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Contributors

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ALNWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.Annual Report of the Medical
Officer of Health for the year
1949.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The report for 1949 is again of a brief interim character.

General Statistics.

The area of the District remains the same at 4,778 acres.
The number of inhabited houses is 2,337.
Of the new houses completed during the year, 62 were with state assistance and nine by private enterprise.
The rateable value is £44,025.
The sum represented by a penny rate is £174.
The population is estimated at 7,302 and this figure is taken as a basis in calculating the birth and death rates.

Vital Statistics.Births:

The number of births-corrected for inward and outward transfers - was 131 of which 61 were males and 70 females. Four of these were still-births and two were illegitimate.

Birth Rate 1949	-	17.9	per thousand per annum.
" " 1948	-	24.6	" " " "
" " 1947	-	25.4	" " " "

The Birth Rate (England and Wales) 1949 - 17.09 per thousand per annum.

Deaths:

The number of deaths corrected for inward and outward transfers - was 87, of which 41 were males and 46 females.

Death rate 1949	-	11.9	per thousand per annum.
" " 1948	-	12.4	" " " "
" " 1947	-	15.4	" " " "

Death rate (England and Wales) 1949 - 11.7 per thousand per annum.

Infantile deaths:

The number of deaths in infants under one year of age was 4 (1 illegitimate) and all females.

Infantile Death Rate 1949	-	30.6	per thousand per annum.
" " " 1948	-	55.2	" " " "
" " " 1947	-	62.5	" " " "

Infantile death rate (England and Wales) 1949 - 32.0 per thousand per annum.

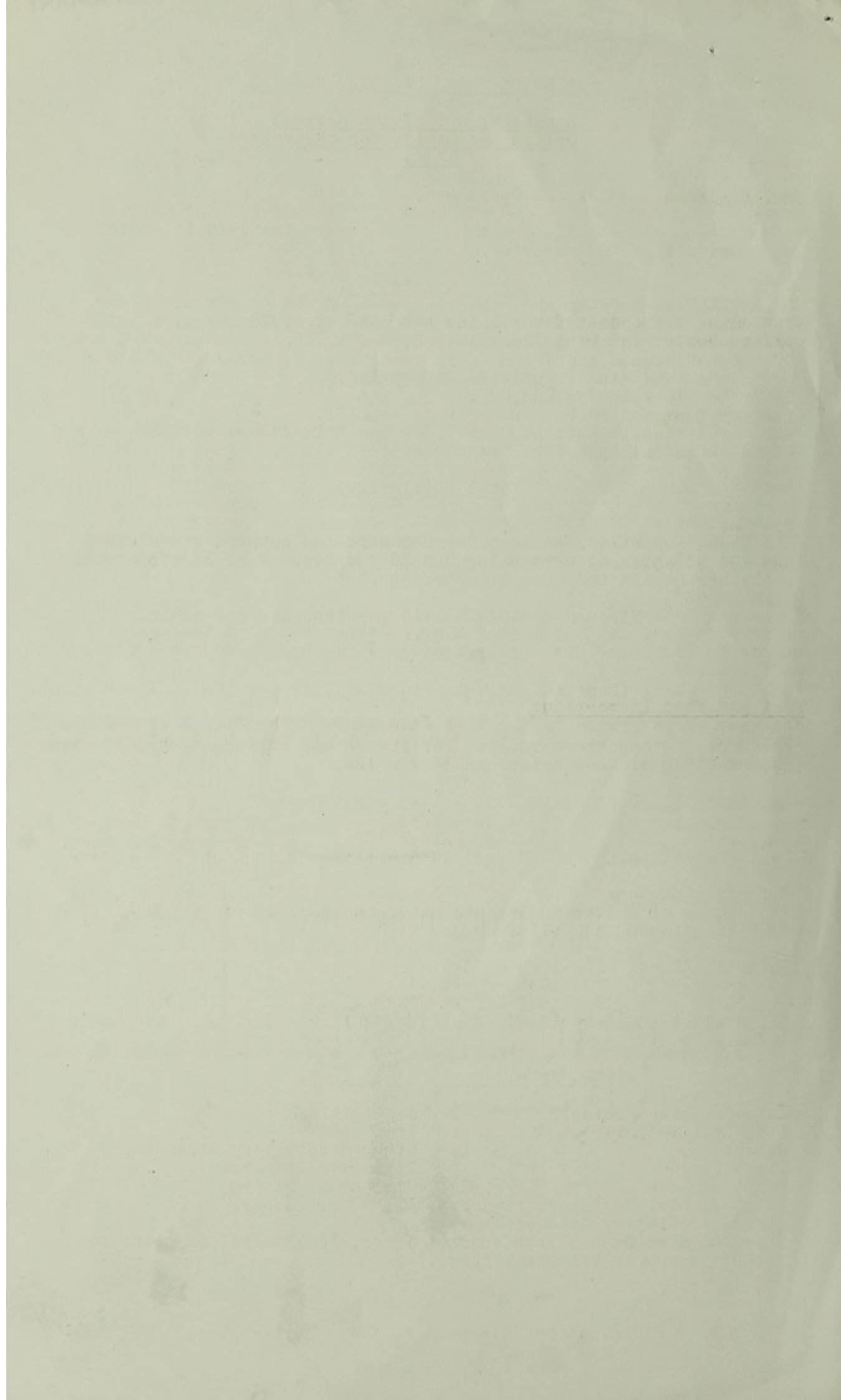
Causes of death at all ages.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	Bronchitis	3
Acute Polio-myelitis	1	Pneumonia	4
Cancer	15	Other Respiratory Diseases.	3
Diabetis	2	Digestive Diseases	1
Heart Disease	29	Violence	3
Intra Cranial Vascular disease.	3	All other causes	18
Other circulatory diseases	3		

There were no deaths from scarlet fever, Diphtheria, whooping cough, Typhoid fever or Puerperal fever.

Infectious diseases.

The number of infectious diseases notified during the year - excluding



Tuberculosis - was 10 as follows:-

Scarlet Fever	1	Cerebro Spinal Fever	1
Measles	4	Dysentery (Sonno)	1
Diphtheria	1	Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	2

Tuberculosis:

Three cases of Pulmonary and one case of other Tubercular Diseases were notified during the year.

Local Health Service.

The Ambulance, nursing and Domestic Health Services are under the control of the County Council and are quite satisfactory. A child welfare centre and Dental Clinic is established in the Urban District.

Sanitary Circumstances.

Water Supply:

Despite the year being one of the driest on record an adequate supply was maintained although it was necessary to impose minor restrictions on the use of water by the public for certain purposes. A piped supply is available to the great majority of the houses in the district. The proposed new water scheme at the Senna Wells is progressing satisfactorily, trial boreholes have been sunk to ascertain the geological formation of the area. An artesian supply was obtained from one of these boreholes to augment the present yield of the wells.

Drainage and Sewerage:

The scheme for the new Sewage Disposal Works is still in course of preparation. It has been found necessary to amend the original scheme to treat the discharge from a creamery proposed to be erected on the area.

Meat and Food Inspection:

All meat is inspected by the Meat Inspector at the Slaughter houses. All shops and ice cream dealers were regularly inspected and any food found unfit was condemned and disposed of.

Disinfestation:

The Sowers and Refuse Tip were regularly treated for Rodent Control by trained personnel of the Council. All surface infestations were quickly dealt with.

B. Trevor Roper.
Medical Officer of Health.

