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CHESTERFIELD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
for the year
1951

BY

JOHN REID GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.



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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

31st DECEMBER, 1951.

ASHOVER	Haslam, T. P.
BARLOW	Needham, W.
BEIGHTON :				
Beighton & Hackenthorpe				
Ward ...	...	...	...	Ballance, F.
				Finney, L.
Frecheville Ward ...	...			Maw, H, A.
				Taylor, W, H.
BRACKENFIELD ...	...	...	...	Turbutt, R,B. Col., J.P.
BRAMPTON ...	...	...	...	Riggott, G. A.
BRIMINGTON ...	...	...	...	Everett, W.
				Horner, W.
CALOW ...	...	...	...	Lamb, T, A.
ECKINGTON :				
Eckington Ward ...	...	...	...	Kay, H.
Gleadless Ward ...	...	...	...	Cruise, T. P.
Mosborough Ward ...	...	...	...	Woodward, H.
Renishaw Ward ...	...	...	...	Twigger, S. T.
Ridgeway Ward ...	...	...	...	Hallworth, T.H., M.C., D.S.Sc
HASLAND ...	...	...	...	Hargreaves, A.
				Sales, W.
HEATH ...	...	...	...	Parsons, A., J.P.
HOLMESFIELD ...	...	...	...	Eyre, R. H.
KILLAMARSH ...	...	...	...	Hall, M.
				Marshall, H.
MORTON ...	...	...	...	Richards, A. E.
NORTH WINGFIELD ...	...	...	...	Gasgoyne, P.
				Smith, C. F.
PILSLEY ...	...	...	...	Hall, C. S.
SHIRLAND & HIGHAM :				
Shirland & Higham Ward ...	...			Harris, L.
Stonebroom Ward ...	...	...	...	Fellows, W. E.
STRETTON ...	...	...	...	Hoggard, W.
SUTTON-CUM-DUCKMANTON				Rosling, A. V., A.M.Inst.B.E.
TEMPLE NORMANTON ...	...			Hicklin, H.
TUPTON ...	...	...	...	Sales, S.
UNSTONE... ...	...	...	...	Outram, W., J.P.
WALTON ...	...	...	...	Birds, J.
WESSINGTON ...	...	...	...	Colledge, W.
WINGERWORTH ...	...	...	...	Hill, E., Mrs. J.P.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

CHAIRMAN, SANITARY COMMITTEE
H. MARSHALL, Esq.

CHAIRMAN, HOUSING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE :
W. EVERETT, Esq.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :
JOHN R. GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B., (St.And.), D.P.H. (St.And.)

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR :
T. W. BINNS, F.S.I.A., Cert., Meat Inspector.

SENIOR DISTRICT SANITARY INSPECTOR :
W. E. BOLTON, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector.

DISTRICT SANITARY INSPECTORS :
G. KEAVENY, Cert. S.I., Meat Inspector
W. WOODWARD, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector
W. A. WELLS, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector
R. WILCOCK, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector
R. GOUCHER, Cert. S.I.
F. BARRETT, Cert. S.I.

CHIEF CLERK :
G. F. WILKS, M.B.E.

CLERKS :
L. SILCOCK
S. CAPE
Miss L. MORTON
Mrs M. WALKER
Mrs J. S. BENHAM
Miss K. FORREST
Miss D. BOSTON (Commenced 13th August, 1951)

ANNUAL REPORT.

Mr. Chairman, Mrs Hill and Gentlemen,

I herewith present my Annual Report on the health of the Rural District for the year 1951.

The vital statistics show the same trends as those of the country as a whole.

The birth rate has fallen approximateley one per 1,000 living, and the infantile mortality rate has shown a further fall this year to 28.42 per 1,000 live births. This is the lowest recorded in the Rural District, the previous low record being in 1942 when the rate was 30 per 1,000 live births.

Maternal mortality figures remain the same as in 1950

Great progress has been made in the building of new houses and it is well known that the R.D.C. has one of the best records in the country. Delays there have been, but these are due to factors over which a local authority has no control. One serious cause is the difficulty in obtaining suitable sites free from subsidence. In fact, one might turn Keith Prowse slogan of "you want the best seats we have them" to "we want the best sites but the Coal Board have them!"

The most notable achievement of the R.D.C. during the year was the successful opposition to the City of Sheffield's application to extend the City Boundary and take over a large part of Beighton Parish and a smaller part of Eckington.

I may be prejudiced but it does seem that big cities such as Sheffield have no thought or feeling for their smaller neighbours, and they will eagerly destroy quite an efficient local government unit in order to enlarge an already cumbersome and unwieldly one.

In conclusion I take this opportunity of thanking all my colleagues who have helped in compiling this report and to the members of the Council for their support during the year.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN R. GRAHAM.

Medical Officer of Health.

Health Offices,
Rural Council House,
Chesterfield.

STATISTICS.

Area of District	...	...	...	...	...	69,139 acres
Population (Registrar General's Figure)	...	...	...	...	...	75,680
Number of Inhabited Houses and Caravans in the District	...	...	...	...	...	21,991
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£304,153
Estimated product of Penny Rate for year ending 31st March, 1953.	...	...	...	...	...	£1,170
LIVE BIRTHS :					M.	F.
Total	...	...	...	...	579	582
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	565	560
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	14	22
STILL BIRTHS :					M.	F.
Total	...	...	...	...	25	9
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	24	9
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	1	—
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE :					M.	F.
Total	...	...	...	...	21	12
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	19	12
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	2	—
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE :					M.	F.
Total	...	...	...	...	12	9
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	12	9
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	—
BIRTH RATE, 15.3 per 1,000 civilian population.						
INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE :						
Total	...	28.42	per 1,000 live births.			
Legitimate	...	27.54	per 1,000 legitimate births.			
Illegitimate	...	55.55	per 1,000 illegitimate births.			
DEATH RATE PER 1,000 LIVING	...	...	...	...	11.0	
MATERNAL MORTALITY per 1,000 live(and still)	...	...	...	...	1.6	
Deaths from Measles, all ages	...	...	...	...	nil.	
Whooping Cough, all ages	...	...	...	...	2	

SOCIAL CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

In a recent issue of the Monthly Bulletin of the Ministry of Health attention is drawn to accidents in the home. In 1949, the last year for which figures are available, 5,553 deaths occurred in the home.

The comparisons with other accidents are of great interest and below I set out a few of the figures given.

Age groups—home accidents (Registrar General's figures)

	65+	59%
	15—65	18%
	5—15	4%
	0—5	19%
Road fatalities under 15 years	...	38%
Home fatalities „ 15 „	...	62%
Total other accidents	...	54%
Home accidents	...	46%
Types of fatality in home accidents		
Falls ...	...	58%
Others ...	...	12%
Burns and scalds ...	...	10%
Coal gas ...	...	6%
Suffocation ...	...	14%

The figures for the Chesterfield R.D.C. for 1951 are, of course, too small to give a good comparison expressed in percentage. I, therefore give the gross figures.

Total accidental deaths in the R.D.C.	...	28
Age group—home accidents Chesterfield R.D.C.		
	65+	5
	15—65	1
	5—15	1

Some comment is called for in those figures.

The case 5—15 was that of an epileptic who smothered himself in bed during a fit but as the coroner returned "Death by Misadventure" as the verdict, and therefore, the death has to be recorded as accidental, I felt that this should be more properly classified as medical causes from the angle of vital statistics.

The person dying in the age group 15—65 was aged 55 and was found to be also suffering from coronary thrombosis. Of the remaining five deaths three occurred in persons of 80 + and two in persons of 75 +.

Road fatalities under 15 years R.D.C.	...	...	...	...	2
Home accidents „ 15 „	...	...	...	...	1
(commented on above).					

Types of fatality in home accidents R.D.C.					
Falls ...	...	...	...	...	5
Burns ...	...	...	...	...	1
Suffocation ...	...	...	...	...	1

The full classification of accidental deaths is as follows:—

Road accidents	...	...	...	...	9
Home accidents	...	...	...	...	7
Accidents at work (one pit)	...	...	...	...	4
Other accidents	...	...	...	...	8

Returning to the “home accident” group it is gratifying to note that there have been no deaths in the younger age groups due to preventable causes. Surveying the 65 + age group, one finds that all the deaths were due to falls. While some of these falls may have been due to defects in the house, it is possible that most of them were due to sheer senility and in some instances to “dizziness”, brought about by various senile changes in the brain.

The clear bill in the 0—5 age group is in itself a tribute to the care taken by the mothers in the home.

The development of land at Wingerworth for the new coking and by-products plant of the N.C.B. has been commenced, but as yet there has been no impact on the conditions in the R.D.C. It is estimated that when the plant is completed it will be one of, if not, the largest plant of its type in the world and will employ directly 800 to 1,000 hands.

It is obvious that this will mean quite an increase in housing demands in the R.D.C. It would seem that if the workers there are to have adequate housing the R.D.C. will require special allocations, as in the case of coal miners, who, it is reported, are to be brought into the district to cope with proposed new developments at certain pits in this and adjacent areas.

One aspect of the N.C.B.'S programme which is most interesting from the Public Health angle, is the establishment of first aid rooms

at the larger pits. The majority of these establishments are in the charge of a trained State Registered Male or Female Nurse. Minor injuries are treated and dressings done which would otherwise require time off to attend the out-patients department in hospital or their own doctor ; thus time is saved and absence from work avoided to the benefit of both patients and the N.C.B. Some of the larger of such establishments give one an idea of the lines on which Health Centres might be run under the National Assistance Act.

Like the development in its infancy at Wingerworth, there is another just commenced this year which will have a great effect on the Rural District, that is the City of Sheffield's new housing estate situated between Gleadless and Frecheville.

In the course of the next three—four years about 4,000 new houses will be erected, a complete township in fact. It will be interesting to note whether this will remain, so to speak, part of Sheffield situated in Derbyshire or whether the inhabitants will follow the Frecheville estate people and become an active and potent force in the communal life of the Chesterfield Rural District and North East Derbyshire.

CHESTERFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

INHABITED HOUSES AND CARAVANS 31st March, 1952

Parish				No. of Inhabited Houses and Caravans	Number on Water Supply N.E.D.J.W.C.	Number on Water Supply C.B.&C.W.B'd.
Ashover	...	...	...	648	273	
Barlow	...	...	...	279	232	
Beighton	...	...	...	3,408	3,375	
Brackenfield...	...	...	...	72	49	
Brampton	...	...	...	312		138
Brimington	...	...	...	1,841		1,872
Calow	...	...	...	486		458
Eckington	...	...	...	4,272	3,967	+
Hasland	...	...	...	1,038		1,053
Heath	...	...	...	408	404	
Holmesfield	...	...	...	371	270	
Killamarsh	...	...	...	1,350	1,344	
Morton	...	...	...	345	335	
North Wingfield	...	...	...	1,803	1,803	
Pilsley	...	...	...	751	739	
Shirland and Higham	...	...	...	1,236	1,205	
Stretton	...	...	...	185	167	
Sutton-cum-Duckmanton	...	...	...	449	259	202
Temple Normanton	...	...	...	174	169	
Tupton	...	...	...	660	658	
Unstone	...	...	...	609	599	
Walton	...	...	...	602		504
Wessington...	...	...	...	207	174	—
Wingerworth	...	...	...	485	331	54

+—Part of Parish supplied by the mains of Sheffield Corporation.

The numbers given for Chesterfield Bolsover and Clowne Water Board include all premises, not only houses.

APPROXIMATE POPULATION IN THE PARISHES

Ashover	...	...	...	...	...	2,229
Barlow	...	...	...	...	...	961
Beighton	...	...	...	...	...	11,723
Brackenfield...	...	...	...	...	...	249
Brampton	...	...	...	...	...	1,074
Brimington	...	...	...	...	...	6,333
Calow	...	...	...	...	...	1,672
Eckington	...	...	...	...	...	14,697
Hasland	...	...	...	...	...	3,571
Heath	...	...	...	...	...	1,403
Holmesfield	...	...	...	...	...	1,277
Killamarsh	...	...	...	...	...	4,645
Morton	...	...	...	...	...	1,187
North Wingfield	...	...	...	...	...	6,202
Pilsley	...	...	...	...	...	2,583
Shirland and Higham	...	...	...	...	...	4,427
Stretton	...	...	...	...	...	637
Sutton-cum-Duckmanton	...	...	...	...	...	1,544
Temple Normanton	...	...	...	...	...	600
Tupton	...	...	...	...	...	2,266
Unstone	...	...	...	...	...	2,264
Walton	...	...	...	...	...	2,095
Wessington	...	...	...	...	...	712
Wingerworth	...	...	...	...	...	1,714

HOUSING.

Although early in 1952 the 2,000th house built by the Chesterfield R.D.C. will be ready for occupation, there seems to be no easing of the demand. Couples are getting married faster than houses can be built to accommodate them.

The increased cost of material and labour is also making the repair and maintenance of existing properties very difficult. Owners of old properties with an inclusive rent of 5/- to 9/- per week are most unwilling, and in some cases refusing blankly, to repair their property, taking the stand that they would prefer it to be demolished. In many instances one must admit that the owners have some justice on their side as the bill for ordinary repairs would probably represent three or four years gross rental with no guarantee that if the labour and material position gets easier their properties might have a very short life, and in so many houses major works are required to make them reasonably fit so that the repair bill may easily run up £150—£250.

The priority for rehousing is at present given to families living in shared accommodation, but the position of families living in condemned or condemnable property grows more serious every year.

It is surprising, however, the number of families that prefer to live in old and decrepit property in preference to going to a new house because of the difference in rentals. This, however, does not prevent them making regular requests to the Sanitary Department that landlords should be forced to carry out repairs.

Thus we have two main classes of claimants for new houses :—

- (1) the families with no separate accommodation and overcrowding,
- (2) the families living in the condemned houses or houses which could properly be condemned.

At present the priority is given to the former, but the matter is to be reviewed again in 1952 and I am confident that there will be some revision of the priorities.

In the R.D.C. there are 3,500 properties which are condemnable. This is according to a survey made in 1945. In the six years since the survey the condition of these properties has obviously been deteriorating some at a faster rate than others. There are, therefore, in the area many houses which cannot be made fit, if only for a temporary period, and even major repairs can do little to improve the living conditions of the tenants.

At the next annual review of the housing position in the R.D.C. and consequent allocation of "priorities" the claims of the tenants living in such properties should have serious consideration

Amenities.

With quite a number of post-war housing developments completed, it is now possible to assess the loss, or otherwise, of amenities due to new types of construction.

No-one can claim that the prefabricated bungalow is an attractive erection, far from it, but they were erected in a time of dire need and do fulfil a most useful purpose. All the new types of construction are based on building with standard units, etc., suffering from lack of variety, and estates composed entirely of one type of prefabricated houses tend to a drab uniformity. If, however, the types are mixed in one estate, though the units are no different, the general effect is much more pleasing.

A good example of this is on the new estate at Brimington. Of course, what has been said of the prefabricated type of house also applies to traditional type houses when one finds them laid out in rows and all of exactly the same design.

In 1952 the Council propose to offer prizes for the best kept gardens, etc. In going round the district I formed the impression that, as a general rule, the gardens of the post-war houses were better kept than those of the pre-war era, and that the smaller the estate the higher standard of garden was found.

HOUSING.

1.	Inspection of dwelling houses during the year 1951 :—	
(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	610
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	610
(2)	(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932... ..	11
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	11
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	11
(4)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	599
2.	Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :—	
	Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	191
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—	
(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	
	(a) By owners	—
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
(b)	Proceedings under the Public Health Acts :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	140
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :— ...	98
	(a) By owners	98
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—
(c)	Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ...	9

(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	6
(d)	Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—	
(1)	Number of separate tenements or under ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	2
(2)	Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—
4.	Housing Act, 1936, Part IV—Overcrowding.	
(a) (1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	213
(2)	Number of persons dwelling therein... ..	2,142
(3)	Number of families dwelling therein	312
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	28
(c) (1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	10
(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	94
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps to the abatement of overcrowding	—
5.	Number of houses demolished in Clearance Areas, 1951	37

OVERCROWDING BEDROOM STANDARD

(a) (1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	1,590
(2)	Number of persons dwelling therein... ..	9,985
(3)	Number of families dwelling therein... ..	2,278
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	262
(c) (1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	46
(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases...	294
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after Local Authority have taken steps to the abatement of overcrowding	—

The Engineer reports that the following works of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal were carried out in the year 1951 :—

Wingerworth and Hasland Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme.

The greater part of the work in connection with this Scheme, which is estimated to cost £33,256 was carried out during the year. The proposals involved the sewerage of the populated parts of the parish of Wingerworth and connecting into the sewers of the Chesterfield Corporation, and providing for the abandonment of the existing sewage works at Grassmoor ; Mill Lane, Wingerworth and Farm Road, Wingerworth.

Kelstedge Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Scheme.

The drainage conditions at Kelstedge have been unsatisfactory for a long time. During the year a new sewage disposal works has been constructed near the Matlock Road in the Valley of the River Amber and certain sewer extensions have been made to provide for the connection of most of the properties in this hamlet.

Middle Handley Sewerage.

An outfall sewer has been provided to take the drainage from the "Devonshire Arms" public house at Middle Handley and to provide for future extensions to deal with other properties including the school. The present means of disposal is a sewage tank. A scheme has been prepared for its removal and the building of a small sewage disposal works.

Westthorpe, Killamarsh.

Owing to the construction of Pit Head Baths at the Westthorpe Colliery, the small sewage disposal works at Green Lane would have been greatly overloaded and the opportunity has been taken of abandoning these works and erecting a pumping station in Green Lane which is enabling the drainage from this area to be taken to the sewage disposal works at Renishaw.

WATER SUPPLIES

There has been no shortage during the year, and the supplies have been ample in quantity and of satisfactory quality.

No new schemes have been started. The scheme for supplying Walton and Brampton has been approved, etc., but the work has not yet started owing to the long waiting period in the delivery of materials. It is hoped that early in 1952 deliveries will be commenced and the work put in hand.

The work at Smeekly Borehole has proceeded steadily and it is hoped that in the summer of 1952 additional supplies will be available from this source.

NORTH-EAST DERBYSHIRE JOINT WATER COMMITTEE

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER SUPPLIES, 1951

Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
526	68	594

TABLE 1
INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease	Total Number Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	91	30	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Typhoid	—	—	—
Para-typhoid	1	1	—
Puerperal Fever)			
Puerperal Pyrexia)	1	1	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
Pneumonia	115	4	37
Erysipelas	20	1	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	8	8	—
„ (Non-paralytic)	6	6	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—
Measles	1081	8	—
Whooping Cough	180	5	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	—	—
Dysentery	2	—	—

TABLE 2
TUBERCULOSIS RETURN FOR 1951

Age Period	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and over	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
5 and over ...	3	1	2	—	—	—	—	1
15 and over ...	5	4	1	—	—	—	—	—
25 and over ...	4	5	—	1	—	3	—	—
35 and over ...	4	4	—	—	1	—	—	1
45 and over ...	4	1	—	1	2	1	—	—
55 and over ...	3	1	—	—	3	—	—	—
65 and over ...	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Total ...	26	16	3	4	7	4	—	2
NOT PRIMARY				NOT NOTIFIED				
Cases included above	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever showed an appreciable decrease in the notifications, 91 as against 208 in 1950. The disease continues to be of a very mild type.

Again there was a "clean sheet" for notifications of diphtheria. Looking at the numbers of immunisation, however, it is not so pleasing to note that 0—2 years inclusive, there were only just over 600 children immunised, which means at an estimate there are 1,700 children in that group not immunised.

Fourteen cases of poliomyelitis were notified, an increase of 9 compared with 1950. Six were of the non-paralytic type. It is to be noted that when poliomyelitis is "in the news," more cases are noted and sent for observation, whereas when there is no hint of an epidemic, non-paralytic cases can be easily missed.

Measles showed a big increase in notifications, but there were no deaths from the disease.

Whooping Cough on the other hand showed a fall, but as in 1950 there were two deaths from this disease.

One case of paratyphoid was notified, but all investigations failed to give any clue to the source of the infection.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATIONS

	Under 1 yr	1	2	3	4	5—9	10—14	Total
Number of children who completed the full course of immunisation in the Authority's area during the year 1951.	27	384	220	41	33	198	45	948

TABLE 3

TREATMENT CENTRE, POOLSBROOK

No. of cases, 78.

	Adults	5-15	Under 5	Total
SCABIES				
Bolsover U.D.C. ...	3	3	0	6
Chesterfield Borough ...	5	1	0	6
Chesterfield R.D.C. ...	12	4	2	18
Clay Cross U.D.C. ...	0	0	0	0
Clowne R.D.C. ...	0	0	0	0
Dronfield U.D.C. ...	0	0	0	0
Staveley U.D.C. ...	1	5	0	6
	—	—	—	—
	21	13	2	36
	—	—	—	—
HEAD LICE				
Bolsover U.D.C. ...	0	0	0	0
Chesterfield Borough ...	6 (3)	11 (6)	3 (2)	20 (11)
Chesterfield R.D.C. ...	1 (0)	6 (1)	1 (0)	8 (1)
Clay Cross U.D.C. ...	0	0	0	0
Clowne R.D.C. ...	1 (1)	5 (3)	0	6 (4)
Dronfield U.D.C. ...	0	0	0	0
Staveley U.D.C. ...	0	1 (0)	0	1 (0)
	—	—	—	—
	8 (4)	23 (10)	4 (2)	35 (16)
	—	—	—	—

SCABIES WITH VERMINOUS HEADS

Bolsover U.D.C. ...	0	0	0	0
Chesterfield Borough ...	0	0	0	0
Chesterfield R.D.C. ...	0	0	0	0
Clay Cross U.D.C. ...	0	0	0	0
Clowne R.D.C. ...	0	0	0	0
Dronfield U.D.C. ...	0	0	0	0
Staveley U.D.C. ...	0	0	0	0
	—	—	—	—
	0	0	0	0
	—	—	—	—

Diagnosis not confirmed	5	
Miscellaneous	2	Puvex Irritans (Matlock—2 adults)
Pediculosis Corporis ...	0	
Pediculosis Pubis ...	0	
	—	
	7	
	—	

NOTE :—The numbers in brackets refer to those on whom live lice were found.

TABLE 4

TABLE SHOWING BIRTH, DEATH RATES AND INFANT MORTALITY FOR THE LAST TEN YEARS

Year	Birth Rate per 1,000 Living	Death Rate per 1,000 Living	Infant Death Rate per 1,000 Live Births
1951	15.3	11.0	28.42
1950	16.0	10.8	38.0
1949	17.65	10.0	42.07
1948	19.2	9.81	37.11
1947	20.91	10.39	48.27
1946	20.44	10.28	41.80
1945	18.83	10.41	42.98
1944	22.26	9.09	36.25
1943	20.14	11.14	42.9
1942	18.97	9.65	30.9
1941	18.58	10.96	46.0

TABLE 5
BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ANALYSIS OF
MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE-
RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE
YEAR 1951

Provisional Figures Based on Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns (including London)	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Adminis- trative County	Chester- field R.D.C.]
Rates per 1,000 Home Population					
Births					
Live Births ...	15.5	17.3	16.7	17.8	15.3
Still Births ...	0.36	0.45	0.38	0.37	0.45
Deaths					
All Causes ...	12.5	13.4	12.5	13.1	11.0
Typhoid and Paratyphoid ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ...	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.02
Diphtheria ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis ...	0.31	0.37	0.31	0.38	0.17
Influenza ...	0.38	0.36	0.38	0.23	0.50
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute poliomyelitis (including polio- encephalitis) ...	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Pneumonia ...	0.61	0.65	0.63	0.61	0.48
Notifications (Cor'd)					
Typhoid fever ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid fever ...	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01	0.01
Meningococcal infection ...	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.00
Scarlet fever ...	1.11	1.20	1.20	1.10	1.20
Whooping Cough ...	3.87	3.62	4.00	3.11	2.37
Diphtheria ...	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01	0.00
Erysipelas ...	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.15	0.26
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles ...	14.07	13.93	14.82	14.64	14.28
Pneumonia ...	0.99	1.04	0.96	0.72	1.51
Acute poliomyelitis (including polio- encephalitis) ...					
Paralytic ...	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.10
Non-paralytic ...	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.08
Food Poisoning ...	0.13	0.15	0.08	0.23	0.00
Deaths					
Rates per 1,000 Live Births					
All causes under 1 year of age ...	29.6 (a)	33.9	27.6	26.4	28.4
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age ...	1.4	1.6	1.0	0.7	2.5
Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still Births.					
Notifications (Cor'd)					
Puerperal fever and pyrexia ...	10.66	13.77	8.08	14.90	0.83

Maternal Mortality in England and Wales

Intermediate List No. and cause	Number of Deaths	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	Rates per million women age 15—44
A115 Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium ...	70	0.10	
A116 (Abortion with toxæmia (Other toxæmias of pregnancy and the puerperium ...	3	0.00	0
A117 Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	167	0.24	
A118 Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia ...	91	0.13	
A119 Abortion with sepsis ...	37	0.05	4
A120 Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium ...	66	0.09	7
	125	0.18	

(a) Per 1,000 related live births.

PETROLEUM ACTS

Fourteen new petroleum stores have been constructed and six have been discontinued to be used during the year making the present total of 142 separate stores. These have a total capacity of 213,380 gallons.

There are three calcium of carbide stores with a licensed capacity of 2,742 lbs. Two stores were discontinued during the year.

The stores have been inspected and found to comply with the provisions of the Acts.

Licence fees amounted to £97 18s. 9d.

VERMINOUS PREMISES

During the year 59 dwelling houses have been treated as compared with 113 the previous year.

PRIVY CONVERSIONS

212 pail and privy conversions were carried out during the year.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

					No. in use at end of 1951.
Water Closets ...	...	...	...	...	19,625
Other ...	...	...	...	...	3,238
					<hr/> 22,863 <hr/>

PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT

These are periodically visited to ensure reasonable cleanliness and the proper maintenance of sanitary conveniences.

FOOD INSPECTION

During the year, Food Premises have been kept under supervision by your Inspectors and, in consequence, the undermentioned quantities of foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption. In all instances the food was surrendered to the Inspectors and it was removed from the premises and destroyed :—

						Tins, jars, etc.
Apricots ...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Apple Dumplings	...	...	...	...	...	6
Apple Puree	...	...	...	...	...	2
Beans ...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Bilberries	...	...	...	...	...	1
Beetroot ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Blackberries	...	...	...	...	...	2
Black Currants	...	...	...	...	...	1
Bramble Jam	...	...	...	...	...	4
Blackcurrant Jam	...	...	...	...	...	2
Brislings	...	...	...	...	...	27
Cherries ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Crab ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Carrots ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Coffee Essence	...	...	...	...	...	2
Damsons...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Damson Jam	...	...	...	...	...	13
Fruit Salad	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fish —Paste	...	...	...	...	...	1
Grape Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	8
Golden Syrup	...	...	...	...	...	1
Greengages	...	...	...	...	...	18
Ham ...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Herrings...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Lemon Curd	...	...	...	...	...	3
Lobster ...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Luncheon Meat...	...	...	...	...	...	42
Mango Slices	...	...	...	...	...	1
Marmalade	...	...	...	...	...	8
Mincemeat	...	...	...	...	...	1
Milk ...	...	...	...	...	...	99
Mustard ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Oranges, sliced	...	...	...	...	...	5
Pears ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Peas ...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Plums ...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Pinapple...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Peaches ...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Pickled Onions	...	...	...	...	...	1

Pickled Red Cabbage	...	...	...	...	1
Raspberries	...	...	...	...	20
Rhubarb...	...	...	...	...	1
Strawberries	...	...	...	...	10
Strawberry Jam...	...	...	...	...	6
Spaghetti	...	...	...	...	1
Salmon	...	...	...	...	28
Sauce	...	...	...	...	2
Salad Cream	...	...	...	...	1
Stewed Steak	...	...	...	...	1
Sausages...	...	...	...	...	7
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	216
Vegetable Soup...	...	...	...	...	1
Total					712

					Packets
Biscuits	...	...	...	...	1
Cheese	...	...	...	...	6
Cornflakes	...	...	...	...	4
Rice Creamola	...	...	...	...	1
Table Jelly	...	...	...	...	1
Total					13

					Lbs.
Pears	...	...	...	...	224
Bacon	...	...	...	...	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Dates	...	...	...	...	72
Bream	...	...	...	...	28
Ground Almonds	...	...	...	...	7
Tea	...	...	...	...	$\frac{3}{4}$
Meat Paste	...	...	...	...	$\frac{1}{4}$
Stoned Dates	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
Self-Raising Flour	9
Sultana Cake	1
Total					345 $\frac{1}{4}$

Pork Pies	30
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The Ministry of Food re-opened the slaughterhouse at Stud Farm, Duckmanton, from the 2nd September to the 14th December, 1951, and this is the first occasion since 1939 that the slaughtering of animals for sale for human consumption has taken place in the

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

SECTION 47 NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

The amending section of the Act came into force on the 1st November of this year. This section can be used in a case of emergency. It provides that if a Medical Officer of Health and another medical practitioner certify that in the case of a person to whom Section 47 (1) of the National Assistance Act, 1948, applies, it is necessary that that person should be removed without delay from the premises where he, or she, is residing ; application can be made without prior authority to the Justices, or a single Justice, for a removal order. The order under this section remains in force for 21 days only.

One order was sought during the year, but a hitch in the proceedings was experienced as the County Welfare Department refused to be responsible for detaining any ambulant case in Part III accommodation. The matter is being pursued further and a decision, one way or another, is expected some time in 1952.

One case which was detained on an order in 1948 is still in a institution.

It will be appreciated that most of the cases dealt with under the Act are aged and infirm. This group is increasing in number year by year ; in the last 50 years the number of the population in the country of 60 + has increased from 2,462,000 to 7,343,000.

In fact, the more the position is studied the greater the problem becomes, and it is certain that for various reasons an increasing number will spend the latter period of their lives in chronic sick wards.

The accommodation now in most hospitals is taxed to its limit and it is extremely difficult to get aged patients admitted to chronic sick wards.

It is generally admitted that the aged should remain in their own homes as long as possible, and to that end various domiciliary services are available.

Old peoples associations are doing valuable work everywhere, but the crux of any service is help in the home. The availability of help in the home varies greatly in different areas, largely being dependent on the calls of local industry on female labour.

Even with ample daily domiciliary help, there comes a time when this will not suffice and some form of institutional accommodation is required. Unfortunately, however, many old folk do not seem to

realize their weaknesses. I have in mind one old gentleman, aged 86 years, who in the past eighteen months has allowed himself to gradually become less tidy, less clean, and does not realize the change in himself. If the process goes much further, as it inevitably must if he remains at home, he will be unable to enjoy the full benefits of institutional treatment when he is compelled to seek it.

This history is typical and there does come a time in the life of many of these aged people when the problem facing those responsible for their welfare is, whether to allow them to remain in their own homes realizing, of course, that by doing so the process of decay is hastened and also shows all the worst aspects of old age, or, whether to use the powers that exist and take them to an institution even against their wishes.

The modern institution run on enlightened lines is, of course, an entirely different proposition from the old time workhouse. The inmates enjoy all possible liberty, and have plenty of company of people of their own age. It is a fact that in quite a number of cases people who have been taken into an institution against their will, after the first week's strangeness has passed off, are only too pleased to remain, appreciate the company and the care and attention bestowed on them.

TABLE 6
SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

	No. on Register	Insp'tions made	Notices served	Nuisances abated with or without notice
Dairies and Milkshops ...	33	33	—	4
Bakehouses	31	10	1	1
αSlaughter Houses	40	65	—	3
Offensive Trades	1	2	—	—
Common Lodging Houses ...	1	2	—	—
Total	106	112	1	8

α Includes 2 Knackers Premises.

TABLE 7
SANITARY ADMINISTRATION
SUMMARY OF WORK OF THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT

	No. of Insp'tions made by Sanitary Inspectors	No. of Nuisances in respect of which Notices were served		No. of Nuisances abated with or without notice
		Informal	Legal	
Closets and Ashpits—				
Defective privies, pail closets and ashpits, (not for conversion)	33	11	—	13
Conversion of privies into W.Cs.	3,050	70	132	212
Conversion of pail closets into W.Cs.... ..	11	1	—	1
Conversion of privies into pail closets	—	—	—	—
Defective water closets	220	90	20	74
Provision of additional water closets	75	—	2	6
Provision of Portable ashbins	787	547	—	547
Dirty closets	11	4	—	1
Drainage—				
No disconnection of waste pipe	—	—	—	—
Defective waste pipe, traps, inlets and drains	510	54	8	81
Drains obstructed... ..	225	89	15	97
Other Defects—				
Paving of Courts and Yards	80	27	13	17
Roofs, eaves-spouts and down-spouts	574	208	79	118
Sinks	98	29	19	31
Insufficient ventilation	8	2	2	2
Windows	328	106	58	69
Dampness	246	90	33	58
Water in cellars	86	8	1	3
Water supply	179	2	1	52
Overcrowding	255	—	—	—
Foul condition of Houses	37	4	—	5
Offensive accumulations	32	6	—	7
Animals improperly kept... ..	21	1	—	3
Pigsties	34	1	—	8
Smoke nuisances	110	7	1	9
Urinals	6	—	—	—
Nuisances not specified above	1,612	527	279	417
TOTALS	8,628	1,884	x 663	1,831

Number of visits to Infectious Disease cases—114.

x NOTE:—The actual number of separate notices served was 272.

TABLE 8
FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Premises	Number of		
	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	4	2	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority... ..	48	9	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	—	—	—
TOTAL	52	11	—

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

During the year, 94 surface infestations have been dealt with which necessitated 180 visits by your Inspectors to secure satisfactory elimination of the rats and mice. Periodical visits continue to be made to certain business premises which are particularly susceptible to infestation and treatments are carried out when necessary. All the Council's sewage works and refuse tips are kept under observation and when infestations are found appropriate action is taken.

The type of property and infestations dealt with are as follows :—

Type of Property	Number of Treatments Carried out	Type of Infestation		
		Rats		Mice
		Major	Minor	
Council property	37	7	30	—
Council houses	41	—	23	18
Private houses	3	—	3	—
Other property... .. (Inc. businesses, schools, etc)	13	—	7	6
TOTAL	94	7	63	24

There are 60 separate sewerage systems with a total of 2,148 sewer manholes in the district, these have been test baited and all systems found to be infested have received two treatments during the year. The present position is that 45 of the sewerage systems are now clear of rats and infestations in the remaining 15 systems have been considerably reduced.

Two part-time rat catchers are employed and operate in accordance with the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries requirements. The operations during the year have resulted in an estimated kill of 1,008 rats from surface treatments and with regard to sewer treatments, which it is impracticable to give a reasonable estimate, I can only say that the kill has been considerable.





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PRINTER
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