

[Report 1954] / Medical Officer of Health, Blyth Borough.

Contributors

Blyth (Northumberland, England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1954

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/r2bm5srt>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

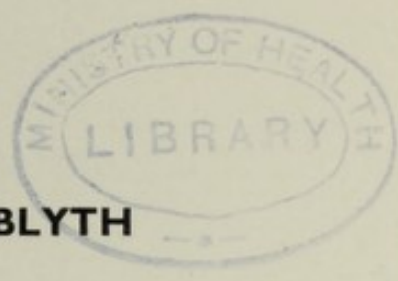
Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

HEALTH
E 22 SEP 55
C.R. 54

Library



BOROUGH OF BLYTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

INCORPORATING THAT OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1954

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
"DINSDALE"
MARINE TERRACE
BLYTH
NORTHUMBERLAND





BOROUGH OF BLYTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

INCORPORATING THAT OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1954

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

"DINSDALE"

MARINE TERRACE

BLYTH

NORTHUMBERLAND

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman.....ALDERMAN DONNACHIE.
(Died 22nd December, 1954).

Vice-Chairman.....COUNCILLOR BARKER, G. W.

ALDERMAN	CURRY.	
COUNCILLOR	ALLISON.	COUNCILLOR ROBSON.
„	BELL.	„ ROONEY.
„	BETHEM.	„ RUTHERFORD.
„	ELDER.	„ SHEPHERD.
„	HEPPLE.	„ SMITH.
„	KENNEDY.	„ STEEL.
„	MARLEY.	„ SUMMERS.
„	POTTS.	„ TANSEY.
„	RHODES.	„ TWEDDLE.
		„ WATSON.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1954

<i>Medical Officer of Health</i>	...	A. DONALDSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
<i>Senior Sanitary Inspector</i>	...	G. A. GILL, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
<i>Additional Sanitary Inspector</i>	...	N. F. GODFREY, M.S.I.A.
<i>Additional Sanitary Inspector</i>	...	W. ALLAN, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
<i>Temporary Clerk</i>	... ..	C. FELLOWS.
<i>Temporary Shorthand Typist</i>	...	B. I. REDBURN.
<i>Rodent Officer</i>	... ..	B. WADE.

BOROUGH OF BLYTH

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1954

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 1954.

The population increased by 100 to 34,370. This is still 930 below the maximum recorded population of the Borough which was 35,300 in 1949.

The Birth Rate has shown a very great increase from 18.0 per 1,000 population to 19.8. There were 638 births in the Borough in 1954 compared with the 618 in 1953. The Infantile Mortality Rate reached the record low figure of 17.2 per 1,000 live births. This is most gratifying as this rate is an index of the social conditions prevailing in a district. It may be said to be due also in large measure to the excellent medical attention provided in Blyth by the family doctors. The Maternity and Child Welfare Service, the District Nurses and the Hospital Service, however, also take great credit for this achievement.

The number of cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified fell this year by 18 and for the fifth year in succession, no cases of diphtheria occurred.

There were 12 cases of food poisoning notified. Nine cases were concerned in one outbreak which was due to contaminated tinned meat, contamination having occurred during the original packing of the meat outside this country.

I think that the state of the public health in Blyth is good, but improvement is still possible in the field of tuberculosis and clean food.

Once again, I must thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their interest and support during 1954. I feel that I must mention the loss to the Health Committee caused by the death of its former Chairman, Alderman H. Donnachie. My colleagues in the other Council Departments have been co-operative as always. The Health Department staff again deserve every praise 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 1954 population was 34,370. This is an increase of 100 over the figures for 1953.

Uncorrected Birth Rate :

The Birth Rate rose from 18.0 per 1,000 population to 19.8 — an increase of 1.8 per 1,000. This is a direct contradiction to the trend of the country as a whole.

Crude Death Rate :

The Death Rate rose from 9.7 per 1,000 population to 10.3.

Infantile Mortality Rate (Deaths of infants under 1 year).

The Infant Mortality Rate fell to the new record figure of 17.2 per 1,000 live births. Eleven infant deaths occurred and of these, 9 occurred during the first month. Nine of these deaths could be classified as unavoidable. This mortality rate is similar to the rate of 17.8 per 1,000 live births in 1952 and it is hoped that this will become the pattern for the next few years.

Maternal Mortality Rate :

There were no maternal deaths in Blyth during 1954.

Deaths :

There were 354 deaths in the Borough during 1954 which is an increase of 19 over 1953.

The commonest cause of death was cardio-vascular disease which accounted for 193 deaths or 56%. This was made up of 111 male cardio-vascular deaths (55% of the total male deaths) and 82 female deaths (53% of the total female deaths).

Cancer was the next commonest cause, there being 83 deaths, an increase of 22 over 1953. This is 23% of the total deaths. There were 48 male cancer deaths and 35 female.

Infectious Diseases :

Pulmonary Tuberculosis notifications dropped to 44 during 1954, which represents a decrease of 18 from 1953.

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT, 1954

Statistics for the Borough of Blyth for the last ten years

Year	Popu- lation	Deaths	Death Rate	Live Births	Birth Rate	Infantile Deaths	Infant Death Rate	Neo- Natal Death Rate	No. of Cases of Infectious Disease Notified							
									Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Acute Poliomylitis	Bowell Complaints Dysentery, etc.	Tuberculosis	
													Pul.	Non- Pul.		
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
1951	34,110	453	13.2	674	19.7	21	31.1	14.8	490	57	93	—	—	1	88	2
1952	34,010	352	10.3	618	18.2	11	17.8	9.7	346	65	45	—	1	6	96	7
1953	34,270	335	9.7	618	18.0	18	29.1	14.5	747	83	190	—	—	3	62	11
1954	34,370	354	10.2	638	19.8	11	17.2	14.1	50	34	73	—	1	24	44	5

INFECTIOUS DISEASE

It was not surprising to find a substantial decrease in the notifications of infectious disease during 1954, as the previous year had exceeded all former years and had included a major epidemic of measles. The figure of 259 notifications, however, exceeded all expectations and it is possible that the weather conditions during the year may have contributed towards this. It was a year of average temperatures with few extremes recorded. A mild winter and a poor summer.

Measles.

There were 50 notifications during 1954. This was 697 fewer than 1953. There were no deaths.

Whooping Cough.

There were 73 notifications in 1954. This compares favourably with the 190 notifications in 1953. There were no deaths from this disease.

Scarlet Fever.

There were 34 notifications during 1954. The disease was mild in character and there were no deaths.

Pneumonia.

There were 14 notifications during 1954.

Dysentery.

There were 12 notifications during 1954.

Food Poisoning.

There were 12 notifications during 1954. Nine cases were concerned in one outbreak traced to contaminated tinned meat. The source of the infection had almost certainly occurred during the canning process and the food traders concerned were completely exonerated. The other cases were single isolated cases.

Poliomyelitis.

There was one case notified during 1954.

Diphtheria.

For the fifth year in succession, no cases of this disease occurred in the Borough.

Annual Returns for Ten Years of Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases

Year	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	Puerperal Pyrexia	Meningococcal Infection	Dysentery	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Tuberculosis (Pul.)	Tuberculosis (Other)	Whooping Cough	Measles	Malaria	Para Typhoid Fever	Ac. Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	Ac. Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	Ac. Encephalitis (Infective)	Food Poisoning
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	1	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	—
1951	57	—	10	54	—	5	1	—	88	2	93	490	—	—	—	—	—	—
1952	65	—	10	29	3	2	6	—	96	7	45	346	—	—	1	—	—	24
1953	83	—	8	16	6	1	1	—	62	11	190	747	—	2	—	—	—	5
1954	34	—	10	14	—	3	12	—	44	5	73	50	—	—	1	—	—	12

Diphtheria

Year	Cases	Deaths	Remarks
1941	300	20	Not Immunised
1942	145	5	" "
1943	98	3	" "
1944	116	6	" "
1945	108	3	1—Immunised, 1942
1946	51	1	Not Immunised
1947	23	Nil	
1948	10	Nil	
1949	1	Nil	
1950	Nil	Nil	
1951	Nil	Nil	
1952	Nil	Nil	
1953	Nil	Nil	
1954	Nil	Nil	

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Year Ended 31st December, 1954

Percentage of children who had completed a full course of immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1954 :—

Children immunised 5-15 years—85%

Notifiable Diseases, 1954—Age Distribution

DISEASE	Under	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—25	25—35	35—45	45—55	55—65	Over	Totals
	1 year												65 years	
Scarlet Fever	—	1	3	5	6	18	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	34
Whooping Cough	5	11	16	9	9	22	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	73
Measles	6	7	5	6	10	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50
Pneumonia	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	2	2	3	2	—	2	14
Dysentery... ..	—	—	1	1	1	4	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	12
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	1	4	—	—	—	12
Erysipelas... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	3	—	1	10
Meningococcal Infection	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Poliomyelitis Paralytic	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	11	12	6	3	3	1	44
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	5
Totals	13	22	25	22	27	69	6	16	17	13	15	9	4	258

TUBERCULOSIS

It is gratifying to be able to report a further decline in the incidence of this disease which for so long has been a scourge in the Borough.

There were 8 deaths from Tuberculosis in Blyth during 1954, which is 6 less than in 1953.

There were 44 notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis during 1954 which is 18 less than in 1953 and 51 fewer than 1952. There were 5 notifications of non-pulmonary tuberculosis during the year which compares favourably with the 11 in 1953. Over all, the notifications were 49 compared with the 73 in 1953. This is the lowest notification rate during the last 10 years.

There is no doubt that the general practitioners, chest physicians and Health Department have made some impression on the course of this disease during the last 3 years. Re-housing of tuberculosis patients has been speeded considerably and there is every hope that the waiting list for this type of applicant will be further reduced in the coming year.

B.C.G. vaccination of negative reacting contacts has been pursued and the testing of certain school age groups has been instituted. These factors are playing a great part in reducing the course of the disease and complete control may not be so far distant as imagined at one time.

Treatment, although still a fairly lengthy matter, has been improved when compared with that of even 5 years ago. The length of stay in sanatorium has been cut due to improved drugs and techniques.

The battle against tuberculosis may have reached its final phase if the public support the methods of diagnosis which are available.

At the end of 1954 there were 477 cases on the tuberculosis register—429 pulmonary and 48 non-pulmonary. This is a reduction of 7 cases compared with 1953.

Tuberculosis case rate per 1,000 population.

1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
8.1	7.5	8.1	9.7	10.2	12.9	14.2	13.9

Tuberculosis, 1954

	Notifications				Deaths			
	Males		Females		Males		Females	
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.
Totals	26	—	18	5	4	1	3	—
Totals	26		23		5		3	
Grand Totals	49				8			

Tuberculosis, 1942-54

Year	All forms of Tuberculosis notifications per year	Number of Deaths per year	Death Rate per 1,000 Population
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
1951	90	23	0.56
1952	103	13	0.38
1953	73	14	0.40
1954	49	8	0.23

Tuberculosis, 1954

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	216	28	210	30	484
(b) Number of new cases notified under "Regulations of 1930" for the first time during the year	26	—	18	5	49
(c) Number of cases restored to Register having been removed previous to 1954	—	—	2	—	2
(a) Number of cases added to the Register and brought to notice otherwise than by formal notification	2	1	4	—	7
(e) Number of cases removed from Register during the year	23	10	26	6	65
(f) Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year	221	19	208	29	477

Tuberculosis, 1954

Age Groups	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
5-15	3	4	—	1	—	—	—	—
15-25	6	6	—	1	—	—	—	—
25-35	6	6	—	1	—	1	—	—
35-45	4	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
45-55	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-65	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
65 +	1	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
Totals	26	18	—	5	4	3	1	—
Grand Totals	44		5		7		1	

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area.—No change.

Average—6,487.

Population.—(Registrar-General's Estimate) ... 34,370

Rate Value.—(1st April, 1954) ... £109,506

Product of Penny Rate (estimated) ... £752

Extracts from Vital Statistics

Comparability Factor.—Births 1.00. Deaths 1.18.

	1953	1954
The uncorrected Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated Home population ...	18.0	19.8
The standardised Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated Home population ...	18.36	19.8
The Crude Death Rate per 1,000 estimated Home population ...	9.7	10.2
The standardised Death Rate per 1,000 estimated Home population ...	11.15	12.0
The Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births ...	29.12	17.2
The Neo-Natal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births ...	14.56	14.1
The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births ...	32.87	24.4
Tuberculosis Death Rate per 1,000 estimated Home population ...	0.40	0.23
Maternal Mortality ...	Nil	Nil

	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
No. of Live Births...	658	764	858	737	708	660	674	618	618	638
No. of Deaths ...	394	440	469	362	422	417	453	352	335	354
Excess of Births over Deaths...	264	324	389	375	286	243	221	266	283	284

Infantile Deaths and Infant Mortality Rates for Ten Years 1945-54

	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Deaths ...	38	48	45	40	28	31	21	11	18	11
Infant Mortality Rate...	57.7	62.8	52.4	54.2	39.5	46.9	31.1	17.8	29.1	17.2

Causes of Infant Deaths :—

Prematurity	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Spina Bifida 2 (Neo-Natal)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Cerebral Haemorrhage 1 (Neo-Natal)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Heart Disease 1 (Neo-Natal)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Atelectasis 1 (Neo-Natal)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Defect 1 (Neo-Natal)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Pulmonary Congestion	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Broncho Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
(Neo-Natal Deaths 9 — Infants dying within 4 weeks).										9
										11

Infant Deaths

<i>Possibly Avoidable.</i>		<i>Unavoidable.</i>	
Broncho-Pneumonia	1	Prematurity ...	3
Pulmonary Congestion	1	Spina Bifida ...	2
		Cerebral Haemorrhage	1
		Congenital Heart Disease...	1
		Atelectasis ...	1
		Congenital Defect ...	1
	—		—
	2		9
	—		—

Causes of Death, 1954

Code No.	International Classification	Male	Female	Total
002	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	3	7
010	Tuberculous Meningitis	1	—	1
057	Meningococcal Infection	—	1	1
141	Malignant Neoplasm—Tongue	2	—	2
142-1	" " —Parotid Gland	1	—	1
150	" " —Oesophagus	2	3	5
151	" " —Stomach	7	5	12
153	" " —Large Intestine	5	5	10
154	" " —Rectum	3	—	3
157	" " —Pancreas	4	—	4
162	" " —Bronchogenic- Primary... ..	11	3	14
163	" " —Bronchogenic- Unspecified... ..	1	—	1
170	" " —Breast	—	6	6
171	" " —Cervix Uteri	—	3	3
172	" " —Corpus Uteri	—	1	1
175	" " Ovary	—	2	2
176	" " —Vulva	—	4	4
177	" " —Prostate	2	—	2
180	" " —Kidney	1	—	1
181	" " —Bladder	5	—	5
191	" " —Skin	—	1	1
193	" " —Brain	1	—	1
194	" " —Thyroid Gland	—	1	1
199	" " —Other	2	—	2
203	Multiple Myelomata	1	1	2
204	Lymphatic Leukaemia	1	—	1
204-1	Myeloid Leukaemia	—	1	1
223	Benign Neoplasm of Brain	1	1	2
241	Bronchial Asthma	—	1	1
260	Diabetes	—	1	1
298	Splenic Anaemia	1	—	1
331	Cerebral Haemorrhage	14	14	28
332	Cerebral Thrombosis	13	15	28
334	Cerebral Arteriosclerosis	1	—	1
420	Arteriosclerosis	2	1	3
420-1	Coronary Thrombosis	33	17	50
421	Mitral Stenosis	—	1	1
422	Cardio Vascular Degeneration	17	14	31
422-1	Myocardial Degeneration with Arteriosclerosis... ..	1	—	1
422-2	Myocardial Degeneration with Senility	11	13	24
431	Acute Myocarditis	1	—	1
433-1	Auricular Fibrillation	1	1	2
434-1	Congestive Heart Failure	9	5	14
434-2	Left Ventricular Failure	5	1	6
434-3	Cor Pulmone	2	—	2
453	Raynaud's Disease	1	—	1
465	Pulmonary Embolism	2	1	3
491	Broncho Pneumonia	4	9	13
493	Septic Pneumonia	1	—	1
501	Bronchitis	1	—	1
502	Chronic Bronchitis	2	1	3
522	Hypostatic Pneumonia	2	2	4
526	Bronchiectasis	1	—	1
541-1	Duodenal Ulcer with Perforation	1	1	2
561-1	Femoral Hernia—Strangulated	—	1	1
570	Intestinal Obstruction	—	1	1
570-2	Mesenteric Infarction	—	1	1
587	Acute Pancreatitis	—	1	1
593	Uraemia	—	2	2

600	Kidney Infection	1	—	1
610	Prostatic Enlargement	2	—	2
751	Myelomeningocele	1	1	2
754-2	Interventricular Septal Defect	—	1	1
756-1	Congenital Absence of Rectum	1	—	1
760-5	Intracranial Injury at Birth with Prematurity...	1	—	1
762	Atelectasis	1	—	1
776	Prematurity Unqualified	1	2	3
784-5	Gastrotaxis	1	—	1
794	Senility	—	1	1
E 802	Railway Accident	1	—	1
E 812	Motor Vehicle Accident to Pedestrian	1	—	1
E 814	Motor Vehicle Accident to Motorcycle Driver or Passenger...	1	—	1
E 840	Street Car Accident to Pedestrian	—	1	1
E 878	Accidental Poisoning by Drugs	1	—	1
E 892	Accidental Carbon Monoxide Poisoning	—	1	1
E 903	Accidental Fall	1	—	1
E 910	Crush by Fall of Earth	2	—	2
E 974	Suicide by Hanging	2	—	2
E 975	Suicide by Drowning	1	—	1
N 803	Fracture of Skull	1	—	1
N 942	Burn of Trunk	—	1	1
		201	153	354

CANCER

<i>Type.</i>	1954		1953		1952		1951		1950	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
All causes ...	48	35	33	28	42	35	31	32	34	32
	83		61		77		63		66	
Bronchogenic (Cancer of Lung) ...	15		10		7		7		7	
Stomach ...	12		22		13		18		19	
Intestine ...	13		5		15		6		13	
Female Organs	16		9		14		11		10	

There was an increase of 22 deaths from cancer in its various forms over the figures for 1953. The largest increase was in the group, cancer of intestine, which rose from 5 to 13. Whether the rather large increased death rate from this disease is significant or not is difficult to determine. The majority of male deaths occurred in the age group 56 — 65 years, while the female deaths preponderated in the over 65 years group.

General practitioners are much more aware of the possibility of cancer, and suspected cases are being sent for investigation much earlier than ever before, and while the number of deaths have increased, it is certain that many more patients suffering from this disease are being cured

because of the increased facilities for early diagnosis. It is extremely difficult to decide whether increased propaganda about this disease would have the effect of inducing patients to go earlier to their family doctors with their symptoms or whether it would increase the dread that already exists and make them more hesitant than ever in seeking advice.

Year	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Number of cases	101	108	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101
Number of deaths	101	108	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101	101

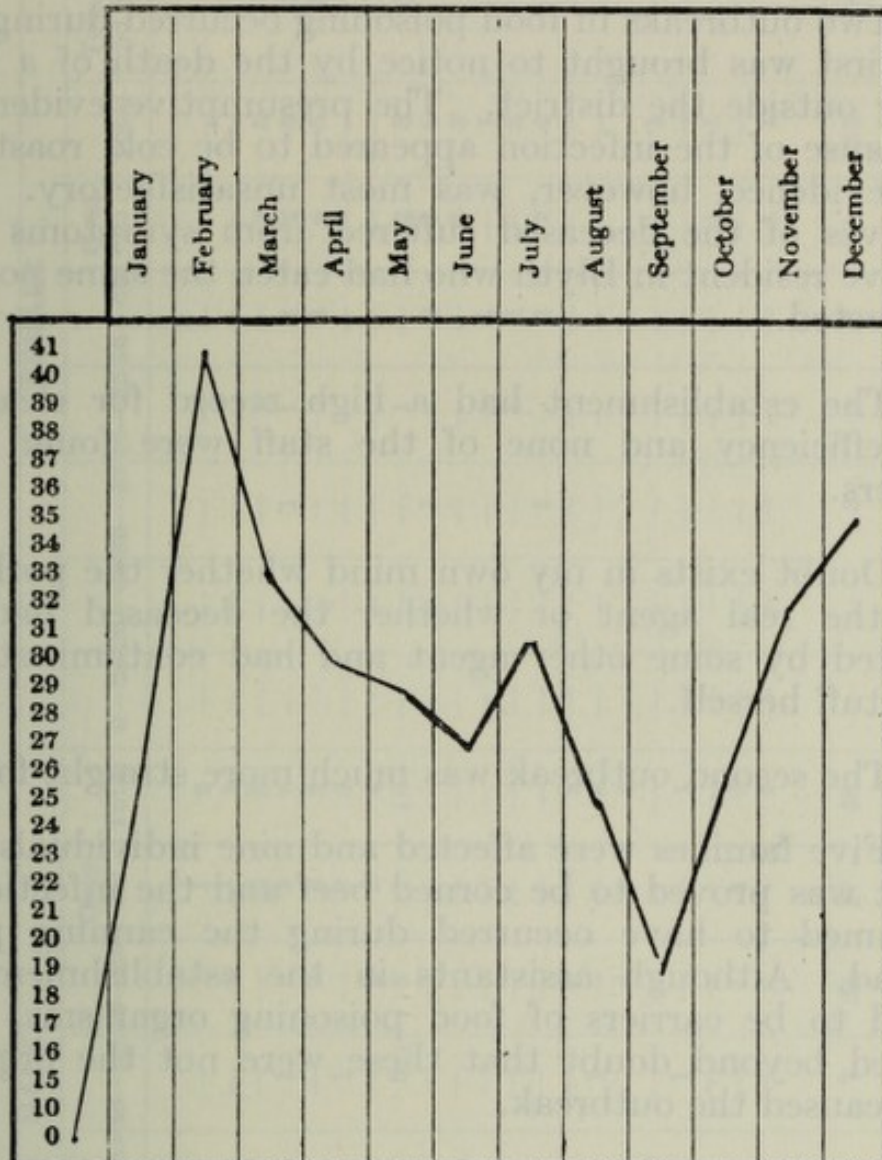
CANCER

Year	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
All cases	28	32	31	32	32	32	32	32	32	32	32
Bladder	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Lung	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Stomach	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Intestine	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Female Organs	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10

There was an increase of 32 deaths from cancer in the various forms over the years reported. The largest increase was in the group cancer of bladder, which rose from 5 to 10. Whether the other large increased death rate from this disease is significant or not is difficult to determine. The majority of male deaths reported in the age group 50-65 years, while the female deaths were concentrated in the over 65 years group.

General practitioners are much more aware of the possibility of cancer and expect to see an early and for investigation much earlier than ever before and while the number of deaths have increased, it is felt that many more patients suffering from this disease are being cured.

DEATHS, 1954



<i>Cause of Death.</i>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Cardio-Vascular	16	24	21	14	17	18	15	13	10	14	20	16	198
Respiratory ...	2	1	2	1	2	1	3	2	1	1	1	5	22
Cancer ...	5	9	4	9	7	6	6	7	6	5	10	11	85
Notifiable Diseases...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
T.B. Pul. ...	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	2	7
T.B. Non-Pul.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Other ...	2	7	5	5	2	2	6	2	2	5	1	1	40
Totals ...	26	41	33	30	29	27	31	25	19	26	32	35	354

FOOD POISONING

Two outbreaks of food poisoning occurred during 1954. The first was brought to notice by the death of a person living outside the district. The presumptive evidence for the cause of the infection appeared to be cold roast pork. The evidence, however, was most unsatisfactory. Other relatives of the deceased suffered from symptoms but a relative resident in Blyth who had eaten the same pork was unaffected.

The establishment had a high record for cleanliness and efficiency and none of the staff were found to be carriers.

Doubt exists in my own mind whether the pork itself was the real agent or whether the deceased had been infected by some other agent and had contaminated the foodstuff herself.

The second outbreak was much more straight-forward.

Five families were affected and nine individuals. The agent was proved to be corned beef and the infection was presumed to have occurred during the canning process abroad. Although assistants in the establishment were found to be carriers of food poisoning organisms, it was proved beyond doubt that these were not the organisms that caused the outbreak.

No deaths from food poisoning occurred in Blyth.

The standard of food establishments in Blyth remains a high one and the firms and employees are always willing to co-operate in improving equipment and handling methods. If the public and especially those engaged in food preparation, either at home or in business, remembered to wash their hands after visiting the toilet, food poisoning cases could be reduced to a minimum.

SITE AND AGE DISTRIBUTION—CANCER DEATHS

STATE OF DISEASE	MALE						FEMALE						Total Male and Female
	0—25		26—35		36—45		46—55		56—65		Over 65	Total	
	0—25	26—35	36—45	46—55	56—65	Over 65							
Tongue ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Parotid Gland ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Oesophagus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Stomach ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12
Large Intestine ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10
Rectum ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Pancreas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Bronchus and Lung ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15
Breast ...	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Cervix Uteri ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Corpus Uteri ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ovary ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Vulva ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Prostate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Kidney ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bladder ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Skin ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Brain ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Thyroid Gland ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Multiple Myelomata ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Totals ...	—	—	—	7	24	17	48	—	—	—	—	35	83

SICK BENEFIT SCHEME

During 1954, 296 workmen lost work through sickness and injury. Two hundred and nine attended the Health Department and most cases were seen on more than one occasion.

Number of workmen sick ...	1950	1951	1952	1953	1955
Number of days lost by sickness (6 day week) ...	129	197	258	279	296
Number of workmen employed ...	3,672	4,635	7,403½	6,836	6,811
Average length of time off sick (days) ...	255	440	491	504	487
Percentage of workmen sick during the year ...	28½	24	28½	25	23
Percentage of maintenance workmen off sick ...	50%	44.8%	52.5%	55.3%	60.7%
Percentage of direct labour workmen off sick ...	—	—	—	—	60.8%
Number of days lost per 100 workmen employed ...	—	—	—	—	47.6%
	1,400	1,053	1,508	1,356	1,398
Number of days off sick.					
Number of workmen off sick during that period					
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
1—3 ...	9	15	13	24	22
4—7 ...	14	29	32	31	41
8—14 ...	26	32	44	56	52
15—21 ...	20	35	39	43	49
22—28 ...	12	18	22	23	36
29—35 ...	13	13	21	19	21
36—42 ...	5	9	19	20	14
43—49 ...	3	10	8	12	13
50—56 ...	5	5	9	13	15
57—63 ...	2	7	5	8	9
64—70 ...	6	8	7	5	5
71—77 ...	5	1	5	3	2
78—84 ...	8	3	5	2	4
84+ ...	1	11	29	20	13
	129	196	258	279	296

The commonest period of absence was 2 - 3 weeks.

The commonest cause of absence was influenza due to sharp epidemics in the Winter and Spring. Fibrositis and allied conditions were the next commonest cause followed closely by injuries at work.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, SECTION 47
and the
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1951

No action was required during 1954 under the above acts. The Health Department were instrumental, however, in obtaining hospital accommodation or Part III accommodation for eight elderly or chronic sick persons who were living in far from satisfactory conditions.

Six persons were admitted to Part III accommodation and two to chronic sick wards in hospital.

The situation regarding the provision of accommodation for chronic sick in hospital and Part III accommodation for the able aged is becoming most serious. There is a lack of beds in both types of institutions and general practitioners are finding this a very great problem. There comes a time when the Home Help service is insufficient to meet the needs of this type of person. In the case of the aged, this happens when the person becomes a danger to himself or herself, when living alone. These persons are inclined to wander from their own homes, especially at night. They are liable to have fainting attacks and black-outs, which can be of considerable concern to the immediate neighbours.

The bedfast patient may be divided into two categories—(a) the case of the patient living alone, dependent upon the Home Help service and the Nursing Service. They may have to spend long intervals without outside contact. Voluntary organisations can do much to help this type of patient by paying friendly visits, but this is not the complete answer. Night visits by paid workers has been suggested and provided the patient is mentally fit, this would be of considerable benefit in certain cases.

(b) the chronic sick person being cared for by relatives. Some of these cases have to be nursed for years and the strain on the relative responsible for the nursing is very great. Some consideration must be given to allow these families to have periods of rest, especially at holiday times, to ease the burden of responsibility.

In many cases the distinction between chronic sick and that of old age is very fine. Accommodation should be available where such cases could be admitted for observation. In many cases, good food, rest and regular nursing attention can cause a very marked improvement in a chronic sick case, which would allow them to be transferred to Part III quarters where hospital and nursing requirements are unnecessary.

From a recent circular distributed by the Ministry of Health, it would seem that the Central Government is becoming more aware of this and the circular recommends new types of old persons' homes. The circular points out that the persons likely to be accommodated in these homes will probably require to stay in bed for a considerable portion of the day and I feel that these cases come very close to the chronic sick patient.

This type of home will require more staff per patient than the present Part III Homes and this in itself may be a problem of some magnitude.

The nation is becoming populated more and more by old people and the services required for their welfare are bound to increase, and inevitably costs must increase also.

LABORATORY SPECIMENS, 1954

A. <i>Pathological.</i>							
(1) <i>Throat and Nose swabs.</i>							
Corynebacterium	Diphtheria	Present	...	...	Nil		
		Not found	...	...	17	17	
Haemolytic Streptococci		Present	...	...	9		
		Not found	...	...	52	61	
Vincent's Organisms		Not found	...	...	5		
		Present	...	...	1	6	
Staphylococcus Aureus Coagulase positive		Present	...	...	4		
		Not found	...	...	4	8	
(2) <i>Sputum.</i>							
B. Tuberculosis		Present	...	...	45		
		Not found	...	...	411	456	
(3) <i>Gastric Lavage.</i>							
B. Tuberculosis		Present	...	...	2		
		Not found	...	...	Nil	2	
(4) <i>Faeces.</i>							
Sh. Sonnei isolated	...	...	...	...	...	12	
Paratyphoid B. isolated	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Salmon. Typhimurium isolated	...	...	...	...	...	8	
Salmon. Thompson, isolated	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Staph. Aureus Coagulase positive isolated	...	...	...	...	...	2	
No pathogens isolated	...	...	...	...	...	108	
(5) <i>Blood Culture.</i>							
Influenza type B. positive	...	...	...	...	...	3	
Influenza type B. negative	...	...	...	...	...	6	
(6) <i>Other specimens</i> 13							
B. <i>Water, Milk, etc.</i>							
(1) <i>Water Samples.</i>							
(a) Bacteriological	...	...	...	...	...	98	
(b) Chemical	...	...	...	...	...	12	
(2) <i>Milk Samples.</i>							
(a) For B. Tuberculosis...	...	...	...	...	...	41	
(b) For Methylene Blue	...	...	...	...	...	41	
(c) For pasteurised Milk:—							
Methylene Blue	...	...	...	...	...	11	
Phosphatase Test	...	...	...	...	...	—
Turbidity Test	...	...	...	...	...	1	
(3) <i>Sterility of Milk Bottles.</i>							
(a) Satisfactory.	(b) Fairly Satisfactory.	(c) Unsatisfactory.					
22	26	24				72	
(a) Bacteriological—Methylene Blue	...	...	...	...	...	28	
(b) Swabs from equipment, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	3	

ANNUAL REPORT, 1954

Part II—Environmental Hygiene

Resume of work carried out by the Health Department

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Part II—Sanitation and Buildings

FILTHY OR VERMINOUS PREMISES OR ARTICLES.—Treatment for the eradication of insect pests involved some 367 dwellings. It is usual for the Department to request the stripping of walls which is followed by spraying with an approved insecticide and, if so required, treated by a gaseous fumigant.

There has been a gradual increase in the number of such treatments during the past years, which is evidence that the public are becoming increasingly conscious of the facilities provided by the Council and are desirous of taking advantage of such assistance rather than attempt to keep such conditions secret.

It is sincerely hoped that this trend will continue, as immediate reporting to the Health Department will often result in the total eradication of such pests and help to minimise their spread.

PUBLIC SANITARY CONVENIENCES.—Following a Public Inquiry, approval was obtained to the erection of a new public convenience in Broadway, and plans and estimates prepared for the construction of two new conveniences on the Links and Foreshore, as outlined in the report submitted to the Health Committee in 1953.

LICENSED PREMISES.—During the year the following improvements were effected to licensed premises in the Borough.

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| Astley Arms, | —New Lounge constructed and fitted |
| Seaton Sluice. | out in a most modern and hygienic manner. |
| | Premises completely redecorated. |
| King's Head Hotel | —New Lounge completed. |
| | Premises redecorated. |
| White Swan Hotel | —New sanitary conveniences for both sexes to Bar, Sitting Room and Lounge, First Floor. |

As a result of further inspections and correspondence with the Owners, it is anticipated that improvements will be carried out to other premises in the Borough.

Part III—Nuisances

SANITARY ADMINISTRATION.—Unsatisfactory living conditions by reason of disrepair and sanitary defects are the major sources of complaints received by the Health Department and of 2,500 investigations made during the year by the Sanitary Inspectors, over 2,000 of these came under this category. This does not take into account the work specifically carried out under the Housing Acts, which amounted to a further 2,000 inspections and investigations.

COLLIERY SPOILBANKS.—Regular monthly inspections were made, the general position at the end of the year being as follows:—

Horton Grange.—Slight combustion of new mounds, but regular control has been carried out during the year by consolidation, which has proved very effective.

Isabella Colliery.—As a result of representations to the National Coal Board regarding the offensive condition of this spoilbank, action was taken during the year to control the combustion by the deposit of waste material from site clearance for a new screening plant and by the levelling and consolidation of the surrounding area with a view to the overall extension of the heap. Information was also received that the N.C.B. hoped to be able to dispose of future waste from the Isabella and Bates Collieries by means of tipping at sea from barges.

At the time of the preparation of this report, it was anticipated that this method of disposal would be brought into operation during the latter part of 1955, but the continued deposit of spoil in this restricted area bounded on two sides by new housing development, must remain a matter for considerable concern.

New Delaval Colliery.—Discussion took place during the year between representatives of the Council, the National Coal Board and the County Planning Authority, regarding the continued extension and combustion of these mounds and application was made to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and approval obtained to

the Council taking action under Part III of the Public Health Act, 1936, against the National Coal Board in respect of the nuisance created by the burning spoilbank.

The construction of a vast coal disposal point at Bebside in the short space of a few months, proved conclusively what could be achieved by the removal and dispersal of many thousands of tons of burnt-out spoil by modern earth-moving equipment. Whilst appreciating the point of view of the Ministry of Fuel and Power in that this work was urgently necessary to permit future development, it would appear to me that public health is also an urgent necessity which cannot be measured in terms of economics, and I am of the opinion that adequate machinery and pumping equipment should be permanently available to control the combustion of these spoilbanks, or that, in the case of close proximity to the sea, as in the case of Blyth, all spoil should be disposed of by barging.

Part IV—Water Supply

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

<i>Source of Supply.</i>	<i>Gallons Consumed.</i>
Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.	359,794,000
Tynemouth Corporation	6,396,000
Hepscott (Barmoor)	52,808,000

Bacteriological Analysis.—Ninety-eight samples were taken of the principal water supplies to the Borough, of which seventy-nine samples proved satisfactory.

The nineteen unsatisfactory samples were principally due to the contamination existing at the Hepscott Reservoir, but, as pointed out in the Annual Report for 1954, only a reserve supply is drawn from this reservoir and as the water is subjected to sand filtration followed by chlorination at the Bebside Waterworks, the supply to the public service is perfectly satisfactory.

It is anticipated that negotiations at present being made with the suppliers will result in this reservoir being eliminated as a source of supply in the near future.

See Table Page 41.

Part IV—Laboratories, Ambulances, Mortuaries, Etc.

During the year the Mortuary was used on 19 occasions, details being:—

<i>Authority.</i>	<i>Bodies.</i>	<i>Post-Mortems.</i>
Borough of Blyth	11	2
Bedlington U.D. Council	5	5
River Blyth Port Health Authority	3	—

A member of the Health Department staff is responsible for the general cleansing of the premises and care of equipment, and on several occasions has assisted the pathologists during post-mortems.

Part XI—Tents, Vans, Sheds, Etc.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.—Inspections were carried out from time to time of the licensed caravan site on the Links and several investigations were made with regard to unauthorised camping at the Pottery Field, Newsham, details of these infringements being forwarded to the County Planning Authority.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Two hundred and fifty-nine inspections were made in accordance with the above Acts of factories and outworkers premises in the Borough, as shown on the Annual Returns—Pages 42 to 44, conditions in general being satisfactory.

The outworkers are all employed in glove manufacture for Messrs. Rema Ltd., Bedlington Station.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The General standard of facilities with regard to heating, lighting, ventilation, washing and sanitary accommodation continues to show steady progress, particularly as new and completely refitted shops are opened.

As a direct result of the closing of insanitary dwelling houses in the Bowes Street area, the change which from the outset it was hoped to achieve is taking place by the conversion of these former dwellings into modern shop premises, which has greatly improved the general appearance of this area. Contact is constantly maintained with

Occupiers, Builders and Agents with a view to obtaining the maximum improvements both with regard to the structure and the provision of modern fitments.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Inspections under the Act of the three premises involved, revealed no cause for complaint during the year.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The Annual Returns and Tables required by the Ministry of Agriculture (See Page 51), give details of the work carried out by your Rodent Officer and general inspections by the Sanitary Inspectors and reveal that there is little major source of infestation within the Borough.

As with the requests for eradication of insect pests, the public are becoming increasingly aware of the services available and full use is being made of these.

In addition to the normal treatment of business and agricultural premises, regular attention is given to general survey work of all food premises.

General Matters

Appended are some of the incidental services carried out by the Department.

No. of houses treated for insect pests	...	367
No. of houses disinfected after infectious disease	... ..	26
No. of houses disinfected by request	...	21
No. of items of bedding and clothing disinfected by request	... ..	27
No. of items of bedding and clothing destroyed by request	... ..	319
No. of dogs humanely destroyed	... ..	218
No. of cats humanely destroyed	... ..	165
Obstructed drains cleared	... ..	86

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1938-1950

Regular supervision of the food establishments in the town was maintained as shown in the Table on Page 54. In certain cases, it was necessary to confirm contraventions of the Act by means of letters to the occupiers which resulted in the necessary works being carried out without recourse to formal action.

Broadly speaking, the standard of hygiene of both the premises and the employees is satisfactory and the poorer types of buildings are either being reconstructed or are closing down. Where it is known that the business is to close or to change hands, it is the policy of the Department to contact the parties concerned and to draw their attention to deficiencies in the existing premises, so that the prospective purchaser is aware of the requirements of the Local Authority beforehand. As a result of this action, it has been possible for several improvements to be effected or the owners have agreed that the buildings will no longer be used for food handling purposes, and during the year the registrations of five premises previously used as bakeries were cancelled.

It was necessary, however, to report to the Health Committee regarding unsatisfactory structural conditions existing at an Ice Cream Factory, a Restaurant and a Fish Preparation room and notices were served under the Act with respect to these contraventions.

In the case of the Restaurant, the business changed hands and the contraventions were remedied ; in the case of both the Ice Cream Manufacturer and the Fish Preparer, efforts are being made by both parties to obtain more suitable premises.

There are still one or two food preparation premises which are below standard and adequate time has elapsed for improvements or alternative arrangements to be made, and when impending legislation becomes operative it is intended that stronger action will be taken to bring these premises up to a modern standard.

BAKERIES.—Five registrations were cancelled and one new registration granted. Considerable work was carried out by one manufacturer by means of complete reorganisation, redecoration and provision of modern fittings and the general standard throughout is satisfactory.

BUTCHERS.—Two premises were closed during the year, one of these being taken over by another firm. In addition, two premises were newly opened and were decorated and fitted in a satisfactory manner.

COOKED MEAT MANUFACTURERS. — The hygienic standard of these premises is of a high order and the occupiers are to be commended for their efforts not only to maintain, but to improve this by the provision of the most modern equipment.

It is unfortunate to have to report, however, that an outbreak of food poisoning occurred in connection with one of the most up-to-date and well-run establishments in the town, details of which have already been given by the Medical Officer of Health, which once again emphasises the importance of the most scrupulous personal hygiene on the part of the employees of such premises.

FRIED FISH HANDLERS.—No new registrations were granted during the year and a number of such establishments are either for sale or are closed. The attention of the occupiers of certain of the remaining businesses has been drawn to existing contraventions and negotiations are pending concerning these.

GENERAL DEALERS.—Recent inspection of these premises reveals little cause for complaint, although some of the buildings in the older parts of the town cannot be classed as suitable. Generally speaking, the standard is satisfactory, the occupiers being self-employed, the buildings being a house and shop combined and the bulk of the commodities retailed being pre-packed. In certain cases the attention of the occupiers was drawn to contraventions of the Act and these were remedied without recourse to formal action.

GROCERY AND PROVISIONS.—Improvements were maintained with regard to these premises and plans are in hand by a multiple trading company in the town for the progressive reconstruction and refitting of their premises.

RESTAURANTS AND SNACK BARS.—Plans have been submitted and approved for the modernisation of the Snack Bar in the Post Office Square, to be followed by internal re-fitting, newly converted premises are in the course of preparation in Parsons Street and plans are

advanced for the extension of the dining and kitchen facilities to the Co-operative Society's Restaurant in Waterloo Road.

It is to be hoped that the fullest possible use will be made of the newly available facilities by the public so as to provide a long awaited stimulus to the improvement of this type of business, by the expenditure of capital on the structures and fitments.

MARKET TRADERS.—Warnings were given to a number of market traders regarding the conspicuous display of name plates and with regard to the display of unprotected foods to the public. As a result of these and in one case reporting on the contravention to the Health Committee, improved arrangements were made.

UNSOOUND FOOD.—No legal proceedings were taken during the year with regard to the storage, exposure or sale of unsound food, but as a result of one complaint regarding the presence of a foreign body in an article of foodstuff, a warning was issued to the trader concerned, following a report to the Health Committee. The complaint itself was not of a serious nature and arose originally out of the re-organisation and installation of new food preparation machinery and on completion of the necessary alterations the premises were entirely redecorated.

Page 46 of the Report gives a list of the foodstuffs surrendered or found in the course of inspection to be unfit for human consumption.

PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELLFISH) REGULATIONS, 1934.—Action was taken under the Regulations in relation to the unauthorised collection of periwinkles from a "Prescribed Area" lying between the high-water marks of either side of the River Blyth.

Notifications were forwarded to neighbouring Authorities regarding the collectors and subsequent information received stated that the shellfish had been deposited in the sea and that the collectors stated that although it was their intention to sell the shellfish to fishermen for bait, they would refrain from gathering such shellfish from the prohibited layings.

RECORD OF ICE CREAM BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS 1952-1954

Percentage of Grades

Manufacturer	Year	Grade I	Grade II	Grade III	Grade IV	Remarks
No. 1	1952	100.0	—	—	—	
	1953	50.0	—	25.0	25.0	
	1954	66.6	16.6	—	16.6	
No. 2	1952	40.0	—	60.0	—	
	1953	Nil	40.0	—	60.0	
	1954	50.0	12.5	37.5	—	
No. 3	1952	Nil	25.0	50.0	25.0	Commenced Production 1952
	1953	Nil	33.3	33.3	33.3	
	1954	100.0	—	—	—	
No. 4	1952	33.3	—	33.3	33.3	
	1953	Nil	—	—	100.0	
	1954	66.6	11.1	—	22.2	
No. 5	1952	66.6	—	33.3	—	Ceased Production 1954
	1953	66.6	33.3	—	—	
	1954	100.0	—	—	—	

ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1947-1952

There are now three principal producers in the Borough, one manufacturer having disposed of the plant and one manufacturer only producing a small quantity at intermittent intervals.

Following unsatisfactory samples from one manufacturer, advice and assistance were given with regard to adequate sterilisation of equipment and utensils. In this particular instance, the manufacturer has disposed of his former premises and most of his heat treatment equipment and is proposing to construct new smaller premises and to produce Cold Mix Ice-cream only.

A further manufacturer was given advice and assistance following unsatisfactory samples and notice under the Food and Drugs Act was served on the Owner regarding the structural condition of the premises.

There were two new registrations during the year for the sale of Pre-packed ice-cream, the total number of these being 74.

FOOD AND DRUGS (MILK, DAIRIES AND ARTIFICIAL CREAM) ACT, 1950

SUPPLY.—There has been no change in the overall supply of milk to the Borough, there being one High-Temperature, Short-time Pasteurising Plant, five dairymen retailing bottled pasteurised milk from Coast Creameries Ltd., and ninety-one retailers of sterilised milk, an increase of eight over the previous year.

BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS.—Details of samples submitted are shown in the table on Page 45.

It is pleasing to report that there were no positive notifications of Bacillus Tuberculosis during the year.

The standard of milk bottle sterility depreciated during the year, but representations to the dairy concerned have resulted in an order being placed for the provision of new bottle washing plant, a new automatic filler and capper having previously been provided. It is also intended to proceed with certain minor structural modifications when the new machinery has been installed.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS

POLICY.—On the 1st July, 1955, the supply of meat to the public reverted to private enterprise after a period of control by the Ministry of Food of some fifteen years, and the responsibility for the administration of the slaughterhouse then returned to the Council.

Arrangements have now been made with the Blyth Meat Traders Association, for the tenancy of the existing premises and facilities.

New legislation in the form of The Slaughterhouse Act, 1954, come into operation dealing with the review of slaughtering arrangements, the registration of slaughterhouses, etc.

The Government re-affirmed its intention to bring about a moderate concentration of slaughtering facilities throughout the country and Part V of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, as amended by the new legislation will apply in the interim period.

In pursuance of Section 4 (2) of the Slaughterhouse Act, 1954 and Section 61 (3) of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, application was made to the Minister of Food that no additional slaughterhouse licences be granted in respect of any premises in the Borough.

MEAT INSPECTION.—There was an overall increase in the number of animals slaughtered of 1,423 (See Tables Pages 46 - 48), the greatest increase being in the number of pigs, from 2,300 in 1953, to 5,103 in 1954, and this is throwing a strain on the available facilities during peak periods.

Out of 11,974 animals slaughtered and inspected, three cows, one bullock, three pigs, six sheep and one lamb were condemned as unfit for human consumption, which is convincing evidence of the high standard of animal dealt with at the abattoir.

It is interesting to observe that some five years ago in 1949, the total number of animals slaughtered amounted to 7,559, the present figures amounting to an increase of 63.1% and the number of days on which slaughtering and inspection took place increased from 143 to 266, an increase of 86%.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS.—New legislation in the form of the Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, 1954 and the Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) No. 2 Regulations, 1954, came into operation during the year. The main purpose of the Act and Regulations is to secure humane conditions in slaughterhouses, etc., and to provide for the licensing of slaughtermen, specifying the kinds of animals which may be slaughtered by the holder of the licence and the types of instruments which may be used.

At the end of 1954, there were fifteen licensed slaughtermen on the register.

TRANSPORT OF MEAT.—The vehicles used for the transport of meat in the Borough are of an approved type and regular inspection revealed no cause for complaint.

HOUSING

The details in connection with the Annual Return to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government (See page 49 to 51) are set out below.

HOUSING ACT, 1936

Part II—Repair, Demolition and Closing of Insanitary Premises

SECTION 9—REPAIRS.—No action was taken under this section of the Act.

SECTION 11—DEMOLITION (*a*).—Thirty-three individual unfit houses were the subject of representation for demolition.

In addition, thirty-three houses were demolished and 103 persons re-housed. The houses demolished were principally situated in Cowpen Road, Grainger Street, Kitty Brewster Road and Park Road.

(*b*).—One house, 8 Back Percy Street, was closed as a result of an undertaking given under Section 11 and three persons re-housed.

SECTION 12—CLOSING.—Eight individual unfit houses being parts of buildings were represented for closing.

Nine houses were closed and thirty-two persons re-housed.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT, 1933

Section 10—Closing Orders in respect of certain Buildings

Six houses were the subject of Closing Orders under the Act, involving the re-housing of twenty-nine persons, principally from Parsons Street and Percy Street.

Section 11—Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders Substituted.

Twenty-one houses involving the re-housing of sixty-seven persons were dealt with in this manner, principally in Bowes Street.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954

New legislation came into operation during the year concerning proposals for dealing with slum clearance; the provision of a standard of fitness for human habitation and provisions connected therewith; amending the standard and period of time for which a dwelling must, after improvement or conversion, be expected to provide satisfactory accommodation; and making provision for rent increases in respect of controlled dwellinghouses in good repair, and the following action was taken in accordance with the Act.

SLUM CLEARANCE.—Following a survey of the town by the Medical Officer of Health and myself, a report was prepared and submitted to the Housing, Town Planning and Slum Clearance Committee making tentative proposals with regard to a Five-year programme of Slum Clearance as required by Section 1 of the Act. The proposals were based on the provision of one hundred houses per year to re-house occupiers from prospective slum clearance areas and were adopted in principle by the Council.

Four hundred and fifteen dwellings were provisionally scheduled as being unfit for human habitation and a further 331 were scheduled as houses which might be expected to have a limited life, but which might well come within the scope of slum clearance if major repairs and improvements are not effected.

It is of interest to note that during the past five years, steady progress has been made in the demolition and closure of insanitary dwellings by means of the procedure laid down under Sections 11 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, and as pointed out in the Annual Report for 1953, this has considerably eased the burden of the future re-housing programme for unfit dwellings.

The following figures give some indication of the progress so far made.

Year.	Demolition Orders.	Persons Displaced.	Closing Orders.	Persons Displaced
1950	55	432	1	4
1951	2	4	10	1
1952	76	298	8	36
1953	64	194	27	120
1954	33	103	37	131
	230	1,021	83	310
Total ...	83	310		
	313	1,331		

In addition to the above figures of post-war action, the Council have cleared the remaining pre-war slum clearance areas with the exception of the Cowpen Colliery Area which is now partially cleared, the relevant figures being:—

Year.	Houses Demolished.	Persons Displaced.
1945/50	399	1,875
1951	139	339
1952	67	220
1953	112	362
Total ...	717	2,796
<i>Add ...</i>		
Demolition Orders ...	230	1,021
Closing Orders ...	83	310
Grand Total	1,030	4,127

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR.—In accordance with Section 26 of the Act, seven applications were received from householders in the Borough for a Certificate of Disrepair, consequent upon a Notice of Increase of Rent having been served upon them by the Owner of the premises. In each case the application was approved and a Certificate issued.

Two applications were received from an Owner for the revocation of the Certificate of Disrepair, but the certificates were not revoked on the grounds that the work set out in the schedules to the certificates had not been completely and satisfactorily executed.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.—Consideration was given by the Council during the year to the principle of making Improvement Grants in accordance with the Housing Act, 1949, and approval was finally adopted in January, 1955. At the time of the preparation of this report, seven formal applications were approved.

General

RE-HOUSING.—304 investigations were made on behalf of the Estates Committee prior to the interview of applicants for re-housing and in addition 60 investigations were made as a result of complaints by householders of overcrowding.

The information obtained from these visits is forwarded to the Borough Treasurer who in turn co-operates by the provision of approved re-housing lists for the information of the Department.

PERMITTED NUMBERS.—With the co-operation of the Borough Engineer's Department, certificates of the Permitted Number to occupy the dwellings were prepared and forwarded to the Rating Officer in respect of newly constructed Council properties.

HOUSING SURVEY.—A start was made with the new housing survey of the Borough and a total of 864 dwellings were systematically inspected and graded as to standard. Whilst progress has not been as great as was anticipated, it is intended to press on with this work as rapidly as circumstances permit, so as to obtain as complete a picture as possible of existing housing conditions and amenities.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Summary of Notices Served

Number of Informal Notices served during the year.

WARDS.						Total.
Bebside.	Croft.	Waterloo.	Ridley.	Delaval.	Plessey.	
25	57	66	42	4	20	214

Number of Informal Notices complied during the year.

WARDS.						Total.
Bebside.	Croft.	Waterloo.	Ridley.	Delaval.	Plessey.	
12	33	32	23	2	9	111

Number of Statutory Notices served during the year.

Wards.	Sec. 39	Sec. 45	Sec. 56	Sec. 75	Sec. 79	Sec. 93	Sec. 138	Totals.
Bebside ...	1	2	—	—	—	6	2	11
Croft ...	1	5	—	5	3	18	—	32
Waterloo ...	3	6	1	—	—	22	—	32
Ridley ...	5	7	1	2	—	10	—	25
Plessey ...	1	—	—	1	—	7	—	9
Delaval ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Totals ...	11	20	2	8	3	64	2	110

Number of Statutory Notices complied during the year.

Wards.	Sec. 39	Sec. 45	Sec. 56	Sec. 75	Sec. 93	Sec. 138	Sec.	Totals.
Bebside ...	1	—	—	—	6	1	—	8
Croft ...	5	6	—	7	20	—	—	38
Waterloo ...	3	5	1	—	15	1	—	25
Ridley ...	5	8	1	3	15	—	—	32
Plessey ...	3	1	—	2	11	—	—	17
Delaval ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	17	20	2	12	67	2	—	120

Schedule of Defects remedied during the year 1954

	Informal.	Statutory.	Total.
Eaves, gutters and downspouts	17	18	35
Obstructed drains	91	—	91
Drainage	2	1	3
Waste pipes	5	1	6
Wash-up sinks and draining boards	2	5	7
Sanitary conveniences—Insufficient	1	—	1
" " "—Defective	20	22	42
Chimney Stacks	5	—	5
Main Roofs	10	12	22
Ceilings	8	7	15
Wall plaster	8	11	19
Flooring and skirting boards	16	20	36
Windows	10	13	23
Doors	9	10	19
Fireplaces and cooking facilities	17	17	34
Smoke nuisances	3	6	9
Staircases	—	4	4
Food Stores	—	3	3
Dampness	22	28	50
External Walls	2	4	6
Dangerous buildings	2	2	4
Coalstores	2	4	6
Wash-houses	2	1	3
Washing facilities	2	1	3
Water supply	6	3	9
Yard paving	2	2	4
Dustbins	62	14	76
Offensive Accommodations	1	—	1
Miscellaneous	1	3	4
Totals ...	328	212	540

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Water Sampling

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

Bacteriological

	No. of Samples.	Satisfactory.	Suspicious.	Un-satisfactory.
1. Newcastle & Gateshead Water	13	13	—	—
2. Hepscott Water before chlorination	11	10	1	—
3. Mixed Hepscott and Newcastle Water, after chlorination	16	16	—	—
4. Newcastle and Ynemouth Water	16	12	3	1
5. Barmoor (Hepscott) water tap at head of shaft	10	10	—	—
6. Barmoor (Hepscott) Deep well to Hepscott Reservoir	13	3	1	9
7. Barmoor (Hepscott) Deep well to intel pipe Bebside Res.	17	13	1	3
8. Barmoor (Hepscott) No. 1 Valve adjacent Hepscott Reservoir...	1	1	—	—
9. No. 2 Valve adjacent Hepscott Reservoir...	1	1	—	—
Totals	98	79	6	13

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948

Form 572 (Revised)

Part 1 of the Act

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

Premises. (1)	Number on Register. (2)	Number of		
		Inspections. (3)	Written Notices. (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities...	19	30	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	109	223	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' Premises)	2	2	—	—
Total ...	130	255	—	—

2. Cases in which defects were found:—

Particulars. (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (6)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred To H.M. Inspector. (4)	By H.M. Inspector. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	3	3			
Overcrowding (S.2) ...					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)...					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)...					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient ...					
(b) Unsuitable or defective...	3	3			
(c) Not separate for Sexes...					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...					
Total ...	6	6	Nil	Nil	Nil

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work.	Section 110.			Section 111.		
	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c) (1)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council. (2)	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists. (3)	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises. (4)	Notices served. (5)	Prosecutions. (6)
Wearing apparel making, etc. ...	10	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Factories, 1954

	Mechanical Power.	No Mechanical Power.
Bakeries	14	—
Blacksmith	1	—
Boiler Sealing	1	—
Boot and Shoe Repairers	5	—
Cabinet Making	—	1
Car Spraying and Coach Work	3	—
Clothing Alterations	—	4
Clothing Manufacturers	5	—
Coppersmiths	1	—
Cooked Fish Preparations	1	—
Cooked Meat Products and Sausage	11	—
Corn Grinders	1	—
Dairies	1	—
Dry Cleaners	2	—
Electrical Engineers	1	—
Electro Plating	1	—
Engineering	4	—
Foundry	2	—
Garage and Battery Charging	15	—
Gas Works	1	—
Ice Cream Manufacturers... ..	6	—
Joinery, Stone-crushing, Est.	8	4
Marine Store and Timber	1	—
Plastics	1	—
Plumbers	1	1
Polishing	—	2
Potatoe Crisps	1	—
Printing	3	—
Radio and Electrical Repairs	—	4
Saddlery and Harness	—	1
Sculptor	1	—
Ship Building and Repairs	1	—
Sheet Metal and Welding	1	—
Sign Writing	—	1
Slaters and Tilers	—	1
Soft Drinks and Bottling	1	—
Spring Mattresses	1	—
Sugar Confectionery	1	—
Timber Impregnation	1	—
Timber Merchants	6	—
Transformer Stations	1	—
Tyre Retreading	1	—
Upholstery	2	—
Weaving	1	—
	109	19

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938-1950

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949

Details of Samples taken 1954

Samples of Raw Milk from Producers outside the Borough :—

METHYLENE BLUE		BACILLUS TUBERCULOSIS			Total Samples.
Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Positive.	Negative.	Tests not carried out.	
24	17	Nil	39	2 animals died	82

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

METHYLENE BLUE.		PHOSPHATASE TEST.		Total Samples.
Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	
By Borough 11	—	10	1	22
By County 34	—	34	—	68

Sterilised Milk from a Retailer inside the Borough :—

Examination of Milk Bottles for Sterility.

Satisfactory.	Fairly Satisfactory.	Unsatisfactory.	Total.
22	26	24	72

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1938-1950

Other Foods

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

	Tins.	Bottles.	Lbs.	Miscellaneous.
Butter, Margarine, etc....	—	—	7½	—
Cereals	73	—	28	—
Cheese	—	—	31¼	72 Pieces. 9 Boxes.
Eggs (Frozen)	1	—	—	—
Fish	103	—	—	48 Fish cakes.
Fruit	1,176	—	—	1 Barrel, Grapes.
Fruit Juices	—	3	—	—
Meat (Uncooked)	—	—	367¼	—
Meat (Cooked)	881	—	115¼	—
Milk	735	—	—	—
Poultry	—	—	87	—
Preserves	6	—	—	—
Sauces, Spreads, etc.	26	1	—	—
Soups	11	—	—	—
Vegetables	1,169	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	—	72	Coconut Ice. 28 Chocolate Teacakes. 4 Pies.

Meat Inspection

Animals Slaughtered.

Month.	Bulls.	Bull-ocks.	Heifers.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Total, 1954.
January ...	—	44	40	—	—	453	328	865
February ...	—	46	45	4	—	486	467	1,048
March ...	—	72	63	4	—	626	620	1,385
April ...	—	75	35	4	—	434	470	1,018
May ...	—	143	49	9	—	342	499	1,012
June ...	—	43	44	6	—	643	351	1,087
July ...	3	33	74	3	3	180	141	437
August ...	—	51	124	5	8	429	276	893
September ...	—	86	75	9	3	457	346	976
October ...	—	98	66	23	5	410	429	1,031
November ...	1	89	86	34	12	441	491	1,154
December ...	—	73	49	25	1	235	685	1,068
Totals ...	4	823	750	126	32	5,136	5,103	11,974

1,735

Toats, 1953 ... — 744 680 84 1 6,742 2,300 10,551

1,509

It was found necessary to condemn the following carcasses, flesh and organs:—

		<i>Weight in lbs. of Carcasses.</i>	<i>Weight in lbs. of Offal.</i>	<i>Total Weight in lbs.</i>
On account of:				
Generalised Tuberculosis	Cow No. 1	422	151	573
	Cow No. 2	602	155	757
	Steer No. 1	674	190	864
Septicaemia	Cow No. 1	420	130	550
Total—3 Cows, 1 Steer		2,118	626	2,744
<hr/>				
Moribund Jaundice Septicaemia	Pig No. 1	140	20	160
	Pig No. 2	88	16	104
	Pig No. 3	147	8	155
		375	44	419
<hr/>				
Moribund	Sheep Nos. 1 & 2	109	28	137
	Sheep No. 3	73	18	91
Emaciation and Oedema	Sheep No. 4	21	—	21
	Sheep No. 5	36	—	36
Bruising and Congestion Asphyxiation	Sheep No. 6	84	—	84
	Lamb No. 1	72	16	88
Total—6 Sheep, 1 Lamb		395	62	457

The following part carcasses and organs were found in the course of inspection to be unfit for human consumption:

		<i>No.</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>
Cattle:	Part carcasses and/or organs	651	6,692
Sheep:	Part carcasses and/or organs	40	168
Pigs:	Part carcasses and/or organs	252	2,145
Beef:	Forequarters	1	306
	Forequarters (Parts)	3	103
	Hindquarters (Parts)	5	259
	Trimmings	2	213
Pork:	Legs	10	154
	Hindquarters	2	150
	Forequarters	1	84
Mutton:	(Parts)	3	61
		970	10,335

Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937

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

		<i>Weight in lbs.</i>
Beef:	Hindquarters	261
	Forequarters	236
Pork:		276
Mutton:	4 Carcasses and 3 Part Carcasses	278
		1,051

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

Form P.S. 99436/1

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	1,609	126	5,136	5,103
Number inspected	1,609	126	5,136	5,103
All diseases except Tuberculosis :				
(1) Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	1	7	3
(2) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	426	31	49	142
(3) Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	26.47	25.4	1.09	2.84
Tuberculosis only :				
(1) Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	2	—	—
(2) Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	59	34	—	117
(3) Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ...	3.7	28.5	—	2.3

CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES

Return for the Year ended 31st December, 1954

Part A.—Clearance Areas (Housing Act, 1936)

Form P. 13 (HSG)

	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in period.		Number of persons displaced.
	Unfit Houses.	Other Houses.	
(1) Land coloured "pink"	Nil	—	Nil
(2) Land coloured "grey"	—	Nil	Nil

	Number of	
	Houses.	Persons Displaced.
DEMOLITION AND CLOSING ORDERS :		
(1) Housing Act, 1936.		
(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section II	33	103
(b) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section II, and still in force	1	3
(c) Parts of buildings closed (Section 12)	9	32
(2) Housing Act, 1949.		
(a) Closing Orders made under Section 3 (1)	Nil	Nil
(b) Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under Section 3 (2)	21	67
(3) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, Closing Orders made under Section 10 (1)	6	29
		Number of Houses.

REPAIRS.

INFORMAL ACTION.

- (4) Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the Local Authority under the Public Health or Housing Acts 111

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS.

- (5) Public Health Acts.
Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :
- (a) by owners 120
- (b) by Local Authority in default of owners Nil
- (6) Housing Act, 1936.
Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16) :
- (a) by owners Nil
- (b) by Local Authority in default of owners... .. Nil

Houses completed by Council, 1954

Permanent Traditional—Direct Labour	...	...	...	...	125
Permanent Traditional—Contractors	...	...	...	...	73

Houses completed by Private Enterprise

Traditional	12
-------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

Houses in progress 31st December

Permanent Traditional—Direct Labour	...	...	...	...	108
Permanent Traditional—Contractors	...	...	...	...	11

Houses Approved by Ministry of Housing and Local Government

Not commenced 31st December, 1954	110
-----------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

Houses completed Post-War by Council

Permanent Traditional	1,547	} 381
Permanent Non-Traditional (Wimpey)	...	...	...	...	100
Pre-fabricated—Permanent B.I.S.F.	...	...	...	...	72
Pre-fabricated—Permanent Tarren	...	...	...	...	44
Pre-fabricated—Permanent Aluminium	...	...	...	...	59

Houses completed Post-War by Private Enterprise

Traditional	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Conversions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for 12 months ended 31st March, 1955

Form PDP/R. 5

	Type of Property				Agricultural (5)
	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (including Council Houses) (2)	All other (including business premises) (3)	Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3) (4)	
I. No. of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2)	30	10,213	925	11,168	34
II. No. of properties inspected as a result of:—					
(a) Notification	9	110	40	161	2
(b) Survey under the Act ...	21	43	315	388	32
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose) ...	—	2,910	570	3,580	—
III. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections (To be completed only if figures are readily available) ...	44	4,399	2,232	6,675	51
IV. No. of properties inspected (in Sec. II) which were found to be infested by:—					
(a) Rats { Major	3	—	7	10	5
Minor	7	18	15	40	8
(b) Mice { Major	4	2	7	13	5
Minor	6	106	52	164	—
V. No. of infested properties (In Sec. IV) treated by the L.A. (Figures should not exceed those given at Sec. IV) ...	20	126	81	227	14
VI. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments (To be completed only if figures are readily available) ...	28	133	98	259	16
VII. No. of notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act:—					
(a) Treatment	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Structural Work (i.e., proofing) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
VIII. No. of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sec. 4 of the Act	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
IX. Legal Proceedings (See overleaf) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
X. No. of "Block" control schemes carried out ...	2	—	8	10	—

Number of Inspections made during the year 1954.		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.	Grand Totals.
(a) Public Health Act, 1936.															
Inspection following complaints—general...		25	40	71	55	66	71	41	45	63	97	114	53	741	
Re-Inspections re outstanding notices ...		93	83	87	100	117	132	91	134	110	113	137	134	1,336	
Dirty and Verminous Premises ...		31	13	6	10	20	13	22	15	21	10	18	4	183	
Drainage ...		8	14	14	14	16	10	3	5	4	16	15	5	124	
Keeping of animals ...		—	—	—	—	1	—	5	2	—	1	—	1	10	
Licensed premises ...		—	—	1	1	5	2	1	9	1	8	10	2	40	
Moveable dwellings ...		—	1	1	—	—	1	2	24	3	—	—	3	35	
Piggeries ...		—	—	—	—	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	5	
Places of public entertainment ...		—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	1	1	6	
Spoilbanks ...		3	3	6	3	4	6	4	4	—	3	1	1	38	
Water supplies ...		—	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	4	—	3	—	13	
Workplaces ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	
Smoke Nuisances ...		1	5	2	—	2	5	2	1	2	—	—	3	23	
Sanitary Conveniences ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	
Marine Stores... ..		—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	
Refuse Tips ...		—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	3	
														2,563	2,536
(b) Housing Act, 1936.															
Investigations re overcrowding ...		4	12	3	4	1	6	11	4	4	1	6	4	60	
Houses in Clearance Areas ...		6	2	134	—	6	105	—	2	—	—	2	4	261	
Squatters Camps ...		—	2	1	2	2	2	—	1	—	—	9	2	21	
Corporation Houses ...		41	20	12	16	19	10	23	18	19	8	13	5	204	
Inspections Prior To Estates Committee ...		77	37	11	20	30	33	—	12	—	41	21	22	304	
Problem Families ...		4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	
Housing Survey ...		184	94	—	127	126	66	118	62	23	50	9	5	586	

Number of Inspections made during the year 1954.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.	Grand Totals.
PART III HOUSING ACT, 1936.														
Section 9—Repairs ...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
" 11—Demolition Orders ...	8	—	15	5	19	14	—	5	4	8	14	8	100	
" 12—Closing Orders ...	2	—	28	3	2	14	—	7	4	3	6	2	71	
PART III HOUSING ACT, 1936.														
Section 34—Proposed Re-development Area ...	84	94	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	278	
RENT AND REPAIRS ACT, 1954.														
Applications for Certificates of Disrepair ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	9	1	6	18	
													1,909	4,472
Factories Act, 1937.														
Mechanical Power ...	—	3	27	79	28	11	11	8	7	25	18	6	223	
No Mechanical Power ...	—	—	—	15	—	1	2	2	—	—	10	—	30	
Outworkers ...	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	
													259	4,731
Shops Act, 1950.														
Sanitary and other arrangements in Shops	5	5	6	—	8	11	22	25	14	66	44	27	233	
														4,964
Peers Act, 1948.														
Allotments ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Dwelling Houses ...	—	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	7	
Other Properties ...	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	
Council Properties ...	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	
													16	4,980

Number of Inspections made during the year 1954.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.	Grand Totals.
<i>Pet Animals Act, 1951.</i>														
Applications for renewal of Licenses ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	7	4,987
<i>Infectious Diseases (Notifications) Acts.</i>														
Investigations made ...	25	5	14	12	26	14	53	14	19	13	10	16	221	
Investigations re Food Poisoning Contacts	—	—	—	—	—	7	16	44	—	—	—	—	67	
<i>Food and Drugs Acts, 1938 and 1950.</i>														
Abattoir—Meat Inspection ...	54	44	67	55	52	36	52	63	52	72	73	66	686	
Suspected Anthrax ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	
Cottagers Pigs ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
Examination of Unsound Foodstuffs ...	25	11	13	9	9	15	15	15	14	13	8	7	154	
Bakehouses ...	—	—	1	8	5	7	3	1	6	6	7	2	46	
Bakery and Confectionery Shops ...	—	—	2	—	3	2	1	—	—	3	1	—	12	
Butchers Shops ...	4	11	6	2	2	5	5	5	10	11	10	11	82	
Fish and Chip Shops ...	3	1	—	—	6	6	3	1	3	6	4	5	38	
General Dealers Shops ...	—	3	5	2	3	4	10	8	9	21	22	13	100	
Grocery and Provisions Shops ...	9	22	9	13	9	9	11	6	7	16	10	2	123	
Greengrocery Shops ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	1	1	2	—	—	8	
Preserved Food Premises ...	—	2	—	—	3	2	5	2	3	4	2	—	23	
Wet Fish Shops ...	—	1	2	1	3	1	—	—	2	2	1	4	17	
Food Manufacturing Premises ...	—	1	1	6	1	2	1	—	2	4	4	2	22	
Ice Cream Premises (a) Manufacturing	—	—	4	4	6	6	24	1	6	—	—	1	52	
(b) Retail	—	—	—	—	3	2	3	9	—	8	18	4	47	
Restaurants and Cafes ...	—	—	3	3	1	2	15	1	5	7	4	1	41	
Market Stalls ...	13	14	20	38	38	26	91	1	25	48	50	16	380	
Food Vehicles ...	22	3	5	20	12	12	32	31	8	6	7	15	173	
													2,007	7,282

Number of Inspections made during the year 1954.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals.	Grand Totals.
<i>Milk and Dairies Orders.</i>														
Dairies and Equipment	—	1	2	1	1	1	4	1	3	10	5	4	33	7,455
Heat Treatment Plant	—	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	4	3	17	
Milk Shops	—	—	6	—	—	—	2	3	14	64	23	11	123	
													173	
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>														
Inspections	6	9	15	13	21	18	11	26	10	6	17	19	171	367
Interviews	29	35	46	56	57	57	40	54	46	65	47	39	571	
Mortuary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	
No. of Houses Treated for the Eradication of Insect Pests	7	7	11	34	61	78	—	42	30	36	33	28	367	
No. of Houses Disinfected after Infectious Diseases	2	1	3	3	1	7	—	4	1	2	2	—	26	86
No. of Houses Disinfected by request No. of Items of Bedding, Clothing, etc., Disinfected by request	2	1	3	—	4	3	—	4	—	—	2	2	21	
No. of Items of Bedding, Clothing, etc., Destroyed by request	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	14	—	5	—	27	
Choked Drains Cleansed	14	18	23	38	42	55	—	29	35	11	16	38	319	
<i>Sampling: Chemical.</i>	8	4	6	8	10	15	—	5	6	9	6	9	86	9,046
<i>Water</i>	—	—	—	3	6	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	12	
													1,591	9,058

Number of Inspections made during the year 1954.		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals	Grand Totals
<i>Bacteriological.</i>															
(a) Milk ...	...	—	10	10	10	4	10	10	10	10	10	11	12	107	
(b) Milk Bottles ...	...	—	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	12	6	72	
(c) Water ...	...	—	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	23	10	96	
(d) Ice Cream ...	...	—	—	—	4	4	4	16	3	—	—	—	—	31	
(e) Other Foods ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	5	
(f) Faeces Specimens ...	...	6	—	—	—	6	1	63	26	—	—	—	—	100	
(g) Hand Swabs ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	
(h) Nasal Swabs ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	2	—	—	—	8	
(i) Sputums ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3	
(j) Equipment and Swabs ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	
														429	9,487
No. of visits in connection with:															
(a) Water Samples ...	...	—	5	5	8	11	5	5	8	5	5	17	5	79	
(b) Milk Samples ...	...	—	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	13	
(c) Ice Cream Samples ...	...	—	—	—	4	4	4	7	4	—	—	—	—	23	
														115	9,602
No. of Informal Notices Served	...	12	12	14	20	16	12	23	9	17	13	54	12	214	
No. of Statutory Notices Served	...	16	12	—	16	4	26	—	—	20	15	4	—	113	
														327	9,929



