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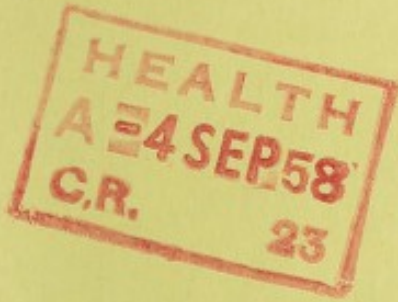
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Borough of Berwick-upon-Tweed



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1957

P. W. MACLAGAN, M.D., Medical Officer of Health



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Borough of Berwick-upon-Tweed

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1957

P. W. MACLAGAN, M.D., Medical Officer of Health

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Berwick-upon-Tweed.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of the Borough of Berwick-upon-Tweed for the year ended 31st December, 1957.

The births this year numbered 275, giving a birth-rate of 21.91 compared with 272 and a birth-rate of 21.89 for 1956

England and Wales was 16.1 for 1957 compared with 15.7 for 1956.

Infantile Mortality is 21.81 per 1,000 live births compared with 44.11 for 1956. England and Wales was 23.0 for 1957.

The total number of deaths was 176 giving a death-rate of 12.64 compared with 174 and a death-rate of 11.39 for 1956. The death-rate for England and Wales was 11.5 for 1957.

The average age at death in the Borough during the year was 71 years and six months, and of the total number of deaths (176) 75.58% were of persons over 65 years of age.

There is an increase in the birth-rate and an increase in the death-rate for 1957.

Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and other infections is carried out at Child Welfare Clinics and Doctors' Surgeries.

No cases of Diphtheria have been reported during the past nine years.

Infectious Diseases. 332 cases of notifiable diseases were reported during the year; of this total (332) Measles accounted for 320, Whooping Cough 3, Pneumonia 8, Erysipelas 1.

Tuberculosis. Eight new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and two new cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis were reported and in each case the patient was admitted to hospital for treatment.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the staff of my department for their work during the year which has been well and efficiently carried out.

I have the honour to be,
Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,
P. W. MACLAGAN, M.D.,
Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health : P. W. MACLAGAN, M.D.
Public Health Inspector : DOUGLAS S. HALLEY, M.R.S.H.,
M.A.P.H.I.
Pupil Public Health Inspector : GEORGE K. HOPE.
Clerk, Mr. JOHN JOHNSON.

Sections A. and F.

STATISTICS AND GENERAL CONDITIONS

General Statistics

Area—7,126 acres.

Population—1951 census, 12,550 (1931 census, 12,299).

R.G. est. mid-year, 1957, 12,670.

Number of Inhabited Houses—4241.

Rateable Value—£123,401 (as at 31st March, 1957).

Sum represented by 1d. rate—£480 as at 31st March, 1957.

VITAL STATISTICS

Extracts from Vital Statistics

BIRTHS.

		Males	Females	Total	Rate
Legitimate		122	141	263	
Illegitimate		3	9	12	
(Reg.-Gen.)	Totals	125	150	275	21.91

DEATHS.

		Males	Females	Total	Rate
(Registrar-General)		94	82	176	12.64

Number of Women dying in consequence of Child-birth—Nil.

Do. from Sepsts Nil.

Do. from other causes ... Nil.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year—

		Males	Females	Rate per 1,000
Legitimate		3	3	21.81
Illegitimate		—	—	
Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...		—	—	
Do. Whooping Cough ...		—	—	
Do. Diphtheria		—	—	
Do. Diarrhoea		—	—	
Do. Scarlet Fever		—	—	
Do. Tuberculosis (Pul.)		1	—	1
Do. do. (non-Pul.)		—	1	1

Comparative Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Maternal Mortality Death Rates, and Case Rates of Certain Infectious Diseases

Births—

					Rates per 1,000 population		
					No.	Berwick	Eng. & Wales
Live	...	...	...	...	275	21.91	16.1
Still	...	...	...	...	8	0.62	0.35

Deaths—

					No.	Berwick	Eng. & Wales
All causes	...	...	...	...	176	12.64	11.5
Typhoid and Para. Fever	...	...	...	...	—	0.00	—
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	—	0.00	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	0.00	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	0.00	—
Influenza	...	...	...	...	2	0.14	—
Meningococcal Infections	...	...	...	...	—	0.00	—
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	1	0.07	—
Acute Polio and Polio-enc.	...	...	...	...	—	0.00	—
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	5	0.36	—

Notifications—

					Rates per 1,000 population	
					No.	Berwick
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	8	0.63
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	—	0.00
Gastro Enteritis	...	...	...	...	—	0.00
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	1	0.08
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	3	0.24
Measles	...	...	...	...	320	25.28

Rates per 1,000 Live Births—

					No.	Berwick	Eng. & Wales
Deaths under 1 year	...	...	...	...	6	21.81	23.0
Deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis under 2 years	...	...	...	...	—	0.00	—

Maternal Mortality rates (per 1,000 total births, i.e., live and still)—

					No.	Berwick
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	—	0.00
Others	...	...	...	...	—	0.00
Total	...	...	...	...	0	0.00

Notifications—

					No.	Berwick
Puerperal Fever	—	0.00
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	0.00

Population

The Registrar-General's estimation of the civilian population for mid-year 1957 is 12,670.

For comparative purposes the following is included :—

Population (Census 1881)	13,961
.. .., 1891	13,362
.. .., 1901	13,437
.. .., 1911	13,075
.. .., 1921	12,985
.. .., 1931	12,299
.. .., 1951	12,550
Housing Survey 1936	12,243
Housing Survey 1949	12,455
R.G. estimate of mid-year 1949	12,250
R.G. estimate of mid-year 1950	12,370
R.G. estimate of mid-year 1951	12,460
R.G. estimate of mid-year 1952	12,650
R.G. estimate of mid-year 1953	12,570
R.G. estimate of mid-year 1954	12,570
R.G. estimate of mid-year 1955	12,630
R.G. estimate of mid-year 1956	12,670
R.G. estimate of mid-year 1957	12,670

Births

The births allocated to the Borough by the Registrar-General numbered 275, giving a birth-rate of 21.91. The equivalent figures for the previous year were 272 births, and a rate of 21.89, and the birth-rate for England and Wales was 16.1.

The birth-rate is calculated on a population of 12,670, modified by a comparability factor.

There were 12 illegitimate births (three males and nine females) in the total of 275.

The distribution of births was as follows :—

	Boys	Girls	Total
Berwick	32	54	86
Tweedmouth	43	44	87
Spittal	10	15	25
Scottish	31	32	63
Inwards and others	9	5	14
	125	150	275

Compared with the previous year the township of Berwick shows two less births, Tweedmouth 10 more, Spittal one more, and Scottish and inwards six less.

Deaths

The number of deaths belonging to the Borough is 176, giving a death rate of 12.64, compared with 174 deaths and a rate of 11.39 for the previous year.

The death rate for 1957 is calculated on a population of 12,670 and is modified by a standardising factor to correct the death rate on account of the age and sex constitution of our population.

The distribution of the deaths was as follows :—

	Males	Females	Total
Berwick	51	51	102
Tweedmouth	30	19	49
Spittal	11	7	18
Inward Transfers	2	5	7
	<hr style="width: 10%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 10%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 10%; margin: 0 auto;"/>
Total for Borough	94	82	176

Ages at Death

The tables of ages at death is shown with the percentage of total deaths at the various age periods, compared with the previous 4 years.

Ages	Number of deaths			Percentage of total deaths				
	M.	F.	Total	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953
Under 1	3	3	6	3.40	6.90	4.55	2.60	3.74
1-5	0	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.06
5-15	1	0	1	0.57	0.00	1.01	0.00	0.00
15-25	0	1	1	0.57	0.00	0.50	1.04	0.53
25-45	3	3	6	3.40	4.02	1.51	1.56	1.60
45-60	12	5	17	9.66	11.50	11.62	11.98	12.84
60-65	7	5	12	6.82	8.62	5.05	9.90	7.49
65-70	15	12	27	15.34	8.62	13.64	9.38	10.70
70-80	35	27	62	35.23	33.33	33.33	38.55	37.97
80-90	18	22	40	22.73	23.57	25.76	22.91	21.93
90 up	0	4	4	2.28	3.44	3.03	2.08	2.14
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	94	82	176	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

The following table, showing the percentage of total deaths at certain age periods for 1957, and compared with the average percentage of the 10 years 1948-57, is interesting. It is desirable to have a low percentage in Groups I, II, III and IV, and a high percentage in Group V.

Age period	Av. % for 10 years 1948-57	% for 1957	Notes re percent- age for 1957
I. Babies under 1 ...	3.97	3.40	Normal
II. Infants. 1-5 ...	0.16	0.00	Below Normal
III. School, 5-15 ...	0.51	0.57	Below Normal
IV. Working, 15-65 ...	23.88	20.45	Below Normal
V. Retired, 65 up ...	71.48	75.58	Above Normal
	100.00	100.00	

Of the 176 deaths occurring in the Borough for the year 75.58% were of persons over 65 years of age.

Percentage of Total Deaths above 65 Years for five-year periods during 35 years, 1918-1952

1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	Av. %
41	40	43	51	47	44.0
1923	1924	1925	1926	1927	
43	41	42	45	47	43.0
1928	1929	1930	1931	1932	
53	42	49	54	57	51.0
1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	
53	48	50	56	59	53.0
1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	
48	65	58	57	62	58.0
1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	
52	65	65	60	62	60.0
1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	
70	69	66	70	73	69.0
1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	
73	73	75	69	75	73.0

Causes of Death

The following table shows the classification of deaths from all causes (Registrar-General's figures) :—

	M.	F.	Totals
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	0	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	0	1	1
3. Syphilitic disease	0	0	0
4. Diphtheria	0	0	0
5. Whooping Cough	0	0	0
6. Meningococcal infections	0	0	0
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
8. Measles	0	0	0
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	0	0	0
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	1	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus ...	2	0	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	2	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	0	0
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	6	16
15. Leukaemia	0	0	0
16. Diabetes	0	0	0
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	15	18	33
18. Coronary disease, angina	12	6	18
19. Hipertension with heart disease	0	2	2
20. Other heart disease	22	23	45
21. Other circulatory disease	1	0	1
22. Influenza	2	0	2
23. Pneumonia	3	2	5
24. Bronchitis	3	3	6
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	0	1	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	2	1	3
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	0	0	0
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	0	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	2	0	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0	0
31. Congenital malformations	0	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	10	10	20
13. Motor vehicle accidents	0	1	1
34. All other accidents	5	3	8
35. Suicide	1	0	1
36. Homicide and operation of war	0	0	0
Totals	94	82	176

Infantile Mortality

Six deaths under one year old belonging to the Borough were recorded, giving a rate of 21.81 per 1,000 live births, as compared with 12 deaths and a rate of 44.11 in the previous year. The corresponding rate for England and Wales for 1957 is 23.0.

Causes of Death of Children under One Year

Reg. No.	Age	M.	F.	Cause
43	1 hour	1	—	Prematurity
70	30 hours	1	—	Prematurity
73	7 months	—	1	Broncho-Pneumonia
121	6 weeks	—	1	Asphyxia
199	2 months	1	—	Toxic Myocarditis
50/62	4 days	—	1	Peritonitis
		3	3	

Infectious Diseases

332 cases of infectious diseases were notified as occurring amongst the civilian population.

Diphtheria Immunisation.—The immunisation of children now comes under the direction of the County Medical Officer of Health for Northumberland, and statistics for the Borough of Berwick-upon-Tweed will appear in his Annual Report.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES OTHER
THAN TUBERCULOSIS

	Notified	Removed to Hospital	Died
Pneumonia	8	—	5
Food Poisoning	—	—	—
Gastro enteritis	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—
Measles	320	—	—
Whooping Cough	3	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—
	332	—	5

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASE
TUBERCULOSIS

	New Cases				Total Deaths			
	Pul.		Non-pul.		Pul.		Non-pul.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1-5 years	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5-15 ..	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
15-25 ..	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
25-35 ..	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
35-45 ..	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
45-55 ..	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
55-65 ..	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals ...	6	2	1	1	1	0	0	1

REGISTERED CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS

	Pul.			Non-pul.			
	M.	F.	Tot.	M.	F.	Tot.	Tots.
On Register 1st Jan., 1957	42	37	79	14	7	21	100
Notified during year for first time	6	2	8	1	1	2	10
Removed from Register ...	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
<hr style="width: 30%; margin: auto;"/>							
Cases on Register 31.12.57 ...	47	39	86	15	8	23	109

Section B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

Maternity Home

During the year 1957, 185 children belonging to parents residing in the Borough were born in Castle Hills Maternity Home. This figure represents 67.27 per cent. of the total births allocated by the Registrar-General.

The following table shews the number of live births occurring at Castle Hills Maternity Home since the opening on 26th February, 1945.

	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	Total
Berwick Borough	57	133	136	157	158	139	132	155	161	159	148	165	185	1885
Alnwick District	5	24	24	16	28	20	33	8	6	2	2	3	7	178
Amble	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Belford and District	7	5	16	8	13	24	14	25	7	7	8	5	10	151
Birmingham	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Blyth	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Glendale	6	11	20	37	49	46	36	30	29	32	31	37	44	403
Lancashire	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Leeds	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Morpeth	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Newcastle	1	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Norham & Islandshire R.D.C.	8	21	29	34	31	30	45	46	41	37	43	37	44	446
Scottish	13	7	14	10	27	32	41	31	46	53	51	61	64	450
Sheffield	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Surrey	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Yorkshire	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Sussex	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Leicester	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Manchester	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Westmorland	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Essex	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Wallsend	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ireland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Kirkby-Stephen	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Staffordshire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Sunderland	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
Barnsley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Middlesbrough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Buckinghamshire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Durham	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Totals	97	203	246	265	310	294	303	297	293	292	286	309	357	3552

Section C.
Sanitary Condition of the Borough
PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY

Seventeen representative samples of water from various sources were taken. Nine of these were for chemical analyses and eight for bacteriological examination. In each case, the analyst reported that the water was of satisfactory quality.

Copies of typical reports are shown below.

Sample No.	Type	Supply sampled
6	(Chemical)	Springhill Reservoir
7	(Bacteriological)	Springhill Reservoir
14	(Chemical)	Halidon Reservoir
17	(Bacteriological)	Main Supply, Dock Rd.

CHEMICAL RESULTS

	Sample No.	
	Parts per Million	
	6	14
Total solids dried at 180 degs. C. ...	250.0	394.0
Chlorine as chlorides ...	30.2	46.2
Free Ammonia ...	0.04	Trace
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	0.03	0.03
Nitrogen as Nitrates ...	3.4	2.90
Oxygen absorbed (4 hrs. at 80 deg. F.)	0.4	0.30
Total hardness ...	134	247
Permanent hardness ...	24	82
Temporary hardness ...	110	165
Lead and Copper ...	None	None
Iron ...	Trace	0.2
Smell and Taste ...	Satisfactory	
Microscopical examination of deposit	Satisfactory	
pH value ...	6.9	7.4
Fluorine ...	0.2	0.1

In all nine of the chemical samples, the Appearance and Colour were described as "clear and almost colourless" (Hazen degrees 5).

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Sample Nos.	Number of bacteria per millilitre (ml)			
	Visible on agar after 48 hours incubation at 37°C.		Visible on gelatine after 7 hours incubation at 21°C.	
7	0	0	0	0
17	0	0	0	0
	Coliform Organisms as shown by the production of acid and gas in MacConkey's Bile Salt Lactose broth after 48 hours incubation at 37°C.			
	0.1 ml. of sample	1.0 ml. of sample	10 mls. of sample	100 mls. of sample
7	—	absent	absent	absent
17	—	absent	absent	absent

Eighteen samples of private water supplies taken from three farm premises not connected to the Corporation mains. Bacteriological examination of these samples showed varied results in two of the cases and appropriate action was advised accordingly.

No water mains were extended during the year.

The position regarding dwellings and water supplies is as follows:—

	No. of houses	Population
a) Direct to house	4059	12,128
b) By means of stand-pipe	153	456
c) Other sources	29	86
		12,670

Sewerage.

There were no extensions to the sewerage during the year.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Two sewer test baitings, and three periodic sewer treatments were undertaken. The following summary shows the results of this work.

Test Bait (two treatments)

No. of manholes baited	78
No. of manholes showing "partial takes"	2
No. of manholes showing "complete takes"	12

Sewer Treatments (three treatments)

No. of manholes baited and poisoned	143
No. of manholes showing "partial takes"	9
No. of manholes showing "complete takes"	28

Six informal notices were served and formal proceedings were instituted under Section 6, Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, relating to agricultural premises under nine separate ownerships.

The number of visits to infested premises is summarised below.

Total number of visits to all premises where treatment was carried out	284
Number of private premises treated	42
Number of business premises treated	24
Number of Corporation premises treated	14
Number of agricultural premises treated	7
Number of agricultural premises surveyed	33

Factories Act, 1937.

There were 100 factories on the register at 31st December, 1957, of which 87 were factories in which mechanical power was used; 11 were non-mechanical and two were building sites. Eleven informal notices were served and three fire certificates issued or renewed. Inspections to factories numbered 39. A total of 16 contraventions of the Act were found and 15 remedied.

The following list shows the types of factories registered:—

Aerated Water Works	1
Bakeries	4
Beer Bottling Works	1
Boat Builder's Yards	2
Boot Repair Works	4
Building Sites	2
Butchers' Shops	9
Cabinet and Upholstery Works	3
Chemical Manufacturing Works	2
Coffee Grinding Shop	1
Cycle Repair Shops	2
Dressmaking Shops	4
Electrical Repairs Shops	3
Engineering Works	4
Fish Curing Premises	3
Food Canning	1
Gas Works	1
Grain Preparing Premises	5
Gut Scraping	2
Ice Manufacturers	1
Iron Foundry	1
Knitwear Manufacturing Premises	1
Laundries	2
Locomotive Repair Shed	1
Malt House	1
Monumental Mason's Yards	2
Motor Vehicle Repair Shops	11
Plumbers	4
Printers	5
Sail and Tent-making Premises	1
Sawmills and Joinery Shops	9
Skinnery	1
Stevedores	1
Sweet Manufacturing Premises	2
Tailor's Shops	1
Tweed Weaving Premises	1
Weighing Machine Repairs	1

**TABULAR STATEMENT OF VISITS, INSPECTIONS,
etc., BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND STAFF**

Visits and Inspections to:—

Complaints and Nuisances	309
Dairies	9
Diseases of Animals	5
Disinfections and disinfestations carried out	18
Factories	39
Fire escapes from hotels and factories	4
Food premises	149
Houses	327
Ice-cream premises	23
Offensive trades	12
Rat-infested premises	284
Ships	7
Shops	35
Slaughterhouses—Meat Inspection	1139
Smoke observations	37
Tents, Vans and Sheds	7

Notices issued :

Informal	122
Statutory	4

Notices complied with :

Informal	124
Statutory	6

Notices outstanding ;

Informal	24
Statutory	0

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

The five premises licensed under this Act were inspected and as satisfactory conditions were found, licences were reissued for the year.

Section D.

HOUSING

The programme to deal with unfit houses continued during the year when 10 Demolition Orders and four Closing Orders were made. In addition, seven official undertakings were accepted from owners that houses would not be used for human habitation. Official representation was made concerning a Clearance Area.

Four statutory notices under the Public Health Act, 1936, relating to house property were served and in two cases it was necessary to have Court Orders made before the nuisances were abated. The other two notices were complied with within the periods allowed by the notices.

Two cases of overcrowding were dealt with.

In all, 327 inspections to houses were made.

Fourteen applications were made for grants under the provisions of the Housing Act, 1949, and 10 of these were approved to bring the total number of grants given since the inception of the scheme to 66.

No certificates of disrepair under the Rent Act, 1957, were applied for, but two enquiries on this subject were dealt with.

At the close of the year under review the number of families sharing sanitary accommodation was 661, the incidence being as follows :—

226	water closets shared by 2 families		
52	„	3	„
12	„	4	„
1	„	5	„

In addition there were 48 families using pail closets or privy middens and 12 using chemical closets.

Seven visits were made to moveable dwellings and at one site unsatisfactory conditions were notified to the licensee. The disposal of chemical closet contents presented a problem which had not been overcome at the close of the year.

In connection with the District Co-ordinating Committee on Problem Families, 10 visits were made and the Council was represented at the Committee's meetings. Two visits were made to old persons requiring care and attention and appropriate action taken.

Houses Erected 1921-57

			By Private Enterprise	By Local Authority	Prefabricated Tem. Houses	Total
1921	...	...	1	22		23
22	..	...	—	—		—
23	..	...	—	24		24
24	..	...	4	32		36
25	..	...	20	72		92
26	..	...	12	26		38
27	..	...	1	97		98
28	..	...	25	51		76
29	..	...	4	—		4
30	..	...	7	16		23
31	...	...	2	—		2
32	...	...	—	60		60
33	...	...	20	8		28
34	...	...	32	—		32
35	...	...	42	24		66
36	...	...	58	76		134
37	...	...	33	100		133
38	...	...	37	178		215
39	...	...	25	30		55
40	...	...	4	—		4
41-45	...	...	—	—		—
46	...	...	1	—	50	51
47	...	...	14	64	—	78
48	...	...	1	142	—	143
49	...	...	11	68	—	79
50	...	...	12	74	—	86
51	...	...	20	48	—	68
52	...	...	11	78	—	89
53	...	...	9	74	—	83
54	...	...	7	67	—	74
55	...	...	10	51	—	61
56	...	...	4	56	—	60
57	...	...	1	45	—	46
Totals	...	...	428	1583	50	2061

Section E.

INSPECTION OF FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

The increased amount of slaughtering being done in the Borough further accentuates the need for better slaughtering facilities. Although preliminary steps have been taken towards the provision of a modern abattoir, the matter should be vigorously pursued in order that the most hygienic methods of slaughter can be introduced with a minimum of delay.

A total of 1139 visits were made to slaughterhouses for the purpose of meat inspection and 95 per cent. of all animals slaughtered were inspected. The licences for four private slaughterhouses were renewed and 33 slaughtermen's licences were issued.

8 tons, 14 cwts. and 10 lbs. of foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption. As in previous years, condemned meat is first dyed and then sent to Gateshead for processing. Other rejected foods are coloured, or otherwise rendered unusable, before being disposed of by the Corporation Cleansing Department. Two carcasses affected with *cysticercus bovis* were sent to cold storage in Newcastle for the necessary period.

In connection with food hygiene and inspection of foodstuffs in retail shops, 197 inspections were made and 60 informal notices sent relating to the same. Improvements to food premises following inspections were noted. These were, in the main, the installation of sinks, wash-hand basins, hot water systems, the screening of open foodstuffs, the provision of clothing lockers and general redecoration and repairs. A new issue of food hygiene posters was sent to all appropriate premises.

The number of food premises registered under Section 16. Food and Drugs Act, 1955, was:—

a) For the sale, manufacture or storage of ice cream ...	34
b) for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pickled, pressed or preserved foods	15
	—
	49
	—
Number of inspections to registered premises	26

Meat and Other Foods Condemned

Beef (Home Killed)	Stones	374
Beef (Imported)	"	—
Mutton (Home Killed)	"	499
Mutton (Imported)	"	—
Pork	"	119
Poultry	lbs.	3891
Fish	"	—
Fruit	"	—
Canned Goods	Tins	256
Bacon and Ham	lbs.	21
Butter	"	10
Eggs	doz.	7
Other Foods:—		
Crab-fish	lbs.	484
Prawns	"	994
Chicken Fat	"	37

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
Number killed (if known) ...	1202	153	6	50,844	1,877	54,082
Number inspected ...	1202	153	6	48,976	1,877	52,214
All diseases except T.B. and cysticercosis						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	2	4	—	67	3	76
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...						
	58	29	—	4,631	28	4,746
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis						
	4.99	21.56	—	9.59	1.65	
Tuberculosis only :—						
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	1	—	—	—	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...						
	10	17	—	—	74	101
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B. ...						
	0.91	11.76	—	—	3.94	
Cysticercosis :						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...						
	4	—	—	—	—	4
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...						
	5	—	—	—	—	5
Generalised and totally condemned ...						
	—	—	—	—	—	—

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947-52.

Including three new registrations in 1957, there were 34 premises in the Borough registered for the sale or manufacture of ice cream at the end of the year.

At only four of these premises is ice cream manufactured, the remainder deal in pre-packed ice cream manufactured outside the Borough.

Visits made under these regulations numbered eight and 44 samples were taken with the following results:—

Grade 1	...	...	...	32
Grade 2	...	...	...	7
Grade 3	...	...	...	2
Grade 4	...	...	...	3

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949-54.

For the first time it is possible to report that only Designated Milks are sold in the Borough and this marks a very definite step forward in the long records of legislation, supervision and, indeed, co-operation in the production and supply of this vital food.

Nine visits were made to dairies and three notices served. Generally conditions were found to be satisfactory.

One new dairy was registered in 1957, bringing the total registered premises to five.

Licences issued for the sale of designated milks were as follows:—

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Sampling.

Tuberculin Tested Milk—Methylene Blue Test:—

Number of samples sent to Public Health Laboratory	...	20
Number satisfying test	...	20
Number failing to satisfy test	...	0

Pasteurised Milk—Phosphatase Test and Methylene Blue Test:—

Number of samples taken	...	12
Number satisfying Phosphatase Test	...	12
Number satisfying Methylene Blue Test	...	12

Milk Bottles—

Number of bottles sent for examination	...	4
Number satisfactory	...	3
Number fairly satisfactory	...	1
Number unsatisfactory	...	0

Clean Food Administration.

The number and type of food premises in the Borough is as follows :—

Aerated Water Manufacturers	2
Bakeries	4
Bakers' Shops	14
Butchers' Shops	15
Cafes and Snack Bars	10
Confectioners' Shops	13
Dairies	5
Fish and Chip Shops	10
Fish Merchants	10
Food Packers	2
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	14
Grocers	33
Hotels	12
Ice Cream Factories	4
Licensed Clubs	4
Public Houses	28
School Kitchens	5
Slaughterhouses	5
Sweet Manufacturers	2
Wholesale Dealers and Warehouses	6
	198
Total	198

Clean Air Act, 1956

The Borough is particularly fortunate in not suffering from general atmospheric pollution, but there are isolated spots which require attention from time to time. Thirty-seven observations of smoke emissions were made and in one case informal notices were served and subsequent improvement recorded.

The Council is a member of the North East Regional Advisory Committee of Local Authorities for Smoke Abatement and Clean Air.

Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

Lists of areas where infectious disease is prevalent continue to be sent to the Customs Officer, Harbour Commissioner and the local Shipping Agents and there are Standing Orders in force for dealing with any "infected" or "suspected" vessel should the occasion arise.

Summarised below is the traffic of the Tweed Dock and the activities of the department in this direction.

Ships from	No.	Tonnage	Number inspected		No. of Ships reported as having had during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			by M.O.H.	by P.H.I.	
Foreign Ports	23	5,037	—	7	Nil
Coastwise ...	27	5,608	—	—	Nil
Total ...	50	10,645	—	7	Nil

Passenger Traffic—

Number of Passengers Inward	...	...	...	One
Number of Passengers Outward	...	...	...	One

Cargo Traffic—

Principal Imports—Timber, Pyrites, Cement, Petroleum, Potash, Nitro-Shell Fertiliser.

Principal Exports—Nil.

Principal Ports from which ships arrive—Antwerp, Kemi, Pomaron, Casablanca, Swax, Rotterdam.

