in less recent years the closure of collieries.

This trend cannot be a good one for the health of the community. The benefit of shorter working hours may be offset by longer hours of travel to work if increased speed of transport is discounted. Travel in buses and mixing of population undoubtedly must increase the spread of minor infectious illness. Perhaps the greatest danger is that heavy travelling expenses may in some cases reduce a family income to a level where there is a danger of limitation of spending on

the necessary items of a good balanced diet.

### 4. Health Statistics

Table "A" shows the incidence rates of birth, deaths and certain infectious diseases for Cheadle as compared with those in England and Wales and certain classes of towns. Table "B" and Table "C" (which latter is given in the Infectious Diseases Section) give the actual figures on which these rates are based.

The following comment is made:

### BIRTHS

507 live births were registered as against 529 and 684 in the preceding years. Fourteen still births were registered. The Live Birth Rate of 15.67 is lower than that of England and Wales (16.7) and the still birth rate of 0.43 is higher than that of England and Wales (0.39).

Out of the total of 521 births 16, or 3.3 per cent were illegitimate.

### DEATHS

348 deaths were registered during the year as against 291 and 333 in the preceding years. The death rate of 10.76 compares favour ably with that of 11.7 for England and Wales.

The number of deaths of infants under 1 year was 16, which gives a rate of 31.6 per 1,000 live births as compared with a rate of 32 for England and Wales as a whole.

It is felt that any comment on the trends of various causes of death might with advantage be delayed until firm figures for the age composition of the population are obtained at the next census.

### STATISTICAL TABLE "A"

Birth-rates, Civilian Death rates, Analysis of Mortality and Case rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1949. Provisional figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.

		ENGLAND & WALES	126 C.Bs. & Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop. 25,000—50,000 1931 Census	London Adm. County	Cheadle Rural District
Dinella	Dat	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)
Births	Rat	es per		Civilian		lation
Live Births	 		18.7			15.67
Still Births	 	0.39(a	0.47	0.40	0.37	0.43
Deaths	Ra	ites per	1.000	Civilian	Popu	lation
All Causes	 	11.7(a)	12.5	11.6	12.2	10.76
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	 	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	 	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.00
Diphtheria	 	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	 	0.45	0.52		0.52	0.31
Infuenza	 	0.15	0.15		0.11	0.19
Smallpox	 	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute poliomyelitis						
and polioencephalitis	 	0.01	0.02		0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	 	0.51	0.56	0.49	0.59	0.31

	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)	(v)
Notifications (Corrected)		, ,	( )	(	
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.00
Cerebro-spinal Fever	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.00
Scarlet Fever	1.63	1.72	1.83	1.46	0.68
Whooping Cough	2.39	2.44	2.39	1.70	1.61
Diphtheria	0.04	0.05	0.04	0.07	0.00
Erysipelas	0.19	0.20	0.19	0.17	0.19
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles	8.95	8.91	9.18	8.54	3.44
Pneumonia	0.80	0.91	0.65	0.55	0.74
Acute poliomyelitis	0.13	0.13	0.12	0.18	0.06
Acute polioencephalitis	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.00
Food Poisoning	0.14	0.16	0.14	0.19	0.00
Deaths	Rai	tes per	1.000	Live	Births
All causes under 1 year		37		29	31.6
Enteritis and diarrhoea	(-)			7	
under two years of age	3.0	3.8	2.4	4 1.7	2.0
Notifications (Corrected) Rates	per 1,00	00 (Live	e and	Still)	Births
Puerperal fever and pyrexia				6.82	

### STATISTICAL TABLE "B"

### CAUSES OF DEATH IN CHEADLE RURAL DISTRICT, 1949

		Male	Female
All	Causes	179	169
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	 0	()
2.	Measles	 0	0
3.	Scarlet Fever	 0	. 0
4.	Whooping Cough	 0	0
5.		 0	. ()
6.	Influenza	 3	3
7.	Encephalitis lethargica	 0	0
8.	Cerebro-spinal Fever	 0	0
9.	Tuberculosis of respiratory organs	 4	5
10.	Other Tuberculosis Diseases	 0	1
11.	Syphilis	 0	1
12.	Cancer, malignant disease	 33	30
13.	Diabetes	 0	2
14.	Cerebral haemorrhage, etc	 14	23
15.	Heart Disease	 64	57
16.	Other Circulatory diseases	 9	12
17.	Bronchitis	 1	7
18.	Pneumonia (all forms)	 5	5
19.	Other respiratory diseases	 2	0
	o are respiratory thouses in in in	3393	

	Male	Female
20. Peptic Ulcer	2	1
21. Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	1	0
22. Appendicitis	1	0
23. Other Digestive Diseases	2	4
24. Acute and Chronic Nephritis	3	5
25. Puerperal Sepsis	0	0
26. Other Puerperal Causes	.0	0
27. Congenital debility, premature birth,		
malformations, etc	10	1
28. Suicide	3	0
29. Other Violence	3	2
30. Road Traffic Accidents	3	0
31. Other defined causes	16	. 10
Special causes (included in No. 30 above)		
Smallpox	0	0
Poliomyelitis	0	0
Polioencephalitis	0	0
Enteritis or diarrhoea under two years of age	1	0
Deaths of Infants under 1 year		
Total	13	3
Legitimate	12	3
Illegitimate	1	0
Live Births - Total	275	232
Y	267	227
711 4.4	8	5
	-	
Still Births - Total	8	6
Legitimate	6	5
Illegitimate	2	1
Population (Resident)		32,340

### 5. Water Supplies

In spite of the exceptionally dry weather supplies were maintained without difficulty, although a few privately owned springs and wells went dry.

Water supply systems in the District are as shown below.

Ownership	Source	Chlorinated	Villages Served
Cheadle Water Works Company	Deep Well at Cheadle	Yes	Cheadle Town
R.D.C.	Well and Borehole	Yes	Cheddleton. Wetley Rocks, Werrington. Kingsley (part) Weston Coyney

Ownership	Source	Chlorinated	Villages Served
R.D.C.	Borehole	If Required	Cauldon Lowe Waterhouses, Calton Winkhill
R.D.C.	Wells at Teanford	Yes	Tean Checkley Hollington Boundary Fole
R.D.C.	Springs at Ramsor	If Required	Alton Farley Bradley
R.D.C.	Water Gathering Ground. Collection from Springs	lf Required	Ipstones Foxt
R.D.C.	Springs in Heading	If Required	Whiston Froghall Kingsley Holt Woodhead
R.D.C.	Springs at Shirley Hollow	If Required	Kingsley (in part) Froghall
Messrs. Bolton (Private)			Oakamoor
Dilhorne Estate (Private)			Dilhorne
Private			Consall
Potteries Water Board			Blythe Bridge Draycott and relief supply to Caverswall

During the year 7,393 yards of main were laid connecting the Council's Cheddleton and Hollington Schemes and supplying on route 26 Farms, and 91 houses around Dilhorne and also the new Pit-Head Baths at Foxfield Colliery.

The Alton main was extended by 2,275 yards to supply 11 Farms and two houses and also form a connecting link between the

Hollington and Alton supplies.

The Teanford Lane main was extended by 190 yards to supply

three cottages and one farm.

The wisdom of the policy of inter-connection of the various supplies and mains in the district is self evident.

### Distribution to Individual Houses

In the course of the Rural Housing Survey information was obtained showing that a piped water supply was available to the great majority of houses inspected but that there still remained over 300 houses served by communal stand pipes outside the house and over 300 houses supplied by wells. There are also of course a number of farms outside the scope of the survey which by nature of their isolated position are dependant on their private water supplies. Fuller information on the findings of the Survey will be given later.

### Purity of Public Water Supplies

This remained satisfactory. The table "Chemical Analysis of Water" etc., gives details of chemical analysis and bacteriological examination. (See page 13)

### 6. Housing

"The housing situation is still a very serious one. A considerable amount of overcrowding exists throughout the district. Many of the occupied houses are not reasonably fit for human occupation and a certain number are not capable of being made fit without entire reconstruction. Difficulty has again been met with in getting repairs and improvements carried out as expeditiously as is desirable while the making of closure orders has been for the most part quite impracticable owing to the complete lack of alternative accommodation."

The above comment on the housing situation was made by the Medical Officer of Health in 1922 and might equally well be made now

During the inter-war years 1919-1938 a yearly average of 140 houses was built, but the problem remained. The post-war rate of building with 66 houses in 1947. 162 in 1948 and 122 in 1949 does not suggest the end of the problem is in sight.

The Rural Housing Survey of dwellings as to their degree of fitness was in 1949 is approaching its completion. Full figures will no doubt in time be published, but the need to realise the gravity

of our housing situation justifies extracting some from an interim report showing the position in October, 1949. Up to that date 4,581 houses had been surveyed and 440 had been deemed to be unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable cost. Over-crowding cases numbered 164. The final figures will be considerably greater.

The housing problem is a real one, but as the Report for 1922 referred to above suggests, it is not a new one. In 1922 we had 5,382 inhabited houses for a population of 25,163. In 1949 we had 8,583 houses for 32,340 population.

It is a problem which directly affects a minority, but not a small minority.

Indirectly the housing shortage affects us all, as it must affect the national economy by its consequences of loss of output from sickness due to overcrowding, loss of individual working efficiency due to worry, the cost of juvenile and adult delinquency brought about by bad home conditions, and perhaps most important the loss of a youthful population due to reluctance to marry and have a family without a home.

Against the sum total of these losses must be balanced the cost of a two or three fold increase in our building output with its disruption of labour and need for increased imports with all the economic sacrifices which would be entailed if a quick solution to the problem is to be found.

It is of course impossible to draw up such a balance sheet, but we are left with the basic principle that health is necessary for maximum output of both the individual and the herd, and that adequate housing is necessary both for bodily and mental health

Other matters concerning housing are touched upon in the section of this report on Water Supplies, Sewerage and Sanitary Supervision of the District. In these last two very important matters are discussed, first the amount of work entailed to the Sanitary Inspector dealing with housing and secondly the difficulties in cases where a landlord is called upon to effect repairs but is financially unable to do so.

Details of the 1949 Building Programme are shown in the Appendix of Details supplied by the Engineer and Surveyor.

### 7. Sewerage and Refuse Disposal

Throughout the district the provision of foul sewers and water closets to individual houses has, in the course of time, not kept pace with the provision of piped water supplies. Information obtained during the Rural Housing Survey suggests that of houses with a piped water supply probably not more than 60 per cent also have water closets.

Although the hilly nature of the land makes sewage disposal difficult in many areas there are still properties within range of a sewer which are not connected to it, some indeed being in Cheadle itself. This state of affairs is of course being remedied year by year.

Apart from the sewerage of new housing sites the only new sewerage extension in hand was the laying of 164 yards of Foul Sewer at Weston Coyney.

From the Blythe Bridge and Tean areas nuisance was caused due to the inadequacy of existing sewers, and it is hoped that this will be speedily remedied by putting in hand the Blythe Valley Sewage Scheme. At the time of writing it would seem that work on this large project may soon commence.

In the District Refuse Collection is undertaken by direct labour in all the villages except Ipstones, and Waterhouses, where it is done by contract. No complaint regarding the work has been raised which has not been speedily remedied if justified.

Disposal is for the most part by uncontrolled tipping - not a satisfactory method, but with tips well isolated one which has not given rise to complaint and one which is perhaps justifiable on economic grounds provided no specific threat of danger to health arises

### 8. Inspection and Supervision of Food

Details of work done and comment there-on are given in the following section.

### 9. Sanitary Supervision of the District DETAILS SUBMITTED BY YOUR SANITARY INSPECTORS

The following report of your Sanitary Inspectors gives much detail of the work they have done and some opinions they have formed in doing it.

Though it touches on points, such as Housing, which have been discussed in previous sections this duplication has been retained as it is felt that there is some difference in view-point between that of the Medical Officer of Health, whose concern is primarily an interpretation of environment and its effects on health and that of the Sanitary Inspector whose concern is primarily that of carrying out legislation and other defined procedure. The two view points are complementary.

The number of visits made during the year was 7,173, an

increase on last year's total by 1,100.

The increase is chiefly due to increased inspections following applications for Council houses and inspections under the Housing Survey (Hobhouse Report).

There has been a decrease in the number of farms inspected owing to the general duty of inspection passing from the Ministry of Health to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. This transfer occurred at the latter part of the year.

Farms are not now visited except on receipt of information from the County Council of an adverse report on a sample of milk biologically examined and also in respect of the disposal of drainage from farms.

### Housing

In dealing with housing repairs, notices have been confined to the Public Health Act where it has been found necessary to resort to formal action. In the main informal action has brought about the desired improvements. It will be noted that no action has been taken under the Housing Act, 1936 but it is felt that the time has arrived when certain unfit houses can no longer be kept in use by small maintenance works and that provision will need to be made in future housing programmes for the rehousing of the unfortunate families now living in the exceptionally poor conditions existing in several of these unfit dwellings.

Cases are increasingly occurring where an owner should be required to effect repairs, and where the cost of these may cause financial hardship or even be beyond the owner's means. Often the owner may plead that the rents at their present level do not allow him to do the work.

While the Sanitary Inspector may have personal opinions on the moral right to insist on necessary repairs in any individual case his province is only to carry out the enactments under which he works, and he should not be given the responsibilities of making a decision on these cases.

### Housing Act, 1949

This important Act came into force towards the end of this year and up to the present little experience has been gained of its execution. One application was received under Section 20 (the improvements of housing accommodation by persons other than local authorities) but this application was disapproved by the Ministry of Health owing to non-compliance with all conditions as laid down in the Act. We look forward to gaining further experience in this Act in the future.

### Housing Rural Survey

Temporary Assistance was employed by the Council to assist in this important survey. Completion of this work will be brought about during the year 1950 and when all information has been group ed an overall picture of the housing needs of the district will have been gained. With the present progress in new house building and

the continued labour and material supply difficulties it will be many years before the conditions brought to light by this survey can be improved in any major degree but it will most certainly show us in which course our services should be directed.

### Letting of Houses

Increasing time has been spent on visiting all applicants for rehousing and when it is noted that 1,243 visits have been made, this being apart from interviews at the office which almost reach this number it can be appreciated the magnitude of this new task for the Sanitary Inspector. The Council have decided, and in our opinion rightly so, that there is no need for a points system of allocation. This system may be useful in a large Borough or Urban District when it does bring to the top of the list a number of the most needy cases but in a district of this type where the lists are separate for each parish then the need for such a system does not arise. The question of rehousing of what are known as problem families is fraught with difficulties and no hard and fast rule can be laid down for dealing with such families. Several have been rehoused, some have proved to be most excellent tenants but others have not improved in any degree and these can at times prove most disturbing to their neighbours.

### Woodhead Camp

During the year many complaints were received from occupants of this ex-R.A.F. Camp, a portion of which is administered by the Rural District Council, and a report was presented by the Medical Officer of Health, Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector on the conditions existing at the camp, the health of the occupants and the works required to remedy the conditions existing. At this camp there exist thirty one dwellings and inspection proved that from the nature of the construction of the buildings, condensation was taking place to an exceptional degree. The outcome of this joint inspection and recommendation was that sanction was received from the Ministry of Health for the carrying out of works of improvement including the installation of a ceiling and the ventilation of the roof space between ceiling and roof This work has brought about some improvement to the living conditions.

### Public Health Act, 1936 - Section 47

The replacement of existing earth closets at the joint expense of the owner and the local Authority

During the year thirty four privies or pail closets have been replaced by water closets, twenty eight of such replacements have been carried out voluntarily by the owner and six have been carried out by the Council. To owners carrying out this work voluntarily

# CHEMICAL ANALYSIS OF WATER

Potteries Water. Bl'theBridge Area	22.5 Nil	Nil 0.24	1.4	Clear	TAODE		0.005
Cheadle	33.5 Nil	0.0004	2.3	Nil	Clear		None 7.0
Tean	23.5 Nil	Nil 0.32	1.8	0.004	trace	Suspended	None 7.2
Kingsley	16.5	0.0004	1.2	0.004	Cical		None 6.2
Cauldon	13.50 $0.0004$	0.0040 Nil	1.3	0.005	Cical		None 5.9
Whiston	11.5 Nil	0.0012	1.3	0.005	Cicai		None 6.2
	16.0 Nil	0.0008	1.2	0.016 Minute	trace	Suspended	None 6.6
Werrington	17.0 Nii	0.0028	1.5	0.004 Clear	Creat		None 6.3
Ipstones Foxt	0.0004	0.0052	1.2	0.059 Practically	Clear		None 6.7
	Total solids dried at 212°F. Free and Saline Ammonia	Albuminoid Ammonia Nitric Nitrogen	Chlorine Oxygen obsorbed in 4hrs	at 800 F		Injurious Metallic contam-	p.H.Value

# BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION - WATER SAMPLES 1949

		Ipstones Werrington Alton	Alton	Whiston	Cauldon Kingsley	Kingsley	Tean	Cheadle	Potteries Water. Bl'theBridge Area
Plate Count Yeastrel agar: 2 days 22° C aerobically	1	1	1		1	1	1	ı	1
Probable number of coli-	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
form: MacConkey 2 days at 370 Approximate proportions	1	1	Ī	1	1	1	1	1	1
of faecal and non- faecal coli :								1	
(a) Faecal coli per cent.	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
(b) Non-taecal coli ,,	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1

### NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEA

Ages, etc., (N.K.—age unknown)	Scarlet	Fever	Whooping	C.
Numbers originally notified Civilians (all ages)	M. 6	F. 16	M. 26	11
Final numbers after correction  Civilians	1 4 1	5 5 5 1	2 7 6 10 1	
Age unknown		16	26	
Ages, etc., (N.K.—age unknown)	Pneu	c. monia	Dysent	гуу
Numbers originally notified Civilians (all ages)	M. 13	F. 11	М.	
Final numbers after correction  Civilians—  0	5 1 3 2 2 2	2 6 1 1 1 1		
Ages, etc., (N.K.—age unknown)	Erys	ipelas	Cerebro-Si Fever	
Numbers originally notified Civilians (all ages)	M. 1	F. 5	M.	
Final numbers after correction  Civilians  0	1	1 2 2 2 5		
Non-Civilians—  15 (or N.K.)				

### 1949, BY SEX AND AGE GROUPS

Ac. Ac. polioencephalitis			asles g rubella)	Diphtheria		
M. F. 2	M.	F.	M. 60	F. 53	M.	F
1			3 10 10 32 4	1 9 14 27 2		
2			60	53		
Smallpox	Ac. ence		Enter c or Typhoid Fever		Paratypnoid fevers	
M. F.	M.	F.	М,	F.	M.	F.
Other N	otifiable Disea	ses	Origin Noti	ified	Final N	lumbers
Civilians— Juerperal pyrexic Ophthalmia neor Malaria (contrac Wales .	natorum	d and	М.	F. 2	М.	F. 1
Non-civilians— derperal pyrexical Malaria (contrac Wales)	a	d and				

the Council make up to a maximum of 50 per cent grant towards the cost of work actually connected with such replacements. In order to step up voluntary replacements the Council have advertised in the local press the conditions under which the maximum grant would be made and there is no doubt that many more owners will be availing themselves of this offer in the future.

Replacements carried out by owners voluntarily
Number Estimates submitted Cost considered Amount
reasonable Granted
28 £931 9s. 11d. £731 1s. 2d. £365 10s. 7d.

Average cost to Council for each replacement - £13 1s. 1d.

Replacements carried out by the Council

Number Cost Amount claimed from owners £109 8s. 0d. £54 14s. 0d.

Average cost to Council for each replacement - £9 2s. 8d.

### Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Every effort has been made to interest all food handlers in their responsibility of producing for sale to the public, clean food products. Lectures were given at the Council Offices for persons engaged in the Ice Cream Trade when the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act and Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations were thoroughly discussed. In the Ice Cream Trade particularly the cooperation of the traders has been most gratifying and it can now be said that all manufacturers have a full sense of their responsibilities to their customers and are dealing in an hygenically produced article of food.

The next step in this trade would appear to be the laying down of a standard of quality and the return of Ice Cream to a milk product.

The hygienic handling of food generally is to-day well to the fore in the public conscience and it is felt that whilst the Sanitary Inspectors can do their part in the supervision of preparation of food and the sampling of food, the public too, can play a great part by demanding what is obviously a clean food properly displayed, and in feeding establishments in particular the rejection of unclean utensils and food presented in unclean containers.

Towards the end of this year the Ministry of Food issued Model Byelaws Series 1 under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air and the Council, conscious of their responsibilities for securing such sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices have set in motion the machinery of adoption of these Byelaws, the sanction of the Ministry now being awaited.

### Rodent Control

A Rodent Operative is employed on a full time basis by the Council and all properties with rodent infestation are treated. The Council's properties, sewage works, refuse tips and sewers are treated. Private dwellings are treated free of charge but business premises are charged for the service. Every effort is made to persuade businesses requiring the services of the Council's operative to enter into a form of annual contract rather than to give intermittent treatments, it having been found that better control can be given of any infestation present by regular treatments than would be if charge were only made for the original treatment and the awaiting of a build up of rat population before the service of the operative be again requested. Contracts entered into during the year amount to £57 2s. 6d.

Number of treatments carried out on such contracts: 60.

Number of treatments carried out on Local Authority's properties: 89 Number of treatments carried out on private premises: 36.

### Spoilbank, Brookhouses

A disused railway embankment which was composed of spoil from the now disused Parkhall Colliery became ignited and a serious nuisance was caused in the vicinity. Attempts were made to put out this fire by the application of water through the services of the Fire Brigade. This had little or no effect and the advice of the Alkali Inspector, Dr. L. E. Hockin, P.H.D., B.Sc., F.R.I.C., was sought. A visit was made to the district by the Inspector and advice given. It was decided by the Council that this embankment should be completely removed and deposited in layers on an adjoining site. In order to carry out this work it was necessary for the Council to acquire the site on which the embankment stood and this having been done the work was put in progress and completed satisfactorily with a useful plot of ground now resulting.

### Smoke and Dust Nuisance

This Rural District is fortunate in not having a smoke problem but during the year a nuisance from dust did arise from the Cauldon Lowe Quarries. In conjunction with H.M.S. Inspector of Factories visits were made to this factory and advice given which resulted in the installation of a dust extractor plant which has brought about a considerable improvement in conditions in the vicinity of this factory.

### Registration of Cowsheds and Dairies

Cowkeepers and Wholesale Purveyors of Milk	 	1,023
Cowkeepers who carry on Wholesale Trade		
Cowkeepers who carry on Retail Trade	 	183
Retail Roundsmen only	 	17
New Registrations during the year	 	31
Factory Dairy - Processes carried on - pasteurising,		
sterilizing, condensed milk, canning, bottling and		
brine cooling	 	1

Number of Inspections, Cowsheds and Dairies  Number of Informal Notices  Cowsheds and Dairies Cleansed  Lighting and Ventilation Improved  New Concrete Standing and Channels  New Cowsheds erected  Extensions to Cowsheds  New Dairies erected		1	99 15 30 10 8 17 7
Infectious Disease Number of Visits Disinfectations carried out			20 16
Factories and Workshops Number on Register		4	35 46 71
The Bakehouses in the district have been been found to be satisfactory. In most cases the been from the bakehouse to the consumer unwrapped.	read is As yet	transpire there is r	ed
legislation to compel the wrapping of bread but bre			
the district from outside for which extra is charge bread.  Number on Register	ed for	wrappe	
the district from outside for which extra is charge bread.  Number on Register	ed for	wrappe	ed 9
the district from outside for which extra is charge bread.  Number on Register	ed for		ed 9 26 6
the district from outside for which extra is charge bread.  Number on Register	ed for eme)		9 26 6 57 3

### 10. Factories and Workshops

There are 135 Factories on the register. The Workshops are composed mainly of boot repairers, bakers and confectioners, milliners and tailors, joiners, plumbers and decorators, wheelwrights and motor car and cycle agents and repairers.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act are shown in the following Table.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be erforced by Local Authorities		44	2	0
(ii) Factories not include in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the	d			
Local Authority  (iii)Other Premises in wh Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	nich	2	2	0
(excluding outworkers premises)	0	0,	0	0
TOTAL	135	46	4	0

### 2. Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Inspector To H.M.	spector H.M.	Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	0	0	0	- 0	0
Overcrowding (S2)		0	0	0	0
Unreasonable temperature		0	0	- 0	0
Inadequate ventilation Ineffective Drainage		0	0	()	0
of floors (S.6) Sanitary Conveniences (S7		. 0	0	C	0
(a) Insufficient		0	0	0	0
(b) Unsuitable or defec	tive 1	0	0	1	0
(c) Not separate for sex Other offences against the (not including offences	ces 0	0	0	0	0
relating to outwork)	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1	0	0	1	0

### Details of Miscellaneous Food Surrendered

3 Tins Vegetable and Meat Stew
2 Tins Bilberries
2 Tins Meat Lunch
2 Tins Manderin Oranges
2 Tins Peas
1 Tin Herrings
1 Tin Pilchards
1 Tin Condensed Milk
1 Tin Evaporated Milk
1 Tin (15 oz.) Danish Pork
1 Tin (4 lb.) Pork Brawn
1 Tin (Grade 2) Salmon
1 Tin Minced Beef Loaf

Description of Visits	nspections and Observations	ser	ved Con	-
	made. I	Informal	Formal	with
Complaints and Nuisances	. 512	134	9	128
Food Premises	105			
Slaughterhouses				
Food Inspections				
Farms and Dairies		15	0	15
Shops Acts	070	5	0	5
	. 26			
	. 46			
Drainage	179			
-	118		6	6
Infectious Diseases	20			
Disinfections	. 16			
Housing (re Letting)	. 1,243			
Infestation Order	155			
Housing Rural Survey	. 3,250			
Smoke Observation	2			
Water Samples	77			
Water Supplies	260		1	1
Offensive Trades	37	2		
Housing Acts	13			
Ice Cream Premises	85			
River Pollution prevention Act .	45			
Tents, Vans and Sheds, etc	2 7			
Scavenging	7			
Petroleum Acts	5			
Interviews and other visits .	367			
TOTAL	7,173	156	16	155

### 11. Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

### General.

No major epidemic of the notifiable infectious diseases occured during the year, their incidence remained low. A total of 220 notified cases included 113 Measles, 52 Whooping Cough, 24 Pneumonia, 22 Scarlet Fever, 6 Erysipelas, 2 Anterior Poliomyelitis and 1 Puerperal Pyrexia. No deaths occurred in these cases.

It is gratifying to note the absence of Diphtheria from the list, and also the absence of alimentary infections.

The two cases of anterior poliomyelitis were both mild and made good recoveries. One case was perhaps infected while on a visit to Leek, but the origin of the second case remains obscure. No secondary cases are thought to have occurred.

Details of age and sex distribution of the notified cases is given in table 'C' on centre pages.

During March and April reports from General Practitioners showed that there was a minor epidemic of influenza. Although generally described as being of a mild type, six deaths resulted.

### **Tuberculosis**

Twenty new cases of Tuberculosis were notified during the year as against 19 in 1948, 25 in 1947 and 31 in 1946. Details of types, ages and deaths are shown in Table "D".

### TABLE "D" TUBERCULOSIS

### NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1949

	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	RESPI	ESPIRATORY NON-RESPIRATORY			RESPI	RATORY	NON-RESPIRATORY	
AGE PERIODS	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE
0			,					
1	.,		1	***2				
5 15 25	1		1	5 2		***		
15	1			4		2		***
25	1	3		1		1		1
35		1			2 2			
45	2				- 2	2		
65 and up- wards	1							
TOTALS	6	4	2	8	4	5		1

### Hospitalisation

In matters of control of infectious diseases the greatest change has been that occasioned by the closure in the latter part of the year of the Cheadle Isolation Hospital and admission of all cases of Infectious Diseases to Bucknall Hospital. This came about as a result of a national policy of closure of smaller fever hospitals which were not competent to deal with all types of cases and were uneconomical when judged on the cost of maintenance per "patient-day".

The disadvantages of closing this hospital have been that there has been a loss of the ability to adjust bed usage to the local demand, the Medical Officer of Health with his epidemiological responsibilities is no longer in close clinical contact with cases, and relatives no longer have the easy facilities for visiting the hospital.

### Diphtheria Immunisation

From 5th July, 1948, the County Council, as Local Health Authority under the 1946 Health Service Act. has been responsible for diphtheria immunisation.

During 1949, 363 children under five years of age and 35 over five years of age in the Rural District received a primary course of immunisation and in addition nine children received a re-inforcing injection.

### 12. General Provision of Health Services

As no comment has been made in previous reports on administrative re-arrangements under the National Health Service Act (1947) and as the year 1949 is the first complete year under the new order it is felt that the Act's effects might be detailed briefly here.

### Hospitals

All hospitals serving the District now come under the jurisdiction of the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, being administered by the Stoke-on-Trent Hospital Management Committee, with the exception of St. Edward's Hospital, Cheddleton, which has its own Management Committee (as a Mental Hospital). The Rural District Council has no representative on the Stoke Hospital Management Committee.

As indicated earlier in the report the Cheadle Isolation Hospital was closed during the year. The Cheadle General Hospital and St. Edward's continue to give service as previously but the population is for the most part dependent on hospitals in Stoke.

### General Medical, Dental and Pharmaceutical Services

In practice these services appear to the general public to be much as they were previously. The services have, however, been unified as all doctors, dentists and chemists in the scheme come under the administration of the Executive Council to the area of the Local Health Authority with area offices at Stafford.

Although the general practitioners' work and waiting room queues have increased as a result of the so called "free" service the total number of general practitioners working in the District has not been augmented. The Cheadle Rural District was considered as being an area in which new general practitioners might expect to make a living but not one sufficiently short of doctors to warrant offering "inducement grants".

### Midwifery and Ante-natal Services

Here the new Act has produced some administrative overlapping. Specialist obstetrical and hospital services are provided by the Regional Board, ante-natal clinics and a domiciliary mid-wifery service by the Local Health Authority (the County Council) and a general practitioners' ante-natal and midwifery service are also provided through the Executive Council.

There is in the Rural District itself no hospital accommodation for maternity cases and it had been felt that the provision of this was desirable. The County Council had purchased "Heybridge", a country mansion, with the idea of its conversion to a maternity home. The Regional Board however decided not to proceed with this project, and representations were made to the Board by the Rural District Council that in view of the need consideration should be given to the idea of using the Cheadle Isolation Hospital for maternity cases.

### Tuberculosis Service

Here again there is some diversion of responsibility. Specialist services and hospital treatment have become the responsibility of the Regional Board, while the prevention of tuberculosis remains a responsibility jointly shared between the local health authority (the County Council) and the Rural District Council. Towards the end of the year it became apparent that an adequate system to avoid over-lapping could be devised, and at the time of writing this has been initiated through the County Council.

The Tuberculosis Dispensary in Cheadle is still in use for

consultations but still lacks any X-Ray Plant.

### Local Health Authorities Services under the Act

An Ambulance Depot is based in Cheadle, and another at Leek, serves the northern part of the District.

Infant Welfare Centre Clinics are held at Cheadle, Blythe Bridge Werrington and Cheddleton. An ante-natal clinic is held fortnightly in Cheadle.

Under the Act the Health Visiting Service throughout the District is being extended in scope so that Health Visitors are now concerned with the prevention of illness, care and after care in cases of all ages, and not only in the case of children as previously.

A Domestic Help Service has been instituted so that this help can be provided where it is called for by the presence in a house of sickness, child-birth, old age, etc. This service is not being used as much as might have been anticipated.

The administration of the various District Nursing Association work has been taken over by the County Council without much change being apparent to the general public.

While under the control of the Local Health Authority the day to day administration of these services along with the domiciliary mid-wifery service and vaccination and immunisation services is under the control of the Area Committees. Cheadle Rural District, along with the Leek Urban and Rural Districts and Biddulph Urban District have been designated as the Leek area. The Rural District Council is well represented on the Leek Area Committee and the Medical Officer of Health to Cheadle Rural District has been appointed as Area Medical Officer, so local needs affecting these services should be well known.

### Laboratory Facilities.

The Public Health Laboratory Service, financed by the Ministry and organised by the Medical Research Council has a Laboratory at Stafford which undertakes the Public Health Bacteriology previously done by the County Council. The service given by this laboratory is most helpful, and it is only to be regretted that it is not nearer to us geographically.

Chemical examinations of water, etc. are being carried out by the County Analyst at the County Chemical Laboratory, Stafford.

### APPENDIX

### DETAILS SUPPLIED BY THE ENGINEER & SURVEYOR

Cheddleton Water Supply

The amount of water pumped from 1st January, 1949 to 31st December, 1949 was

98,979,800 gallons

which gives a daily consumption of 271, 177 gallons.

Tean Water Supply

The amount of water pumped from 1st January, 1949 to 31st December, 1949 was

18,615, 000 gallons

which gives a daily consumption of 51,000 gallons.

Hollington Water (Hollington Supply)

The amount of water supplied to the general public from this station from 1st January, 1949 to 31st December, 1949 was

22,653,000 gallons

which gives a daily consumption of 62, 063 gallons.

Cauldon Lowe Water Supply

The amount of water pumped from 1st January, 1949 to 31st December, 1949 was

12,205,000 gallons

which gives a daily consumption of 33,438 gallons.

### HOUSING

The number of houses erected and completed during the year was:

By Local Authority 103 By Private Enterprise 19

Total ... 122

### DEVELOPMENT OF HOUSING ESTATES

### Weston Coyney Housing Site

The streetworks, sewers and water mains were commenced for this site which will accommodate approximately 126 houses, together with the provision of a site of 9.8 acres for a school and playing field. The total area of the housing site is approximately 33 acres.

### Blythe Mount Site

The streetworks and sewers for this site accommodating 54 houses have been finally completed, following the completion of the houses.

. . .

Cheddleton Housing Site

The preliminary streetworks, sewers and water mains have been constructed for this site. This site provides for approximately 102 houses. During the year 20 houses have been completed and 14 houses are in course of construction.

Cheadle Housing Site

The preliminary streetworks and sewers on this site are completed and Churchill Road is tarmaced and totally complete. The whole of the site will accommodate approximately 118 houses.

On the Victory Crescent and Greenfield Crescent frontage during the year 16 houses have been completed and 26 houses are

still under course of construction.

### Cresswell Site

The preliminary streetworks and sewers have been constructed for this site which will accommodate 42 houses. During the year 12 houses have been completed and 18 houses are under course of construction.

Werrington Site

The preliminary streetworks and sewers have been constructed for this site which will accommodate 52 houses. During the year 10 houses have been completed and 2 houses are under course of construction.

Ipstones Site

The preliminary streetworks and sewers have been constructed for this site which will have accommodation for 18 houses. During the year 4 houses have been completed and 4 houses are still under construction.

### Whiston Site

A site has been acquired to accommodate six houses and sewage disposal plant. The houses and sewage disposal plant have been erected and the houses tenanted.

### Waterhouses

A site for six houses has been acquired and the houses erected and tenanted and a small sewage disposal plant installed.

Farley Site

A site for six houses has been acquired and 4 houses have been erected and tenanted and a small sewage disposal plant installed.

### Foxt Site

A site for four houses and sewage disposal plant has been acquired. The four houses and sewage disposal plant are now under construction.

### Cauldon Site

A site for four houses and sewage disposal plant has been acquired and the four houses are erected and tenanted and the sewage disposal plant completed.

### SEWER EXTENSIONS

Sewer Extension, Leek Road, Weston Coyney
Work is in hand and largely completed for the laying of 164
yards of 6in. diameter stoneware Foul Sewer. This sewer will serve
properties fronting on the Leek Road, Bolton Gate, Weston Coyney
and will abate a nuisance arising from overflowing septic tanks.

### WATER EXTENSIONS

### Cauldon Low Water Scheme Mains extensions

Work has commenced and 850 yards of 6in. diameter, 7,927 yards of 4in. diameter and 4,239 yards of 3in. diameter of which 1,775 yards of 3in. diameter have been tested and put into service. The whole scheme whose total length is 10<sup>3</sup> miles will serve farms en route and the hamlets of Cotton, Moneystone, Winkhill, Waterfall and Back-o'-the-Brook.

### Dilhorne Water Scheme Mains Extensions

The laying of 6,830 yards of 4in. diameter and 563 yards of 3in. diameter water main has been completed, tested and has now been put into commission. This main affords a connecting link between the Council's Cheddleton and Hollington Water Schemes and supplies en route 26 farms, 91 houses and the new Pithead Baths at Foxfield Colliery.

### Alton Common Mains Extensions

The laying of 2,275 yards of 4in. diameter water main on the above scheme has been completed, tested and put into commission serving 11 farms and 2 houses. The mains forms a connecting link between the Council's Hollington and Alton Water Schemes.

### Teanford Lane Water Main Extensions

The laying of 190 yards of 3in. diameter water main has been completed to afford a supply to three cottages and one farm situated along Teanford Lane, Teanford.



