

[Report 1955] / Medical Officer of Health, Chesterfield R.D.C.

Contributors

Chesterfield (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1955

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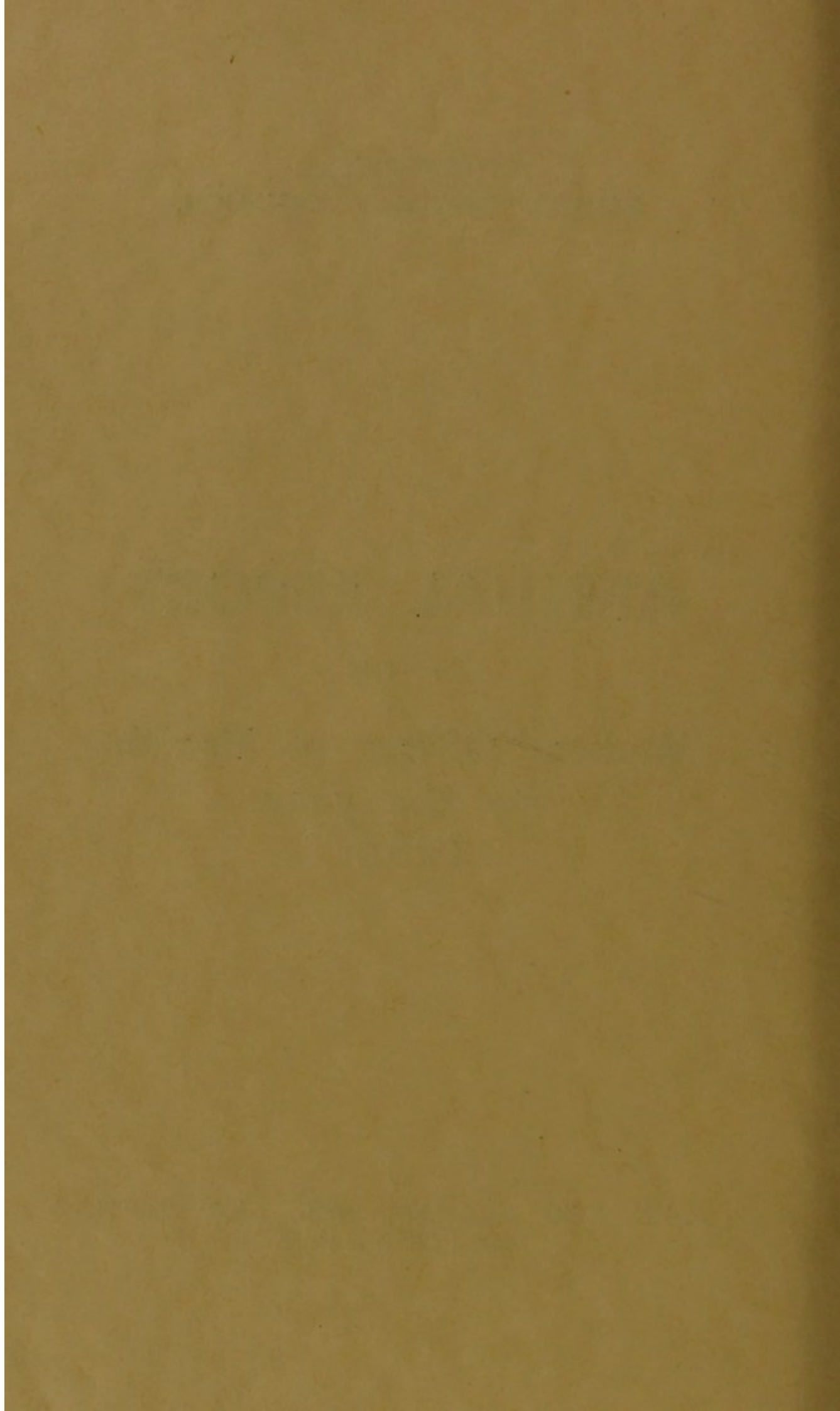
**CHESTERFIELD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health
for the year
1955**

BY
JOHN REID GRAHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.



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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

31st DECEMBER, 1955.

ASHOVER	Haslam, T. P.
BARLOW	Morgan, F.
BEIGHTON:	
Beighton and Hackenthorpe	
Ward	Foulds, M. A., Mrs.
	Turton, B. P.
	Farrar, L. E., Mrs.
	Richardson, W. J.
Frecheville Ward	Hart, E.
	Pye, D. W.
	Umpleby, E., Mrs. J.P.
BRACKENFIELD	Boot, C. W.
BRAMPTON	Riggott, G. A.
BRIMINGTON	Everett, W.
	Horner, W.
CALOW	Maddison, E. A., Mrs.
ECKINGTON:	
Eckington Ward	Clegg, E. N., Mrs.
	Kay, H.
Gleadless Ward	Wynn, M.
Mosborough Ward	Woodward, H.
Renishaw Ward	Jennings, T. T.
Ridgeway Ward	Hallworth, T. H., M.C., D.S.Sc.
HASLAND	Hargreaves, A.
	Sales, W.
HEATH	Smith, B.
HOLMESFIELD	Eyre, R. H.
KILLAMARSH	Hall, M.
	Marshall, H.
MORTON	Richards, A. E.
NORTH WINGFIELD	Rhodes, O.
	Webster, D.
PILSLEY	Slatcher, L.
SHIRLAND AND HIGHAM:	
Shirland and Higham Ward	Greenwood, E.
Stonebroom Ward	Fellows, W. E.
STRETTON	Walker, J. R.
SUTTON-CUM-DUCKMANTON	Rosling, A. V., A.M. Inst., B.E., J.P.
TEMPLE NORMANTON	Babbs, T. A.
TUPTON	Sales, S.
UNSTONE	Dawson, E.
WALTON	Birds, J.
WESSINGTON	Tomlinson, J. H.
WINGERWORTH	Ridd, J. H.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL :

A. V. ROSLING, Esq., J.P.

CHAIRMAN, PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE :

H. MARSHALL, Esq.

CHAIRMAN, HOUSING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE :

W. EVERETT, Esq.

CHAIRMAN, HOUSING CLEARANCE AND IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE :

A. E. RICHARDS, 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

DEPUTY CHIEF 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. Meat Inspector

F. BARRETT, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector

D. MURRAY, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector
(Commenced March, 1955)S. V. ROBINSON, Cert. S.I. Meat Inspector
(Commenced April, 1955)

CHIEF CLERK :

G. F. WILKS, M.B.E.

CLERKS :

S. CAPE

MRS. L. GIBSON

MRS. M. WALKER

MRS. J. S. BENHAM

MISS K. FORREST

MRS. D. MAYCOCK

W. HAWKINS (Commenced April, 1955)

A. WOOTTON (Commenced March, 1955)

M. GLOBE (Pupil Sanitary Inspector)

L. SILCOCK (Resigned January, 1955)

ANNUAL REPORT

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith present the Annual Report on the health of the Rural District for the year 1955.

The vital statistics for the year show little appreciable difference from 1954. The birth rate shows a slight increase but the infantile mortality rate is also up.

The true position is somewhat difficult to assess because of the great influx caused by the Sheffield Corporation development.

During the year there has not only been the advent of new population in the Sheffield estates, but as far as one can judge there is also a constant coming and going of tenants on the estates.

The notifications of Poliomyelitis were greater than for some years and the great majority of cases occurred in the extreme North East of the district, in what one might term the Sheffield "dormitory" areas. A fuller comment is given in the body of the report.

The new five year plan for slum clearance has been initiated and it is hoped that good progress will be possible in 1956.

Another progressive measure to come into force in the year 1956 is the Food Hygiene Regulations, giving more control over catering establishments and food shops generally.

One can look on the year 1955 as one of steady progress and acceleration in housing and demolition of unfit dwellings.

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)	90,390
Number of Inhabited Houses and Caravans	
In the District	29,718
Rateable Value	£686,072
Estimated Product of Penny Rate for the year ending 31st March, 1957	£2,620

LIVE BIRTHS :	M.	F.
Total	847	835
Legitimate	821	808
Illegitimate	26	27

STILL BIRTHS :		
Total	29	25
Legitimate	28	25
Illegitimate	1	—

BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION :	18.61
-----------------------------------	-------

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE :	M.	F.
Total	33	28
Legitimate	33	26
Illegitimate	—	2

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE :		
Total	25	17
Legitimate	25	15
Illegitimate	—	2

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE :	
Total	36.26 per 1,000 live births
Legitimate	36.21 per 1,000 legitimate births
Illegitimate	37.73 per 1,000 illegitimate births

DEATH RATE PER 1,000 LIVING :	9.18
-------------------------------	------

MATERNAL MORTALITY per 1,000 live (and still)	.57
Deaths from Measles, all ages	Nil
Whooping Cough, all ages	1

SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE DISTRICT

The industries of the district are providing full employment, in fact, there is still a shortage of labour in nearly all branches. This is well known to all the Committees of the Council dealing with labour, as all departments requiring labour have difficulty in keeping the establishment to the required numbers.

Notwithstanding the full employment, there are still many families finding it difficult to pay the rents of the council houses. In extreme cases eviction orders are sought and obtained, but whilst this action solves the difficulties of this council, it does not solve the problem of the family, it merely passes it on.

Problem families do not concern this Council directly apart from those who are tenants of council houses.

Of the few that have been directly under observation one feature seems to be common, and that is the inability to spend the family income in a reasonable manner.

Two instances come to mind which are typical of the attitude to spending of the backsliding family.

The first family consisted of man, wife and four children. The husband was a skilled man and when at work a good worker, capable of earning a weekly wage of £12-£14, but was an irregular attender. The house was a post-war council house with three bedrooms.

The living room and two bedrooms had the minimum of furniture; one bedroom and the sitting-room were unfurnished, but at the time of my visit, in the sitting-room were two prams, one used but still serviceable, the other a new one. In the room there was also a new boy's tricycle and a model motor car. This family at that time were owing £17 in rent.

The other family had been helped and warned over rent arrears owing over a long period.

One day the Welfare Officer found a television set installed in a room which had the minimum of furniture. It was found that this set had been hired. Needless to say within a fortnight the payments were not kept up and the set was removed, but the annoying thing to those trying to rehabilitate the family is that over £6 was paid to the hiring company, a sum which would have gone a long way to clearing off rent arrears.

Such irresponsibility makes one sympathetic to the suggestion of some social workers that with this type of family some means should be found whereby a certain amount of the family income was handed over to a responsible body to administer so that the basic needs could be met.

It may be argued that this action savours too much of interference with the liberty of the individual, but if this action will be a means whereby the chances of a family being evicted are reduced, then such a step is fully justified.

Eviction from a council house at the worst may mean the break up of family life, and at the best, results in the family being housed in poorer conditions and often in shared accommodation.

As I mentioned earlier, the families under direct observation are few but all have one thing in common, both husband and wife are substandard.

The men seemed unable to settle to a steady job and frequently would change jobs two or three times in as many months, as well as missing many days work for no valid reason; the women had no idea of spending the money available to advantage and had a very low standard of cleanliness.

As slum clearance proceeds, the Council will be forced to re-house quite a number of the substandard families.

I am still of the opinion that the erection of a special type of austerity house is well worth a trial. The Council, of course, did contemplate this method some years ago, but the idea was turned down very definitely by the Ministry of Health. One of the main objections being that it was wrong to segregate such families and by placing them along-side of the normal families their standard would rise, benefiting by the good example of the neighbours.

If one is thinking only of the problem family, then perhaps this may be a valid objection, but surely there are other factors to be taken into consideration.

Firstly, ~~there~~ is the good standard neighbouring families; it is not pleasant for them to have uncouth and dirty neighbours with undisciplined children.

Secondly, it is the damage that can be done to the ordinary council house. During the past year or so an average of £250 per annum has been spent in redecorating and rehabilitating houses which have been in the tenancy of substandard families, and finally it is very doubtful if the good type of neighbour has any influence whatsoever on the incorrigible problem family.

Whilst this is not a big amount, taking into account the number of houses owned by the Council, it should be borne in mind that in the course of the clearance of unfit houses more and more substandard families will become tenants of council houses, as the Council are legally bound to rehouse tenants from houses in clearance areas, and whilst not legally responsible for the rehousing of tenants in houses dealt with by individual action, they have in such cases a moral responsibility, which has always been shouldered.

In all it may seem to some that undue fuss is being made over the substandard family on a council estate considering the small numbers, but the repercussions can be considerable.

For instance gardens—all tenants are supposed to keep their gardens tidy and in decent order. The substandard family practically never do so, how then in fairness can the officer, whose duty it is to see to those things, enforce the Council's edict on the families adjacent to the chief sinner, and the same applies to the cleanliness of the house.

In the latest handbook published by the Housing Management Subcommittee of Central Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Housing, the Committee deprecate the segregation in batches of problem families, do agree that the most difficult families "need some degree of isolation" and advocate the siting of the houses where they will affect neighbours as little as possible.

After this recommendation it seems to me that the proposals of the same committee that older houses should be taken over, i.e. purchased and adapted, rather falls down, especially in our area, as the only houses which would be suitable in this area are generally in terraced rows, which would not have the desired result of isolation and, furthermore, the remainder of the tenants would expect and should have the properties modernised as well.

I still feel that the best solution is what I term the austerity house and am sure that a pilot scheme on this idea is well worth a trial.

Those who object to this project should think back to Chadwick's early efforts and the failure of the first attempts of sanitary reform on which "The Times" made comment to the effect "That we would rather suffer fever than be bullied into health". The reforms suggested then and many more are now regarded as necessary rules of life in a civilised community, and it is certain that the time will come when the anti-social family will have to be bullied into a decent mode of living.

CLEAN AIR

I mentioned in my report last year that industrial plants were giving trouble and certain colliery spoil-banks were also bad offenders.

Whilst some improvement has taken place in certain plants, in others there is little change, but it is understood that new apparatus is on order for the Holmewood plant which, when installed, should greatly mitigate the nuisance.

Complaints of the emission of fumes and "noxious gases" from the new Avenue Carbonisation Plant at Wingerworth have been received in the latter part of the year.

Representations have been made to the officials of the Coal Board and the Alkali Inspector of Factories has been informed.

It seems impossible in the light of present technical knowledge to eliminate entirely all odour and dust from carbonisation and chemical plants, every precaution and modern device is fitted at this plant to keep pollution to the minimum.

Some of the nuisance is due to "teething trouble" which is inevitable when a new plant of this type commences operating, and it is to be hoped that when the plant is operating normally that most of the defects will be remedied.

CHESTERFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

INHABITED HOUSES AND CARAVANS,
31st MARCH, 1956.

Parish	Number of inhabited Houses and Caravans	Number of Premises on Water Supply N.E.D.J.W.C.	Number of Premises on Supply C.B. & C. Water Board
Ashover	654	277	—
Barlow	308	260	—
Beighton	6,871	6,840	—
Brackenfield	77	60	—
Brampton	329	—	194
Brimington	2,413	—	2,448
Calow	605	—	606
Eckington	5,537	5,228	— *
Hasland	1,100	—	1,096
Heath	547	543	—
Holmesfield	389	282	—
Killamarsh	1,666	1,659	—
Morton	321	315	—
North Wingfield	2,418	2,416	—
Pilsley	839	823	—
Shirland & Higham	1,607	1,572	—
Stretton	187	169	—
Sutton-cum-Duckmanton	461	189	210
Temple Normanton	172	172	—
Tupton	990	989	—
Unstone	668	655	—
Walton	648	—	551
Wessington	203	168	—
Wingerworth	708	587	57

* Part of Parish supplied by mains of Sheffield Corporation

APPROXIMATE POPULATION IN THE PARISHES

Ashover	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,988
Barlow	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	936
Beighton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20,887
Brackenfield	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	234
Brampton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,000
Brimington	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7,335
Calow	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,839
Eckington	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16,832
Hasland	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,340
Heath	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,662
Holmesfield	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,182
Killamarsh	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,964
Morton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	975
North Wingfield	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7,350
Pilsley	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,550
Shirland and Higham	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4,885
Stretton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	568
Sutton-cum-Duckmanton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,401
Temple Normanton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	522
Tupton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3,009
Unstone	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,030
Walton	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1,969
Wessington	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	617
Wingerworth	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,152

HOUSING

There has been a notable increase in the number of houses erected by private enterprise.

225 were completed during the year, by far the greatest number erected since the end of the war. Also it is evident that builders are preparing to develop fairly large estates during the coming year.

The Rural District Council completed the erection of 517 houses, Sheffield Corporation 32 and the Coal Industry Housing Association 86, giving a total of 860 new houses completed during 1955.

There are increasing numbers of owners taking advantage of the improvement grants scheme.

During the year 41 owners were given assistance in modernisation schemes and the numbers seem likely to increase.

There were 108 demolition orders made in the year, in addition undertakings were given in respect of 17 other houses that they would not be used for human habitation.

HOUSING

1.	Inspection of dwelling houses during the year 1955 :—	
(1)	(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	483
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	483
(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	197
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	197
(3)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	197
(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	286
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	144
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	96
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
	(a) By owners	57
	(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	108

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	30
(3) Number of dwelling houses demolished by informal action	1
(4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were given not to use for human habitation	17
(5) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which undertakings were given to make fit	8
(d) Number of dwelling houses made fit after undertaking	1
(e) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	6
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—
(f) Proceedings under Section 10, Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1953:—	
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Orders were made	7
Number of houses demolished in Clearance Areas 1955	165
4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding.	
(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	169
(2) Number of persons dwelling therein	1,379
(3) Number of families dwelling therein	234
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	12
(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	—

OVERCROWDING BEDROOM STANDARD

(a)	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	1,368
	(2)	Number of persons dwelling therein	8,255
	(3)	Number of families dwelling therein	1,888
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	4
(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	64
	(2)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	381
(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	—

WATER SUPPLIES.

In the autumn the prolonged drought made the supply position in some areas rather precarious, but nevertheless supplies did not give out.

The Engineer and Manager of the North East Derbyshire Joint Water Committee reports the following works in progress or completed in 1955 :—

Smeekley Pumping Station Reconstruction

Installation of Submersible Pump—Crowhole

Reconstruction at Press Reservoirs

Ogston Reservoir Scheme—

Contract "A"—Reservoir Embankment and
Road Diversion.

Contract 1—Trunk main—Ogston, Higham.

Contract 2—Higham Service Reservoir.

Contract 3—Treatment Plant and Pumping Station.

Contract 4—Purification Plant.

It is hoped that sometime towards the summer of 1956 some supplies will be available from the Ogston Reservoir, but the works of course will not be completed there until 1958.

The following samples were taken from their various undertakings—

Total number taken	294
Satisfactory	273
Unsatisfactory	21

WORKS CARRIED OUT BY THE CHESTERFIELD, BOLSOVER AND CLOWNE WATER BOARD.

The main works in connection with the Brampton and Walton Scheme carried out by the Chesterfield, Bolsover and Clowne Water Board, are now nearly complete. The Engineer to the Board reports that "The Brampton and Walton Scheme is not yet complete, but steady progress is being made regarding the extension of the main at Eastwood, where several farms will eventually be brought on to measured supply.

During the past 12 months work was completed on the small reservoirs at Riddings and Slate Pit Dale, and both reservoirs are now in full operation."

SEWAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Engineer has furnished the following information—

“The West Handley Scheme was started; when completed, it will replace an old and unsatisfactory sewage tank by a small purification plant and for the sewerage of West Handley.

A start was made on the new pumping station at Woodhouse Lane, Beighton, the necessity arose from conditions caused by flooding of the River Rother and from building development in the area. The scheme will be finished in 1956 and a new pumping plant will replace a fifty year old sewage ejector.”

It is hoped that in 1956 some progress will be made in the Northern Central Sewage Scheme. The scheme involves the erection of large new works at Holbrook and the abandoning of the obsolete and overloaded works at Mosborough, Eckington, Holbrook and Killamarsh.

TABLE 1.
INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Disease	Total Number Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	145	68	—
Diphtheria	1	1	1
Typhoid	—	—	—
Para-typhoid	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever	6	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia			
Meningococcal Infection	3	3	—
Pneumonia	99	27	26
Erysipelas	31	2	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	7	7	3
„ (Non-Paralytic)	13	13	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	1	1
Measles	2,405	13	—
Whooping Cough	139	5	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—
Dysentery	28	10	—
Food Poisoning	7	4	—

TABLE 2.
TUBERCULOSIS RETURN FOR 1955

Age Period	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and over	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
5 and over	1	2	2	2	—	—	—	—
15 and over	1	4	2	1	—	—	—	—
25 and over	5	6	1	1	—	—	—	—
35 and over	3	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
45 and over	5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55 and over	3	3	—	—	1	1	1	—
65 and over	2	1	—	—	2	1	1	1
Total	22	16	5	6	6	2	2	1
Not Primary					Not Notified			
Cases included above	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—

TABLE 3.
DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS, 1955.

	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year	34	28	62
1-5 years	5	4	9
5-10 years	3	2	5
10-15 years	3	2	5
15-20 years	4	—	4
20-25 years	4	1	5
25-35 years	10	8	18
35-45 years	12	10	22
45-55 years	42	34	76
55-65 years	73	51	124
65-70 years	42	41	83
70-75 years	67	47	114
75-80 years	61	61	122
80-85 years	66	31	97
85-90 years	35	26	61
90-95 years	9	11	20
95-100 years	—	3	3
Over 100 years	—	—	—
	470	360	830

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

POLIOMYELITIS.

Twenty cases were notified during the year; seven paralytic and 13 non-paralytic.

There were three deaths from the disease, all in adult males.

Seventeen of the cases occurred in the Beighton, Gleadless and Hackenthorpe areas, and the remaining three were in other parts of the district.

The concentration of cases in this area would seem to indicate that the close connection with the adjacent city area had some effect, but the Urban District of Dronfield had only one case notified during the year and a goodly proportion of residents there also travel to Sheffield to work or shop.

DIPHTHERIA.

One case was notified which proved to be fatal. This case was in a boy who had moved into the area only two days previous to being taken ill.

Apart from the poliomyelitis and diphtheria referred to above, all the infectious diseases were of a mild type.

2,405 cases of measles were notified; there were no deaths and the General Practitioners reported that the great majority of children were slightly affected, only being ill for a matter of 24-48 hours and complications and sequelae were practically absent. This number is the highest since the notification was made compulsory.

145 cases of scarlet fever were notified and again the cases were mild; there were no deaths.

There were 139 cases of whooping cough notified and one death was reported.

TABLE 4.
TREATMENT CENTRE, POOLSBROOK.

No. of cases—20 SCABIES.	Adults	5-15	Under 5	Total
Bolsover U.D.C.	0	0	0	0
Chesterfield Borough	0	0	0	0
Chesterfield R.D.C.	5	2	1	8
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
	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 2	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 8
HEAD LICE.				
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.	1 (0)	6 (1)	1 (0)	8 (1)
Dronfield U.D.C.	0	0	0	0
Staveley U.D.C.	0	0	0	0
	<hr/> 1 (0)	<hr/> 6 (1)	<hr/> 1 (0)	<hr/> 8 (1)
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
	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 0
Diagnosis not confirmed	1			
Miscellaneous	2			
Pediculosis Corporis	0			
Pediculosis Pubis	1	Dronfield U.D.C. adult.		
	<hr/> 4			

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

TABLE 5.

TABLE SHOWING BIRTH, DEATH RATES AND
INFANT MORTALITY FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS.

Year	Birth Rate per 1,000 Living	Death Rate per 1,000 Living	Infant Death Rate for 1,000 Live Births
1955	18.61	9.18	36.26
1954	17.52	9.39	31.98
1953	17.1	8.7	25.71
1952	15.4	9.6	35.01
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

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951.

One case was dealt with during the year and investigations were made in four other instances.

In gaining more experience of dealing with the old folk, certain types of behaviour are found to be common to a number of them. Hoarding food and buying more than is necessary has been a marked feature in three cases. In one instance tea, butter and margarine had been hoarded for a period going back to the time of rationing.

In another, butter and bread had been hoarded as well as watches. The old gentleman in this instance had about a dozen watches, all going, on his table and mantelpiece.

The most perturbing and unfortunate behaviour pattern, however, was seen in two old ladies of accusing neighbours, who went in to help, of stealing. One lady had been to the police on several occasions and, of course, the net result was that neighbours were chary of going in to give any help.

In both cases, the accusations were entirely without foundation due, one feels, to the old ladies themselves putting articles aside and forgetting about them, or having clothing, etc., in such a soiled and dirty condition that it had to be destroyed.

At the risk of boring by repetition, again a noticeable feature of the old folk's attitude was the indifference to discomfort and a complete lack of cleanliness.

This was most apparent in one of the cases to which I refer. Judging from the clothing in cupboards and the furnishings, it was evident that at one time the old lady had been a very nicely dressed person with a nice house, but at the time of the visits she had obviously not washed even her face or hands for weeks, and the rooms with nice furniture were in an absolute state of squalor.

This change, from all the evidence I can gather, seems to come comparatively rapidly (in a matter of months) and for no apparent reason.

A glance at the table giving the deaths in age groups shows that 181 people were in the age group 80+ when they died. This increased age at death means that the numbers living to a great age will increase causing still greater demands on institutional beds, as it is inevitable that quite a proportion of the aged will have to be attended to in institutions in the last years of life.

PETROLEUM ACTS

Five new petroleum stores have been constructed and twelve have ceased to be used during the year, making the present total of 142 separate stores. These have a total capacity of 274,380 gallons.

There are three carbide of calcium stores with a licensed capacity of 3,002 lbs.

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

Licence fees amounted to £108/7/-

VERMINOUS PREMISES

During the year 44 dwelling houses have been treated as compared with 42 the previous year.

PRIVY CONVERSIONS

During the year 36 pail and privy conversions were carried out.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

	No. in use at end of 1955
Water Closets	28,877
Other	2,075
	<hr/>
	30,952
	<hr/>

PLACES OF ENTERTAINMENT

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

26 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.
Apple Sauce	33
Apricots	37
Apricot Jam	2
Baked Beans	61
Blackcurrants	32
Blackcurrant Jam	6
Corned Beef	21
Cream	1
Crab	3
Carrots	5
Condensed Milk	2
Crayfish	5
Damson Jam	1
Evaporated Milk	55
Fruit Salad	16
Figs	3
Grapefruit	2
Grapes	12
Golden Syrup	2
Ham	26
Luncheon Meat	7
Mango Slices	1
Marmalade	5
Mincemeat	4
Minced Beef Loaf	5
Oranges	12
Pears	28
Pilchards	6
Pineapple	39
Peaches	22
Pickled Onions	4
Pickle	1
Plums	2
Plum Jam	3
Pork	4
Pork Luncheon Meat	30
Peas	79
Red Cabbage	5
Rock Lobster	4
Raspberries	58
Sauce	8
Salmon	4
Shrimps	1
Sandwich Spread	5
Stewed Steak	12
Sardines	1

					Tins, jars, etc.
Spaghetti	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Strawberries	.....	.....	.....	.....	11
Strawberry Jam	.....	.....	.....	.....	6
Soup	.....	.....	.....	.....	23
Tomatoes	.....	.....	.....	.....	501
Tomato Juice	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Tongue	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Veal	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
					<hr/>
				Total	1,233
					<hr/>

					Packets
Salt	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Teacakes	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Peas	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Cheese	.....	.....	.....	.....	73
Cake Mixture	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
					<hr/>
				Total	88
					<hr/>

					lbs.
Bacon	.....	.....	.....	.....	34
Biscuits	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Beef	.....	.....	.....	.....	8
Butter	.....	.....	.....	.....	1½
Cake	.....	.....	.....	.....	33½
Cheese	.....	.....	.....	.....	224¾
Corned Beef	.....	.....	.....	.....	6½
Coconut	.....	.....	.....	.....	½
Cod Fillets	.....	.....	.....	.....	28
Flour	.....	.....	.....	.....	21
Ham	.....	.....	.....	.....	73
Luncheon Meat	.....	.....	.....	.....	3½
Pork	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Sausage	.....	.....	.....	.....	143
Tongue	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
Veal	.....	.....	.....	.....	7¼
					<hr/>
				Total	602½
					<hr/>

Fishcakes	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
Meat Pies	.....	.....	.....	.....	3

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

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Totals
Number killed (if known)	645	1864	136	5268	1110	9023
Number inspected	645	1864	136	5268	1110	9023
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	2	2	2	1	7
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	81	380	1	185	37	684
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis & cysticeri	12.9	20.8	2.2	3.5	3.4	—
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	9	—	—	1	10
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	63	642	—	2	32	739
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	9.8	34.9	—	0.037	2.9	—
CYSTICERCOSIS						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	6	—	—	—	8
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	2	6	—	—	—	8
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Total weight of carcase meat and offal condemned—20 tons 17 cwts 1 qr. 15 lbs.

TABLE 6.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections made	Notices served	Nuisances abated with or without notice
Dairies	1	3	—	—
Bakehouses ...	22	35	—	2
+ Slaughterhouses ... (Licensed)	23	1,705	1	2
Offensive Trades	1	2	—	—
Common Lodging Houses	1	4	—	1
Totals	48	1,749	1	5

+ Includes 2 knackers premises and visits made for the purpose of meat inspection.

TABLE 7.

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION SUMMARY OF WORK OF THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT

	No. of Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors	No. of Nuisances in respect of which Notices were served		No. of Nuisances abated with or or without Notice
		Informal	Legal	
CLOSETS & ASHPITS				
Defective privies, pail closets and ashpits (not for conversion)...	51	13	1	23
Conversion of privies into W.C.'s ...	166	22	—	27
Conversion of pail closets into W.C.'s ...	53	1	—	9
Conversion of privies into pail closets ...	—	—	—	—
Defective water closets ...	158	56	17	37
Provision of additional water closets ...	255	—	—	38
Provision of portable ashbins ...	1,084	784	—	784
Dirty closets... ..	5	3	—	3
DRAINAGE				
No disconnection of waste pipe...	—	—	—	—
Defective waste pipe, traps, inlets and drains ...	669	50	3	90
Drains obstructed ...	223	48	—	71
OTHER DEFECTS				
Paving of Courts and Yards ...	60	8	6	11
Roofs, eaves-spouts and down-spouts ...	383	123	45	125
Sinks ...	88	20	13	26
Insufficient ventilation ...	36	—	—	11
Windows ...	240	84	34	63
Dampness ...	268	101	41	68
Water in cellars ...	60	2	—	12
Water supply ...	144	17	—	14
Overcrowding ...	2	—	—	1
Foul condition of houses ...	31	21	—	6
Offensive accumulations ...	50	6	—	15
Animals improperly kept ...	14	—	—	1
Pigsties ...	46	—	—	11
Smoke Nuisances ...	67	3	—	2
Urinals ...	22	—	—	—
Nuisances not specified above ...	819	328	126	251
Totals	4,994	1,690	* 286	1,699

No. of visits to Infectious Disease cases—136

*NOTE. The actual number of separate notices served was—97

TABLE 8.
 FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

	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.	3	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	93	4	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	2	—	—
Total	98	4	—

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

During the year 498 premises have been visited by your Inspectors and 177 surface infestations dealt with by the rat catchers to secure satisfactory elimination of 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	44	6	38	—
Council Houses	39	—	22	17
+ Private Houses	61	—	50	11
Other Property (includes business and schools)	33	—	19	14
TOTAL ...	177	6	129	42

+ Includes houses erected by Sheffield Corporation.

There are 61 separate sewerage systems with a total of 2,162 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 43 of the sewerage systems are now clear of rats and infestations in the remaining 18 systems have been 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 2,058 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.



PRINTED BY
GEO. ALLEN (PRINTERS) LTD.,
BRIMINGTON, CHESTERFIELD.
