

[Report 1956] / Medical Officer of Health, Swadlincote U.D.C.

Contributors

Swadlincote (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1956

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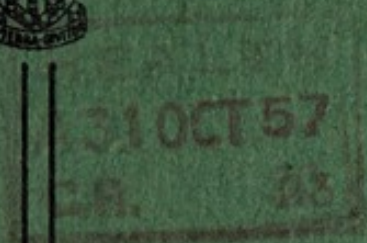
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SWADLINCOTE[®] URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



Henry

Derby

ANNUAL REPORTS

of the

Medical Officer of Health

MALCOLM ALLAN

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

and of the

Senior Public Health Inspector

DAVID HENRY BRADBURY

D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I.



FOR THE YEAR

1956



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health :

MALCOLM ALLAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer :

(also Inspector under the Shops Act) ..

GILBERT AINSWORTH, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(To 31st January, 1956).

DAVID HENRY BRADBURY, D.P.A., M.A.P.H.I.

(From 19th March, 1956)

Additional Public Health

Inspector W. G. SMITH, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
(to 11th March, 1956)

P. R. BRAMLEY, M.A.P.H.I.
(from 11th June, 1956)

Senior Clerk MR. R. J. LAKIN.

Junior Clerk MISS V. M. TILLEY.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

(Up to April, 1957)

Chairman : COUNCILLOR R. A. C. THOMPSON.

Vice-Chairman : COUNCILLOR J. W. ALLITT, M.B.E.

Councillors : C. CLAMP, MRS. E. M. HARDY, W. LORD, MRS. K. M. PEACE, W. H. WHITEHEAD, MRS. F. A. BRIGHTMAN, J.P., E. C. CLAMP, T. H. EDWARDS, W. HEAPE, C. SHIPTON, J. STRETTON, W. BREALEY, J.P., MRS. T. ILLSLEY, R. PERCIVAL, F. A. TRAVIS and A. WHITTAKER.

DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
WELFARE CLINIC
Alexandra Road, Swadlincote.

Ante-Natal Clinics

2nd and 4th Tuesdays in each month, 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.
Doctor attends each session.

Child Guidance

By appointment.

Dental Treatment

Temporarily unstaffed.

Eye Clinics

By appointment (2nd and 4th Thursdays in each month, commencing at 2.30 p.m.).

Infant Welfare Centre

Every Monday, 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Minor Ailment Clinics

Monday mornings and 2nd and 4th Wednesdays, 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. Doctor present.

Orthopaedic Clinics

By appointment (1st and 3rd Thursdays in each month, 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4 p.m.).

Speech Therapy

Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Immunisation against Diphtheria

Facilities for immunisation are available on request, when the Doctor is in attendance at Infant Welfare Centres and Minor Ailment Clinics.

Repairs or Replacements of Glasses for School Children

The necessary form may be obtained on request from the Principal School Medical Officer, County Offices, St. Mary's Gate, Derby, or from the School Medical Officers.

CHEST CLINICS

Burton-on-Trent

Chest Clinic,
59 Milton Street,
Burton-on-Trent.

New cases by appointment through own Doctor. (Monday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon).

Derby

The Derby Chest Clinic,
Green Lane,
Derby.

New cases by appointment through own Doctor. Wednesday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon ; and 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. (only for men and women employed during the day time).
Fridays 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon and 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturdays 10 a.m. to 12 noon (Contacts). No appointment necessary.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR YEAR 1956.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Swadlincote Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1956.

As can be seen from the records within the body of the report, the general health of the people remains good, and as further evidence of this state, there was no serious outbreak of infectious disease during the year.

The experience of the district with regard to Poliomyelitis was most fortunate because there was no notified case of either type of the disease throughout the year. As was fore-shadowed in the 1955 Annual Report the Poliomyelitis Vaccination Scheme got under way about Mid-summer, and actually began in this area on the 16th May, 1956. On the advice of the Minister, the vaccination was suspended after 30th June when the poliomyelitis season usually begins and ends sometime in November. Because of this, fewer cases were vaccinated than was thought possible at first, so at the present time it is unwise to draw any conclusion as to the efficacy of the vaccination scheme, but analysis of the statistics so far available show that the apparent protection was about 80%.

During the year there were no notified cases of Food Poisoning in the whole of the Urban District, and this reflects great credit on the food handlers, and also on the staff of the Health Department, who advise and instruct the food handlers. It is, of course, essential in this matter that all who handle food should realise that the health, and occasionally the life, of the customer is literally in their hands.

The Sanitary Inspectors altered their name to Public Health Inspectors during the year by the Change of Designation Bill, which received the Royal Assent on the 2nd August, 1956. The new name does give a better idea of the vast scope of their health work, but it has been known for a long time that the community's good health depends greatly on their knowledge, skill and wise judgment.

In the Table "Classification of Deaths" on page 10, it will be noted that out of a total of 201 deaths, twenty-four were due to coronary disease. The reason for the present high mortality in Britain from this disease is still obscure, although various suggestions have been made under the general heading "modern life"

such as mental and physical stress, frustration of ambition and high responsibility. Its exact cause awaits further investigation and research, but meantime prevention of this disease, as of others, lies in a wise ordering of life by maintaining the habit of walking, of golf or other outdoor exercise, avoid putting on weight, avoid as far as possible, rush and hurry and moderation in diet, tobacco and alcohol. That advice is summed up in the Pauline injunction, "Let your moderation be known unto all men."

The Council's laudable efforts on behalf of the old people on the Housing Estates and the similar intention for other parts of the Urban District will be beneficial not only to the old people, but also to their families.

As had been said, we are in fact at present dependent for the care of the majority of our old people on the love and sense of duty which they themselves inculcated into their children, and for any weakening of these bonds forged in early life the community would pay a price later on. The care of the old people should not be considered as a special and isolated problem, but should be envisaged as part of the national care of the infant, of the adolescent, and of the mature, for we all at one time or another need care. Your efforts are well directed, for it is your basic principle that the old person does best if we refrain whenever possible from putting him to bed in an institution for the rest of his life. By the provision of suitable housing accommodation, together with certain social services, your aim is to encourage and enable them to live in their own homes, where they remain happy and continue to be useful members of society in touch with their friends and relatives. Such a scheme as yours is economical in housing and in money. A recent Ministry of Labour enquiry showed that the average number of rooms occupied by the single old persons was 3.6 and by the elderly couple 5.4.

Groups of bungalows suitably planned and designed by Mr. J. W. May, who has very considerable technical knowledge of this special type of housing could be built on the Council's Housing Sites, and the old folks could be supervised by Wardens, whose care and attention would be strengthened by the services of the Derbyshire County Council's Home Helps, Home Nurses, and Health Visitors. Moreover, good use could be made of voluntary help, say, through the W.V.S. and 'friendly neighbour' scheme. It might be found useful if the Warden's house had a utility room for such mechanical household aids as washer, drier, and ironer, so that a limited laundry service would be available for the old folks, especially those who were incontinent.

Within the report there is a list of County Council Clinics for which I am indebted to Dr. Morgan, County Medical Officer of Health.

On the 22nd March, 1956, the Clerk to the Council, Joe Sandiford (for so he was known to all his friends) died suddenly.

after the briefest illness. His death grieved us deeply for we lost a true guide and friend and very wise counsellor.

It is a pleasure to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and members of the Council, General Practitioners, Health Visitors, heads of departments and staff, particularly of course, all the staff of the Public Health Department, especially the Senior Public Health Inspector.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

MALCOLM ALLAN,
Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
SWADLINCOTE,
NR. BURTON-ON-TRENT.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY

Area of District in Acres (inclusive of water)	3,754
Number of inhabited houses	5,965
Rateable Value	£159,608
Sum represented by a penny rate	£640
Population (Census), 1931	20,604
Population (Census), 1951	20,990
Population Registrar General's Estimate, 1956	19,820

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births

	<i>Total</i>	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	
Legitimate	247	130	117	Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population. crude 12.7 corrected 12.4
Illegitimate	5	2	3	
	252	132	120	

Still Births

Legitimate	6	3	3	Rate per 1,000 total live and still births—23.3.
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Deaths (All Ages)

201	102	99	Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident popula- tion. crude 10.1 corrected 12.3 (In ascertaining the cor- rected rates the following comparability factors were used— Births 0.98 Deaths 1.21)
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Deaths of Infants under one year of age

Legitimate	17	11	6
Illegitimate	—	—	—

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age

All infants per 1,000 live births	67.5
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	68.5
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..	—
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under two years)	Nil

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE DURING YEAR 1956

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Total Cases Notified</i>	<i>Cases admitted to Hospital</i>
Lobar Pneumonia	9	—
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	1	—
Scarlet Fever	4	—
Measles	18	—
Whooping Cough	1	1

CASES OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASE AT VARYING AGES

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Age Groups</i>															<i>Unknown</i>	<i>Total</i>
	0—	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	6—	7—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	60—			
Lobar Pneumonia	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	9	
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	
Measles ..	—	1	1	2	2	—	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	18	
Whooping Cough	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	

TUBERCULOSIS

	<i>Pulmonary</i>		<i>Non-Pulmonary</i>		<i>Total</i>
	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	
Number of cases notified during 1956	12	3	—	—	15
Number of cases on Register 31st December, 1956	72	40	30	18	160

MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT

Swadlincote, 20th February—12th March, 1956

Once again we are deeply indebted to Dr. W. Guthrie, Medical Director, and to Mr. P. A. Markwick, Organising Secretary for making arrangements for the Nottingham Mass Radiography Unit to visit our town, and below are given relevant extracts from Dr. Guthrie's report :—

“The response on this occasion was quite good, the total number X-rayed being 3,501, which was just a little more than last time. It is difficult to be certain about the response this time for two reasons. First of all the number of school children X-rayed was more than previously, but this is because children of thirteen years of age and over were X-rayed whereas previously we did not X-ray them until they were fourteen years of age. This means, therefore, that the response on the part of the general public was less than previously, but in connection with this it should be borne in mind that the Evening Sessions were very crowded and although the Unit worked longer than advertised on these evenings nevertheless many had to be turned away. The mixed evening session was an especial success, and, in future, it will be held regularly. On this occasion it was in the nature of an experiment. The morning and afternoon sessions were not very busy, so it would appear that many more people would have come had we had more evening sessions.

“It is interesting to note that only 26% of the general public were X-rayed for the first time, and it will be seen from the statistics that the oftener we come here the less are the number of new examinees coming for X-ray. It will also be seen from the statistics that the majority of cases discovered were people who had not been X-rayed before.

“On this occasion two active cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were discovered, representing an incidence of .06%. This is a low incidence, but greater than in 1954. Eleven observation cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were discovered, representing an incidence of .3% which is, if anything, also on the low side. However, it is expected that some of these observation cases will eventually be found to be active cases. For your information I have given in the statistics the final number of active cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis discovered on the three previous occasions when we visited Swadlincote from which it will be seen that after our first visit the number of active cases discovered was considerably reduced. However, on this occasion the incidence is on the increase again. All these cases have been referred for treatment, or further investigation, as may be found necessary.

“Three observation cases (non-Tuberculous) were discovered. One was a tumour, another lung abscess, and the third probably a tumour also. They have all been referred elsewhere for further investigation.

"Four of the cases of observation Pulmonary Tuberculosis had been X-rayed previously by this unit when their miniature films were normal. This shows the value of periodic x-ray of the chest.

Four people did not return for large film as requested. As their miniature films did not show anything of great significance no further action was taken regarding them."

SCABIES TREATMENT

Eight cases of Scabies were treated at the Clinic during the year.

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS

Cause of Death	All Ages			Mortality Rate per 1,000 Pop.
	M.	F.	Total	
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory system ..	—	1	1	0.05
Other forms of Tuberculosis ..	1	—	1	0.05
Syphilitic Disease ..	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ..	—	—	—	—
Meningoccal Infections ..	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	1	—	1	0.05
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	3	5	8	0.40
Malignant neoplasm, Lung, bronchus ..	6	1	7	0.35
Malignant neoplasm, breast..	—	1	1	0.05
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..	—	3	3	0.15
Other Malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms	7	7	14	0.70
Leukaemia, aleukaemia ..	—	—	—	—
Diabetes ..	—	1	1	0.05
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	8	17	25	1.25
Coronary Disease, angina ..	13	11	24	1.20
Hypertension with heart disease ..	2	4	6	0.30
Other heart disease ..	15	21	36	1.80
Other circulatory disease ..	7	6	13	0.65
Influenza ..	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ..	3	3	6	0.30
Bronchitis ..	16	5	21	1.05
Other Diseases of Respiratory system ..	4	1	5	0.25
Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum ..	—	—	—	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	—	1	1	0.05
Nephritis and nephrosis ..	2	—	2	0.10
Hyperplasia of prostate ..	—	—	—	—
Pregnancy, childbirth abortion ..	—	—	—	—
Congenital malformations ..	2	—	2	0.10
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	8	10	18	0.90
Motor vehicle accidents ..	—	—	—	—
All other accidents ..	4	—	4	0.20
Suicide ..	1	—	1	0.05
Homicide and operations of war ..	—	—	—	—
	102	99	201	

WATER SUPPLY

The Council are responsible for the distribution of water, obtained in bulk from the Swadlincote and Ashby Joint Water Board, to the Urban Area, the supply being derived from the Bunter Sandstone measures to the south of Milton Village, and treated at the Board's works at Milton.

The Joint Board have completed their mains extension and are now taking a supply of the Derwent Valley Boards water into the Hartshorne reservoir.

Difficulties in the distribution of water to certain parts of the District continue to exist due to mining subsidence, and I am informed by Mr. J. W. May, M.I.Mun.E., M.Inst.H.E. the Council's Surveyor and Engineer, that it was necessary to carry out repairs to seventy-nine broken water mains, ninety-seven drawn joints to mains and eighty-seven broken services to premises during the year.

Bacteriological sampling of the water as distributed from the Milton Water Works is done fortnightly. Chemical samples are also submitted for analysis at fairly frequent intervals. The health department also obtain samples regularly from various points in the Urban Area to check against results obtained from each supply.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND HOUSING
OFFICER FOR THE YEAR 1956.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Swadlincote Urban District Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting this, my first Annual Report, on the work of the Health Department during the year 1956.

In the first quarter of the year the inspectorial staff underwent complete change and it was not until June that a full staff was established. This, of necessity, caused some curtailment in much of the routine work, but as we found our way around the position improved. During this period essential services, such as meat inspection, were administered by the co-operation of the staff of Repton R.D.C. to whom I would record my sincere thanks.

In the field of Housing only four Individual Unfit houses were dealt with during the year, as all the available new houses were placed at the disposal of "general need" housing, which, in this area, provides a large social problem. In order that this problem may be reduced or even contained, and the pace of slum clearance procedure maintained at the required level every advantage must be taken of the available building sites within the Urban District to provide the maximum possible building programme.

Food Hygiene occupied much attention during the year and the co-operation of shop keepers and managers was found to be very high consequently no real problems or difficulties were met with in administering the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Meat inspection at the nine private slaughterhouses within the district was maintained at 100%, and the quality of the meat was found to be of a very good standard, whilst the incidence of disease, particularly Tuberculosis, showed an appreciable decline.

The last day of the year was the "appointed day" on which certain provisions of the Clean Air Act came into force. Whilst a great deal can be done to reduce atmospheric pollution by the improvement of industrial steam raising plants and the installation of smokeless domestic fuel burners our particular district is almost entirely made up of pottery kilns and colliery undertakings, an area which does not in any way lend itself to be designated as a "smoke control area." Colliery workers concessionary coal allocation is a point which should be considered by the National Coal Board as a contribution to future control of domestic atmospheric pollution.

In conclusion, I would express my sincere thanks for the cordial support I have received from the Chairman of the Health and Housing Committees and Members of the Council, and also for the willing co-operation and ready assistance given to me by the Medical Officer of Health. Last but not least, I would record my appreciation of the loyal support given by my fellow officers and members of the staff throughout the year.

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

D. H. BRADBURY,
Senior Public Health Inspector and Housing Officer.

HOUSING

Building Programme

The number of new houses erected during the year was as follows :—

(i) By the Local Authority	..	..	..	51
(ii) By other Local Authorities	..	..	..	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons	..	..	..	19

Housing Programme

During the year, little progress was made in implementing the slum clearance programme, by which the Council was committed, in 1955, to the demolition of 114 houses in five years. The agreed policy of building subsidised houses specifically for the purpose of rehousing people in substandard homes had not progressed sufficiently for any of the houses to be made available for this purpose during the year. All the houses completed in 1956 were tenanted by applicants from the general needs housing list.

Houses demolished	..	4
Houses closed	..	2
Demolition Order made		2
Closing Order made	..	2
Families rehoused	..	4

Caravans

One Licence was granted during the year.

Improvement Grants.

During 1956 the Council approved in principle, applications for grant towards improvements at twenty-eight houses. Thirteen formal applications were received, and during the year the total amount of grant aid approved was £2,305. All the applications received were in respect of owner/occupier properties although at the end of the year negotiations were in progress for improving one block of four tenanted houses under the scheme. Improvement Grants provide a valuable assistance to owners wishing to improve their properties, and it is regrettable that greater use is not made of them for improving tenanted properties and bringing them up to a modern standard.

COMPLAINTS

527 complaints were recorded during the year relating to 809 items which are tabulated below.

<i>Complaints</i>	<i>Total Complaints Investigated</i>
Chimney Stack	8
House Roof	12
Eaves Gutters	7
Dampness	11
Ceiling Plaster	3
Wall Plaster	3
Floors—Defective	4
Staircases	1
Window Frames	10
Sash Cords	2
Doors	1
Cooking Range repaired	11
Wash Coppers	6
Sinks and Wash-hand Basins	1
Water Supply :	
Insufficient and defective	2
Burst Supply Pipes	13
Water in Cellars	1
Soft Water Cistern	4
Dirty Conditions	2
Food Store	1
Water Closets :	
Compartment	6
Water Supply	4
Pedestal	8
Seat	1
Cistern	12
Joints Defective	1
Drainage :	
Obstructions	39
Drains defective	10
Inspection Chamber Covers	2
Outbuildings	2
Yard Paving	1
Mining Subsidence	54
Dustbins	232
Refuse Accumulations	4
Animals, improper keeping :	
Dogs, Cats, etc.	2
Infestations :	
Rats	167
Mice	29
Beetles	23
Ants	55
Woodworm	1
Fly	10
Disinfections requested	16
Industrial Smoke Nuisances	1
Domestic Smoke Nuisances	7
Offensive Smells	6
Suspected Coal Gas Leaks	1
Miscellaneous	4
Standing Water	2
Condition of Gardens	2
Caravans	3
Street Gullies	1

REPAIRS COMPLETED

Chimney Stack—Overhauled	20
New Pots provided	5
House Roof—Repaired	28
Eaves Gutters—repaired	17
Rainwater Fallpipes—repaired, renewed and cleansed	12
Dampness :	
Rising Dampness	10
Perished Brickwork	25
Perished Brick Pointing	29
Ceiling Plaster	36
Wall Plaster	38
Floors repaired :	
Solid	9
Wooden	4
Stairs	4
Windows :	
Frames repaired	13
Frames renewed	1
Sash Cords repaired	15
Doors repaired	7
Cooking Ranges :	
Repaired	2
New Range provided	—
Fireplaces—repaired	1
Food Store—repaired	4
Wash-house provided	4
Sinks and Wash-hand Basins :	
Replaced	4
Additional provided	3
Water Supply :	
Additional	1
Burst Pipes	8
Baths provided	1
Water Closets :	
Additional provided	6
Compartment required	1
Water Supply	5
Pedestal	4
Seat	5
Cistern	9
Joint Defective	5
Drainage :	
Additional lengths provided	8
Obstructions removed	55
Drains repaired	73
Defective fittings	9
Yard Paving—Repair or provide	12
Verminous Premises	13
Dustbins	346
Smoke Nuisances :	
Domestic	3
Standing Water—Watercourse	3
Mining Subsidence	4
Miscellaneous	2
Soft Water Cistern	3
Water in Cellars	2

862

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND RESULTANT ACTION

The following information is compiled in tabular form and is in fact a summary of work undertaken in the department during 1956.

The table supplies details of inspections carried out on :—

(A)	Housing.			
(B)	General.			
(C)	Number of interviews.			
(D)	Number of Notices served.			
(E)	Notices complied with.			
(A)	Housing.			
	Visits under the Housing Acts			991
	Visits under the Public Health Acts ..			1,130
(B)	General.			
	Factories			112
	Outworkers			4
	Verminous Premises and Articles			57
	Schools			3
	Keeping of Animals			6
	Water supplies and Water Sampling ..			7
	Infectious Diseases			1
	Food Premises			2,721
	Pest Destruction			97
	Caravans and Caravan Sites			8
	Dustbins			102
	Drain Testing and Inspection			213
	Shops Acts			275
	Mining Subsidence			25
(C)	Interviews.			
	Complainants			79
	Housing Applicants			639
	Owners			228
	Contractors			52
(D)	Number of Notices Served.	<i>Informal</i>	<i>Formal</i>	
	Public Health Act, 1936	558	17	
	Food and Drugs Act, 1955	144	—	
	Factories Act, 1937	2	—	
(E)	Notices complied with.			
	(Including notices outstanding from 1955)			
	Public Health Act, 1936	483	12	
	Food and Drugs Act, 1955	118	—	
	Factories Act, 1937	2	—	

SUPERVISION OF DRAINAGE WORKS

The Council undertake the clearance of drain obstructions upon the written consent of the owner being obtained, and a small charge is made for the service. The majority of the thirty-nine complaints of obstructions received were dealt with in this manner.

Where necessary, drains were tested for suspected defects, and also upon the completion of repair work.

In all, 213 visits were made for drainage work.

REFUSE RECEPTACLES

Dustbins provided up to 31st December, 1956.

		<i>Total</i>	<i>By Council</i>	<i>By Owner</i>	<i>By Tenant</i>
January	..	44	43	—	1
February	..	14	13	1	—
March	..	34	34	—	—
April	..	20	20	—	—
May	..	31	31	—	—
June	..	27	27	—	—
July	..	20	20	—	—
August	..	3	3	—	—
September	..	25	25	—	—
October	..	31	30	—	1
November	..	30	29	—	1
December	..	43	40	—	3
		322	315	1	6
1955	..	396	329	44	23
1954	..	326	273	35	18
1953	..	168	159	5	4
1952	..	190	151	20	19
1951	..	153	115	22	16
1950	..	328	215	84	29
Total for seven years		1883	1557	211	115

The low number of bins provided by owner or tenants, indicates the success of the Municipal Dustbin Scheme since its inception in 1950.

No Statutory action was necessary to enforce the replacement of defective bins.

WATER SUPPLY

Representative samples of piped town's water supply were submitted for examination during 1956. The table on this page gives a summary of the results.

	<i>Chemical</i>		<i>Bacteriological</i>	
	<i>Sat.</i>	<i>Unsat.</i>	<i>Sat.</i>	<i>Unsat.</i>
Swadlincote and Ashbys. Joint Water Board	—	—	2	—
Total ..	—	—	2	—

RODENT CONTROL

The following tables are a summary of the work undertaken during the year to control the activities of rats and mice. Credit is due to the Rodent Operator, Mr. Ford, for his continued efforts in this direction in a District particularly prone to infestation.

In the treatment of sewers the co-operation of the Surveyor and Engineer's department is greatly appreciated.

SUMMARY OF RODENT OPERATOR'S ACTIVITIES, 1956.

<i>Type of Premises</i>	<i>No. of Premises Inspected</i>	<i>No. of Treatments</i>		<i>No. of Baited Points</i>		<i>No. of Bodies Recovered</i>		<i>Estimated Lill</i>	
		<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>	<i>Pre-bait</i>	<i>Poison</i>	<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>	<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>
Local Authority Property (other than properties of which permanent are established)	17	17	—	303	201	19	—	65	—
Dwellinghouses	887	861	29	4,593	3,459	423	35	1,561	145
Agricultural Property	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All other Property	49	45	3	1,072	806	119	62	347	92
Totals ..	953	923	32	5,968	4,466	561	97	1,973	237

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF RODENT OPERATOR'S ACTIVITIES, 1956

1956	No. of Premises Inspected	No. of Premises Inspected and Baited	No. of Pre-bait Points	No. of Poison Bait Bait Points	Dead Rats Found	Dead Mice Found	Estimated No. of Rats Killed	Estimated No. of Mice Killed
January	74	74	512	376	35	3	157	26
February	133	132	609	450	62	4	219	7
March	91	86	712	526	54	61	232	92
April	59	59	512	336	42	3	178	-
May	77	77	513	438	42	2	152	17
June	84	84	554	396	57	2	198	24
July	74	84	513	437	37	1	116	13
August	96	96	428	394	39	1	159	6
September	50	50	362	259	52	3	138	10
October	50	50	360	275	34	2	142	8
November	95	93	655	457	80	12	224	22
December	70	70	238	123	27	5	58	12
Totals	953	955	5,968	4,466	561	97	1,973	237

Summary of Normal Maintenance Treatments of Sewers

Treatment	Date	Total No. of Man- holes	No. not baited	No. baited	Pre-bait Takes				Down Pipes, etc.
					C.	P.	Total Takes	N.T.	
1st	Feb., 1944	489	119	370	prebait poison		125 111	245 14	— —
2nd	Sept. 1944	489	425	64	3	4	11 18	46	prebait poison
3rd	July, 1944	463	26	447	12	17	35 64	375	—
4th	Feb., 1945	489	69	420	15	12	18 45	375	—
5th	Nov., 1945	489	68	421	15	19	38 72	349	—
6th	May, 1946	640	—	434	76	44	120	314	178
7th	Apl., 1947	653	207	446	112	118	230	216	177
8th	Dec., 1947	675	344	331	32	53	85	246	183
9th	Aug. and Sept., 1948	740	206	534	83	98	181	353	—
10th	Apl., 1949	740	235	505	79	106	185	320	—
11th	Nov., 1949	772	249	523	122	67	189	344	—
12th	Mar., 1950	811	274	537	81	40	121	416	—
13th	Sept., 1950	811	287	524	136	18	154	370	—
14th	Mar., 1951	814	284	530	78	12	90	440	—
15th	Oct. 1951	814	292	522	116	19	135	387	—
16th	Apl., 1952	570	95	475	52	—	52	422	—
17th	Oct., 1952	570	32	538	38	12	50	488	—
18th	Mar., 1953	563	40	523	37	37	74	486	—
19th	Oct., 1953	563	41	522	108	143	251	379	—
20th	Mar., 1954	564	45	519	112	121	233	398	—
21st	Oct., 1955	563	150	413	59	46	105	298	—
22nd	Nov., 1956	563	141	422	80	22	102	320	—

Abbreviations : C—Complete Takes. P—Part Takes. NT—No Takes.

DISINFESTATION

Eighty-one complaints were received of insect infestation during the year. Fifty-five of these complaints were concerning ants, and twenty-three of beetles, and the majority of these were dealt with by the free issue of insect powder.

In the summer an infestation of flies occurred on the Stanton refuse tip which gave rise to a serious nuisance in a block of nearby houses. The infestation was easily controlled by treating the tip with a suitable insecticide, and the houses with knockdown spray.

Other cases of infestation dealt with during the year were as follows :—

Cockroaches..	..	2
Woodworm ..	..	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Terminal disinfections are only undertaken upon formal request from the occupant of infected dwellings. The following disinfestations were carried out during the year :—

Tuberculosis.. .. 2

Tins of an approved disinfectant were issued on twenty-two occasions.

SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES

Register of Food Premises

The following table supplies information on the number and types of food premises in the Urban District.

<i>Type of Premises</i>	<i>Total</i>
Bakehouses	7
Butchers' Shops (including making up premises) ..	30
Cafes, Restaurants and Canteens	15
Fried Fish and Chip Shops and Wet Fish Shops ..	19
Greengrocers	9
Grocers and General Stores (excluding Off Licences)	94
Corn Merchants	6
Licensed Premises	56
Off Licences including those selling General Goods	34
Confectioners	15
	285

Inspection of Food Premises

The following table is included as an indication of amount of work involved in routine inspection of food premises during the year.

Bakehouses	30
Dairies	4
Ice Cream Premises	135
Market Stalls	151
Milk Distribution	37
Preserved Food Shops	714
Other Retail Food Premises	321
Slaughterhouses	1151
Butchers' Shops	178
	2721

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

On the 1st January, 1956, the Food Hygiene Regulations came into operation. These regulations which contain a number of new provisions in respect of the hygienic handling of food and the construction and maintenance of food premises, are proving very useful in securing and maintaining a good standard of food hygiene.

Owing to staff changes which were not fully settled until June, it was not possible to put the Regulations into operation until later in the year. By December, however, all food premises had been visited and the occupiers acquainted with the provisions of the Regulations, and it was possible to make a start on routine inspections applying the new standard. At this stage, it is pleasing to note how much good work had previously been achieved by co-operation with the tradespeople and judicious application of the Byelaws which have been in operation since 1950. Whilst it has been found that many premises already comply with the Regulations, and that the owners of other premises are willing to make improvements, hygienic practices are not always of a desired standard. Conversations with food handlers often show how difficult it is for them to appreciate dirt that cannot be seen, how food can be contaminated and that food, such as cooked meats, whilst looking and tasting normal, can give rise to ill health. Hygiene values are often mistaken for aesthetic correctness; consequently a good deal of the material in the new Regulations is considered by many to be unnecessary. When the need is explained, the Regulations fall into their right perspective and a five minute chat can often achieve far more in the cause of food hygiene than can a new sink.

Unsound Food

The following is an abbreviated list of items of food found to be unfit for human consumption during 1956, followed by a summary of the estimated weight of all condemnations of unfit food during each of the last six years.

210½ lbs.	Bacon
130 lbs.	Cooked Ham
130½ lbs.	Corned Beef
42 lbs.	Tongue
20 lbs.	Pork Sausage
40½ lbs.	Beef Sausage
2 lbs. 14 ozs.	Luncheon Meat
6¾ ozs.	Cheese
8 tins	Soup
3 tins	Pilchards
3 tins	Crab
1 tin	Carrots
2 tins	Spaghetti
2 tins	Stewed Steak
12 Chicken Cutlets	
1 lb.	Butter
¾ lb.	Lard
14	Fish Cakes
9 lbs.	Stoned Raisins
2 lb. 15 ozs.	Ground Rice
1 lb. Jar	Beetroot
4 tins	Sardines
2 tins	Salmon
3 tins	Baked Beans
34 tins	Peas
334 tins	Tomatoes
3 jars	Mincemeat
16 tins	Milk
3 tins	Blackberries
1 tin	Raspberries
22 tins	Apricots
9 tins	Cherries
5 tins	Fruit Cocktail
9 tins	Grapefruit
15 tins	Oranges
23 tins	Peaches
29 tins	Pears
28 tins	Pineapple
9 tins	Plums
3 tins	Strawberries
1 tin	Cream
18 lbs.	Cake

The approximate weight of food condemned during recent years is as follows :—

- (a) 1956 .. 11 cwts.
- (b) 1955 .. 23 cwts.
- (c) 1954 .. 29 cwts.
- (d) 1953 .. 30 cwts.
- (e) 1952 .. 55 cwts.
- (f) 1951 .. 44 cwts.

Summary of animals slaughtered, inspected and incidence of disease found

			<i>Cattle excluding Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed (if known)	728	122	72	1,868	1,708	—		
Number inspected ..	728	122	72	1,868	1,708	—		
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci—								
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	2	—		
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	63	14	2	29	102	—		
Total ..	63	14	2	29	104	—		
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	8.6	11.5	2.8	1.5	6.0	—		
Tuberculosis only :								
Whole carcasses condemned	3	—	—	—	2	—		
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	55	14	—	—	45	—		
Total ..	58	14	—	—	47	—		
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	8.0	11.5	—	—	2.7	—		
Cysticercosis :								
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—		

MEAT INSPECTION

There are nine Slaughterhouses in the Urban District, and, as will be seen from the tables, 100% inspection was maintained throughout the year. The number of sheep, calves and pigs killed was about the same as last year but the number of cattle slaughtered shows an increase of approximately 130 on the previous year. There was a marked reduction in the number of cows killed and an equally marked increase, almost twice as many, in the number of younger cattle slaughtered. This would appear to show a desire on the part of the local butchers to satisfy the demands of the public for best quality meat.

The quantity of meat condemned was small in comparison with the amount killed. Apart from Tuberculosis, which accounted for about $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons of the meat condemned, the chief causes of condemnation were Distomatosis and Abscesses in cattle, and pneumonia in pigs.

All condemned meat is voluntarily surrendered by the butchers, collected, and disposed of in the Council's incinerator. Carcase meat, for which the butcher may obtain some recompense, is dyed green and collected by a local contractor.

Summary of disease found and parts of animals affected

					<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>qrs.</i>	<i>lbs.</i>	<i>ozs.</i>
TUBERCULOSIS.									
Bovines.	Carcase	Meat	..	..	10	—	14	—	
	Organs	..	..	..	17	—	16	—	
Pigs.	Carcase	Meat	..	..	2	—	14	—	
	Organs	..		..	5	—	6	—	
					1	12	3	22	—
OTHER DISEASES.									
Bovines.	Carcase	Meat	..	..	1	1	10	—	
	Organs	..	..	..	5	—	6	6	
Pigs.	Carcase	Meat	..	..	2	—	11	—	
	Organs	..	..	..	2	—	10	6	
Sheep.	Carcase	Meat	..	..	—	—	—	—	
	Organs	..	..	..	—	1	13	—	
Calves.	Carcase	Meat	..	..	—	—	—	—	
	Organs	..	..	..	—	—	1	—	
					—	10	3	23	12

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955

The County Analyst, R. W. Sutton, Esq., F.R.I.C., F.C.S., has kindly supplied the following information on behalf of the Derbyshire County Council who are the Food and Drugs Authority for the Urban Area :

"Fifty-five samples, including twenty-four milks, were taken under the above Act in the Area of Swadlincote Urban District Council during the year 1956.

"A complaint from a consumer that a Cake purchased from a firm of Confectioners contained a wire staple was investigated and proceedings against the firm resulted in a fine of 5/- together with £2 2s. 0d. costs.

During the year special attention was paid to the degree of lead contamination in Soft Drinks. A few were found to contain lead distinctly in excess of the limit recommended. In the Swadlincote area two samples of "Whole Orange Drink" contained lead slightly in excess of the limit, and these were dealt with by caution notice.

"Other samples on analysis were found to be satisfactory."

MILK SUPPLIES

Details of Milk Distribution 1956.

The following table describes the types of local distributors up to 31st December, 1956 :—

Local Dairies	7
Licensed Local Retailers of Designated Milk	15
Supplementary Licensed Retailers of Designated Milk for outside Urban Area	9

Register at 31st Decmeber, 1956.

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations.

Dealers' Licences (Tuberculin Tested) Milk	14
Supplementary Licences (Tuberculin Tested) Milk	9

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised) Regulations

Dealers' Licences (Pasteurised)	15
Supplementary Licences (Pasteurised)	7
Additional Licences issued during 1956	Nil
Cancellations during 1956	Nil

Milk Examination.

Twenty-four samples were submitted to the County Laboratory for examination, and details of the results are shown in the following table.

Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations.

I am informed that the County Sampling Officer obtained from the Urban Area twenty-four samples during the year.

MILK EXAMINATION RESULTS 1956

		<i>Phosphatase</i>		<i>Meth. Blue</i>		<i>T.B.</i>	
		<i>Sat.</i>	<i>Unsat.</i>	<i>Sat.</i>	<i>Not done</i>	<i>Unsat.</i>	<i>Neg. Pos.</i>
Tuberculin Tested							
Producer/Retailer	..	—	—	1	—	—	1 —
T.T. (Channel Island)							
Producer/Retailer	..	—	—	1	—	—	— —
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised							
Producer/Retailer	..	6	—	1	5	—	— —
Local Dealer	..	4	—	1	3	—	— —
Pasteurised Milk							
Producer/Retailer	..	8	—	4	4	—	— —
Local Dealer	..	4	—	2	2	—	— —
		22	—	10	14	—	1 —

ICE CREAM

Details of Register, 31st December, 1956.

Registered for Manufacture only	..	..	..	2
Registered for sale only	..	..	..	80

Changes in Register, 1956.

		<i>Amend-ments</i>	<i>Addi-tions</i>	<i>Removed from list</i>
Number for Manufacture and Sale		—	—	—
Number for sale only	..	4	4	—

Bacteriological Analysis.

Twenty-six samples of Ice Cream and Iced Lollies were submitted to the County Laboratory for examination with the following results.

		<i>Meth. Blue Test</i>		<i>Coliform Test</i>	
		<i>Satis.</i>	<i>Unsatis.</i>	<i>Satis.</i>	<i>Unsatis.</i>
Ice Cream—	Local	..	8	—	—
	Other	..	11	—	—
Lollies—	Local	..	6	—	—
	Other	..	1	—	—
TOTAL		..	26	—	—

The grades given to samples of ice cream are based on the time taken to reduce Methylene Blue in the laboratory. Grades one and two are considered to be satisfactory.

The results of the grading of the twenty-six samples taken are as follows :—

		<i>Grade</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Grade</i>	<i>Grade</i>
		1	2	3	4
Local Manufacture	..	12	2	—	—
Outside	..	9	3	—	—
TOTAL ..		21	5	—	—

Seven Ice Lollies were designated satisfactory.

RAG, FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT

One premise is registered under the provision of Section 2 of the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

A Licence under the Pet Animals Act was issued for one premise to be used for the purposes defined in the Act during 1956.

SHOPS ACT

The following table is the result of the annual survey of shops.
Summary of Types of Shops in the Urban Area.

	<i>Swadlin-</i>	<i>Newhall</i>	<i>Gresley</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>cote</i>			
Off Licences only	2	4	5	11
Off Licences and General Stores	8	11	4	23
Grocer and General Stores ..	31	31	32	94
Greengrocers and Florists ..	3	3	3	9
Butchers	16	7	7	30
Wet Fish only	3	1	—	4
Fried Fish and Chips	4	8	3	15
Confectioners and Tobacconists	11	4	—	15
Cafes	3	—	—	3
Corn Merchants	4	1	1	6
Newsagents and Stationers ..	4	2	2	8
Shoes	3	1	1	5
Shoe Repairs	3	3	2	8
Drapers and Outfitters	16	10	3	29
Hairdressers	11	4	4	19
Jewellers and Watch Repairs ..	4	—	—	4
China, Crockery, Leather Goods and Toys	5	1	—	6
Hardware and Ironmongery ..	5	2	1	8
Radio, Electric, Cycle and Motor Spares	19	6	8	33
Dry Cleaners	2	—	1	3
Builders and Decorators Supplies	8	1	3	12
Entertainment	1	—	—	1
Second-hand Goods	1	—	—	1
Firewood and Paraffin Sales ..	2	2	1	5
Furniture	3	—	—	3
Multiple Stores	1	—	—	1
Showrooms	2	—	—	2
Seeds and Nurserymen	4	—	—	4
Commission Agents	2	—	1	3
Chemists	3	1	1	5
Photographic Materials	2	—	—	2
	186	103	83	372

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

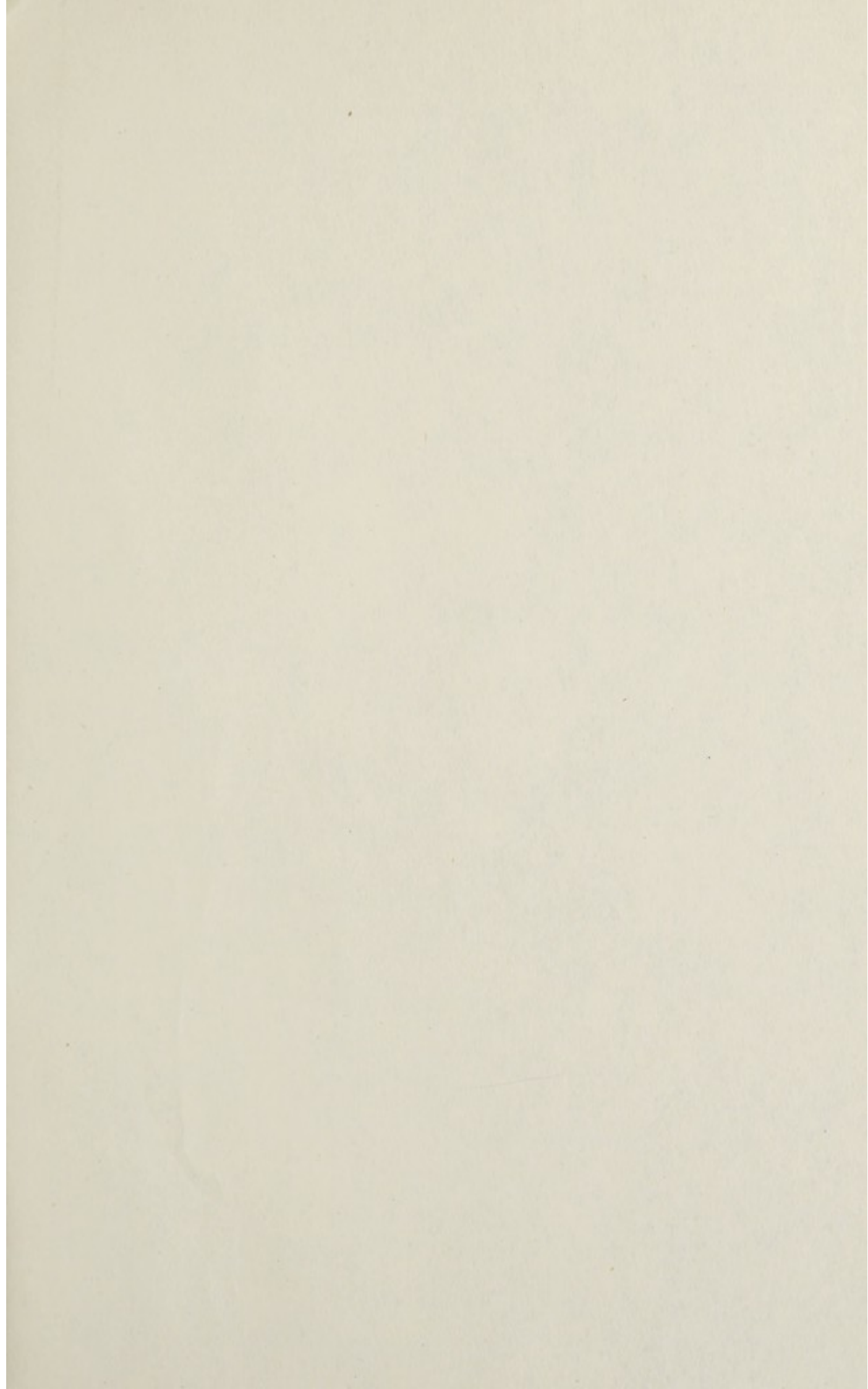
Register

The following table is a copy of the Register of the factories in operation in the Urban Area :—

	<i>Swadlincote</i>	<i>Gresley</i>	<i>Newhall</i>
Pipe Works	2	2	2
Brick Works	2	—	—
Potteries	6	5	—
Tile Manufacturers	—	1	—
Flint Mill	—	1	—
Clay Grinders	—	1	—
Engineers	4	3	1
Iron Foundry and Pattern Makers	1	—	—
Rubber Manufacturers	1	—	—
Gas Undertaking	1	—	—
Motor Body Builders	1	1	—
Automobile Repairs	11	2	4
Waste Paper Baling	1	—	—
Joiners	4	2	2
Crate Manufacturers	2	—	—
Firewood Dealers	1	1	1
Plumbers	—	—	2
Upholsterers	2	—	—
Harness Makers	1	—	—
Cycle Repairs and Radio	3	1	—
Printing	2	1	—
Boot Repairs	2	1	1
Tailoring	2	1	—
Watch Repairs	1	—	—
Entertainment	1	—	—
Food Preparation	5	4	3
Bakeries	3	3	1
Ice Cream Manufacturers	2	—	—
Mineral Water Manufacturers	2	—	—
	63	30	17
Outworkers	3	1	—
	3	1	—

During 1956, 116 inspections were made to premises registered under the Act. Requests were submitted on a number of occasions for works to be carried out ; details of action taken and the results therefrom are supplied in the following table.

	<i>No. of cases in which defects were found</i>				<i>No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted</i>
	<i>Found</i>	<i>R'died</i>	<i>To H.M. Inspector</i>	<i>By H.M. Inspector</i>	
Want of Cleanliness ..	2	2	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2).. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outworkers)	—	—	—	—	—
	3	3	—	—	—







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