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BELFORD RURAL DISTRICT

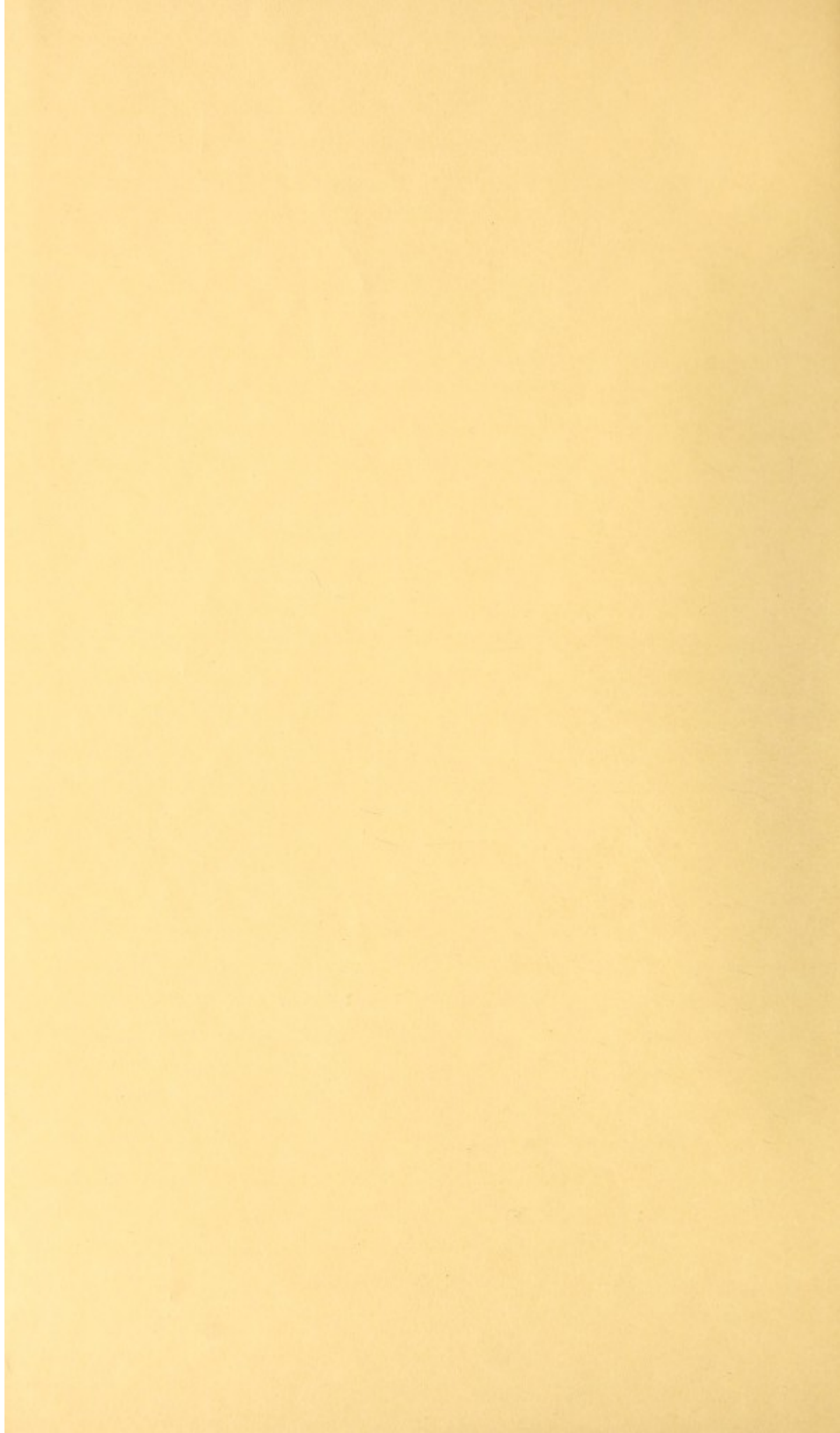


ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**

1965



BELFORD RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SURVEYOR AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1965

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1965

To the Chairman and Members of the Belford Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary circumstances of the district during the year, 1965.

The vital statistics show the customary fluctuations that occur from year to year. There was a small increase in the birth rate, and the number of stillbirths rose from one in 1964 to three last year. However, it is satisfactory to report that there were no infant deaths during the year.

1965 saw a considerable increase in the death rate from the previous year. Most of the increase was due to deaths from coronary artery disease. However, there is no significance in this isolated increase. Fairly large yearly fluctuations are bound to occur.

There is little to report concerning the infectious diseases. A few cases of measles were notified. A single case of dysentery occurred and only one instance of pulmonary tuberculosis in an elderly person was notified.

The usual wide range of protective immunisations have been carried out. These comprise, protection against smallpox, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, poliomyelitis and tuberculosis. The immunisation rate in the district is satisfactory. Although the incidence of these diseases is extremely low, it is nevertheless still necessary that these immunisations should continue. There is abundant evidence that failure to keep a high level of immunisation in the community, results in the re-introduction of these diseases.

I am grateful to the Public Health Inspector for his report in which the sanitary conditions of the district are itemised.

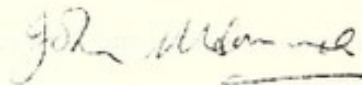
By and large, the water supplies to the district are now very satisfactory. It is noted that occasional contamination of the Belford village supply occurs and further thought should be given to removing this source of contamination.

The Caravan Act has been in operation for some years now and it is satisfactory that all the camps in this Rural District are of a good standard.

It is pleasing to report that the food hygiene standards in the district show a marked improvement. In a busy holiday area such as this, where sudden large influxes of people occur, it is most necessary for catering establishments to maintain the highest possible standards.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council, the Clerk, and the Surveyor and Public Health Inspector for their continued interest and help during the year.

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



Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

The area of the district was 39,797 acres.

The number of inhabited houses was 2,119 and the number of new houses completed during the year was 68.

The rateable value was £163,445. and the sum represented by a penny rate was £629.

The estimated mid-year population was 4,820 and this figure was taken when calculating the birth and death rate.

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	30	30	60
Illegitimate	2	1	3
Total	<u>32</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>63</u>
Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population			13.07
Crude Birth Rate multiplied by Comparability Factor			15.81
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births			4.76
<u>Still Births</u>			
Legitimate	3	-	3
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and still births			45.45
Total live and still births			66
<u>Infant Deaths (deaths under one year)</u>			
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>Infant Mortality Rate</u>			
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births			-
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births			-
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births			-
<u>Neo-natal Mortality Rate</u>			
Deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births			-
<u>Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate</u>			
Deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births			-
<u>Perinatal Mortality Rate</u>			
Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births			45.45
<u>Maternal Mortality (including abortion)</u>			
Number of deaths			-
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births			-

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
	43	41	84
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the population			17.42
Crude Death Rate multiplied by Comparability Factor			14.28
Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis			-
Deaths from Other Puerperal Causes			-
Deaths from Cancer			15

CHIEF CAUSES OF DEATH

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (Other)	-	-	-
Syphilitic Disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	-	-	-
" " Lung, Bronchus	1	-	1
" " Breast	-	3	3
" " Uterus	-	-	-
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	7	4	11
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	1	1
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	7	11	18
Coronary Disease, Angina	13	8	21
Hypertension with Heart Disease	-	3	3
Other Heart Disease	5	6	11
Other Circulatory Disease	-	-	-
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Bronchitis	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	1	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	-	-	-
Congenital Malformations	-	-	-
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	1	5
Motor Vehicle Accidents	-	-	-
All Other Accidents	3	1	4
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and Operations of War	-	-	-
Totals	<u>43</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>84</u>

INFANT MORTALITY

N I L

POPULATION, BIRTH RATE AND INFANT MORTALITY1918 - 1965

Year	Population	Birth Rate	Number of Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality Rate
1918	4,091	16.3	2	26.6
1919	4,318	15.11	4	58.8
1920	4,490	22.27	3	30.0
1921	4,940	16.15	6	75.0
1922	4,959	16.73	6	72.0
1923	4,950	15.55	4	51.0
1924	4,943	14.76	7	96.0
1925	4,909	14.87	5	68.0
1926	4,870	12.52	4	65.0
1927	4,755	14.3	5	73.0
1928	4,742	11.4	4	74.0
1929	4,809	12.7	5	82.0
1930	4,809	11.0	3	56.6
1931	4,433	14.4	5	78.0
1932	4,521	13.5	5	82.0
1933	4,438	12.6	2	35.7
1934	4,493	18.0	2	24.7
1935	4,555	13.8	4	63.5
1936	4,647	16.5	5	64.9
1937	4,675	16.7	4	51.0
1938	4,764	17.4	6	72.3
1939	5,127	11.4	4	71.0
1940	5,265	12.7	3	44.7
1941	5,379	14.7	6	76.0
1942	5,279	19.3	4	39.2
1943	Report missing	-	-	-
1944	4,972	-	-	-
1945	4,703	16.4	-	-
1946	4,884	20.6	6	59.4
1947	4,906	21.8	4	37.3
1948	4,904	15.2	1	13.3
1949	4,940	15.4	3	39.5
1950	5,099	16.2	3	36.0
1951	5,155	14.7	1	13.0
1952	5,022	15.7	1	12.6
1953	5,065	12.5	1	15.6
1954	5,030	14.0	-	-
1955	5,030	13.5	3	44.0
1956	5,030	11.1	2	35.0
1957	5,030	13.1	3	45.0
1958	5,010	13.57	1	14.70
1959	5,040	16.47	2	24.09
1960	5,050	17.44	-	-
1961	4,800	17.40	1	13.88
1962	4,790	14.03	2	34.48
1963	4,780	17.20	1	14.70
1964	4,780	13.66	1	18.51
1965	4,820	15.81	-	-

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Scarlet Fever	-
Whooping Cough	-
Diphtheria	-
Measles	7
Pneumonia	-
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	-
Enteric Fever	-
Erysipelas	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-
Dysentery	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-
Smallpox	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-
Food Poisoning	-
Encephalitis	-

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65+	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATIONNorth No. 1 and 2 Areas

The following table shows the number of persons vaccinated against poliomyelitis during the year ended 31st December, 1965.

	<u>Number of Persons</u>
3 Doses - Oral Vaccine	999
Booster dose oral	1,094

SMALLPOX VACCINATIONNorth No. 1

Number Vaccinated during Period					Number Re-vaccinated				
Under 1	1	2-4	5-15	Total	Under 1	1	2-4	5-15	Total
44	123	35	4	206	-	-	8	7	15

IMMUNISATION

	Primary Immunisation							Secondary (Reinforcing) Injections						
	Under 1	1	2	3	4-7	8-16	Total	Under 1	1	2	3	4-7	8-16	Total
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	3
Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus	146	203	14	10	1	2	376	-	8	57	11	84	10	170
Diphtheria and Tetanus	-	1	-	-	1	4	6	-	-	34	12	231	12	289
Tetanus	-	-	-	-	5	11	16	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Total	146	204	14	10	7	17	398	-	8	91	23	317	24	463

B.C.G. Vaccinations

Berwick Borough	338
Belford R.D.	88
Glendale R.D.	112
Norham and Islandshires R.D.	<u>1</u>
Total	<u>539</u>

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR & PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR1965NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS & VISITSPUBLIC HEALTH ACT.

Drainage.	31
W.C.'s.	5
Septic Tanks.	14
Dangerous and Dilapidated Buildings.	1
Trade Refuse.	6
Dustbins.	2
Offensive accumulations.	1
Public Conveniences.	50
Water Supply and Water Samples.	2
Camping Sites.	25

HOUSING ACTS.

Repairs.	12
Demolition and Closing Sec. 16.	5
Improvement Grants.	22

FOOD & DRUGS.

Slaughterhouse - meat inspections.	179
Butchers Shops - " "	19
Food Premises - inspections.	21
- condemned food.	8
Ice-cream retailers.	2
Ice-cream Manufacturers.	4
Fish Merchants.	7
Dairies, Milk Dealers etc.	1

FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

Factories with mechanical power.	24
Factories without mechanical power.	9

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT.

Inspection of dwelling houses.	7
Other premises.	9
Local Authority Premises.	10

MISCELLANEOUS.

Refuse Tips.	41
Sewage Works.	240
Sea Outfalls.	10

WATER SUPPLIES.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company have again maintained all the public supplies to the area with complete satisfaction with regard to quantity.

The laying of the 4" main down Harbour Road at Beadnell has provided a satisfactory answer to the loss of head experienced at time of summer peak. A considerable improvement to the main feed to Beadnell was made by laying sections of new 6" pipe when the County's roadworks scheme was carried out.

A new main feed to Beadnell from the Elford main is planned with in mind the tremendous increase in demand the projected Chalet development will create. As this scheme will almost double the present consumption that is the only source that could cope.

One or two premises in Seahouses experience a loss of head at peak times but as the remedy would probably require a major readjustment of the distribution system this would not be justified at present.

Bamburgh does not experience any shortage.

All water from the Coquet source is purified at the works but none of the local supplies in use is treated apart from the aeration of the Bamburgh supply to reduce its CO₂ content.

As I have pointed out before the land springs are always a contamination hazard as the company's sample testing shows.

During the year 62 samples from the several supplies were taken - 47 excellent, 1 satisfactory and 14 unsatisfactory. These 14 are listed below.

Belford Village Supply	5	3 with faecal coli
Hospital Springs	4	2 " " "
Paddy's	2	2 " " "
Brockdam	1	1 " " "
Bamburgh	1	1 " " "
Harelaw	1	1 " " "

I would again call your attention to the need to improve the Belford supplies.

SEWERAGE.

The repairs to the St. Aidans Sewer sea outfall were most necessary. The length of defective pipe replaced was in a sorry condition and would have given much trouble. The outlet, which had been choked with accumulated silt was cleared by the flow created by the sound piping behind and no further work to this sewer should be needed for some time to come.

The Beadnell outfall seems to have functioned satisfactorily, frequent inspections of the beach have shown no sign of pollution from this source.

The extended and improved works at Belford came into operation in September. The new system with sludge digestion tanks have made the necessary regular de-sludging of the tanks always possible and the sampling of the effluent by the Rivers Board has shown it to be well within the required standard.

There remains now the laying of the new sea outfall at Bamburgh to remove the very unsatisfactory and unhealthy conditions that exist there.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The cleansing service has operated satisfactorily during the year and the new larger capacity wagon has been of great assistance in dealing with the ever increasing bulk of the refuse. It has been necessary again, to work long hours of overtime during the summer months to cope. This is both expensive and burdensome on the staff. The Council's decision to employ Mr. Taylor to assist with loading when required is most welcome and this together with the availability of Mr. Robson to give part time assistance should make it possible to cut out most of the overtime.

The notice to quit Bamburgh Tip was to be expected. The available tipping area was almost taken up and the operation of the refuse tip in the way we are bound to by circumstances, in full view of the castle, made this inevitable.

Fortunately Alnwick R.D.C. have expressed their willingness to consider our sharing the Embleton Tip and the technical arrangements for this have been agreed informally with Mr. Staig.

Taking the refuse for the longer haul will mean a reduction of collecting time and to meet this a new and larger vehicle will be required to cut down on the number of loads. There is also the need to provide for expansion due to increased house building and the trend of an increase in the bulk of the refuse.

The refuse tips at Bamburgh and Belford have been reasonable well maintained during the year and though there have been fires from time to time these were not allowed to get beyond control.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

Like last year the conveniences have been as well maintained as the public will permit. The senseless damage by vandals has been repeated though this is mainly confined to the two at Seahouses and in particular the one at the Broad Road which due to its isolation is an easier target.

CAMPING AND CARAVANS.

The several caravan sites and camping sites have been well maintained and only two had complaints made about cleanliness of the toilets and one about drainage effluent. Fortunately the majority of the sites are so well run that more time can be given to the few backsliders and these showed considerable improvement.

FOOD HYGIENE.

The court proceedings taken for offences under the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 had a very salutary effect and made the task of raising and maintaining good standards of hygiene much easier and in that connection I welcome and appreciate the Council's decision to employ an assistant.

WATER SUPPLIES

Parishes.	Adderstone with Lucker.	Bamburgh.	Beadnell.	Belford.	Easington.	Ellingham.	Middleton.	North Sunderland.	Total	
Pop. 1961	303	558	586	1070	199	430	233	1625	5004	
No. inhabited houses. (According to Census)	130 (103)	257 (216)	302 (242)	397 (360)	77 (71)	139 (122)	87 (83)	730 (607)	2119 (1804)	
Public Supply	No. houses with piped supply in houses.	94	222	278	354	-	55 & 1 Bdg. School	-	718	1721
	No. houses with stand-pipe supply.	4	2	-	-	-	3	-	4	13
Private Supplies	No. houses with piped supply in houses.	26	31	24	43	76	78	87	8	373
	No. houses with stand-pipes.	6	2	-	-	1	3	-	-	12
No. houses with W.C.	108	254	302	390	70	129	86	730	2065	
No. houses with bath.	108	250	296	368	70	116	86	694	1988	

HOUSING

GENERAL.

Total number of inhabited houses in District.	2,119
New houses Local Authority.	50
New houses other Housing Authority.	4
New houses Private Persons.	14
Total number of houses owned by Local Authority.	375

LOSING AND DEMOLITION.

• Houses demolished in Clearance Areas.	-
• Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas.	-
• Houses closed not demolished (Section 16).	5
• Houses permanently discontinued as dwellings.	-

REPAIRS.

Houses made Fit.

a) By informal action.	4
b) By owners as a result of statutory notice.	-
c) By Local Authority in default of owners.	-

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

HOUSING ACT 1949 - HOUSE PURCHASE & HOUSING ACT, 1959.

<u>Discretionary Grants.</u>			
(a)	Applications submitted to Local Authority during year.	8	
(b)	Applications rejected.	-	
(c)	Applications approved.	8	
(d)	Approximate average grant approved per house.	£316	
(e)	Total number of houses approved for grant since inception of scheme.	243	
<u>Standard Grants.</u>		<u>During</u>	<u>Total to</u>
		<u>year.</u>	<u>date.</u>
(1)	Number of separate houses for which grants were made during year.	3	33
(2)	Number of houses so provided with		
	(a) Bath or shower.	3	27
	(b) Wash hand basin.	3	31
	(c) Hot water supply.	3	25
	(d) Water closet.	3	29
	(e) Food store.	2	26
(3)	Houses not included in above approved for grant under the Hill Farming and Livestock Rearing Act 1946-54.	-	-

TOILET CONVERSIONS.

Number of conversions to water closets.	-
Number of privy closets in use as at the end of the year.	50

POSITION WITH REGARD TO UNFIT HOUSES.

Number of unfit houses in programme remaining to be dealt with at end of year.	2
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MEAT INSPECTION.

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered and the carcasses and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle exclud- ing cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	159			625	45	
Number inspected.	159			625	45	
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.	1			2		
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	57			81	2	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci.	35.8			13.0	4.4	
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned.						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.						
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.						
<u>Cysticercosis.</u>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.						
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration.						
Generalised and totally condemned.						

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

	Type of Property				(5) Agricultural
	Non-Agricultural				
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Houses (incl. Council Houses)	(3) All other (incl. Bus. Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3)	
No. of properties in Local Authority's District.	10	2,119	418	2,547	104
Total no. of <u>properties inspected</u> as a result of <u>notification</u> .		29	5	34	2
Total no. of <u>properties found to be infested by:-</u>					
Common rat <u>Major</u>		1	1	2	2
Common rat <u>Minor</u>		26	3	29	
House mouse <u>Major</u>					
House mouse <u>Minor</u>		2	1	3	
i. Total no. of <u>properties inspected</u> in the course of <u>survey under the Act</u>	6	172		178	
Number of such properties found to be infested by:-					
Common rat. <u>Major</u>	3			3	
Common rat. <u>Minor</u>	3	22		25	
House mouse <u>Major</u>					
House mouse <u>Minor</u>					
Total no. of <u>properties otherwise inspected</u> (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)					
No. of properties found to be infested by:-					
Common rat. <u>Major</u>					
Common rat. <u>Minor</u>					
House mouse. <u>Major</u>					
House mouse. <u>Minor</u>					
Total inspections carried out - incl. re-inspections (to be completed only if figures are readily available.)	51	279	12	342	9
No. of <u>infested properties</u> (in Secs. 2, 3 & 4) treated by the L.A.	6	50	5	61	2
i. Total treatments carried out - incl. re-treatments.	33	92	9	134	8
ii. No. of notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act.					
(a) Treatment.					
(b) Structural work. (i.e. Roofing)					
No. of "Block" control schemes carried out.					

Note: No. Ship rats found in the District.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959.

Part 1 of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	4	9		
2. Factories not included in 1 in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	22	22		
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	2	2		
Total	28	33		

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars.	Number of cases in which defects were found.			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	3	3		
Overcrowding (S.2)				
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)				
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	1	1		
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)				
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient				
(b) Unsuitable or defective.				
(c) Not separate for sexes.				
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)				



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