[Report 1950] / Medical Officer of Health, Blyth Borough.

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BOROUGH OF BLYTH.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

INCORPORATING THAT OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1950.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
"DINSDALE,"
MARINE TERRACE,
BLYTH,
NORTHUMBERLAND.

C.P.S. Newcastle.

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
" DINSDALE,"
MARINE TERRACE,
BLYTH,
NORTHUMBERLAND.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman : Alderman Donnachie.

Vice-Chairman : Alderman Mitchell.

The Mayor.

Alderman	Curry.	Councillor	Rhodes.
Councillor	Allison.	,,	Rourke.
,,	Barker (G. W.)	,,	Rutherford.
,,	Elder.	,,	Ryder.
,,	Hepple.	,,	Searle.
,,	Hooper.	,,	Smith.
,,	Kay.	,,	Soulsby.
,,	Laing.	,,	Summers.
,,	Proctor.	,,	Tweddle.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1950.

Medical Officer of Health	A. Donaldson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Senior Sanitary Inspector	G. A. Gill, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Additional Sanitary Inspector	N. F. Godfrey, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Additional Sanitary Inspector	W. Allan, A.R.S.I. (Appointed 4th December, 1950.)
Temporary Clerks	C. Fellows. T. G. Moralee (Services terminated 28th February, 1950).
Temporary Shorthand Typist	B. I. Redburn.
Rodent Officer	R. Cramp.

BOROUGH OF BLYTH.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1950.

YOUR WORSHIP, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Public Health and Sanitary Conditions in the Borough during the year 1950.

The Birth Rate fell from 20 per 1,000 population to 18·8 but still remained above the average for England and Wales and for towns of similar population. Unfortunately the Infantile Mortality Rate failed to maintain its downward trend—rising from 39·5 per 1,000 live births to 46·9. There was a high proportion of cases (19) which could be deemed unavoidable and careful investigation failed to show that environmental conditions were significant in the 31 deaths which occurred in Blyth. Deaths of infants occurred in hospital, good homes and bad homes without any apparent predilection for the bad.

Tuberculosis continued to give rise to grave concern. At the end of 1950 there were 342 cases on the tuberculosis register—an increase of 59 over 1949. While a proportion of the cases notified must be due to increased facilities for diagnosis, I have no doubt that there has been a true increase of this disease in Blyth. There is no doubt, too, that the population of Blyth is tuberculosis conscious, as the attendances at the Mass Radiography Sessions have been so good that arrangements have been made to have a regular quarterly visit of the Unit to check up on contacts.

No Diphtheria cases were notified in Blyth during 1950, which is a new record for the Borough. This is the first occasion when diphtheria has been completely absent from the district.

Blyth can be well satisfied with the progress made towards a higher standard of hygiene in food premises in 1950. It is hoped that this will be continued. A full report on this subject will be found elsewhere.

I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their interest and co-operation and to the Officials of the other departments for their courtesy

during 1950. The Health Department have my grateful thanks for their efforts during the year.

I remain,

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. DONALDSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Blyth.

COMMENTS ON STATISTICS.

Population.—The registrar-general's estimated mid-1950 population was 35,280 which is 20 below that of 1949. This is rather strange as the population is expected to increase rapidly in the next few years and the population has been increasing since 1946 owing to the return of the military population from army service. No reason can be given for this apparent halt in the population trend.

Birth Rate.—The birth rate fell in 1950 to 18·8 per 1,000 population. This is the first occasion since 1943 that the birth rate has fallen below 20. There were 48 fewer births for the Borough in 1950 than 1949.

Death Rate.—The death rate was 11·8 per 1,000 population and there were 5 fewer deaths in 1950 than in 1949. There were 252 deaths of persons over the age of 65, as compared with the 231 for 1949, the percentage being 60·4 of the total deaths.

Infantile Mortality Rate.—The infantile mortality rate was 46·9 per 1,000 live births, an increase over 1949.

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate.—The neo-natal mortality rate was 31·8, an increase of 7·8 per 1,000 births over 1949.

Still-Birth Rate.—The still-birth rate was 27·9 per 1,000 live and still-births, an increase of 7.2 per 1,000.

Maternal Mortality.—Maternal mortality was nil for 1950, there being no deaths due to childbirth.

Deaths.—As in former years Heart Disease was the commonest cause of death. 159 deaths were directly due to this cause (38 per cent.).

Cancer was the next commonest cause, there being 61 cases (14·8 per cent. of the total deaths) and the stomach (19 cases) being the commonest site of the disease.

The greatest number of deaths were recorded in January and February, and there was a rapid fall to June, when 22 deaths were recorded.

Infectious Diseases.—Measles made its biennial invasion of the Borough, there being 652 cases, and Whooping Cough recorded the highest number of notifications for many years, there being 282. There were 84 notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 58 notifications of Pneumonia. The other infectious diseases followed the course of previous years with the exception of Dysentery, there being 5 notifications of this disease, the first for four years.

A note on Poliomyelitis is recorded elsewhere but it should be noted that Blyth was extremely fortunate in having only 4 cases, none of which were particularly severe.

No cases of Diphtheria were recorded in the Borough during 1950.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Infectious disease notification in Blyth in 1950 doubled that of 1949. More than half the cases were due to Measles, with Whooping Cough being the next in number.

Measles.—There were 652 cases of Measles in 1950, with no deaths. The greatest number of cases occurred between the ages of 5 to 10; and 30 occurred within the first year of life.

Whooping Cough.—There were 282 cases of Whooping Cough and no deaths. Again, the greatest number of cases occurred between 5 to 10; with 27 cases in the first year of life.

Inoculations for Whooping Cough have not been popular but it is worth-while noting that in all the cases where inoculation had been carried out only 2 cases of the disease occurred.

Scarlet Fever.—There were 44 cases of Scarlet Fever notified, an increase of 5 over 1949. This disease remains fairly constant in its numbers from year to year, and it has not regained the virulence of former years.

Meningococcal Infection.—There were 5 cases of Meningococcal Infection, with no deaths.

Tuberculosis.—There were 92 cases of Tuberculosis notified during the year, 84 pulmonary and 8 non-pulmonary. This is an increase of 7 over 1949. The greatest number of cases, as in 1949, occurred between the ages of 15 and 25 and the second group between 25 and 35. These age groups appear to be the most vulnerable and it is hoped that by the medium of mass radiography early cases will be caught and dealt with before the disease has taken a firm hold.

At the end of 1950 there were 342 cases of Tuberculosis on the register, 287 pulmonary and 55 non-pulmonary.

Diphtheria.—There were no cases of Diphtheria notified during 1950.

POLIOMYELITIS, 1950.

Four cases of Poliomyelitis were notified to the Health Department during 1950 and were confirmed. Three of these were paralytic cases and one non-paralytic. The first case was notified on 14/7/1950 and the last on 13/9/1950. None of these cases were severe in character and no deaths resulted.

The first case occurred in Crawford Street and was probably the most severe, involving the face and arm on the right side. The next case occurred in Newsham, some 2½ miles away and at the extreme opposite end of the town. This was a paralytic case involving the left side of the face only. The next two cases occurred in Salisbury Street, and of these, one was notified as a non-paralytic case on the 8th September, and on the 13th September another child was confirmed as a paralytic case in the same street.

Full investigations were carried out in all cases and no evidence was obtained connecting any of the cases. The two Salisbury Street families were unknown to each other, the children were of different sexes and at an age when contact in playing would be most unlikely, and neither family will admit having any contact with the other. The other two cases although further away show no evidence of contact among themselves or the Salisbury Street cases. The only family to admit illness in the house about the time when a case occurred was in the family at Newsham and the patient's brother complained of a sore throat. This, however, is quite a chronic complaint and not unusual, and it is difficult to associate it definitely with poliomyelitis.

CLEAN FOOD.

I would like to pay tribute to my Chief Sanitary Inspector with regard to the efforts made in 1950 to obtain a high standard of food cleanliness in shops and other food establishments.

The difficult task of interesting various food traders in a Clean Food Campaign and the adoption of a Code of Practice was undertaken with enthusiasm. A survey of all food premises was completed and a direct approach made to the shopkeepers to induce them to co-operate in reaching a high standard in equipment, methods of handling food and above all in personal hygiene of all employees. This was no easy task and it is one which for a considerable number of years will require patient and constant supervision in educating all food handlers to the stage where hygienic methods are automatic. The human element unfortunately will always be with us and it is only by constant vigilance on the part of all concerned that mistakes will not be allowed to occur. There is little point in having spotless premises built and decorated in the most modern fashion, complete with hot and cold water, refrigeration and other equipment of modern standards, if one employee fails to wash his or her hands after using the toilet. The hygienic chain so laboriously forged has been broken with the greatest of ease. The more optimistic view, however, that is taken in this department, is that there is little chance of proper hand washing if the equipment such as hot running water, soap, nail brushes, is not available. I think it fair to say that as regards these basic requirements the majority of the food traders in Blyth have co-operated. There are a few, still to be convinced, that the expenditure of a little money in this respect will pay dividends.

As regards catering establishments, there still remains a considerable amount of work to be done. It is unfortunate that many of these businesses depend on leasehold property. There is no doubt at all in my mind that if the property was freehold great improvements would take place in the actual building structure. It is difficult, however, to obtain consent from two parties, the lessee and the owner, to have proper repairs carried out, even repairs and alterations covered by the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, without resort to extremely awkward legal entanglements. If the owner sees that these alterations mean considerable expense then the lease is liable not to be renewed and the business comes to an end. These points, however, are being tackled and great hopes entertained that a solution to this problem will be reached.

I am satisfied that the town of Blyth has made considerable progress in 1950 in the way that foodstuffs are handled. It is a great pity that no progress is being made with regard to the provision of a new abattoir for the district. Many representations have been made by Blyth Borough to obtain new premises for the slaughter, dressing and inspection of animals. The present establishment although improved recently is far from ideal.

SICK BENEFIT SCHEME.

During the year 1950, 129 workmen were sick. Where a workman is off for more than one week, notice is given for him to be examined at the Health Department unless he is confined to bed. Approximately 100 workmen were examined —many on more than one occasion.

Number of workmen who were sick 129

Number of days lost through illness or accident..... 367½

Days Lost.

No. of Days .	1–3	4–7	8–14	15–21	22–28	29–35	36–42	43–49	50–56	57–63	64–70	71–77	78–84	Over 85
No. of Workmen .	9	14	26	20	12	13	5	3	5	2	6	5	8	1

It will be seen that the commonest period of absence was 2–3 weeks.

The commonest complaint was influenza followed closely by peptic ulcer ; then injury, bronchitis, rheumatism in some form and septic conditions.

The longest period (110 days) was due to an injury—fractured bones of the foot.

Some of the causes for long absence were as follows :—

Gastric Ulcer—73 days, 78 days, 78 days.

Operative treatment for Hernia—78 days.

Lumbago—68 days.

Bronchitis and Asthma—78 days, 78 days, 68 days, 65 days.

Subarachnoid Hæmorrhage—78 days.

Influenza—61 days.

Burns—75½ days.

Angina—76 days.

The most constant attenders were those of the lower income group performing the humbler tasks—road sweepers, cleansing department and general labourers.

Resentment at this medical " means test " was apparent in some cases—especially those attending for the first time, but when it was realised that a genuine interest was being shown this disappeared. Co-operation with the general practitioners is good.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948—Section 47.

In 1950 one person was removed under the above Section. This was the case of an elderly widow who was living in most insanitary conditions and who was incapable of taking proper care of herself or of her home. Repeated visits had been made ; offers of domestic assistance had been refused ; voluntary admission to a County Home had been refused. The Order sanctioning her removal to a Home was granted by the Magistrates for a period of three months. In a short time the patient had settled down and become a voluntary patient. She was visited several times and expressed her wish to remain in the home.

This method of obtaining admittance to aged persons' homes is most distasteful and is one which is used by a Medical Officer as a last resort.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

AREA.—No change in the Borough Area took place in 1950, and the acreage remains as formerly at 6,487.

POPULATION.—Registrar-General's Estimate, 30th June, 1950 35,280

RATEABLE VALUE (1st April, 1950) £177,493

SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE (estimated).... £680

Extracts from Vital Statistics.	1950.	1949.
The Birth Rate per 1,000 population	18·8	20·0
The Death Rate per 1,000 population	11·8	11·9
The Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	46·9	39·5
The Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (dying in 4 weeks) per 1,000 Births	31·8	24·0
The Still-Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still-Births	27·9	20·7
Tuberculosis Death Rate per 1,000 population	0·45	0·76
Maternal Mortality	Nil.	1·4

	1944.	1945.	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
Number of Births (Live) ...	705	658	764	858	737	708	660
Number of Deaths	397	394	440	469	362	422	417
Number of Births in excess of Deaths	308	264	324	389	375	286	243

Infantile Deaths and Infantile Mortality Rates for Ten-year period 1941-1950.

	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950
Deaths	48	23	39	50	38	48	45	40	28	31
Infant Mortality Rate	83·7	42·6	64·5	70·9	57·7	62·8	52·4	54·2	39·5	46·9

The principal causes of Infant Deaths were as follows :—

Broncho-Pneumonia	1	Neo-Natal	8
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	1	Neo-Natal	1
Spina Bifida	1	Neo-Natal	1
Congenital Heart Disease	3	Neo-Natal	3
Congenital Atelectasis	4	Neo-Natal	4
Inspirational Pneumonia	1	Neo-Natal	1
Prematurity	9	Neo-Natal	9
Hirschsprungs Disease	1	Neo-Natal	1
Asphyxia			1
Acute Gastro Enteritis			2
	21	Neo-Natal	31

Infant Deaths, 1950.

Possibly Avoidable.		Unavoidable.	
Broncho-pneumonia	8	Cerebral Hæmorrhage	1
Inspirational Pneumonia	1	Spina Bifida	1
Asphyxia	1	Congenital Heart Disease	3
Gastro Enteritis	2	Congenital Atelectasis	4
		Prematurity	9
		Hirschsprungs Disease	1
	12		19

DEATHS FROM CERTAIN CAUSES, 1950.

Code No.	*International Classification.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total.*
002	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	8	7	15
011	Tuberculosis of peritoneum	—	1	1
144	Malignant neoplasm—mouth	1	—	1
146	,, ,, —nasopharynx	—	1	1
148	,, ,, —pharynx, unspecified	1	—	1
150	,, ,, —œsophagus	1	—	1
151	,, ,, —stomach	9	10	19
152	,, ,, —small intestine (incl. duo.)	—	1	1
153	,, ,, —large intestine (except rectum)	5	3	8
154	,, ,, —rectum	4	—	4
155	,, ,, —of biliary passages	2	—	2
162	,, ,, —lungs (primary)	6	1	7
164	,, ,, —mediastinum	—	1	1
170	,, ,, —breast	—	3	3
171	,, ,, —cervix uteri	—	3	3
172	,, ,, —uterus	—	2	2
175	,, ,, —ovary	—	1	1

DEATHS FROM CERTAIN CAUSES, 1950—*continued.*

Code No.	*International Classification.*	*Male.*	*Female.*	*Total*
176	Malignant neoplasm—female genital organs	—	1	1
177	,, ,, —prostate	3	—	3
179	,, ,, —male genital organs	1	—	1
199	,, ,, —unspecified sites	1	—	1
204	Leukæmia and aleukæmia	3	—	3
223	Brain tumour	1	—	1
241	Asthma (bronchial)	1	1	2
253	Myxœdema	—	2	2
260	Diabetes	4	7	11
290	Pernicious Anæmia	—	2	2
330	Subarachnoid hæmorrhage	1	3	4
331	Cerebral hæmorrhage	14	7	21
332	Cerebral embolism and thrombosis	11	11	22
334	Cerebral Arterio Sclerosis	4	1	5
340.1	Pneumococcal meningitis	1	—	1
340.3	Meningitis, unspecified	1	—	1
350	Paralysis agitans	3	1	4
353	Epilepsy	1	1	2
420	Myocardial degeneration and coronary obstruction	82	56	138
421	Mitral stenosis	2	—	2
421.1	Aortic incompetence	1	—	1
422	Cardio vascular degeneration	1	1	2
433.1	Auricular fibrillation	7	4	11
434.2	Left ventricular failure	4	1	5
453.1	Thrombo-angiitis obliterans	1	—	1
465	Pulmonary embolism and infarction	2	1	3
480	Influenza, with pneumonia	1	4	5
490	Lobar pneumonia	1	2	3
491	Broncho-pneumonia	5	8	13
500	Bronchitis, acute	—	2	2
502	Bronchitis, chronic	3	1	4
517	Ulceration of larynx	1	—	1
520	Spontaneous pneumothorax	1	—	1
522	Hypostatic pneumonia	2	2	4
540	Ulcer of stomach (gastric)	1	—	1
540.1	Ulcer of stomach, with perforation	—	2	2
541.1	Ulcer of duodenum, with perforation	3	—	3
550.1	Appendicitis, with peritonitis	1	—	1
570.2	Mesenteric infarction—thrombosis	1	1	2
571	Gastro-enteritis	2	1	3
585	Cholecystitis	—	1	1
587	Pancreatitis, acute	—	1	1
590	Acute nephritis	1	—	1
592	Chronic nephritis	2	2	4
610	Enlarged prostate	2	—	2
622	Ovarian tube (abscess)	—	1	1
752	Congenital hydrocephalus (spina bifida)	1	—	1
754.1	Congenital heart	2	—	2
756.2	Hirschsprungs disease	—	1	1
760	Intra-cranial and injury at birth	2	—	2
762	Pulmonary atelectasis	—	4	4
763	Pneumonia of newborn	1	—	1
774	Prematurity	4	5	9
792	Uræmia, unqualified	—	3	3
794	Senility	1	3	4
N 803	Fracture of skull	—	1	1
N 828	Fracture of tibia and fibula	1	—	1
E 890	Accidental coal gas poisoning	1	1	2
E 853	Accidental fall into ship's hold	2	—	2
E 903	Accidental fall on same level	—	1	1
E 911	Accident caused by coal car in mine	2	—	2
E 924	Asphyxia by soft pillow	1	1	2
E 974	Suicide—strangulation	2	—	2
E 978	Suicide—jump from high place	1	—	1
	TOTALS	235	182	417

CANCER MORTALITY, 1950.

Situation of Disease and Age Groups in Years.

Site.	Under 45		45–55		56–65		66–75		Over 75		Totals.		Grand Total.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Digestive Tract.													
Colon & Cæcum.	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	3	1	4
Rectum	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	2	—	4	1	5
Liver	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Bowel	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	1	3
Œsophagus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
Abdomen	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Stomach	1	—	2	—	1	3	2	4	2	4	8	11	19
Respiratory System.													
Lungs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	1	2
Bronchi	—	—	1	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	5	—	5
Genito-Urinary System.													
Uterus	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	5	5
Prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	3	—	3
Other Organs.													
Breast	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	3	3
Penis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
Vagina	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1
Pharynx	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	2
Mouth	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Ampulla of Bile Duct	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	2
Pelvis	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
Circulatory System	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1
	2	1	4	2	6	7	12	11	11	5	35	26	61

Cancer Deaths for 10 years, 1941–1950.

Year.	Site.	Under 36 yrs.	36–45	46–55	56–65	66–75	Over 75	M.	F.	Total.
1941	(1) Buccal Cavity	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	1	3
	(2) Digestive Tract	—	2	4	6	8	5	12	13	25
	(3) Respiratory System ..	—	1	1	—	2	—	4	—	4
	(4) Genito-Urinary System	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	2
	(5) Other Organs	—	—	—	2	2	2	1	5	6
		—	3	6	9	15	7	19	21	40
1942	(1) Buccal Cavity	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	2
	(2) Digestive Tract	1	1	1	4	11	8	11	15	26
	(3) Respiratory System ..	—	—	2	3	2	—	4	3	7
	(4) Genito-Urinary System	—	—	1	2	—	1	1	3	4
	(5) Other Organs	—	—	2	1	3	5	5	6	11
		1	1	6	11	16	15	23	27	50
1943	(1) Buccal Cavity	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1
	(2) Digestive Tract	1	1	2	9	7	3	16	7	23
	(3) Respiratory System ..	1	1	6	3	—	—	8	3	11
	(4) Genito-Urinary System	1	2	1	1	—	—	1	4	5
	(5) Other Organs	2	—	1	4	2	1	4	6	10
		5	4	10	17	9	5	30	20	50
1944	(1) Buccal Cavity	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	2
	(2) Digestive Tract	2	—	1	9	12	7	16	15	31
	(3) Respiratory System ..	—	—	1	3	—	1	3	2	5
	(4) Genito-Urinary System	—	1	1	2	1	2	2	5	7
	(5) Other Organs	—	—	1	1	3	3	3	5	8
		2	1	4	15	17	14	26	27	53
1945	(1) Buccal Cavity	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(2) Digestive Tract	—	1	3	8	11	11	21	13	34
	(3) Respiratory System ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	2
	(4) Genito-Urinary System	—	2	—	—	5	—	3	4	7
	(5) Other Organs	1	1	4	—	4	—	1	9	10
		1	4	7	8	20	13	25	28	53
1946	(1) Buccal Cavity	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	2
	(2) Digestive Tract	—	2	3	11	15	3	22	12	34
	(3) Respiratory System ..	—	1	3	1	3	1	7	2	9
	(4) Genito-Urinary System	—	—	2	1	2	3	1	7	8
	(5) Other Organs	—	2	2	—	1	1	1	5	6
		—	5	10	13	23	8	32	27	59
1947	(1) Buccal Cavity	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	1	3
	(2) Digestive Tract	—	1	3	7	10	10	20	11	31
	(3) Respiratory System ..	—	—	2	4	4	—	8	2	10
	(4) Genito-Urinary System	—	2	3	1	1	1	—	8	8
	(5) Other Organs	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	2
		—	3	8	13	15	15	30	24	54
1948	(1) Buccal Cavity	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1
	(2) Digestive Tract	—	1	4	11	8	6	18	12	30
	(3) Respiratory System ..	—	—	1	3	2	1	5	2	7
	(4) Genito-Urinary System	—	1	—	3	3	1	2	6	8
	(5) Other Organs	—	—	2	3	2	1	—	8	8
		—	2	7	20	15	10	26	28	54

CANCER DEATHS FOR 10 YEARS, 1941-1950–*continued.*

Year.	Site.	Under 36 yrs.	36–45	46–55	56–65	66–75	Over 75	M.	F.	Total.
1949	(1) Buccal Cavity	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	(2) Digestive Tract	—	—	5	11	13	12	20	21	41
	(3) Respiratory System ..	—	—	1	5	3	—	7	2	9
	(4) Genito-Urinary System	—	—	—	6	4	—	5	5	10
	(5) Other Organs	—	1	—	3	3	3	4	6	10
		—	1	6	25	23	15	36	34	70
1950	(1) Buccal Cavity	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1
	(2) Digestive Tract	—	2	5	6	11	11	20	15	35
	(3) Respiratory System ..	—	—	1	2	3	1	6	1	7
	(4) Genito-Urinary System	—	1	—	2	3	2	3	5	8
	(5) Other Organs	—	—	—	2	6	2	5	5	10
		—	3	6	13	23	16	35	26	61

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

BACTERIOLOGICAL.

(The Public Health Laboratory Service, Newcastle General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne).

A. *Pathological.*

(1) Throat, Nose and Ear Swabs.

Corynebacterium	Diphtheria :	Present	Nil.
		Not Found	40— 40
Hæmolytic Streptococci		Present	21
		Not Found.....	50— 71
Vincents		Present	1
		Not Found.....	3— 4

(2) Sputum.

B. Tuberculosis		Present	145
		Not Found.....	653—798
,, ,,	Culture—Present 16		
	—Not Found 61		

(3) Blood	Benign Tertian Malarial parasites found (scanty)		1
	No Br. Abortus reaction		2— 3
(4) Fæces (Pathogenic)	Sh. sonnei isolated		5
	No pathogens isolated		16— 21

(5) Pleural Fluid.

Ziehl Nielson—B. Tuberculosis	Present	1
	Not Found.....	6— 7

,, ,, —Culture—no growth 6.

(6) Urine	Few organisms found		1
	No organisms found		1— 2
(7) Other Specimens	Culture—no growth		1

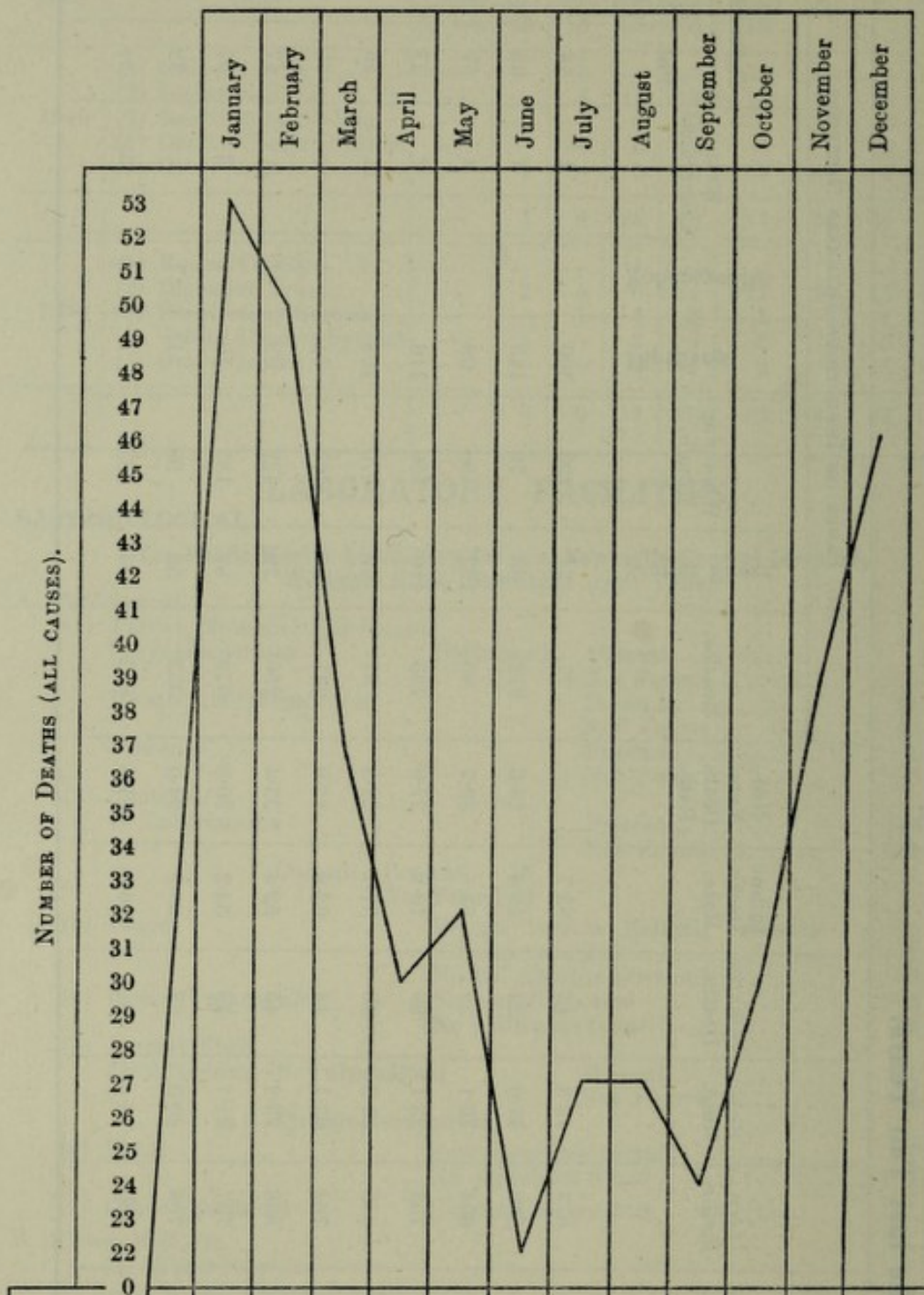
B. *Water, Milk, etc.*

(1) Water Samples—	
(a) Bacteriological	49
(b) Chemical	5
(c) Microscopical	3— 57
(2) Milk Samples—	
(a) For B. Tuberculosis	22
(b) For Methylene Blue	45
(c) Pasteurised Milk—	
Methylene Blue	13
Phosphatase Test	13
Turbidity Test	2
(d) Sterility test on Milk Bottles	55
(3) Mussels	3
(4) Ice-Cream—	
(a) Bacteriological—Methylene Blue Test.....	55
(b) Chemical	6

Statistics of Blyth for the last Ten Years.

Year.	Population.	Deaths.	Death Rate.	Live Births.	Birth Rate.	Infantile Deaths.	Infant Death Rate.	Neo-Natal Death Rate.	No. Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified.							
									Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diptheria.	Poliomyelitis.	Bowel Complaints	Tuberculosis.	
															Pul.	Non-Pul.
1941	34,770	438	13·1	573	19·3	48	83·7	..	77	24	299	300	..	1	44	13
1942	31,600	384	11·8	539	17·6	23	42·6	18·6	912	65	79	145	..	1	38	8
1943	30,590	403	11·9	604	18·1	39	64·5	39·7	80	123	90	98	..	4	57	8
1944	30,540	397	13·0	705	23·1	50	70·9	27·9	723	116	156	116	..	2	57	17
1945	31,080	394	12·6	658	21·2	38	57·7	22·8	87	69	79	108	..	11	56	8
1946	33,020	440	13·3	764	23·1	48	62·8	22·9	641	44	67	51	1	2	55	7
1947	33,920	469	13·8	858	25·2	45	52·4	33·4	256	29	122	23	1	..	47	11
1948	33,980	362	10·6	737	21·7	40	54·2	20·8	673	89	182	10	1	3	57	19
1949	35,300	422	11·9	708	20·0	28	39·5	24·0	352	39	98	1	1	..	72	12
1950	35,280	417	11·8	660	18·8	31	46·9	31·8	652	44	282	..	4	5	84	8

DEATHS, 1950.



Causes of Death.	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	
Circulatory .	25	28	23	17	22	14	18	13	15	16	21	29	241
Respiratory .	3	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	12
Cancer	9	6	3	6	3	5	4	4	5	3	9	4	61
Notifiable Diseases ..	7	1	1	—	4	—	—	1	—	—	3	4	21
T.B. Pul. ...	1	3	3	—	1	—	1	2	1	3	—	1	16
T.B. Other ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	8	9	6	7	2	3	4	7	3	6	5	6	66
Total	53	50	37	30	32	22	27	27	24	30	39	46	417

Annual Returns for Nine Years of Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases.

Year.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Erysipelas.	Pneumonia.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Meningococcal Infection.	Dysentery.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Tuberculosis (Pulmonary).	Tuberculosis (Other).	Whooping Cough.	Measles.	Malaria.	Para. Typhoid Fever.	Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic).	Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic).	Acute Encephalitis (Infective).	Food Poisoning.
1942	65	145	7	55	4	3	1	5	38	8	79	912	—	—	—	—	—	—
1943	123	98	13	82	6	1	4	2	57	8	90	80	—	—	—	—	—	—
1944	116	116	12	39	3	1	2	—	57	17	156	723	—	—	—	—	—	—
1945	69	108	6	35	3	9	10	3	56	8	79	87	1	1	—	—	—	—
1946	44	51	13	58	2	3	1	—	55	7	67	641	2	1	1	—	—	—
1947	29	23	13	50	1	8	—	2	47	11	122	256	1	—	1	—	—	—
1948	89	10	18	32	2	3	—	—	57	19	182	673	—	3	1	—	—	—
1949	39	1	6	27	3	1	—	—	72	12	98	352	—	—	1	—	—	1
1950	44	—	17	58	—	5	5	—	84	8	282	652	1	—	3	1	1	—

Diphtheria.

Year.	Cases.	Deaths.	Remarks.
1941	300	20	Not Immunised.
1942	145	5	,, ,,
1943	98	3	,, ,,
1944	116	6	,, ,,
1945	108	3	1 Immunised, Dec., 1942.
1946	51	1	Not Immunised.
1947	23	Nil.	
1948	10	Nil.	
1949	1	Nil.	
1950	Nil.	Nil.	

Diphtheria Immunisation, Year ended 31st December, 1950.

Immunisation in relation to Child Population.

Percentage of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1950 :—

Children immunised 0–15 years = 82·8%

TUBERCULOSIS—1944-1950.

Table showing the number of Pulmonary Tuberculosis cases notified in the respective years, and the number of deaths which have occurred, and the time elapsed from notification to death :—

Year.	No. of Notifications.	No. of Deaths.	Period within which death occurred.					
			Under 1 year.	1–2 yrs.	2–3 yrs.	3–4 yrs.	4–5 yrs.	5–6 yrs.
1950.....	84	5	5	—	—	—	—	—
1949.....	72	5	5	—	—	—	—	—
1948.....	56	18	7	8	3	—	—	—
1947.....	47	21	6	12	3	—	—	—
1946.....	55	25	21	2	2	—	—	—
1945.....	56	21	12	7	1	—	—	1
1944.....	58	24	5	5	6	7	1	—
Totals	428	119	61	34	15	7	1	1

	Notifications.				Deaths.			
	Males.		Females.		Males.		Females.	
1945	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.
Totals	35	4	21	4	10	2	10*	2*
,, ...	39		25		12		12	
Grand Totals ..	64				24			

* Includes Non-notified T.B. Cases—4 deaths.

1946								
Totals	40	5	15	2	22	11	5*	Nil.
,, ...	45		17		33		5	
Grand Totals ..	62				38			

* Includes Non-notified T.B. Cases—2 deaths.

1947								
Totals	28	7	19	4	18*	4	12	3*
,, ...	35		23		22		15	
Grand Totals ..	58				37			

* Includes Non-notified T.B. Cases—3 deaths.

1948								
Totals	27	15	30	4	16*	2	14	3*
,, ...	42		34		18		17	
Grand Totals ..	76				35			

* Includes Non-notified T.B. Cases—2 deaths.

	Notifications.				Deaths.			
	Males.		Females.		Males.		Females.	
1949	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.
Totals	39	6	33	6	10*	3*	12*	2*
,, ...	45		39		13		14	
Grand Totals	84				27			

* Includes Non-notified T.B. Cases—6 deaths.

1950								
Totals	39†	4	45	4	8	—	9*	—
,, ...	43		49		8		9	
Grand Totals ..	92				17			

† Includes 1 Port Health Authority T.B. notification.

* ,, Non-notified T.B. Cases—2 deaths.

Tuberculosis—1940-1950.

Year.	All forms of Tuberculosis Notifications per year.	Number of Deaths per year.	Death Rate per 1,000 population.
1940.....	49	30	0·86
1941.....	57	20	0·53
1942.....	48	31	0·98
1943.....	65	20	0·65
1944.....	74	30	0·98
1945.....	64	24	0·77
1946.....	62	38	1·1
1947.....	58	37	1·1
1948.....	76	35	1·0
1949.....	84	27	0·76
1950.....	92	17	0·48

Tuberculosis—1950.

Statement of Tuberculosis (as per Register).

	Males.		Females.		Totals.
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	
(*a*) Number of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at commencement of year	138	30	92	23	283
(*b*) Number of new cases notified under the " Regulations of 1930 " for the first time during the year	39	4	45	4	92
(*c*) Number of cases restored to Register having been removed previous to 1950.....	3	—	2	1	6
(*d*) Number of cases added to Register and brought to notice otherwise than by formal notification.....	2	1	9	—	12
(*e*) Number of cases removed from the Register during the year	26	4	17	4	51
(*f*) Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year....	156	31	131	24	342

Tuberculosis—1950.

Summary of information extracted from Records Department relating to cases removed from the Tuberculosis Register of the Borough during 1950.

	Deaths.				Grand Total.
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
	8	7	—	—	
Total	15		—		15
	Recovered.				
	9	5	4	2	
Total	14		6		20
	Removed from District.				
	9	5	—	2	
Total	14		2		16
					51

Tuberculosis—1950.

Age Groups.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
0–1.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1–5.....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5–15.....	7	4	2	—	—	—	—	—
15–25.....	11	26	1	3	5	4*	—	—
25–35.....	7	10	1	1	1	2	—	—
35–45.....	3	2	—	—	2	2*	—	—
45–55.....	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
55–65.....	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65 ..	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	39	45	4	4	8	9	—	—
Grand Totals ..	84		8		17		—	

* Includes Non-notified T.B. Cases—2 deaths.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND AGE DISTRIBUTION, 1950.

Numbers of All Cases of infectious and other notifiable diseases originally notified during the year 1950, and the Final numbers according to Sex and Age after Corrections subsequently made either by the Notifying Medical Practitioner or by the Medical Superintendent of the Infectious Diseases Hospital.

	Scarlet Fever.		Whooping Cough.		Acute Poliomyelitis.				Measles.	
					Paralytic.		Non-Paralytic.			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Numbers originally notified. Total (all ages)	23	21	107	175	3	—	1	—	319	333
Final numbers after correction—										
Under 1 year	—	—	13	14	—	—	—	—	15	15
1–2 years	1	1	25	52	—	—	1	—	100	91
3–4 ,, ...	2	6	30	54	1	—	—	—	98	119
5–9 ,, ...	13	8	38	51	1	—	—	—	103	104
10–14 ,, ...	5	5	—	1	1	—	—	—	2	2
15–24 ,, ...	2	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	1	2
25 and over	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL (all ages)...	23	21	107	175	3	—	1	—	319	333

	Acute Pneumonia.		Dysentery.		Acute Encephalitis.			
					Infective.		Post-Infectious.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Numbers originally notified. Total (all ages)	35	23	—	5	1	—	—	—
Final numbers after correction—								
Under 5 years	13	6	—	2	—	—	—	—
5–14 ,, ...	4	6	—	—	1	—	—	—
15–44 ,, ...	8	2	—	3	—	—	—	—
45–64 ,, ...	7	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	3	6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL (all ages)...	35	23	—	5	1	—	—	—

	Malaria.		Erysipelas.		Meningococcal Infection.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Numbers originally notified. Total (all ages)	1	—	6	11	3	2
Final numbers after correction—						
Under 5 years	—	—	1	—	2	2
5–14 ,, ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
15–44 ,, ...	1	—	1	5	1	—
45–64 ,, ...	—	—	2	5	—	—
65 and over	—	—	2	1	—	—
Age unknown.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL (all ages)...	1	—	6	11	3	2

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES—1950.

Diseases.	Under 1 year.	1–2	2–3	3–4	4–5	5–10	10–15	15–25	25–35	35–45	45–55	55–65	Over 65 years.	Age Unknown	Totals
Scarlet Fever	—	1	1	3	5	21	9	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	44
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	27	31	46	50	34	89	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	282
Measles	30	79	112	127	89	209	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	652
Acute Poliomyelitis (*a*) Paralytic	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
(*b*) Non-Paralytic	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Encephalitis (Infective)	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia	5	5	5	2	2	8	2	6	1	3	4	6	9	—	58
Dysentery	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	5
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Erysipelas	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	5	2	3	—	17
Meningococcal Infection	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	5
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	—	—	—	2	—	6	5	37	16	5	6	4	2	1	84
Non-Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	8
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	65	117	167	186	130	337	21	53	29	14	15	12	14	1	1,161

RE-HOUSING.

Number of families granted Council Houses, 1950, as per lists received from Rates Department.

	From Wards.							
	B	C	D	P	R	W	From Outside Borough.	Totals.
By Points Scheme.								
To Newsham Rd. Estate No. 2.....	4	24	6	19	12	20	1	86
,, ,, ,, T.B. cases	—	7	—	3	2	8	—	20
,, Other Council Schemes.....	—	3	—	4	3	4	—	14
,, ,, T.B. cases ...	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	2
Totals	4	35	6	26	17	33	1	122
Slum Clearance and Demolition Orders.								
To Newsham Rd. Estate No. 2	4	4	1	32	37	9	—	87
,, Cowpen Rd. Estate	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
,, Other Council Schemes	3	—	1	8	3	1	—	16
Totals	15	4	2	40	40	10	—	111

B—Bebside. C—Croft. D—Delaval. P—Plessey. R—Ridley. W—Waterloo.

22 T.B. cases were re-housed in Council Estates from houses not in Clearance Areas or Houses subject to Demolition Order.

HOUSING REPORT—1950.

Houses completed in 1950.

Permanent Traditional—Direct Labour	57
Permanent Traditional—Contractors	144

Houses in Progress, 31st December, 1950.

Permanent Traditional—Direct Labour	29
Permanent Traditional—Contractors	100

Houses approved by Ministry of Health but not commenced 31st December, 1950.

Permanent Traditional	28

Permanent Houses built by Private Enterprise, 1950.

Permanent Traditional	14
Conversions—Flats	4

Houses completed Post-War.

Pre-fabs—Tarran	44
Pre-fabs—Aluminary Temporary	106
Pre-fabs—Aluminary Permanent	59
Pre-fabs—B.I.S.F. Permanent	72
Traditional	683
Total.....	964

Part II.—Environmental Hygiene, 1950.

Resume of Work carried out by the Health Department.

Public Health Act, 1936.

General.—During 1950 a total of 1,655 inspections were made in connection with complaints by the general public as to nuisances, these in the main dealing with structural defects to properties in the Borough.

The main difficulty experienced is the time lag in complying with the requirements of the Council due chiefly to two causes, (1) the obtaining of materials in short supply, and (2) the reluctance of owners to spend more than the minimum amount to comply with the notices, especially where the rentals are small.

In only one instance were legal proceedings found necessary and although the notices were complied with immediately prior to the date of the proceedings, fines were imposed for non-compliance with notices under Sections 45, 75 and 93 of the Act within the specified time.

Colliery Spoilbanks.—After full investigation following correspondence with the National Coal Board, remedial measures were applied to the Horton Grange Colliery Spoilbanks in the form of continuous water spraying and consolidation of the mounds by means of a bulldozer with very satisfactory results.

The Ministry of Health Inspector of Alkali, &c., Works expressed his satisfaction at the result and stated combustion had been reduced to a negligible amount and that it is not causing a nuisance.

Licensed Premises.—In addition to improvements effected during 1949, further considerable amenities were provided to 27 licensed premises within the Borough comprising additional sanitary accommodation, hot and cold washing facilities for the public and for cleansing purposes, general structural alterations, provision of electric pumps for drainage of cellars, refrigerated cooling systems and internal re-decoration.

Co-operation with the various firms is good and it is hoped that further improvements will be forthcoming.

Housing Act, 1936.

Slum Clearance.—No new Slum Clearance Orders were made or confirmed during the year, but progress was made in the re-housing of the Quayside and Bebside Slum Clearance Areas to the Newsham Road and Bebside Estates, a total of 49 families being re-housed from these areas.

Structurally a considerable amount of property in the Croft Ward and portions of Bebside, Plessey and Ridley Wards is of a very inferior standard, with darkness, dampness and congestion as the worst features.

These factors, together with the known overcrowding and lack of amenities constitute the " blighted " areas of the Borough, but unless the building of new houses can be considerably stepped up by an increased allocation there would appear to be little prospect of alleviating these conditions for some years as, on completion of the re-housing of families from the existing Slum Clearance Areas, there will be a considerable build-up of families awaiting re-housing on the Points Scheme for reasons of ill-health, or for the provision of a separate dwelling for each family.

Individual Unfit Houses.—A total of 100 representations were submitted to the Housing Committee during the year under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, for the demolition of insanitary properties in the Phœnix Street and Coomassie Road areas.

In this connection it is interesting to quote from the report for the year 1924 of Dr. J. M. McLachlan, Medical Officer of Health to the Borough, dealing with Phœnix Street, Back Phœnix Street and Elliott Street in which he states . . . " The whole of these tenements are in a bad state of repair and the sanitary accommodation is insufficient and dilapidated in every case. Most of the upstairs tenements are provided with open outside stairs and landings, where the stairs are within the buildings they are unlighted.

This property is about 70 years old and in its present state does not in any way meet the standard for Habitable Houses set up by the Ministry of Health.

It will be seen from the statistics submitted that about 80 per cent. of the houses in Phœnix Street, Back Phœnix Street and Elliott Street are slum dwellings. . . ."

Overcrowding.—In 1936 a detailed overcrowding survey was made in accordance with the requirements of the Act to

ascertain the extent of overcrowding within the Borough, and every habitable dwelling was measured and a certificate as to the " Permitted Number " issued.

Except for the information as to the size of the rooms, the existing records have now outlived any semblance of usefulness and I would respectfully suggest that the Council might consider whether a new survey would be of value in so far as it would provide up-to-date information as to the acutal overcrowding within the Borough, plus definite information as to the number of families without a separate dwelling and the extent of sexual overcrowding due to inadequate bedroom accommodation.

Consideration might also be given to the adoption of Model Byelaws relating to Houses-let-in-Lodgings, if the consent of the Minister could be obtained, as there is a need for control of those houses which, out of date by modern standards, are too large to permit of occupation by one family only and are being let off into tenements but without the provision of facilities such as separate accommodation for storage, preparation and cooking of food, and the provision of separate water supply and sanitary accommodation for each tenant.

Housing Act, 1949.

This Act, which is of importance to Local Authorities, received the Royal Assent on the 30th July, 1950, and included powers to provide meals and refreshments, laundry services and facilities for doing laundry and to sell furniture to the occupants of houses provided by them.

Part II of the Act by the provision of Improvement Grants encourages the improvement of existing houses under certain conditions, but as yet only tentative enquiries have been made by a few Owners and no schemes have been submitted for approval.

From the Council's viewpoint it may not seem desirable that public monies should be spent to improve private properties, but consideration must be given to the eventual cost to the community at large if properties which might be modernised are left to deteriorate and eventually become subject to demolition orders with the consequent need for the provision of new dwellings, when the approval of Improvement Grants is contingent in the first instance on the local authority

being satisfied that the dwellings provided or improved by means of the improvement works will provide satisfactory accommodation for a period of not less than 30 years.

Worthy of special note is the fact that this Act removed the limitation of the provision of housing accommodation for the " working classes " and extends to **all** dwellings the powers with respect to repair, demolition and closing of insanitary dwellings.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Clean Food Campaign.—In February, 1950, an inaugural meeting was held between the Council and the Food Traders in the Borough with a view to the voluntary adoption of a Code of Practice for Food Premises and at a further meeting held in March a joint committee was set up to put the scheme into operation. It was then agreed that the scheme as suggested be accepted and the first certificates of hygiene were presented by His Worship the Mayor, Councillor D. Baron, J.P., and the Chairman of the Health Committee, Alderman H. Donnachie, at a meeting held on the 1st August, 1950, to representatives of seven trades whose premises and methods of manufacture satisfied the conditions laid down.

Steady progress has been maintained by voluntary methods and the undermentioned schedule gives particulars of some of the results achieved by the end of the year.

Premises refitted	1
,, partially refitted	10
,, re-decorated internally and externally	8
,, re-decorated internally	15
Refrigerators installed	4
Wash basins provided	10
Gas heaters provided to wash basins	39
New equipment provided	5

Other improvements are in progress or under contemplation and it is very creditable to the firms concerned that by voluntary co-operation solely, a higher standard of structural and æsthetic aspect of their premises was achieved, coupled with an improvement in the handling of foodstuffs.

The improvements are most marked in the main shopping centres and even from the business point of view it must surely follow that premises pleasing to the eye both outside and inside will most certainly attract the discerning shopper.

It is, however, unfortunately true to say that not all the shop premises in the town come within the previous category, particularly those of the smaller type away from the main shopping thoroughfares, but a new survey of all premises is nearing completion and necessary action will be taken against persistent offenders who do not or will not take reasonable action to improve the standard of hygiene.

Byelaws.

On the 11th December the Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Act came into operation for securing the observance of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air.

These byelaws mark a stage in the advance to improved conditions relevant to food handling and together with legislation contained in the Food and Drugs Act considerably enhance the powers of Local Authorities.

There is a diversity of opinion on all sides as to the necessity for the registration of **all** food premises prior to their establishment but it is my opinion that if registration can be applied to certain trades, viz., the manufacture and sale of ice cream and preserved foods, it can most certainly be equally applied to all types of food premises without undue hardship, always provided of course that the rights of the individual are protected by the liberty to appeal against the decision of the Local Authority.

It is practically impossible for instance to improve the hygiene of certain establishments where congestion of the property and lack of internal working space prohibit any structural expansion or improvement and where one room has to serve the purpose of food storage, preparation and sale.

In such cases it appears to me that the public as a body have more right to protection than the individual who is in business for profit, and I can see no justification for the argument advanced in certain quarters for registration as a right.

Resume.

It is very creditable to note that practically all the food premises in the Borough are now equipped with a wash basin with a **constant** supply of hot and cold water, clean towels, soap and a nail brush and that full use of these facilities are made by the employees.

There are still unfortunately a few persons whose hygienic instinct appears to be nil, but by advisory and educational means it is hoped to effect an improvement in the working methods.

It is pleasing to report that there were no cases of food poisoning in the Borough during the year, which is a tribute to the general standard of food production in the township.

SANITARY SECTION—1950.

Public Health Act, 1936. Summary of Notices Served.

Number of Informal Notices served during the year :—

Wards.						Total.
Bebside.	Croft.	Waterloo.	Plessey.	Ridley.	Delaval.	
12	79	84	46	76	8	305

Number of Informal Notices complied during the year :—

Wards.						Total.
Bebside.	Croft.	Waterloo.	Plessey.	Ridley.	Delaval.	
11	41	59	32	48	3	194

Number of Statutory Notices served during the year :—

Ward.	Section 39.	Section 45.	Section 75.	Section 93.	Total.
Bebside	—	—	—	1	1
Croft	6	1	3	23	33
Waterloo	1	1	4	18	24
Plessey	—	—	—	20	20
Ridley	3	2	2	14	21
Delaval	1	—	—	3	4
Totals	11	4	9	79	103

Number of Statutory Notices complied during the year :—

Ward.	Section 39.	Section 45.	Section 56.	Section 75.	Section 93.	Total.
Bebside	1	—	—	1	2	4
Croft	8	2	—	7	23	40
Waterloo	8	4	—	10	28	50
Plessey	1	2	—	1	14	18
Ridley	3	2	1	3	20	29
Delaval	1	—	—	—	3	4
Totals	22	10	1	22	90	145

Schedule of Defects remedied during the year :—

Defect.	Informal.	Statutory.	Total.
Chimney Stacks	7	2	9
Main Roofs	18	21	39
Drainage—Insufficient	1	4	5
Eavesgutters and Downspouts	37	50	87
Choked Drains	4	1	5
External Walls	5	8	13
Ceilings	23	19	42
Internal Walls—Plaster	21	23	44
Dampness	38	50	88
Floors	13	29	42
Windows	26	37	63
Doors	12	14	26
Fireplaces (Renewed or Repaired)	23	38	61
Staircases	8	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences—Insufficient	1	1	2
Defective	18	23	41
Outbuildings	17	32	49
Yards	3	2	5
Dustbins	81	33	114
Washing Facilities	9	11	20
Water Supply—Insufficient	7	3	10
Unsatisfactory	3	—	3
Smoke Nuisances	6	1	7
Accumulations of Refuse	4	1	5
Animals improperly kept	1	—	1
Totals	386	403	789

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1938—1944.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Details of Samples Taken.

Samples of Raw Milk from Producers outside the Borough :—

Methylene Blue.			Bacillus Tuberculosis.			Total Samples.
Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Tests not carried out.	Positive.	Negative.	Tests not carried out.	
26	17	4	2	17	24 Animals not available or died.	90

Pasteurised Milk from a Producer/Retailer inside the Borough :—

Methylene Blue.		Phosphatase Test.			Total Samples.
Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Tests Void.	
By Borough.					
10	2	11	1	—	24
By County Council.					
31	—	25	—	6	62
41	2	36	1	6	86

Sterilised Milk from a Producer outside the Borough :—

Turbidity Test—2 samples .... Satisfactory.

Sterility Tests on Milk Bottles :—

Satisfactory.	Fairly Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Total.
63	5	4	72

Milk and Dairies Act, 1944, and the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

The milk supply to the Borough is provided by the Co-operative Society's High Temperature Short-time Pasteurising Plant, plus six dairymen retailing bottled pasteurised milk from Coast Creameries Ltd., one dairyman retailing "Accredited" milk and 28 distributors retailing "Sterilised" milk in bottles only.

Samples of pasteurised milk are taken regularly for the Methylene Blue and Phosphatase Tests, raw milk prior to pasteurisation for examination for B. Tuberculosis and Sterilised milk for the Turbidity Test.

In addition, the milk bottles are also regularly tested for sterility. In this connection there was a minor outbreak during the year of milk bottles infested with the larvæ of the fruit fly, Drosophila Busckii, and the public are most earnestly asked to assist their dairymen in the preservation of a clean and safe milk supply by the immediate rinsing of the bottles in cold water and the daily returning of all empties.

Of the two positive samples of B. Tuberculosis notified, one cow was slaughtered in accordance with the Tuberculosis Order and in the other case certain animals had been forwarded to a Ministry of Food Collecting Centre during the period between the taking of the sample and the notification of the result of the test and further samples did not reveal the presence of B. Tuberculosis.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938—Details of Analyst's Report.

ICE CREAM.

Manufacturer.	Bacteriological Analysis.			Chemical Analysis.			Samples taken from.
	No. of Samples.	Methylene Blue Test.	Time taken to reduce Methylene Blue.	Water.	Non-fatty Solids.	Fat.	
No. 1	1	Grade 4	0 hrs.	—	—	—	Storage refrigerator in Factory.
	2	,, 1	4½ ,,	71·8	25·7	2·5	Hardening Room in Factory.
	3	,, 4	0 ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, ,,
	4	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	Container in Hardening Room.
	5	,, 2	3½ ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, ,,
	Following unsatisfactory bacteriological results a complete test was made on the equipment and the undermentioned results were obtained :—						
		Plate count. 22°C. 37°C.	B. Coli 1/10 1/100 1/1,000				
	6	50 70 per gram of solid.	Negative.	—	—	—	Mixture of Milk, Sugar, Margarine and Flavouring Mixture from Boiler.
	7	No organisms on culture.	,,	—	—	—	Complete Mix of above plus Cornflour from Boiler after boiling for 30 minutes.
	8	,,	,,	—	—	—	Complete Mix from Rubber Tube carrying Mix to Cooler.
	9	,,	,,	—	—	—	Complete Mix from Retaining Trough at head of Cooler.
	10	,,	,,	—	—	—	Complete Mix from Retaining Trough at centre of Cooler—Water Section.
	11	,,	,,	—	—	—	Complete Mix from Retaining Trough at foot of Cooler—Cooling Section.
	12	,,	,,	—	—	—	Complete Mix from Ageing Container.
	13	,,	,,	—	—	—	Margarine.
	14	110-170 c.c.	,,	—	—	—	Cornflower and Milk Mixture.

Manufacturer.	Bacteriological Analysis.			Chemical Analysis.			Samples taken from.
	No. of Samples.	Methylene Blue Test.	Time taken to reduce Methylene Blue.	Water.	Non-fatty Solids.	Fat.	
No. 1.	15	No organisms on culture.	,,	—	—	—	Flavouring Mixture.
	16	,,	,,	—	—	—	Sample from Ageing Container.
	17	80/20 c.c.	,,	—	—	—	
	18	Grade 1	—	—	—	—	
No. 2	1	Grade 2	4 hrs.	—	—	—	Freezer in Factory.
	2	,, 3	1½ ,,	—	—	—	Continuous Freezer during freezing process.
	3	,, 3	½ ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, in shop.
	4	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, ,,
	5	,, 2	3 ,,	71·7	25·6	2·7	,, ,, ,,
	6	,, 4	0 ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, in Factory.
	7	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	Salt and Ice Container in Factory.
No. 3	1	Grade 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	Continuous Freezer in Shop.
	2	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, ,,
	3	,, 1	4½ ,,	74·8	22·3	2·9	,, ,, ,,
	4	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, ,,
	5	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, ,,
	6	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, ,,
No. 4	1	Grade 2	3 ,,	—	—	—	Salt and Ice Container in Shop.
	2	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, ,,
	3	,, 4	0 ,,	74·0	22·3	3·7	,, ,, ,,
	4	,, 4	0 ,,	—	—	—	Insert Container in Shop.
	5	,, 2	3 ,,	—	—	—	Continuous Freezer in Factory.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938—Details of Analyst's Reports. ICE CREAM.

Manufacturer.	Bacteriological Analysis.			Chemical Analysis.			Samples taken from.
	No. of Samples.	Methylene Blue Test.	Time taken to reduce Methylene Blue.	Water.	Non-fatty Solids.	Fat.	
No. 4	Following	the two successive	Grade 4 samples th	e undermenti	oned tests we	re carried out	:—
	6	Grade 1	4½ hrs.	—	—	—	Unfrozen Mix from bucket in Cold Room.
	7	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	Mix from Continuous Freezer.
	8	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	Mix from Salt and Ice Container.
	9	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	Unfrozen Mix from bucket.
	10	Plate count— 162	—	—	—	—	Swab of Salt and Ice Container.
No. 5	1	Grade 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	Tray in Hardening Room.
	2	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	Wrapped Block.
	3	,, 1	4½ ,,	65·0	25·4	9·6	Tray in Hardening Room.
	4	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, ,,
	5	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	Brick Cutting Machine.
No. 6	1	Grade 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	Continuous Freezer in Factory.
	2	,, 1	4½ ,,	68·9	27·5	3·6	,, ,, ,,
	3	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, ,,
	4	,, 2	3½ ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, ,,
	5	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, ,,
Retailer.							
No. 1	1	Grade 2	4 ,,	—	—	—	Portion of large block during retail sale.
	2	,, 2	3 ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
	3	,, 4	0 ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
	4	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, ,, ,, ,,
	5	,, 1	4½ ,,	—	—	—	,, ,, ,, ,, ,,

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947.

Percentage of Grades, 1950, with comparative figures for 1949 :—

Manufacturer.	Grade I.		Grade II.		Grade III.		Grade IV.		Fat Content.	
	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949	1950	1949
No. 1 ...	50	50	16·6	16·6	—	16·6	33·4	16·6	2·5	3·5
No. 2 ...	28·6	33·3	28·6	50	28·6	16·6	14·2	—	2·7	1·2
No. 3 ...	100	60	—	—	—	—	—	40	2·9	3·4
No. 4 ...	55·6	33·3	22·2	33·3	—	—	22·2	33·3	3·7	5·3
No. 5 ...	100	57·1	—	—	—	28·6	—	14·3	9·6	8·2
No. 6 ...	80	83·3	20	—	—	16·6	—	—	3·6	9·2
Retailer—										
No. 1 ...	40	33·3	40	—	—	33·3	20	33·3	—	—

With one exception there has been a steady improvement in the bacteriological standard of the Ice Cream manufactured in the Borough and as a result of a review of all the establishments one producer obtained a complete new production plant, one manufacturer has deposited plans for the reconstruction of his premises and another manufacturer has transferred and extended his equipment from a factory which was totally inadequate to more up-to-date premises.

There is still room for improvement however in the retailing side, especially with regard to certain of the smaller vendors and attention will be given to these during the coming year.

Samples are obtained regularly, being limited only by the amount the Public Health Laboratory can handle.

Shellfish Regulations. Mussels—Bacteriological Analysis.

Three samples of raw mussels were analysed, with the following results: —

Pool 1..... 7 Bact. coli per ml. of tissue.

Pool 2..... 7 ,, ,, ,,

Pool 3..... 14 ,, ,, ,,

An average of 9 Bact. coli per ml. of tissue.

The results indicate a moderate contamination with fæcal coli.

These mussels are retailed boiled which ensures sterility.

Meat Inspection—Animals Slaughtered.

Month.	Cows.	Heifers	Bullocks.	Bulls.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total.
January	5	30	38	—	23	635	11	742
February	4	16	52	1	—	368	18	459
March	5	8	51	—	22	339	8	433
April	4	24	62	—	—	175	3	268
May	10	30	120	—	—	91	2	253
June	—	60	—	—	—	163	—	223
July	7	125	13	—	—	256	—	401
August	20	78	106	—	—	543	—	747
September	6	156	95	—	—	809	—	1,066
October	35	161	100	—	1	1,112	—	1,409
November.....	23	132	50	—	—	796	3	1,004
December	12	58	45	—	—	424	11	550
Totals	131	878	732	1	46	5,711	56	7,555

The following carcases, part-carcases and organs were condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

		No.	*Weight in lbs.*
Cattle :	Entire carcases and all organs.....	8	5,051
Sheep :	,, ,, ,, ...	7	441
Pigs	,, ,, ,, ...	1	48
Cattle	Part carcases and/or organs	1,491	18,719
Sheep :	,, ,, ,, ...	116	193
Pigs :	,, ,, ,, ...	3	163
Beef :	Hindquarters and Trimmings	—	1,110
	Steaking Cuts	—	385
	Kidney	—	8
Mutton		—	8

Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937.

The following imported meats were condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

	No.	*Weight in lbs.*
Beef : (Hindquarter) Parts	7	635
(Forequarter) ,, ...	1	19
(Kidney)	1	12
Mutton : (Carcases)	2	101
,, (Boneless)	—	126
Veal : (Boneless)	—	425
Corned Beef	66 tins.	307

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	1,611	131	46	5,711	56
Number inspected	1,611	131	46	5,711	56
All diseases except Tuberculosis :					
1. Whole carcases condemned	1	—	—	8	1
2. Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,092	12	—	95	1
3. Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	67·78	9·16	—	1·8	3·57
Tuberculosis only :					
1. Whole carcases condemned	2	5	—	—	—
2. Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	72	54	—	—	2
3. Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	4·9	45·04	—	—	3·57

Cause of Condemnations.

Cattle.

Part carcases	1,092—All causes	67·78%
,, ,,	952—Livers—Distoma	59·03%
,, ,,	140—Other causes	8·75%

Sheep.

Part carcases	95—All causes	1·8%
,, ,,	89—Livers Parasitic	1·5%
,, ,,	6—Other causes	0·3%

Slaughter of Animals.

The slaughter of animals continues at a steady rate of approximately 7,500 per year, there being however an increase of about 250 cattle over the preceding year.

As the Council are aware concern has been expressed by the Department as to the condition of the structure and equipment and it is pleasing to note that by the time this report is printed £1,500 will have been spent on the alteration of a beast lairage to form an additional hanging room, the provision of new hanging rails throughout, the covering of the open beast lairage in the yard and its extension to form additional sheep lairage.

These are long awaited improvements but do not overcome the disadvantages of the general layout of the abattoir nor its siting. It is to be sincerely hoped that in due course we may see a new modern abattoir constructed in a more suitable position.

The general standard of animal allocated has been very good, as evidenced by the small percentage of carcases condemned and it is of the utmost importance that the Borough retain these facilities under any long term programme the Ministry may have rather than that the meat supply to the area should be from some outside centralised depot.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Other Foods.

The following foodstuffs were found in the course of inspection to be unfit for human consumption and were treated as follows :—

Mayonnaise ..	Tins	Destroyed	7	Pies	Destroyed		91
Milk	,,	,,	647	Prunes.....	,,		30 lbs.
Meat	,,	,,	392	Figs	,,		54 ,,
Paste	,,	,,	2	Date	,,		112 ,,
Vegetables ...	,,	,,	411	Yeast.....	,,		164½ ,,
Tomatoes	,,	,,	267	Black Puddings	,,		20 ,,
Tomato Juice .	,,	,,	21	Rabbits	,,		314 ,,
Fish	,,	,,	110	Chickens	,,		28 ,,
Fruit.....	,,	,,	236	Jellied Chickens.....	,,		3 ,,
Soups	,,	,,	32	,, Brisket	,,		2 ,,
Preserves	,,	,,	48	Pork Sausage	,,		228½ ,,
Salad Cream ..	,,	,,	3	Polony	,,		5½ ,,
Fruit Juice ...	,,	,,	9	Spam	,,		6 ,,
Puddings.....	,,	,,	2	Sweets	,,		14 ,,
Sandwich Spread	,,	,,	31	Toffee	,,		3 ,,
Dessert Gelatine	,,	,,	156	Chocolate Snowballs ..	,,		5 ,,
Luncheon Meat	,,	,,	55½	Cake	,,		94½ ,,
Meat Gravy ..	,,	,,	5	Gammon Ham	Retd. to Suppliers		21 ,,
Syrup	,,	,,	1	Margarine	,,	,,	24 ,,
Sauce	Bottles	,,	2	Butter	,,	,,	24¼ ,,
Cake Mixture .	Packets	,,	85	Peanut Butter	,,	,,	4½ ,,
Baby Foods...	,,	,,	36	Flaked Wheat..	Animal Feeding		226 pkts.
Rabbit	Tins	,,	1	Oatmeal	,,	,,	16½ ,,
Pickles	Jars	,,	1	Eggs	Destroyed		1,080

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Water Sampling.

The following water samples were taken during the year for analysis :—

BACTERIOLOGICAL.

1.	Newcastle Water	13
2.	Hepscott Water (before Chlorination)	12
3.	Mixed Hepscott and Newcastle Water (after Chlorination)	12
4.	Tynemouth Water	12

CHEMICAL.

1.	Mixed Hepscott and Newcastle Water (after Chlorination)	1
2.	Newcastle Water	2
3.	Tynemouth Water	1
4.	Hepscott Water (after slow sand filtration)	1

MICROSCOPICAL.

1.	Hepscott Water (after slow sand filtration)	1
2.	,, ,, (before filtration)	1
3.	Newcastle Water (from supply pipe to Reservoir)	1

Water Supply.

The water supply to the Borough is obtained from three sources and the total amount consumed during the year was as follows :—

Source of Supply.	*Gallons Consumed.*
Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.	337,266,000 gallons.
Tynemouth Corporation	4,911,000 ,,
Hepscott (Barmoor)	45,690,000 ,,

During the year a total of 49 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and 5 samples were submitted for chemical analysis as shown in the tables above.

In all cases the water supply was found to be bacteriologically and chemically pure and fit for public use.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1938.

Part I of the Act.

1.—Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors) :—

Premises.	M/c line No.	Number on Register.	Number of			M/c line No.
			Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
(*i*) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	98	9	2	—	1
(*ii*) Factories not included in (*i*) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	2	81	33	4	—	2
(*iii*) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).....	3	Nil.	Nil.	—	—	3
TOTAL		179	42	6	—	

2.—Cases in which Defects were found :—

Particulars.	M/c line No.	No. of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.	M/c line No.
		Found.	Remedied.	Referred			
				To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	2	2	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temp. (S.3)	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4).....	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—							
(*a*) Insufficient	9	—	1	—	1	—	9
(*b*) Unsuitable or defective	10	—	3	—	3	—	10
(*c*) Not separate for sexes	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
TOTAL	60	2	6	—	4	Nil.	60

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Following the appointment of a Rodent Officer in October, 1949, continuous work under the above Act has been carried out during the year, 1950, as shown in the table below :—

Type of Premises.	No.	Baits Laid.	Traps Laid.	No. of Bodies.		Estimated Kill.	No. of Visits.
				Rats.	Mice.		
Dwelling Houses	121	784	7	1	59	12	422
Food Shops	34	764	5	1	28	22	186
Other Shops	11	339	—	—	—	—	61
Cafes	1	56	—	—	4	—	4
Bakehouses	2	26	—	1	—	11	12
Grain Warehouse	1	65	—	—	12	—	5
Cinemas	4	451	—	2	36	15	21
Clinic	1	1	—	—	1	—	2
Licensed Premises ...	3	76	—	1	—	33	28
Warehouses	10	328	—	1	50	5	47
Factories.....	4	265	8	1	14	5	15
Offices	2	35	—	—	1	—	9
Allotments	23	238	—	18	2	225	116
Piggeries	4	69	—	12	4	46	18
Farms	1	140	—	20	1	212	5
Outside Properties ...	13	58	1	2	12	35	41
Blyth Shipyard	1	1,097	4	50	16	430	4,302 Baiting Points visited.
Corporation Properties							
Sewers (Treatment)...	2	947 Manholes Baited.	—	2	—	106	2,883
Refuse Tips	4	194	—	29	—	376	23
Albion Yard Depot ..	1	54	—	2	—	55	4
TOTALS	243	5,987	25	143	240	1,588	3,902

In addition to the actual treatments, regular survey work is carried on with test baiting of food premises for evidence of infestation, and with several of these premises a periodic service is given.

Two sewer treatments were carried out but there is little evidence of any major infestation. Treatment of the refuse tips at regular intervals has greatly reduced what were previous heavy infestations.

Attention is now being given to the allotments and other agricultural holdings.

Cats and Dogs Destruction.

During the year the following animals were humanely destroyed :—

Month.	*Dogs.*	*Cats.*	*Total.*
January	29	10	39
February	17	6	23
March	40	21	61
April	31	11	42
May	29	19	48
June	23	22	45
July	22	27	49
August	23	25	48
September	25	14	39
October	23	10	33
November	27	10	37
December	30	18	48
TOTALS	319	193	512

SANITARY SECTION—Details of Inspection.

Number of Inspections made during the year 1950.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.	Grand Totals.
(*a*) *Public Health Act*, 1936.														
Inspections following complaints	20	48	79	31	74	50	45	42	43	63	55	49	599	
Inspections *re* outstanding notices	183	87	82	45	123	84	36	26	58	107	99	126	1,056	
Inspections of licensed premises	5	1	49	8	—	—	13	—	—	1	—	18	95	
Inspections of places of public entertainment	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Inspections of offensive trades	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Inspections or moveable dwellings	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	
Inspections of workplaces	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Inspections of verminous premises	1	—	—	—	2	10	—	4	—	—	—	—	17	
													1,769	1,769
(*b*) *Food and Drugs Acts*, 1938 *to* 1950.														
Abattoir—Meat Inspection	32	23	24	21	30	19	25	30	42	42	42	32	362	
Inspection of cottagers' pigs	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	
Examination of unsound foodstuffs	25	9	8	—	10	13	16	15	7	12	8	6	129	
Inspections of bakehouses	3	—	1	2	3	20	21	15	—	3	5	20	93	
Inspections of fish and chip shops	2	1	1	1	—	2	4	—	—	2	13	2	28	
Inspections of butchers' shops	3	4	2	2	—	1	34	27	—	16	4	16	109	
Inspections of food shops and warehouses	13	15	9	11	13	7	115	16	3	53	21	8	284	
Inspections of Ice-cream premises—														
(*a*) Manufacturers	18	5	25	7	2	11	8	4	4	1	4	—	89	
(*b*) Retailers	2	5	1	—	2	9	4	—	4	—	3	—	30	
Inspections of market stalls	22	27	51	36	24	23	18	23	13	25	27	23	312	
Inspections of restaurants and cafes	—	10	1	—	4	6	18	1	—	3	1	9	53	
Inspections of food vehicles	18	—	28	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	54	
													1,546	3,315

(*c*) *Milk and Dairies Regulations*, 1949.														
Inspections of dairies	10	3	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	31	
Inspections of milk shops	1	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	—	—	35	—	43	
Inspections of heat treatment plant	2	3	2	2	2	1	2	2	2	2	2	1	23	
													97	3,412
(*d*) *Housing Act*, 1936.														
Investigations *re* overcrowding	3	—	4	4	23	19	5	2	1	5	9	8	83	
Inspections of houses in clearance areas	1	—	2	—	12	—	2	—	5	—	—	—	22	
Inspections *re* individual unfit houses—														
Part II. H.A. 1936	—	5	8	70	22	42	33	8	15	46	54	6	309	
Inspections of houses—Sec. 9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	
Inspections of vacant houses	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—	—	7	
Inspections *re* overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	85	85	
													507	3,919
(*e*) *Factories Act*, 1937.														
Inspection of Factories (*a*) Mechanical power	5	3	8	2	2	1	—	7	3	1	1	—	33	
(*b*) No mechanical power.	—	5	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	9	
													42	3,961
(*f*) *Shops Act*, 1950.														
Inspections of premises	7	16	10	108	8	—	—	35	4	24	12	—	224	
														4,185
(*g*) *Infectious Disease* (*Notification*) *Acts*.														
Investigations made	13	14	29	10	29	23	14	22	21	6	14	13	208	
														4,393
(*h*) *Prevention of Damage by Pests Act*, 1949.														
Investigations made	7	9	2	—	10	10	—	—	1	—	—	—	39	
														4,432

SANITARY SECTION—Details of Inspection—continued.

Number of Inspections made during the year 1950.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.	Grand Totals.
(*i*) *Miscellaneous.*														
Drainage inspections	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
No. of visits in connection with water samples	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	60	
No. of visits in connection with milk samples	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	24	
No. of Visits in connection with ice cream samples	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	6	4	4	3	—	47	
No. of visits in connection with other foods	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	
Miscellaneous inspections	7	1	2	2	10	3	4	—	5	6	10	4	54	
Interviews	36	43	21	9	16	26	15	15	11	16	16	22	246	
Vacant sites	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	52	—	—	—	—	52	
Suspected food poisoning investigations	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	
(*j*) *Sampling.*													496	4,928
Samples taken for analysis—*Chemical.*														
(*a*) Milk	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
(*b*) Water	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	4	
(*c*) Ice cream	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	6	
(*d*) Other foods	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Samples taken for analysis—*Bacteriological.*														
(*a*) Milk	19	19	4	12	17	16	14	16	14	20	18	16	185	
(*b*) Milk bottles	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	72	
(*c*) Water	4	4	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	49	
(*d*) Ice cream	3	—	4	4	4	11	6	8	4	4	3	—	51	
(*e*) Other foods	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	
(*f*) Ice cream ingredients	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	5	
(*g*) Swabs of ice cream container	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	4	
Samples taken for analysis—*Microscopical.*														
(*a*) Water	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3	
													385	5,313

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VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case-rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1950. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales.	126 County Borough and Great Towns (including London).	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000–50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Administrative County.
		Rates per 1,000 Home Population.		
BIRTHS—				
Live births	15·8	17·6	16·7	17·8
Still births	0·37	0·45	0·38	0·36
DEATHS—				
All causes	11·6	12·3	11·6	11·8
Typhoid and paratyphoid	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Whooping cough	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·01
Diphtheria	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00
Tuberculosis	0·36	0·42	0·33	0·39
Influenza	0·10	0·09	0·10	0·07
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis (including polioencephalitis)	0·02	0·02	0·02	0·01
Pneumonia	0·46	0·49	0·45	0·48
NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected)—				
Typhoid fever	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·01
Paratyphoid fever	0·01	0·01	0·01	0·01
Meningococcal infection	0·03	0·03	0·02	0·03
Scarlet fever	1·50	1·56	1·61	1·23
Whooping cough	3·60	3·97	3·15	3·21
Diphtheria	0·02	0·03	0·02	0·03
Erysipelas	0·17	0·19	0·16	0·17
Smallpox	0·00	0·00	—	—
Measles	8·39	8·76	8·36	6·57
Pneumonia	0·70	0·77	0·61	0·50
Acute poliomyelitis (including polioencephalitis)—				
Paralytic	0·13	0·12	0·11	0·08
Non-Paralytic	0·05	0·05	0·06	0·05
Food poisoning	0·17	0·16	0·14	0·25
DEATHS—		Rates per 1,000 Live Births.		
All causes under 1 year of age	29·8(*a*)	33·8	29·4	26·3
Enteritis and diarrhœa under 2 years of age	1·9	2·2	1·6	1·0
NOTIFICATIONS (Corrected)—		Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.		
Puerperal fever and pyrexia.	5·81	7·43	4·33	6·03

MATERNAL MORTALITY IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

International List No. and cause.	Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.	Rates per million women aged 15-44.
651. Abortion with sepsis	0·09	7
650, 652. Other abortion	0·05	4
640–649, 670–678. Complication of pregnancy and delivery	0·54	—
681. Sepsis of childbirth and the puerperium	0·03	—
680, 682–689. Other complications of the puerperium	0·15	—

(*a*) Per 1,000 related live births.

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VITAL STATISTICS.

Table showing Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality, and Cases notified for Certain Infectious Diseases in the Year 1880. The Annual Report based on Quarterly Returns.