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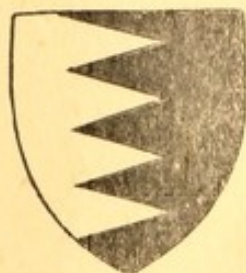
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HINCKLEY  
Urban District Council



ANNUAL REPORTS

of the  
Medical Officer of Health  
and  
Chief Sanitary Inspector  
for the  
Year ended 31st December, 1945

W. D. CRUICKSHANK, M.B., Ch.B.  
and  
E. MELSON, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.



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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS  
of the  
HINCKLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:**

J. H. DONNELL, B.A., M.B., B.C. Retired 30-9-45  
W. D. CRUICKSHANK, M.B., Ch.B. Appointed 1-10-45

**DISTRICT MEDICAL OFFICER UNDER THE POOR LAW ACTS AND  
PUBLIC VACCINATOR:**

H. SHIRLAW, M.B., B.Ch.

**CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR:**

E. MELSON, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

**DEPUTY CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR:**

G. G. POPPLEWELL, M.S.I.A. Resigned 31-12-45

**ADDITIONAL SANITARY INSPECTORS:**

H. DEAMER, M.S.I.A.

L. F. WHITMORE, M.S.I.A.  
(Resumed following demobilisation 26-1-46)

**CLERKS:**

R. C. LIGGINS (on Naval Service)

MISS T. I. BARROWCLIFFE

**RODENT OPERATOR:**

T. FITZPATRICK

**VACCINATION OFFICER:**

G. A. RUDKIN



# ANNUAL REPORT

## for the Year 1945

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To the Chairman and Members of the Hinckley Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of your area for the year 1945.

This report is drawn up broadly on the same lines as those of my predecessor, Dr. J. H. Donnell, and covers the year during which the hostilities of World War II came to an end, and there began the difficult stage of transition back from War to Peace conditions.

Generally speaking the health of the community has been good.

Nutrition.—Despite the dull dietary, I have seen no evidence of serious nutritional deficiency.

Infectious Diseases.—Apart from an increase in the number of measles cases notified, the remaining infectious diseases show a low incidence.

Veneral Disease.—No local statistics are available, but there is no evidence of much veneral disease, and suspected cases willingly go for investigation to the Centre in Leicester.

Scabies.—The Cleansing Centre in London Road (where new cases were treated during the year) is closed down as the premises are required for other purposes, and a new treatment centre will have been opened by the time this report appears.

Mortality Rates.—Both the Infant Mortality Rate (26.1) and the General Death Rate (9.3) are slightly lower, and compare favourably with the average figure given in the Registrar General's Report for communities of about the same size as Hinckley, viz., 43 and 12.3 respectively.

## STATISTICS OF THE AREA

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| Area (acres) ... ..   | 11,882   |
| Registrar-General's estimate of resident population ...       | 34,400   |
| Number of inhabited houses according to the rate books ... .. | 10,740   |
| Rateable value ... ..   | £190,929 |
| Sum represented by a penny rate ... ..                        | £768     |

### VITAL STATISTICS

#### BIRTHS

|                    | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------------|------|--------|-------|
| Live Births .....  | 352  | 336    | 688   |
| Legitimate .....   | 313  | 289    | 602   |
| Illegitimate ..... | 39   | 47     | 86    |

This represents a birth rate of 20 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.

|                    | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------------|------|--------|-------|
| Still Births ..... | 13   | 8      | 21    |
| Legitimate .....   | 11   | 7      | 18    |
| Illegitimate ..... | 2    | 1      | 3     |

Rate (still births) per 1,000 total (live and still births) 29.6.

#### DEATHS

|  | Male | Female | Total |
|--|------|--------|-------|
|  | 173  | 150    | 323   |

This represents a death rate of 9.3 per 1,000 of estimated resident population.

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's short list):

|                                     |   |                      |     |
|-------------------------------------|---|----------------------|-----|
| No. 29 Puerperal sepsis ... ..      | 0 | Rate per 1,000 total |     |
| No. 30 Other puerperal causes ... 1 |   | live births          | 1.4 |

Death rate of infants under one year of age:

|   |      |
|---|------|
| All infants per 1,000 live births ... ..                    | 26.1 |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...     | 23.2 |
| Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ... | 46.5 |
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... ..                        | 47   |
| "  " Measles " ... ..                                       | 0    |
| "  " Whooping cough " ... ..                                | 0    |
| "  " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ... ..                | 0    |

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

### 1. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

(See beginning of Report)

### 2. LABORATORY FACILITIES

The following examinations from the area were carried out at the County Laboratory, Leicester:

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Sputa for T.B. ... ..                      | 223 |
| Milk examinations (bacteriological) ... .. | 207 |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| Swabs for diphtheria ... ..                | 101 |
| Urine (general and bacteriological) ... .. | 24  |
| Milk for Phosphatase Test ... ..           | 23  |
| Urine for T.B. ... ..                      | 18  |
| Sewage and Water Analyses ... ..           | 16  |
| Blood for Wassermann Test ... ..           | 5   |
| Milk for Fat Content ... ..                | 2   |
| Films for Gonococci ... ..                 | 1   |
| Miscellaneous ... ..                       | 2   |

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### 3. PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

*Diphtheria Immunisation.* The percentage of children immunised based on the figures supplied by the Registrar General for the respective age groups at mid-1945 was as follows:

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Under 5 years of age ... ..                | 64.87 |
| Over 5 years but under 15 years of age ... | 82.59 |

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING 1945

| Disease                    | Total cases notified. | Total deaths |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Scarlet Fever ... ..       | 54                    | 0            |
| Diphtheria ... ..          | 46                    | 1            |
| Pneumonia ... ..           | 36                    | 10           |
| C.S.F. ... ..              | 7                     | 0            |
| Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..   | 3                     | 0            |
| Whooping Cough ... ..      | 89                    | 0            |
| Measles ... ..             | 458                   | 0            |
| Erysipelas ... ..          | 6                     | 0            |
| Acute Poliomyelitis ... .. | 1                     | 0            |

### AGE GROUPS AND SEX

| Age         | Scarlet Fever |    | Diphtheria |    | Pneumonia |    | Erysipelas |   | C.S.F. |   |
|-------------|---------------|----|------------|----|-----------|----|------------|---|--------|---|
|             | M             | F  | M          | F  | M         | F  | M          | F | M      | F |
| 0           | —             | 1  | —          | —  | —         | 2  | —          | — | —      | — |
| 1           | 3             | 2  | 3          | —  | 1         | 1  | —          | — | —      | 2 |
| 3           | 4             | 5  | 5          | —  | 2         | —  | —          | — | —      | 1 |
| 5           | 14            | 12 | 10         | 7  | 2         | 1  | —          | — | 1      | — |
| 10          | 3             | 4  | 4          | 2  | 1         | —  | 1          | — | —      | 1 |
| 15          | 2             | 1  | 2          | 6  | 3         | 2  | —          | — | —      | — |
| 25 and over | 1             | 2  | 1          | 6  | 9         | 12 | 2          | 3 | —      | 2 |
| Total       | 27            | 27 | 25         | 21 | 18        | 18 | 3          | 3 | 1      | 6 |



| Age         | Puerperal Pyrexia |   | Measles |     | Whooping Cough |    | Acute Polio Myel |   |
|-------------|-------------------|---|---------|-----|----------------|----|------------------|---|
|             | M                 | F | M       | F   | M              | F  | M                | F |
| 0           | —                 | — | 10      | 10  | 4              | 5  | —                | — |
| 1           | —                 | — | 61      | 87  | 20             | 13 | 1                | — |
| 3           | —                 | — | 66      | 72  | 10             | 8  | —                | — |
| 5           | —                 | — | 78      | 69  | 16             | 13 | —                | — |
| 10          | —                 | — | 1       | 1   | —              | —  | —                | — |
| 15          | —                 | 1 | 1       | 1   | —              | —  | —                | — |
| 25 and over | —                 | 2 | —       | 1   | —              | —  | —                | — |
| Total       | —                 | 3 | 217     | 241 | 50             | 39 | 1                | — |

The distribution of these diseases in the area were as follows:

|                       | Hinckley | Barwell | Earl Shilton | Burbage |
|-----------------------|----------|---------|--------------|---------|
| Scarlet Fever ...     | 23       | 14      | 11           | 6       |
| Diphtheria ...        | 24       | 12      | 6            | 5       |
| Pneumonia ...         | 18       | 7       | 8            | 3       |
| Erysipelas ...        | —        | 3       | 3            | —       |
| C.S.F. ...            | 5        | —       | 2            | —       |
| Puerperal Pyrexia ... | 1        | 1       | 1            | —       |
| Measles ...           | 153      | 107     | 138          | 60      |
| Whooping Cough ...    | 13       | 17      | 42           | 17      |
| Acute Polio Myel ...  | 1        | —       | —            | —       |

#### TUBERCULOSIS

No action has been taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925, or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act 1925.

#### NEW CASES AND MORTALITY 1945

| Age Periods     | New Cases. |    |               |    | Deaths.   |    |               |    |
|-----------------|------------|----|---------------|----|-----------|----|---------------|----|
|                 | Pulmonary  |    | Non-Pulmonary |    | Pulmonary |    | Non-Pulmonary |    |
|                 | M.         | F. | M.            | F. | M.        | F. | M.            | F. |
| 0               | —          | —  | —             | —  | —         | —  | —             | —  |
| 1               | —          | 1  | 1             | —  | —         | 1  | 1             | —  |
| 5               | 1          | —  | 2             | 1  | —         | —  | 1             | 1  |
| 15              | 4          | 8  | —             | 2  | —         | 3  | —             | —  |
| 25              | 2          | 6  | 2             | 2  | —         | 2  | —             | —  |
| 35              | 6          | —  | 1             | 1  | 2         | —  | —             | —  |
| 45              | 1          | 1  | 2             | 1  | 4         | 1  | —             | —  |
| 55              | 1          | —  | —             | —  | —         | —  | —             | —  |
| 65 and upwards. | 1          | 1  | —             | —  | 3         | —  | —             | 1  |
| Totals ..       | 16         | 17 | 8             | 7  | 9         | 7  | 2             | 2  |

28 of these new cases occurred in Hinckley, 8 in Barwell, 10 in Earl Shilton and 2 in Burbage.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. D. CRUICKSHANK,

Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1946.

To the Chairman and Members of the Hinckley Urban District Council.

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Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report upon the administration of your Sanitary Inspector's Department.

The quality and standard of the inspections have been maintained, those made in connection with the administration of the Food and Drugs Act, relating to food and food premises and those relating to dairies and dairy farm premises were considerably more than the number performed in 1944. The work put into the administration of the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act during 1944 has been consolidated, the sewers in the town have been systematically treated and surface infestations are being kept well in hand.

I refer to the housing conditions in my report, but would point out in this preface that we are restricted by the existing conditions to the performance of essential works to abate nuisances or serious defects which I include in the category of ameliorative repairs.

It is with pleasure I report that the members of the staff who served in H.M. Forces have returned. The Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector resigned at the close of the year. His action coincided with the return of the Assistant Sanitary Inspector who was promoted to Additional Sanitary Inspector. The vacancy caused by this promotion has not yet been filled.

Dr. J. H. Donnell, the Medical Officer of Health, retired in September after 26 years' service. From 1927, when I commenced service here, we worked together in close co-operation as colleagues. It is difficult to express in words my thanks to him for his support and co-operation. I shall retain pleasant memories of our service together and regard his co-operative and helpful manner as worthy of emulation in my dealings with other colleagues in local government service.

I wish also to express my thanks to the members and officers of the Council for their support and co-operation and to my staff for their ready and prompt service at all times.

I beg to remain, gentlemen,

E. MELSON,

*Chief Sanitary Inspector.*

26th August, 1946.

## WATER SUPPLY

### QUALITY

Approximately 66% of the water is from deep well and bore hole supplies at Snarestone and Chilcote and 33% from a reservoir supply.

### SUFFICIENCY

The supply available was sufficient throughout the year, although we came very near to restricting it by cutting the water off for certain periods each day just before the Chilcote supply became available.

Negotiations are taking place with the City of Leicester regarding the provision of an adequate supply of water for the next thirty years.

### EXAMINATION OF WATER

Number of samples taken: 17.

| From main supplies                      |                          |                   |                          | From well supplies  |                          |                   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|
| Bacterio-logical                        |                          | Chemical          |                          | Bacterio-logical  |                          | Chemical          |                          |
| Satis-<br>factory                       | Un-<br>satis-<br>factory | Satis-<br>factory | Un-<br>satis-<br>factory | Satis-<br>factory   | Un-<br>satis-<br>factory | Satis-<br>factory | Un-<br>satis-<br>factory |
| 5                                       | -                        | 4                 | -                        | 3   | 9                        | 4                 | 4                        |
| One sample was not examined chemically. |                          |                   |                          | Four samples were not examined chemically owing to the high coliform content indicating heavy contamination of the water. |                          |                   |                          |

The analyst's report upon one of the five samples of town water is set out as follows:

|   |     |     |     |  |
|---|-----|-----|-----|--|
| Date received                                       | ... | ... | ... | 4/9/45   |
| Collected from                                      | ... | ... | ... | Tap over sink at:<br>31 Station Road, Hinckley |
| Free and Saline Ammonia                             | ... | ... | ... | 0.0000   |
| Albuminoid Ammonia                                  | ... | ... | ... | 0.0112   |
| Chlorine in Chlorides                               | ... | ... | ... | 3.00   |
| Nitrogen in Nitrates & Nitrites                     | ... | ... | ... | Minute Trace                                   |
| Oxygen absorbed from permanganate at 80°F in 4 hrs. | ... | ... | ... | 0.139  |
| Total solids dried in 100°C                         | ... | ... | ... | 30.  |

|               |           |     |     |                             |
|---------------|-----------|-----|-----|-----------------------------|
| Appearance    | ...       | ... | ... | Bright, few small particles |
| Hardness      | Temporary | ... | ... | 3.6                         |
|               | Permanent | ... | ... | 9.6                         |
|               | Total     | ... | ... | 13.2                        |
| Nitrite       | ...       | ... | ... | Absent                      |
| Metals        | ...       | ... | ... | Absent                      |
| Free Chlorine | ...       | ... | ... | 0.003                       |

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

|  |     |     |     |     |        |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| No. of colonies capable of growth on Agar—Agar in<br>2 days at 37° C per c.c.    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 24     |
| No. of colonies capable of growth on Rebipel—Agar in<br>2 days at 37° C per c.c. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0      |
| No. of colonies capable of growth on Agar—Agar in<br>4 days at 20° C per c.c.    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 32     |
| Presumptive B. Coli in 100 c.c.  | ... | ... | ... | ... | Absent |

The chemical and bacteriological results show that this water is in a safe condition for use as a public supply.

(Signed) BOSTOCK, HILL and RIGBY,

*Public Analysts.*

No bacteriological examination was made of samples of piped raw water supplies.

#### HARDNESS OF SUPPLY

The water is hard and there appears no likelihood of plumbosolvency being set up.

#### ACTION IN RESPECT OF ANY FORM OF CONTAMINATION

Four wells were closed and two were cleaned out.

One dairy farm obtained a supply from the town mains.

Very little progress has been made with other outlying dairy farm premises, although instructions have been given for the provision of a piped supply in most instances.

The owners of three of the premises where the wells have been closed have given instructions for a supply to be obtained from the town mains.

#### WATER SUPPLIES FROM PUBLIC MAINS

| (a) Direct to houses   |            | (b) By means of stand-pipes |            |
|------------------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| No. of dwelling houses | Population | No. of dwelling houses      | Population |
| 10,275                 | 33,393     | 570                         | 1,710      |

**WATER SUPPLIES FROM WELLS OR SPRINGS**

No. of dwelling houses ... 168                      Population ... 504

I am indebted to the Waterworks Engineer for the information from his annual report which I have set out under the heading of "Sufficiency."

**DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE**

Sites and works of sewerage were in progress at three places in the area in connection with new housing development. No extension of sewage disposal works was performed during the year.

One septic tank and bacteria bed was constructed at a dairy farm during the year. The drainage systems of almost all the dairy farms in our area are now connected to the sewer or discharge into septic tanks or proper cesspools, instead of into the nearest ditch, as formerly appeared to be the practice.

**SANITARY ACCOMMODATION**

The position at the end of the year was:

|               |     |     |     |     |       |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Privies       | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8     |
| Pail Closets  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 234   |
| Water Closets | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9,467 |

Water closet accommodation was substituted for one pail closet during the year.

As stated in last year's report, the houses with sanitary accommodation which is used in common, or with pail closet accommodation, are included, in the main, amongst those scheduled for Slum Clearance treatment in the future. When this takes place and the contemplated Stoke Golding sewerage system is completed, there should be very few, if any, pail closets left.

**PUBLIC CLEANSING**

No important change took place in this service. Labour became slightly easier and the usual weekly collection of house refuse was maintained much better during the year.

House refuse is disposed of by the biological method of disposal on land at two sites—one at Hinckley and one at Barwell.

The collection of salvage and pig food has been maintained, although complaints are received concerning the placing of the pig food bins and fly nuisances from them. In the latter case, it is invariably connected with misuse and damage of the bins, resulting in the lids or bins being dented, etc., thus encouraging the attraction of flies to them.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

|  |       |
|--|-------|
| Total number of complaints received ... ..             | 258   |
| Total number of defects or nuisances discovered ... .. | 1,443 |

### Number of Inspections:

|                                       | Inspections. | Revisits     |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Animal Keeping ... ..                 | 14           | 9            |
| Bakehouses ... ..                     | 47           | 43           |
| Dairies and Cowsheds ... ..           | 191          | 322          |
| Drainage Works ... ..                 | 40           | 39           |
| Dwelling Houses (all purposes) ... .. | 375          | 830          |
| Food Premises ... ..                  | 137          | 199          |
| Offensive Trades ... ..               | 5            | 5            |
| Rats and Mice Destruction ... ..      | 818          | 213          |
| Refuse Collection and Disposal ... .. | 68           | 28           |
| Schools ... ..                        | 4            | 4            |
| Shops ... ..                          | 33           | 60           |
| Meat Inspection ... ..                | 476          | 19           |
| Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. ... ..       | 12           | 11           |
| Verminous Premises and Scabies ... .. | 114          | 48           |
| Water Supplies ... ..                 | 12           | 16           |
| Factories' Act Inspections ... ..     | 40           | 78           |
| Other Premises ... ..                 | 1,096        | 758          |
| <b>Total ... ..</b>                   | <b>3,482</b> | <b>2,482</b> |
| <b>Grand Total -</b>                  | <b>5,964</b> |              |

### NOTICES

|                                   | Preliminary |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------|
|                                   | Housing     | Other |
| Outstanding on 1st January ... .. | 35          | 56    |
| Issued during year ... ..         | 107         | 309   |
| Complied with during year ... ..  | 83          | 328   |
| Statutory action necessary ... .. | 20          | 38    |
| Outstanding 31st December ... ..  | 59          | 37    |
|                                   | Statutory   |       |
|                                   | Housing     | Other |
| Outstanding on 1st January ... .. | 1           | 3     |
| Issued during year ... ..         | 20          | 38    |
| Complied with during year ... ..  | 19          | 38    |
| Outstanding 31st December ... ..  | 2           | 3     |

### SUMMARY ACTION

No summonses were issued during the year.

Although conditions regarding labour and material are still difficult, by the exercise of much effort, time and patience, the works specified on the various Statutory or Abatement Notices were complied with. In some instances, advantage is being

taken of these shortages to defer either temporarily or permanently, if possible, the performance of works to abate nuisances or defects. Irrespective of any other considerations, this is a very short-sighted economic policy from the owners point of view.

## SHOPS

### Action Taken

|                       | Outstanding from previous year. | Defects found | Defects remedied | Outstanding 31st Dec |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Sanitary Conveniences | 2                               | 3             | 3                | 2                    |
| Temperature .. ..     | -                               | 1             | 1                | -                    |
| Ventilation .. ..     | -                               | 1             | 1                | -                    |
| Washing facilities .. | 1                               | 1             | 2                | -                    |

### CERTIFICATES OF EXEMPTION. s.10 Shops Act 1934

Six certificates of exemption were granted from para (2) of s.10, re sanitary accommodation, and one from para (4) of s.10, re washing facilities.

These certificates apply in most cases to premises where the rooms behind and over the shop were let as a war-time measure to ease the serious housing shortage.

The Shop Act of 1934 specifies the facilities must be in the shop. Whilst in some instances it is difficult to comply with this requirement relating to sanitary accommodation, it is not so relating to washing facilities, and I suggest there is no need for exemption from this provision.

The Act commenced to operate in December, 1934, and owners and occupiers of shop property have had ample time to comply with its provisions.

99 inspections were made at 38 shops relating to the various provisions of the Shops' Acts.

### TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS

23 inspections were made relating to eight vans or sheds. 5 nuisances or defects were found. In one case the van was removed, in another the defective cesspool and sanitary accommodation was repaired, and in the three remaining cases the occupiers were called upon to vacate the sites. 2 licences were granted and one was refused.

During autumn a few cases occurred where, in the natural anxiety to overcome the serious housing shortage, vans of light

construction were placed on sites without any licence being obtained. In one case the conditions in the flimsily constructed van were most unsatisfactory and were responsible for serious illness during the cold weather which existed during November and December. Advertisements were placed in the newspapers circulating in the district drawing attention to the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to the control and licensing of vans, etc. and the use of land as sites for such structure.

No licences have been issued for camping sites.

#### **REGULATED BUILDINGS**

There is no Common Lodging House in the district.

#### **CANAL BOATS**

No canal boats were inspected.

#### **OFFENSIVE TRADES**

There are two small tripe-dressers' premises in the district. Structural improvements were completed at one of them and painting and limewashing was called for at both of them on five occasions. Generally the premises are maintained in a fair condition.

#### **SMOKE ABATEMENT**

Ninety-four observations and inspections were made on chimney stacks in connection with fourteen premises.

Six nuisances were discovered, four of these being abated at the end of the year.

The height of the chimney stack was increased at one factory and nuisances were abated by increased care in stoking at three factories.

One new boiler house, with an automatic stoker, was fixed at one factory.

Whilst the nuisances from two premises have been mitigated by care in stoking they have not been abated. In one case the owners are prepared to buy a new boiler, but cannot get form M for the steel. These two cases are regarded as unabated and I hope some progress will be made during 1946.

The majority of the factories in the area have automatic underfeed mechanical stokers fixed to their boilers and no nuisances have occurred from any of these plants. If some form of mechanical stoker of equal efficiency was available and fitted to the few larger type Lancashire or Cornish boilers, where the steam demand fluctuates, this town would be free from smoke nuisances from industrial plant.



**ERADICATION OF BED BUGS**

Eight houses were found to be infested—three Council houses and five privately-owned houses. These were fumigated with Lawes' special sulphur blocks and sprayed with Lawvercide D.D.T. (Geigy). The results following the use of Lawvercide D.D.T. have been very satisfactory.

One hundred and three inspections were made relating to verminous premises.

**SCABIES**

Fifty-nine inspections were made in connection with scabies.

When information reaches me from the Medical Officer, School Medical Officer or the general practitioners that someone is suffering from scabies, the house is visited to obtain particulars relating to the number of persons residing therein, whether they are suffering from scabies, the condition of the house, etc. The contacts are required to attend their own doctor for examination, who will arrange for them to attend the Scabies Treatment Centre if they have the disease.

**SCHOOLS**

Two schools were disinfected during the year.

Eight inspections of school premises were made relating to the cleanliness of the floors and the sanitary accommodation.

**HOUSING****A. NEW HOUSES**

|                                       |     |     |     |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| No. of new houses erected during year | ... | ... | Nil |
| (a) By local authority                | ... | ... | Nil |
| (b) By private enterprise             | ... | ... | Nil |

No. of houses in course of erection at end of year:

|                           |     |                        |     |
|---------------------------|-----|------------------------|-----|
| (a) By local authority    | ... | 50 permanent type      |     |
|                           |     | 100 prefabricated type |     |
| (b) By private enterprise | ... | ...                    | Nil |

Total number of applicants for Council houses at the end of the year 1,500.

**B. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING YEAR**

|   |     |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|-----|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health & Housing Acts)  | ... | ... | 166 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose  | ... | ... | 376 |
| (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 | ... | ... | Nil |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose  | ... | ... | Nil |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation                                      | ... | ... | Nil |



- (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... .. 2
- (c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... .. 1  
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases 16
- (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding:

One family of 10 persons, who were grossly overcrowded in a house with a permitted number of 3, were rehoused in a large type council house, they then took in two lodgers who obtained alternative accommodation after the commencement of informal action.

- (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions under which the Sanitary Inspector may consider it desirable to report:

Houses are now being shared by two or more families to a much larger degree. Except in very few cases, the houses are not legally overcrowded, although conditions exist which are detrimental to health and mitigate against proper home life.

#### HOUSING—GENERAL REMARKS

The housing conditions, after seven years of shortage of labour, materials, and in some cases absence of desire to have any repairs done, are now beginning to attract critical attention from the community and especially from the occupiers of the lower rental type of house. As in other instances, the community put up with many abnormal conditions without undue complaints being made. Now the war is over they are looking for some improvement. This change of opinion, unfortunately, coincides with the direction of the existing short supply of labour and materials to the provision of new and urgently required houses, which restricts the performance of repairs to those which are the minimum required to abate nuisances, or conditions likely to be injurious to health, thus continuing the severe austerity conditions of the past seven years.

During 1944 a survey of unfit dwellings in the area was made and it is essential that the occupiers of these houses shall be rehoused and the unfit dwellings cleared as promptly as possible. Before this can be done a considerable number of new houses will have to be built to reach something like parity between the houses available and the families requiring them. If, until this position is reached, conditions are such as to allow of more repairs being completed, they will be directed to those houses which will justify further expenditure on them. The clearance of unfit properties may not be able to take place for

a few years, but I suggest an early commencement be facilitated by the preparation of the necessary schemes when housing conditions appear to be nearing parity.

#### **DEFENCE GENERAL REGULATIONS 56A 1939**

Licences have been renewed for the temporary occupation of four condemned houses and one further condemned house was licensed during the year.

#### **RENT AND MORTGAGE INTEREST RESTRICTIONS ACT 1939**

During the year 24 complaints were received. 6 relating to possession of accommodation, and 10 relating to rent queries.

Following explanations of the Acts, rents were reduced by the owners in three instances, from 23/- to 17/- p.w., from 14/- to 10/8 p.w., and from 15/- to 8/6 p.w. respectively.

The remainder of the complaints dealt with increases of rent for improvements, taking sub-tenants, etc.

No complaints were received relating to furnished rooms.

The Rent Acts are so numerous and varied that explaining their provisions to the applicants is a duty that takes up some time. The only complaints recorded are those when specific complaint is made. Where enquiries are made subsequent to other matters of inquiry and they are general in character, they are not recorded.

#### **SWIMMING BATH**

One sample of water was taken and reported upon as follows: "No evidence of Coliform Organisms in 10 c.c.'s and plate count sterile."

The bath is owned by the Council, there is a Royles filtration and chlorination plant installed, and the Leicestershire County Health Department perform the bacteriological examination of the water samples.

### **INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD**

#### **MILK SUPPLY**

##### *Cowkeepers:*

|                       |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Number on register    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 76  |
| Number of inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | 398 |

##### *Dairymen or Purveyors of Milk (other than cowkeepers):*

|                       |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Number on register    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 57  |
| Number of inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | 115 |

### Total Contraventions

|                        | Outstanding<br>from 1944 | Found<br>during<br>year | Remedied<br>during<br>year | Out-<br>standing on<br>Dec. 31st. |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Cleansing .. ..        | 37                       | 258                     | 223                        | 72                                |
| Structural Alterations | 2                        | 9                       | 11                         | —                                 |
| Utensils .. ..         | —                        | 7                       | 5                          | 2                                 |
| Other .. ..            | 5                        | 48                      | 47                         | 6                                 |
| <b>TOTAL .. ..</b>     | <b>44</b>                | <b>322</b>              | <b>286</b>                 | <b>80</b>                         |

One septic tank and filter bed was constructed at a dairy farm where the drainage formerly discharged into a ditch.

### MILK SAMPLES

One hundred and thirteen samples of milk were taken and the following results obtained:

|                         | No. of<br>Samples. | Satisfactory. |           | Un-<br>satisfactory. |          |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------|-----------|----------------------|----------|
|                         |                    | M.B.          | B. Coli.  | M.B.                 | B. Coli. |
| Tuberculin Tested .. .. | 5                  | 4             | 5         | 1                    | —        |
| Non-designated .. ..    | 91                 | 74            | 85        | 17                   | 6        |
| <b>Total .. ..</b>      | <b>96</b>          | <b>78</b>     | <b>90</b> | <b>18</b>            | <b>6</b> |

### HEAT TREATED MILK.

|   | No. of<br>Samples. | Phosphatase<br>Test. |          | Deferred<br>M.B. Test. |          |
|---|--------------------|----------------------|----------|------------------------|----------|
|   |                    | Sats.                | Uns.     | Sats.                  | Uns.     |
| Pasteurised .. ..                             | 13                 | 13                   | —        | 11                     | 2        |
| Heat-treated, but sold as ordinary milk .. .. | 4                  | 4                    | —        | 4                      | —        |
| <b>Total .. ..</b>                            | <b>17</b>          | <b>17</b>            | <b>—</b> | <b>15</b>              | <b>2</b> |

**BIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK**

No samples were taken for this purpose.

**MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1936 to 1941**

The following licences were granted:

- One Tuberculin Tested dealer.
- One Tuberculin Tested supplementary.
- One to Pasteurise Milk.
- Two Pasteurised dealers, and
- One Pasteurised supplementary.

The licensed Pasteurising Dairy is regularly inspected and pasteurisation of milk is efficiently performed.

All samples satisfied the Phosphatase test being placed in Group 1.

**MEAT AND OTHER FOODS**

|   |     |     |     |       |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Number of regional slaughter-houses in area               | ... | ... | ... | ONE   |
| Number of animals slaughtered in ditto                    | ... | ... | ... | 9,532 |
| Number of animals examined in ditto                       | ... | ... | ... | 9,532 |
| Number of animals slaughtered elsewhere (cottagers' pigs) |     |     |     | 647   |
| Number of animals examined elsewhere (cottagers' pigs)    |     |     |     | 127   |
| Number of inspections of meat at time of slaughter        | ... |     |     | 432   |
| Number of Knacker yards in area                           | ... | ... | ... | Nil   |
| Number of visits to Knackers yards                        | ... | ... | ... | Nil   |

**CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED**

|  | Cattle,<br>exclud-<br>ing<br>cows | Cows  | Calves | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs | Pigs  | Total                              |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------|--------|-----------------------|-------|------------------------------------|
| No. killed (if known) ..   | 1378                              | 683   | 1806   | 5455                  | 210   | 9532                               |
| No. inspected .. ..  | 1378                              | 683   | 1806   | 5455                  | 210   | 9532                               |
| <b>All diseases except<br/>Tuberculosis.</b>   |                                   |       |        |                       |       | Total weight<br>in lbs.            |
| Whole carcasses con-<br>demned .. ..   | 1                                 | 21    | 15     | 5                     | 2     | 9911                               |
| Carcases of which some<br>part or organ was<br>condemned .. ..                           | 283                               | 206   | 15     | 1255                  | 26    | 13764                              |
| Percentage of number<br>inspected affected<br>with disease other<br>than tuberculosis .. | 20.60                             | 33.23 | 1.66   | 23.09                 | 13.33 | Combined<br>total in lbs.<br>23675 |

**CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED (continued)**

|  |       |       |      |   |       |                                    |
|--|-------|-------|------|---|-------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Tuberculosis Only.</b><br>Whole carcasses condemned .. ..           | 6     | 25    | 11   | — | 1     | Total weight<br>in lbs.<br>16111   |
| Carcases of which some<br>part or organ was<br>condemned .. ..         | 262   | 281   | 8    | — | 21    | 21677                              |
| Percentage of the number<br>inspected affected<br>with Tuberculosis .. | 19.44 | 50.65 | 1.05 | — | 10.47 | Combined<br>total in lbs.<br>37788 |

Grand Total: 61,463 lbs.

**CONDEMNED MEAT**

The total weight of meat condemned, surrendered and disposed of for purposes other than human consumption was:  
27 tons, 8 cwts., 87 lbs. as compared with:  
32 tons, 19 cwts., 1 lb. last year.

The number of animals examined was slightly more than last year. The difference, in the main, being due to 251 additional calves.

The carcase and offal of 43 animals was condemned owing to Tuberculosis and 44 animals owing to various other diseases or diseased conditions.

Meat inspection is performed at varied times at the Central Slaughter-house, including holiday periods. It is also performed under difficult conditions owing to the restricted and inadequate hanging room.

**OTHER FOODS**

Under the present rationing system, a considerable amount of time is spent inspecting various foodstuffs and issuing certificates of condemnation. The main foodstuffs dealt with are tinned meats and milk, sausage, bacon and fish. Particulars of the foods condemned are reported to the Health and Sanitary Committee in my monthly report to them.

**FOOD POISONING**

No cases of food poisoning were reported during the year.

**SLAUGHTER-HOUSES**

Twelve slaughter-houses were licensed for one year subject to the same condition as specified in previous years under s. 57, of the Food and Drugs Act 1938.

Apart from the central slaughter-house at Barwell where slaughtering for the district takes place, the other slaughter-houses are only used occasionally for the slaughter of cottagers' pigs.

**FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1938****FOOD PREMISES, MEAT SHOPS, MEAT STORES, ETC.**

292 inspections were made.

32 contraventions relating to limewashing were found.

32 contraventions relating to absence of cleansing were found.

5 contraventions relating to structural items were found.

63 contraventions were abated during the year, plus

19 contraventions abated from 1944.

13 contraventions were unabated at the end of the year.

One new preparing room was provided in connection with a fried fish and chipped potato business.

Structural improvements were completed at one ice cream retailer's premises.

Wherever possible, food premises are being brought up to the standard which was approved by the Council for premises which require registration under s.14 of the Food and Drugs Act and based on the provisions of s.13 of the Act. Conditions at present are not suitable to enforce the standard, but as soon as they are I shall ask for authority to proceed in this manner where necessary. Despite various difficulties, progress has definitely been made during the past seven years, and there are, I believe, very few instances where the premises will not be brought to a satisfactory condition without recourse being made to the provisions of the Act.

**BAKEHOUSES**

79 inspections were made on 22 premises.

22 contraventions were found.

17 were abated, plus 6 contraventions abated following action commenced in 1944.

**FACTORIES ACT 1937**

118 inspections were made relating to 40 factories.

16 contraventions were found relating to sanitary accommodation, and

1 each relating to lighting and washing facilities.

5 contraventions were abated following action commenced in 1944, and

3 contraventions were unabated at the end of the year.

**SCABIES**

56 inspections were made to premises in connection with Scabies.

**RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT 1919 AND INFESTATION ORDER 1943**

1,057 inspections were made in connection with rats and mice disinfection. The scheme formulated in 1944, whereby a charge of 3/6 per hour for time actually spent on the disinfection work, has proved satisfactory.



A considerable number of small infestations have been dealt with at a minimum cost of 2/6. My intention was to keep the cost as low as possible to encourage people to report regarding any infestation and to have it dealt with promptly.

The contract scheme for industrial premises has proceeded satisfactorily, thirty factories being under contract during the year.

#### SEWER BAITING

The manholes throughout the district were pre-baited and poison-baited, the results of the second baiting completed during the first week of November was as follows:

|                 | Manholes inspected | Evidence of Rats | Good Take | Small Take | No Take | Not checked |
|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------|------------|---------|-------------|
| Hinckley ..     | 421                | 134              | 55        | 131        | 137     | 98          |
| Barwell ..      | 107                | 54               | 8         | 44         | 49      | 6           |
| Burbage ..      | 163                | 83               | 36        | 49         | 59      | 19          |
| Earl Shilton .. | 159                | 62               | 18        | 64         | 62      | 15          |
| Stoke Golding   | 11                 | 3                | —         | —          | —       | 11          |
| Totals .. ..    | 861                | 336              | 117       | 288        | 307     | 149         |

The poison bait used was Zinc Phosphide with sausage rusk in some sections and Arsenic with sausage rusk in other sections.

In my opinion it is too early to make any definite statement as to the relation between surface infestations and infestations in the drains or sewers.

There seems to be a possibility that effective treatment of the sewers has a beneficial effect on surface infestations and the continuation of disinfection work throughout 1946 may produce sufficient results to confirm this.







