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**BOROUGH OF BLYTH**

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

## Medical Officer of Health

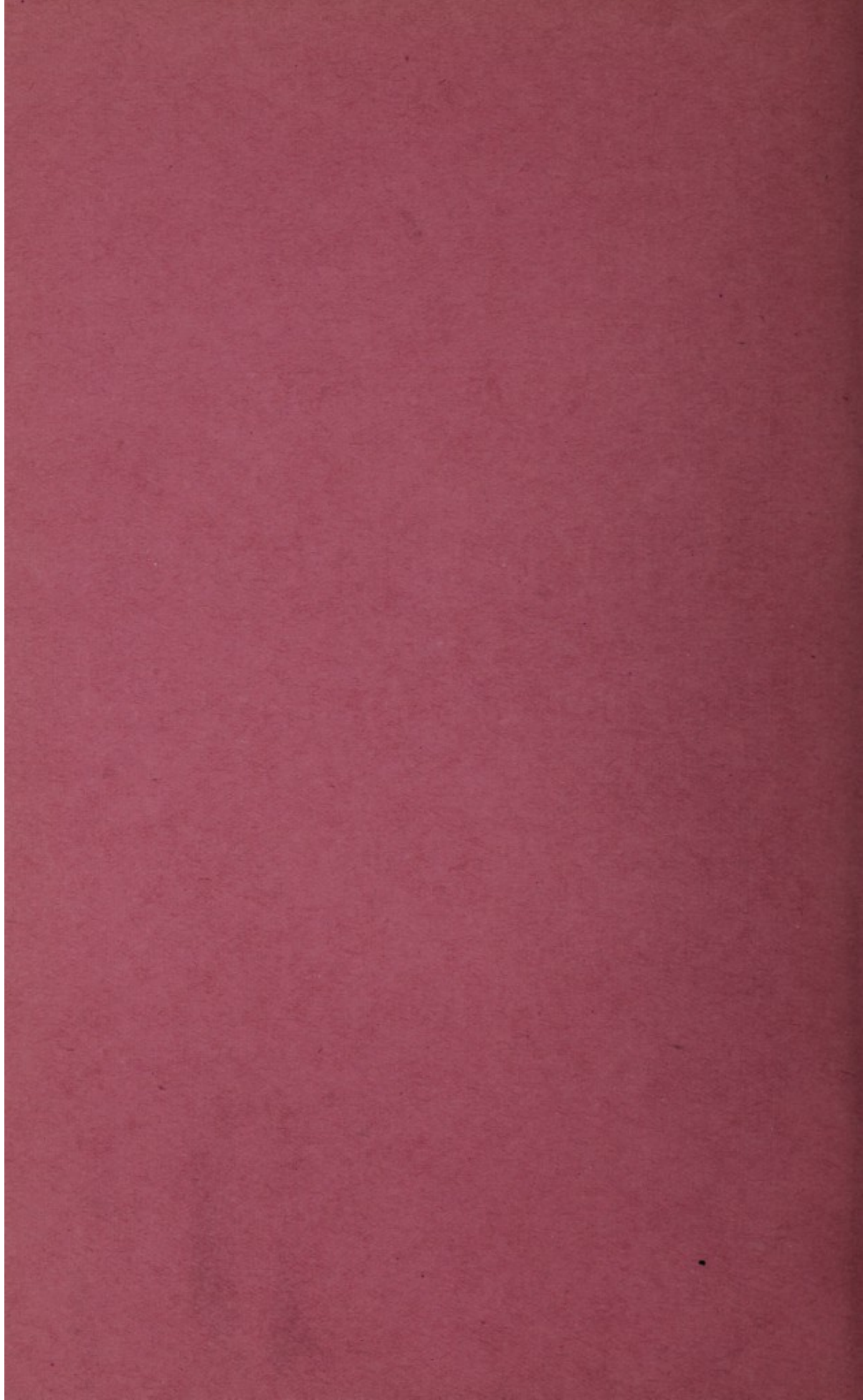
INCORPORATING THAT OF THE

## Senior Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

# 1957

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
"DINSDALE"  
MARINE TERRACE  
BLYTH  
NORTHUMBERLAND





**BOROUGH OF BLYTH**

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

"DINSDALE"

MARINE TERRACE

BLYTH

NORTHUMBERLAND

## MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

*Chairman :* COUNCILLOR RUTHERFORD.

*Vice-Chairman :* COUNCILLOR BREADIN.

THE MAYOR.	COUNCILLOR HUDSPITH.
ALDERMAN THOMPSON.	„ PURVIS.
COUNCILLOR DARGUE.	„ ROBSON.
„ ELDER.	„ SMITH.
„ GILHESPY.	„ TURNBULL.
„ HEPPLE.	„ WOOLFREY.

## STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, 1957

<i>Medical Officer of Health</i> ...	A. DONALDSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
<i>Senior Public Health Inspector</i> ...	G. A. GILL, C.S.I.B., M.A.P.H.I.
<i>Additional Public Health Insp....</i>	N. F. GODFREY, M.A.P.H.I. (Resigned 31.1.57)
<i>Additional Public Health Insp....</i>	W. ALLAN, M.A.P.H.I.
<i>Clerk</i> ... ..	C. FELLOWS.
<i>Shorthand Typist</i> ... ..	B. I. REDBURN (Resigned 31.12.57).
<i>Rodent Officer</i> ... ..	B. WADE.

## BOROUGH OF BLYTH

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### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1957

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 1957.

In spite of the fact that the births regularly exceed the deaths, the population, according to the Registrar General's estimate, fell from 34,470 to 34,440. This must certainly be due to a steady migration from the town—to the south, north or overseas.

The Birth Rate fell slightly from 18.1 per 1,000 population to 17.8 and the Death Rate, too, fell from 10.7 per 1,000 population to 10.1.

The commonest cause of death was again Heart and Arterial disease: 55% of the total deaths was due to this cause. It is noticeable that the percentage of females is much higher than that of males—64% of female deaths was due to cardiac disease and 50% of male deaths. Cancer was the second commonest cause of death, accounting for 23% of the total deaths.

There was one more infant death than last year, but the figure of 12 is not unsatisfactory. Nine of the deaths were under four weeks. Four deaths were due to congenital causes and three to prematurity.

Infectious disease returned with a vengeance—859 cases of measles and 203 cases of dysentery. The latter disease is one which, although not serious, causes loss of work and loss of school time, and much could be done to lessen the

spread of infection by everyone paying attention to the great need for personal hygiene—particularly the necessity of hand washing after using the toilet.

It is pleasing to note the continuing downward trend of tuberculosis. There were ~~44~~<sup>36</sup> cases of pulmonary tuberculosis notified in 1957—~~2~~<sup>10</sup> less than the previous year. There is still room for improvement, and every effort is being made to reduce this figure still further.

The prosperity and well-being of the inhabitants of a town depend almost entirely on the amount of employment available. Since the war, Blyth has known good times with almost full employment. The future, with its development of atomic power and the possibility of less and less coal being required, must be considered. Less coal means fewer ships to load and fewer ships to build, and while the neighbouring power station will demand a regular quota of coal, it cannot be considered sufficient to maintain production at its present level. New industries must be attracted to this district to provide for future needs.

I would like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their support during the year, and my colleagues in other departments for their co-operation at all times. The staff of the Health Department are to be congratulated on completing a difficult year due to changes and shortage of staff.

I remain,

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

ALEXANDER DONALDSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

## **BRONCHITIS**

The Registrar-General's returns for the years 1955 and 1956 show the total deaths for England and Wales as 518,864 and 521,294 respectively. The deaths from Bronchitis in these years were 28,793 and 29,670 giving Bronchitis as a cause of death 5.5% and 5.7% of the total deaths.

In Blyth, for the same years, Bronchitis as a primary cause of death numbered 5 and 4 in total deaths of 357 and 370 giving Bronchitis as a cause of death 1.4% and 1% of the total deaths.

While it is agreed that Blyth enjoys a vigorous and bracing climate it is subject to considerable fog and sea fret. There are in the town, four coal mines and coal is loaded at the harbour in large quantities with the resultant production of dust. These are all factors which would appear to have an adverse influence on respiratory diseases and not to produce figures below the National average.

However, if the deaths are considered where Bronchitis is given as a secondary cause, the figures for the years 1955 and 1956 are 22 and 27 making the bronchitic deaths 6.1% and 7.2% of the total. These, I feel, are a truer reflection of Bronchitis as a cause of death in this district.

## **CANCER OF THE LUNG**

In the same years (1955 and 1956) the deaths from lung cancer in England and Wales were 17,272 and 18,186 respectively. The percentages of the total deaths were 3.3% and 3.5%.

In Blyth the deaths from lung cancer in 1955 and 1956 were 15 and 14 respectively giving a percentage of the total deaths of 4.2% and 3.8%. In 1957 there were 20 deaths giving a percentage of the total deaths of 5.7%.

In the years 1955, 1956 and 1957 the percentage of male lung cancer deaths to the total deaths were 6.5%, 6.1% and 9%.

## **LUNG CANCER**

In his report for 1956 the Chief Medical Officer reveals that "certain occupations have been shown to carry a higher than normal risk of developing lung cancer, and for five such occupations at least, the incriminating evidence is accepted. The five are the mining of radio active ores,



the refining of nickel, the manufacture of asbestos, of chromates and of coal gas."

He continues—"These occupational lung tumours, though highly important actiologically, represent a small fraction of the total, and for the rest, *tobacco smoking* and *air pollution* are the two main factors against which there would appear to be a certain weight of evidence; particularly against tobacco smoking in the form of cigarettes."

Certainly the evidence points to the fact that heavy cigarette smokers are more likely to die from lung cancer than non-smokers.

I feel that the chances of weaning life-long smokers from the weed are slim and not always advisable. There are the few who can smoke or give it up at will, but the majority find the stresses and strains of life without tobacco to be almost unendurable, and furthermore, the effects of these deprivations are often communicated to their family and work associates. This can have psychological effects which far outweigh the risks dependent on smoking.

A balance must be struck. There are sufficient broken homes already without adding another possible factor.

On the other hand the facts regarding the association of smoking and lung cancer should be made available to everyone so that the risks are known.

Further, every effort should be made to prevent school children from starting to smoke. It is to the youth of the population that the greatest effort in propaganda should be made. This will not take place over-night, but is a subject where constant repetition over years is necessary to drive home the facts.

Where parents smoke at home, and children refer to this, it should be pointed out that a life-time habit, started before the present facts were known, is not easily broken. No one can expect a parent to retire to his or her bedroom for a few surreptitious puffs up the chimney for fear of "losing face" in the eyes of his children.

The facts regarding smoking and lung cancer are being given to the older school children in this area by the Medical Staff, and it is recommended that this might be carried on in school in the form of debates, poster competitions, essays, etc., so that the children are made aware of the importance of the subject.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

*Area.*—No change.

*Acreage.*—6,487.

*Population.*—(Registrar-General's Estimate) .. 34,440

*Rate Value.*—(1st April, 1957) .. .. £282,431

*Product of a Penny Rate* (estimated) .. .. £1,109

*Total Number of Dwellinghouses in Borough*—  
(1st April, 1957) 10,565

### Extracts from Vital Statistics

*Comparability Factor.*—Births 1.00. Deaths 1.28.

	1957	1956
The uncorrected birth rate per 1,000 estimated home population .. ..	17.8	18.1
The standardised birth rate per 1,000 estimated home population .. ..	17.8	18.1
The crude death rate per 1,000 estimated home population .. ..	10.1	10.7
The standardised death rate per 1,000 estimated home population .. ..	12.9	13.6
The infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births .. ..	19.5	17.6
The neo-natal mortality rate per 1,000 live births .. ..	14.6	16.0
The still birth rate per 1,000 live and still births .. ..	30.0	25.6
The tuberculosis death rate per 1,000 estimated home population .. ..	0.20	0.20
The maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births .. ..	Nil	Nil

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
No. of live births...	737	708	660	674	618	618	638	585	624	610
No. of deaths ...	362	422	417	453	352	335	354	357	370	348
Excess of births over deaths...	375	286	243	221	266	283	284	228	254	262

## Infantile Deaths and Infant Mortality Rates for the Ten Years 1948-1957

	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Deaths ... ..	40	28	31	21	11	18	11	21	11	12
Infant Mortality Rate...	54.2	39.5	46.9	31.1	17.8	29.1	17.2	35.8	17.6	19.5

### Causes of Infant Deaths

No.	Cause	Sex	Where death occurred	Age	Avoidable or not
1	Gastro-Enteritis ... ..	M	Home	3 Weeks	Yes
2	Cerebral Anoxia ... ..	M	Hospital	1 Day	Not
3	Prematurity ... ..	M	Home	9 Days	Not
4	Hydrocephalus ... ..	F	Hospital	5 Months	Not
5	Congenital Heart ... ..	M	Hospital	1 Hour	Not
6	Meningitis ... ..	M	Hospital	2 Months	Not
7	Prematurity ... ..	F	Hospital	1 Day	Not
8	Congenital Heart ... ..	M	Home	11 Months	Not
9	Prematurity ... ..	F	Hospital	2 Hours	Not
10	Broncho-Pneumonia ... ..	F	Hospital	5 Weeks	Yes
11	Spina Bifida ... ..	F	Home	1 Week	Not
12	Gastro-Enteritis ... ..	M	Hospital	2 Months	Not

## Causes of Death, 1957

Code No.	International Classification	Male	Female	Total
002	Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	5	2	7
023	Cardio Vascular Syphilis ... ..	1	1	2
057	Meningococcal Meningitis ... ..	1	—	1
150	Malignant Neoplasm of Oesophagus ...	1	—	1
151	"  "  "  Stomach ... ..	13	6	19
153	"  "  "  Large Bowel ... ..	2	1	3
154	"  "  "  Rectum ... ..	3	1	4
155	"  "  "  Gall Bladder ... ..	1	1	2
156	"  "  "  Liver ... ..	3	—	3
157	"  "  "  Pancreas ... ..	4	1	5
161	"  "  "  Larynx ... ..	1	—	1
162	"  "  "  Bronchus and Lung ... ..	19	1	20
170	"  "  "  Breast ... ..	—	5	5
171	"  "  "  Cervix Uteri ... ..	—	3	3
172	"  "  "  Corpus Uteri ... ..	—	2	2
177	"  "  "  Prostate ... ..	2	—	2
190	"  "  "  Skin ... ..	—	1	1
193	"  "  "  Brain ... ..	1	1	2
196	"  "  "  Bone ... ..	1	1	2
199	"  "  "  Unspecified ... ..	3	2	5
200	Lymphosarcoma ... ..	1	—	1
201	Hodgkin's Disease ... ..	1	—	1
204	Lymphatic Leukaemia ... ..	—	1	1
260	Diabetes Mellitus ... ..	—	1	1
331	Cerebral Haemorrhage ... ..	10	11	21
332	Cerebral Embolism or Thrombosis ...	13	19	32
344	Hydrocephalus ... ..	—	1	1
350	Paralysis Agitans ... ..	1	1	2
411	Aortic Incompetence (Rheumatic) ...	—	1	1
420	Arterio Sclerotic Heart Disease ...	1	1	2
420-1	Coronary Thrombosis ... ..	43	20	63
420-2	Angina Pectoris ... ..	1	—	1
421-1	Aortic Incompetence (Unspecified) ...	1	—	1
422	Cardio-Vascular Degeneration ... ..	11	9	20
422-2	Myocardial Degeneration with Senility ...	4	10	14
433-1	Auricular Fibrillation ... ..	3	1	4
434-1	Congestive Heart Failure ... ..	13	9	22
434-2	Left Ventricular Failure ... ..	2	5	7
434-3	Cor Pulmone ... ..	2	—	2
465	Pulmonary Embolism ... ..	2	1	3
480	Influenzal Pneumonia ... ..	2	—	2
481	Influenza (Unqualified) ... ..	1	—	1
491	Broncho-Pneumonia ... ..	3	4	7
502	Chronic Bronchitis ... ..	7	—	7
522	Hypostatic Pneumonia ... ..	6	4	10
539	Stricture of Oesophagus ... ..	1	—	1
571	Gastro-Enteritis ... ..	1	—	1
581	Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	1	—	1
592	Uraemia ... ..	—	1	1
750	Cranium Bifidum ... ..	1	—	1
751	Spina Bifida ... ..	—	1	1
754-1	Congenital Heart Disease ... ..	1	—	1
760	Intracranial Birth Injury ... ..	1	—	1
760-5	Intracranial Birth Injury with Prematurity ...	—	1	1
764	Gastro-Enteritis of Newborn ... ..	1	—	1
774	Prematurity with Septicaemia ... ..	1	—	1
776	Prematurity (Unqualified) ... ..	—	1	1
794	Senility ... ..	1	—	1
E815	Motor accident involving rider of M/cycle ...	1	—	1
E903	Fatal fall in street ... ..	—	1	1
E904	Fall from playground swing (Fractured Skull) ... ..	1	—	1
E910	Fall in of earth or stone ... ..	2	—	2

**Causes of Death, 1957—continued**

Code No.	International Classification	Male	Female	Total
E929	Accidental Drowning ... ..	1	—	1
E970	Suicide Barbiturate Poisoning ... ..	—	1	1
E972	Suicide Coal Gas Poisoning ... ..	6	2	8
N805	Fracture of Cervical Vertebrae ... ..	1	—	1
N862	Injury to Thorax (Unspecified) ... ..	1	—	1
N933	Inhalation of Vomitus ... ..	1	—	1
		<b>212</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>348</b>
	Deaths over 65 years of age ... ..	110	94	204

**Deaths 1951-57 (1-4 years)**

Year	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	Total
1951	—	2	1	—	3
1952	—	—	1	1	2
1953	1	—	2	1	4
1954	4	—	—	1	5
1955	—	—	1	—	1
1956	—	—	—	—	—
1957	—	—	—	—	—

**Deaths, 1957**

Number of Deaths each month	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
	36	29	26	26	37	22	20	16	33	31	23	49	348

## TUBERCULOSIS, 1957

Age Groups	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
0-5	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
6-10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11-15	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
16-20	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
21-25	1	4	—	1	—	—	—	—
26-30	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
31-35	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
36-40	2	1	1	2	1	1	—	—
41-45	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
46-50	3	2	—	1	—	1	—	—
51-55	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
56-60	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
61-65	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 +	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
<b>Totals</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>36</b>		<b>8</b>		<b>7</b>		<b>—</b>	

### Statement of Tuberculosis—31st December, 1957

	MALES		FEMALES		TOTALS.
	Pul.	Non-Pul.	Pul.	Non-Pul.	
(a) Number of cases of Tuberculosis on Register at commencement of year ... ..	224	17	236	30	507
(b) Number of new cases notified under "Regulations of 1930" for the first time during the year ... ..	16	3	20	4	43
(c) Number of cases restored to Register having been removed previous to 1957 ... ..	—	—	—	—	—
(d) Number of cases added to the Register and brought to notice otherwise than by formal notification ... ..	3	—	—	—	3
(e) Number of cases removed from Register during the year ... ..	15	—	12	1	28
(f) Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year ... ..	228	20	244	33	525

## Tuberculosis, 1944-1957

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	Number of Notifications	Number of Deaths	Period within which death occurred									
			Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-3 years	3-4 years	4-5 years	5-6 years	7-8 years	8-9 years	9-10 years	Over 10 yrs.
1957	36	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1956	46	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1955	69	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1954	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1953	62	8	5	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1952	96	9	6	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1951	88	17	7	—	2	3	3	2	—	—	—	—
1950	84	11	7	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
1949	72	15	5	3	5	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
1948	56	20	7	8	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
1947	47	25	6	12	3	1	1	1	1	—	—	—
1946	55	26	21	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1945	56	21	12	7	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
1944	58	29	5	5	6	7	1	—	1	—	—	4
	869	184	84	41	27	13	6	5	3	1	—	4

## Tuberculosis, 1948-1957

Year	All forms of Tuberculosis notifications per year	Number of Deaths per year	Death Rate per 1,000 Population
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
1955	79	6	0.17
1956	52	7	0.20
1957	44	7	0.20

## Tuberculosis Case Rate per 1,000 Population

1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
7.5	8.1	9.7	10.2	12.9	14.2	13.9	15.2	14.7	15.2

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1957

There was a total of 1,194 cases of infectious disease notified during 1957—a considerable increase on the 347 cases in 1956.

### MEASLES

Not unexpectedly an epidemic occurred and 859 cases were notified. This was forecast in the Annual Report for 1956.

### DYSENTERY

There were 203 cases of Sonne Dysentery notified—a separate report is given elsewhere.

### WHOOPIING COUGH

There were 56 cases of whooping cough notified ; of these, two had completed combined prophylaxis against the disease in 1955, one in 1956 and one in 1957, and one had completed whooping cough prophylaxis alone in 1953. The remainder had no record of being immunised against the disease.

### SCARLET FEVER

There were 11 notifications of this disease—equalling the low record figure of 1955.

### FOOD POISONING

Two isolated individual cases of food poisoning were notified. The source of infection was undiscovered.

### ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS

Two cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year. It was not possible to trace the path of infection—both cases were infants, one year and under one year of age—neither had any known contact with other cases. Vaccination against this disease is progressing rapidly and it is hoped that this will have the effect of stamping out the disease entirely.

### DIPHTHERIA

For the eighth successive year no case of diphtheria has been notified.



The success of diphtheria immunisation is so great that many parents have no idea of the dangers that existed even ten years ago. The happy situation of the absence of diphtheria can only be maintained if a policy of full immunisation is advocated. It must be impressed on parents that there is freedom from danger only as long as a high percentage of children are in a satisfactory state of immunity. If parents fail to see that their children are properly and regularly protected, the state of immunity in the population will decrease and diphtheria could undoubtedly return in epidemic form.

**National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47**

**National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951**

No action was taken during 1957 under the above Acts.

**DYSENTERY**

An outbreak of Sonne Dysentery occurred in Blyth during 1957. The first case was notified on 15th January, 1957, and the last (of this epidemic) on 18th March, 1957. There were 197 cases notified. The cases notified each week were as follows :—1, 3, 13, 23, 30, 32, 32, 34, 17, 8 and 4. The number of households involved was 70, and the average length of time between notification and clearance was 28 days. One case remained positive for 79 days, and the shortest period of infection was 6 days.

There were 42 pre-school children affected, 82 school children and 73 adults.

Cases per Household

Cases :	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Households :	21	11	16	11	5	5	1

As the cases were notified, the house was visited and faecal specimens were taken from each member, and this was continued until all members of the household produced a negative specimen. All school children, both cases and contacts, were excluded from school until the household became negative.

One negative stool was accepted as clearing the case or carrier. It is acknowledged that this is of doubtful value in considering a case cleared, but it was impossible to continue to try to obtain two or three successive negative results for the following reasons :—

1. The Health Department staff was unable to cope with the additional work involved.
2. The Public Health Laboratory was being worked to capacity (other districts were experiencing the same epidemic).

The time from the first notification to the last was 12 weeks ; also, the epidemic rose quickly to a peak after 8 weeks and ended rather abruptly 4 weeks later. This may well have been due to excluding the child contacts from school.

General practitioners were notified of all cases with positive stools, and were asked to treat them. In many cases the sulphonamide preparation appeared to be ineffectual and preparations of oral streptomycin (Acromycin) were found to produce a negative stool most quickly.

The Public Health Inspectors paid some 696 visits during the epidemic, and 931 specimens were sent to the Public Health Laboratory—an average of 58 visits per week. At one period, over 160 specimens were being sent each week.

There was no apparent pattern of the disease geographically. All areas of the town were affected and all schools had some cases.

During the course of the epidemic two persons were discovered to be salmonella typhi-murium carriers.

Such an epidemic throws a very great burden on the Health Department staff, especially a small department. It is hoped that the measures taken were instrumental in limiting the size of the outbreak, but I am far from convinced of this.

It is known that many cases occurred where the doctor was never consulted—the affected children played round the house with other unaffected children—untreated and left to be “cured” by nature.

As a rule one of the sulpha drugs was prescribed by the general practitioner. It was found, however, that in many cases this was ineffectual. In such cases resort was made to acromycin, with excellent results.

I think that the immediate use of acromycin might be tried in the next epidemic. The source of infection is sterilized and the effect on the spread of the disease should be advantageous. This, combined with advice to school teachers, especially infant teachers, regarding the importance of personal hygiene among their charges during an epidemic, could well be the pattern to be followed in subsequent outbreaks.

It is more than likely that there is a high carrier rate of this disease which develops at certain periods of the year under certain favourable conditions. The time of year is no longer summer—it is late winter and early spring—so that if this is the “summer diarrhoea” of twenty years ago it has altered its seasonal timing. It has been suggested that such an early appearance may be connected with winter ailments and their treatments. Such a theory is interesting, but time would be required to prove it.

It is clear, however, that with the shortage of Public Health staff, any method of halting an epidemic of this kind must be used.

### Notifiable Diseases, 1957—Age Distribution

	Under										Over 65	K.N.	Total			
	1	2	3	4	5	6-10	11-15	16-25	26-35	36-45				46-55	56-65	
Measles ... ..	36	100	119	140	138	183	139	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	859
Dysentery ... ..	7	9	13	11	5	12	60	11	16	26	21	8	2	—	—	203
Whooping Cough ...	4	3	10	9	9	14	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	56
Tuberculosis Pulm. ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	9	7	5	7	3	—	—	36
Tuberculosis Non-Pul. ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	3	1	—	—	—	8
Scarlet Fever ... ..	—	1	2	1	1	3	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Erysipelas ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	—	—	7
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Pneumonia ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1	2	3	1	—	—	—	9
Food Poisoning ... ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	48	115	145	162	154	213	207	17	29	36	35	19	7	—	—	1194

## Infectious Diseases and Age Distribution, 1957

	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Acute Poliomyelitis				Measles		Diphtheria		Dysentery		Meningococcal Infection	
	M	F	M	F	Paralytic		Non-Paralytic		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
					M	F	M	F								
<b>Numbers originally notified :</b>																
Total (all ages) ...	5	6	20	36	2	—	—	—	445	414	—	—	101	102	—	—
<b>Final Numbers after correction :</b>																
Under 1 year ...	—	—	3	1	1	—	—	—	19	18	—	—	4	2	—	—
1-2 years ...	—	1	—	3	1	—	—	—	52	49	—	—	8	3	—	—
2-3 " ...	1	1	3	7	—	—	—	—	53	66	—	—	4	8	—	—
3-4 " ...	1	—	3	6	—	—	—	—	79	64	—	—	7	5	—	—
4-5 " ...	1	—	3	6	—	—	—	—	75	61	—	—	3	1	—	—
5-9 " ...	2	2	7	12	—	—	—	—	164	153	—	—	35	30	—	—
10-14 " ...	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	9	9	—	—
15-24 " ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	6	—	—
25 and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	26	38	—	—
Age unknown ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages) ...	5	6	20	36	2	—	—	—	445	414	—	—	101	102	—	—
	Acute Pneumonia		Small-pox		Acute Encephalitis				Enteric or Typhoid Fever		Para-Typhoid Fever		Erysipelas		Food Poisoning	
	M	F	M	F	Infective		Post Infectious		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
M					F	M	F									
<b>Numbers originally notified :</b>																
Total (all ages) ...	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	2
<b>Final numbers after correction :</b>																
Under 5 years ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
5-14 years ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-44 " ...	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1
45-64 " ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—
65 and over ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Age unknown ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total (all ages) ...	7	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	2
	Tuberculosis						Other Notifiable Diseases									
	Respiratory		Meninges and C.N.S.		Other		Original		Final		Puerperal Pyrexia		Ophthalmia Neonatorum			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
M															F	M
<b>Numbers originally notified :</b>																
Total (all ages) ...	16	20	—	—	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
<b>Final numbers after correction:</b>																
Under 5 years ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
5-14 years ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
15-24 " ...	1	8	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
25-44 " ...	5	7	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
45-64 " ...	6	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
65 and over ...	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Age unknown ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Total (all ages) ...	16	20	—	—	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		

## Annual Returns for 10 years of Notified Cases of Infectious Diseases

Year	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Pneumonia	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	Puerperal Pyrexia
1948	89	10	8	32	3	—	—	57	19	182	673	—	3	1	—	—	—	2
1949	39	1	6	27	1	—	—	72	12	98	352	—	—	1	—	—	1	3
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	2	6	—	96	7	45	346	—	—	1	—	—	24	3
1953	83	—	8	16	1	1	—	62	11	190	747	—	2	—	—	—	5	6
1954	34	—	10	14	3	12	—	44	5	73	50	—	—	1	—	—	12	—
1955	11	—	11	24	2	108	—	69	10	65	853	—	—	3	—	—	8	2
1956	12	—	2	15	1	8	—	46	6	177	63	—	2	2	—	—	7	6
1957	11	—	7	9	—	203	—	36	8	56	859	—	—	2	—	—	2	1

## CANCER

Type	1957		1956		1955		1954		1953		1952		1951	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
All causes ...	55	26	42	27	36	35	48	35	33	28	42	35	31	32
	81		69		71		83		61		77		63	
Bronchogenic (Lung) ...	20	1	13	1	13	2	12	3	9	1	6	1	5	1
Stomach ...	13	6	6	6	10	7	7	5	13	9	7	6	9	9
Intestine ...	5	2	7	6	5	5	8	5	3	2	10	5	2	4
Female Organs ...	—	10	—	8	—	11	—	16	—	9	—	14	—	11
Others ...	17	7	16	6	10	21	21	6	8	7	19	9	15	7

There were 81 deaths from Cancer during 1957—an increase of 12 over 1956.

**CANCER DEATHS, 1957**  
**SITE AND AGE DISTRIBUTION**

SITE OF DISEASE	MALE						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	Total
Oesophagus ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stomach ...	—	—	—	3	—	10	13	—	—	—	—	—	6	6
Large Bowel ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Rectum ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gall Bladder and Liver ...	—	—	—	2	1	1	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Pancreas ...	—	—	—	1	1	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchus and Lung ...	—	—	—	5	9	6	20	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Breast ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	5
Cervix Uteri ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	3
Corpus Uteri ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Prostate ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcinomatosis ...	1	—	—	—	—	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	3
Brain ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>26</b>

## SICK BENEFIT SCHEME

During 1957, 199 workmen lost work through sickness and injury (166 maintenance workers and 33 Direct Labour workers).

Of these 162 attended the Health Department—most cases more than once.

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Number of workmen sick	197	258	279	296	231	235	199
Number of days lost by sickness ... ..	4,635	7,403	6,836	6,811	5,438	5,425	5,214
Number of days lost by sickness (Maintenance Staff) ... ..	—	—	—	—	3,071	4,030	4,524
Number of days lost by sickness (Direct Labour)	—	—	—	—	2,367	1,395	690
Number of Maintenance Workers ... ..	—	—	—	273	240	278	242
Number of Direct Labour Workers ... ..	—	—	—	214	151	107	50
Total Persons Employed...	440	491	504	487	391	385	292
Average length of time off in days) ... ..	24	28½	25	23	23½	23	26
Percentage of workmen sick during the year :							
Total ... ..	44.8%	52.5%	55.3%	60.7%	59%	61%	68%
Maintenance ... ..	—	—	—	60.8%	52.5%	55.3%	68%
Direct Labour ... ..	—	—	—	47.6%	69.5%	75.7%	66%

### *Number of days off sick*

### *Number of workmen sick during these periods*

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
1—3 ... ..	15	13	24	22	35	40	22
4—7 ... ..	29	32	31	41	17	15	29
8—14 ... ..	32	44	56	52	40	41	27
15—21 ... ..	35	39	43	49	30	34	22
22—28 ... ..	18	22	23	36	24	24	20
29—35 ... ..	13	21	19	21	16	15	13
36—42 ... ..	9	19	20	14	18	17	12
43—49 ... ..	10	8	12	13	14	11	10
50—56 ... ..	5	9	13	15	10	5	13
57—63 ... ..	7	5	8	9	3	9	4
64—70 ... ..	8	7	5	5	3	4	3
71—77 ... ..	1	5	3	2	6	8	4
78—84 ... ..	3	5	2	4	6	3	9
84+ ... ..	11	29	20	13	9	9	11

The commonest period of absence was 1-2 weeks.

The commonest cause for absence was influenza, followed by bronchitis. This was followed closely by fibrositis.



## LABORATORY SPECIMENS, 1957

### BACTERIOLOGICAL

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

#### A. PATHOLOGICAL.

(1) *Throat and Nose swabs.*

Corynebacterium	Diphtheria Present	...	Nil	
	„ Not found	...	4	4
Haemolytic Streptococci	Present	...	1	
	Not found	...	5	6
Ziehl Neelson—Acid fast bacilli	Not found	...	1	1
Vincent's Organisms	Not found	...	4	4
Coagulase Positive Staphylococci	Isolated	...	2	
	Not isolated		17	19

(2) *Sputum.*

B. Tuberculosis	Present	...	23	
	Not found	...	1	24

(3) *Faeces.*

Sh. Sonnei	Isolated	...	391	
Salmon. Typhimurium	Isolated	...	10	
No pathogens	Isolated	...	598	999

#### B. WATER, MILK, ETC.

(1) *Water Samples.*

(a) Chemical	...	...	...	...	6
(b) Bacteriological	...	...	...	...	55

(2) *Milk Samples.*

(a) For Pasteurised Milk :					
(1) Methylene Blue Test	...	...	...	...	40
(2) Phosphatase Test	...	...	...	...	40

(3) *Sterility of Milk Bottles.*

(a) Satisfactory.	(b) Fairly Satisfactory.	(c) Unsatisfactory	
33	18	21	72

Soak Solution

Test	20	8	8	36
------	----	---	---	----

(4) *Ice Cream.*

(a) Bacteriological—Methylene Blue	...	...	...	15
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# ANNUAL REPORT, 1957

## Part II—Environmental Hygiene

### Housing

The greater proportion of the work of the Department during the year has been devoted to housing, including the confirmation of the Seaton Sluice and Harper and Marlow Street Clearance Orders, the commencement of work in connection with individual orders with respect to the Coomassie Road area, work in connection with miscellaneous orders and undertakings to repair, inspections and administrative details with regard to the Isabella Colliery and other improvement grant applications, investigation of unsatisfactory council house tenants and, of more recent date, inspections and administrative work in connection with the Rent Act.

For all these purposes a total of 1,220 inspections were made during the year.

Detailed information regarding these respective duties is given in the following pages and a summary of the work of dealing with insanitary dwellings since 1945 is given overleaf.

### 1957

During the year the following houses were demolished or closed and persons displaced :—

	Houses Demolished	Displacements	
		Persons	Families
Clearance Areas ... ..	31	3	3
Individual Unfit Houses Sec. 11, H.A. 1936	15	74	20
	<b>Houses Closed</b>		
Secs. 10 (1) and 11 (2) Local Govt. (Misc. Prov.) Act, 1953 ... ..	6	28	7
Sec. 12, Housing Act, 1936 ... ..	9	31	10
	<b>61</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>40</b>

The total figures since 1945 are :—

YEAR	CLEARANCE AREAS		DEMOLITION ORDERS		CLOSING ORDERS		TOTAL	
	Houses Demolished	Persons Displaced	Houses	Persons Displaced	Houses	Persons Displaced	Houses	Persons Displaced
1945/50	399	1,875	55	432	1	4	455	2,311
1951	139	339	2	4	10	19	151	362
1952	67	220	76	298	8	36	151	554
1953	112	362	64	194	27	120	203	676
1954	—	—	33	103	37	131	70	234
1955	—	—	22	82	21	81	43	163
1956	109	—	4	22	23	119	136	141
1957	31	3	15	74	15	59	61	136
	857	2,799	271	1,209	142	569	1,270	4,577

### Housing Act, 1936—Slum Clearance

#### SEATON SLUICE

On the 4th April, 1957, the Minister of Housing and Local Government duly confirmed without modification the undermentioned Clearance Orders :—

	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Families</i>
Nos. 1 to 4 Fountain Head Cottages ... ..	4	9	4
Nos. 1 to 11 Seaton Village ... ..	11	21	9
Nos. 1 to 4 Silver Hill West Farm Cottages, No. 1 Area ... ..	4	13	4
Nos. 1 and 2 Silver Hill West Farm Cottages, No. 2 Area ... ..	2	7	3
Nos. 1 to 18 Avenue Row ... ..	18	48	18
	<u>39</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>38</u>

#### HARPER AND MARLOW STREET

On the 15th August, 1957, the Minister of Housing and Local Government duly confirmed without modification the undermentioned Clearance Order :—

	<i>Lock-up Shop</i>	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Families</i>
Harper and Marlow Street Clearance Order No. 1 ... ..	1	29	75	31
Totals ... ..	<u>1</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>173</u>	<u>69</u>

### Housing Acts, 1936 and 1957—Individual Unfit Houses

During the year the following Orders became operative :—

	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Families</i>
Housing Act, 1936 (Sec. 11) ... ..	12	46	12
Housing Act, 1936 (Sec. 12) ... ..	23	64	25
Local Govt. (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953, Secs. 10 (1) and 11 (2) ... ..	13	52	15
Housing Act, 1957 :			
(Sec. 17) Demolition ... ..	1	10	3
(Sec. 17) Closing in lieu of demolition ... ..	—	—	—
(Sec. 18) Closing ... ..	4	11	4
	<u>53</u>	<u>183</u>	<u>59</u>

*Representations.*—During the year the following representations were submitted :—

	<i>Houses</i>
Housing Act, 1936 (Sec. 11) Demolition Orders ... ..	18
Housing Act, 1936 (Sec. 12) Closing Orders ... ..	12
Housing Act, 1957 (Sec. 16) ... ..	27
	—
	57
	—

*Undertakings.*—The undermentioned dwellings were the subject of undertakings and applications for revocation of existing orders after renovation :—

<i>Repair</i>	<i>No.</i>	<i>Remarks</i>
7 Marine Terrace	1	Not completed.
9 Gladstone Street	2	Not proceeded with—Closing Orders made.
370/372 Cowpen Road	2	In progress.
<i>Revocation</i>		
30/32 Taylor Street	2	Completed. Orders revoked.
7 Carlton Street	1	Completed. Orders revoked.
65 Plessey Road	1	Completed. Orders revoked.
22 Winship Street	1	Offer withdrawn.
6 Sussex Street	1	Offer withdrawn.
73 Wellington Street	1	Not accepted

#### CHANGE OF USE

The undermentioned dwellinghouses, subject to Closing Orders, were approved for change of use as under :—

10-14 Freehold Street	3	For shop premises.
30 Plessey Road	1	For social purposes.

#### Housing Act, 1936—Section 9

Work under this section was carried out to one dwelling :  
314 Plessey Road

By Local Authority in default of Owner.  
Cost of Works £136 1s. 8d.

#### Slum Clearance—Five Year Programme

For the information of the Council I append a progress report on the initial slum clearance programme approved by the Minister of Housing and Local Government in August, 1955.

At that date the programme included :—

<i>Estimated number of houses to be dealt with by demolition or clearance areas</i>	<i>No. of houses in operative clearance areas</i>
396	139

535

At the end of 1957 the following Orders had been made and confirmed :—

				<i>Dwellings</i>
<i>Clearance Areas (Operative)</i>				
Cowpen Colliery and Cowpen Road ... ..	...	...	...	139
<i>Clearance Areas (Confirmed 1957)</i>				
Seaton Sluice ... ..	...	...	...	39
Harper and Marlow Streets ... ..	...	...	...	28
<i>Demolition Orders</i>	1955	1956	1957	
Sec. 11, H.A. 1936	12	14	12	38
<i>Closing Orders</i>				
Sec. 12, H.A. 1936	10	10	23	43
<i>Closing Orders</i>				
Local Govt. (M.P.) Act	20	14	13	47
<i>Demolition Orders</i>				
Sec. 17, H.A. 1957	—	—	1	1
<i>Closing Orders</i>				
Sec. 17, H.A. 1957	—	—	—	—
<i>Closing Orders</i>				
Sec. 18, H.A. 1957	—	—	4	4
<i>Undertakings to Repair</i>	—	—	3	3
<i>Squatters' Hutments</i>				7
<i>Exclusions from Programme</i>	—	—	37	37
				386
Outstanding Balance of five year programme				149

It should be pointed out that Sub-section (4) of Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, relating to proposals for dealing with slums, enables the Council to amplify or modify at any time proposals they have previously submitted and the figures of properties dealt with under the five year programme makes due allowance for the exclusion of certain properties originally scheduled as unfit and the inclusion of other properties which, as a result of inspection, were found to come within this category.

The exclusion of certain of the original properties was principally due to transfer to owner-occupation with a consequent improvement in the housing standard and also to a change of opinion as to unfitness, as a result of more detailed inspections.

### **Housing Act, 1949—Improvement Grants**

The position with regard to these is shown on page 28.

*Isabella Colliery.*—Detailed plans, specifications and estimates were submitted by the National Coal Board for the repair and modernisation of 180 houses comprising New Row, East Row, Middle Row, West Row and Double Row, Isabella Colliery.

The entire programme includes not only the modernisation of the properties, but the provision of new roads, water mains, improved drainage system and electrification at a total cost, excluding repair work, of approximately:—

	£	£
House Works ... ..	47,169	
Alterations to Gas Installations ... ..	1,191	
Installation of Electric Wiring and Points ... ..	2,955	
Sewerage, Water Supply and Road Works ... ..	23,422	
	74,737	
The estimated expenses in connection with improvements were ...		58,649
The maximum grant (50%) approved was ... ..		29,324

The proposed works were commenced towards the end of the year.

*Gloucester Lodge Cottages.*—Proposals for the modernisation of the three farm cottages on the East side of Links Road were submitted by the Seaton Delaval Estate and were approved, as follows:—

	£
Estimated expenses ... ..	1,571
Maximum grant (50%) approved ... ..	785

These works included the construction of bathrooms and working kitchens, together with the conversion and reconstruction of the drainage system, and were virtually completed by the end of the year.

## Housing Subsidies Act, 1956

*Dwellings to Replace Slums.*—Since the inception of the above Act, Certificates of Displacement have been prepared and submitted to the Borough Treasurer in relation to families actually displaced, as follows:—

Year	Individual Unfit Houses			Clearance Orders			Totals		
	No.	Persons	Families	No.	Persons	Families	No.	Persons	Families
1955	6	21	6	—	—	—	6	21	6
1956	31	132	34	—	—	—	31	132	34
1957	34	123	35	4	5	4	38	128	39
	71	276	75	4	5	4	75	281	79

**HOUSING ACT, 1949**  
**Improvement Grants**

Year	Properties Surveyed	APPLICATIONS			Cost			NOT PROCEEDING AFTER APPROVAL		COMPLETED		IN PROGRESS
		Properties	Refused	Approved	Estimate £	Approved £	Grant £	No.	Grants £	No.	Grants £	
1954	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	—
1955	54	24	5	19	8,695	5,602	2,796	1	157	1	120	—
1956	25	9	—	9	3,743	2,771	1,384	7	1,286	8	1,126	—
1957	52	186	—	186	76,577	61,198	30,598	5	882	1	76	186

Different rates are payable according to the purpose for which the dwelling is provided, and there are higher rates payable for flats provided in blocks of four storeys or more, but in general the rate of subsidy is as follows :—

- |  |   |                         |
|--|---|-------------------------|
| (a) Provided by a local authority for the purpose of slum clearance or redevelopment as defined in Section 11 (1).   | } | £22/1/-<br>per<br>annum |
| (b) Provided by a local authority for the purpose of rehousing persons coming from camps or other unsatisfactory temporary housing accommodation designated as such by the Minister. |   |                         |

The subsidies are payable annually for 60 years.

### **Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1938**

*Hartley West Farm, Seaton Sluice.*—On the 31st May, 1957, application was received from Messrs. J. M. Clark & Sons acting for Lord Hastings (The Seaton Delaval Estate) for assistance under Section 3 of the Act in respect of two houses to be erected for members of the agricultural population at Hartley West Farm, Seaton Sluice, at an estimated cost per dwelling of £1,700.

Approval was given by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 17th September, 1957, to the provision of the houses on the understanding that the accommodation is required for members of the agricultural population of the district as defined in Section 115 of the Housing Act, 1936, that the houses could more conveniently be provided by Lord Hastings than by the Council themselves and to the payment of an Exchequer contribution of £10 (ten pounds) for each house for a period of 40 (forty) years.

The houses were nearing completion at the end of the year.

### **REPAIRS TO COUNCIL HOUSES**

On the 14th March, 1957, the Council formally adopted a resolution requiring tenants of Council Houses to be responsible for the cost of carrying out a schedule of sixteen itemised repairs.

As a result of this resolution the Health Department were called upon to investigate 64 complaints from the Housing Department as to responsibility for damage before the minute was rescinded on the 11th July, 1957.



## ALLOCATION OF HOUSES TO OWNER/OCCUPIERS OF PROPERTY

At the Housing Committee held on the 27th March, 1957, approval was given to the consideration of applications from owner-occupiers for the tenancy of Council Houses when the owners urgently need additional housing accommodation or where their housing accommodation exceeds their respective needs, subject to the owners being prepared to sell the property at a price recommended by the District Valuer.

As a result of this resolution the undermentioned properties were inspected and reports submitted :—

<i>Address</i>	<i>Result</i>
757/759 Plessey Road, Newsham	Pending.
22/24 Elliott Street, Newsham.	Pending.
93/95 Salisbury Street, Blyth.	Offer withdrawn by Owner.

In addition the following properties were offered by the Owners to the Council, but were considered unsuitable :—

Nos. 2 and 4 Rosamund Place and No. 42 Park Road, Blyth.

## ACQUISITION OF HOUSES

Following a report on the condition of 62 Stanley Street, it was recommended that the house be purchased and essential repairs carried out.

At the end of the year the required works were well in hand.

## Overcrowding Licences

### Housing Act, 1936, Sec. 61

In accordance with the Council's policy of issuing overcrowding licences in respect of the new housing applications, the following action was taken during the year :—

Renewal Licences Issued	...	...	5
New Licences Issued	...	...	2
Overcrowding abated	...	...	2
Licences refused	...	...	5

## Rent Act, 1957

The above Act came into operation on the 6th July, 1957, and in general gave power to landlords to increase the rent of a controlled dwelling within certain limits and to free from control of the Rent Acts houses above a prescribed rateable value.

*Controlled Houses—Sec. 1.*—For the purpose of the Act the rent recoverable from the tenant under a controlled tenancy shall not exceed the following limit, that is to say a rent of which the annual rate is equal to the 1956 gross value of the dwelling multiplied by two.

*Decontrolled Houses—Sec. 11.*—The Rent Acts shall not apply to any dwelling house the rateable value of which on the 7th November, 1956, exceeded, in the Metropolitan Police District or the City of London forty pounds, elsewhere in England and Wales thirty pounds, and in Scotland forty pounds, nor will they apply to a tenancy created by a lease or agreement coming into operation at or after the commencement of the Act.

*Exempted Authorities.*—Briefly, houses owned by a Local Authority are not subject to rent control.

In the Official Year Book for 1957-1958, the total number of dwelling houses in the Borough on the 1st April, 1957, was shown as 10,565, of which 4,177 were in the ownership of the Council.

Of the 6,388 houses privately owned, only some 155 houses have a rateable value of more than thirty pounds and are thus subject to decontrol within the terms of the Act. The majority of these are owner-occupied.

*Certificates of Disrepair.*—The provisions allowing for the increase, within limits, of the rents of houses remaining within control are coupled with machinery dealing with repairs. The first stage is for the tenant to serve notice on his landlord of the repairs he thinks should be carried out, and the landlord has six weeks in which to do the work or to give an undertaking. If the landlord does neither, the tenant may then apply to the Council for a Certificate of Disrepair. If the certificate of disrepair is granted or the landlord fails to comply with an undertaking to repair within six months of giving it, the effect is an abatement of the rent.

At the end of the year, action had been taken by the Department on the lines set out in the table overleaf.

In addition to the preparation of the several notices required under the Regulations and the keeping of a detailed register of notices issued, the Officers of the Department carried out 52 inspections and had 93 interviews with tenants and owners regarding the requirements of the Act.

### CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR—1957

Applications	Notice of Intention to issue Cert. of Disrepair		Landlord's Undertaking		Certificates Issued		Applications for Cancellation		
	Whole	Part	Accepted	Refused	Whole	Part	Notice to Tenant	Tenant's Objection	Cancelled
43	16	23	8	2	9	15	1	—	1

### HOUSES IN CLEARANCE AREAS AND UNFIT HOUSES ELSEWHERE

Return for the year ended 31st December, 1957

#### A. HOUSES DEMOLISHED

<i>In Clearance Areas</i> (Housing Act 1936 and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954)	Houses Demolished		Displaced during Year	
	Unfit	Others	Persons	Families
(1) Land coloured pink and pink hatched yellow ... ..	31	Nil	3	3
(2) Land coloured grey ... ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<i>Not in Clearance Areas.</i>				
(3) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936 ... ..	15	Nil	74	20
<b>B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED</b>		No.		
(4) Under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936 and Sections 10 (1) and 11 (2), Local Government (Misc. Prov.) Act, 1953 ... ..		6	28	7
(5) Under Section 3 (1) and 3 (2), Housing Act, 1949 ... ..		Nil	Nil	Nil
(6) Parts of buildings closed under Section 12, Housing Act, 1936 ... ..		9	31	10

#### C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(7) After informal action by local authority ...	89	
(8) After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts ... ..	105	Nil
(b) Housing Act, 1936 ... ..	Nil	1
(9) Under Section 5, Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 ... ..	Nil	

D. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954)

<i>Position at end of year</i>	Number of houses	Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1)
	(1)	(2)
(10) Retained for temporary accommodation :		
(a) under Section 2 ... ..	Nil	Nil
(b) Under Section 3 ... ..	Nil	Nil
(c) Under Section 4 ... ..	Nil	Nil
(11) Licensed for temporary occupation under Section 6 ... ..	Nil	

E. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

	Number of houses (1)	Occupants of houses in col. (1)	
		Number of persons (2)	Number of families (3)
(12) Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders, or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased in the year ...	Nil	Nil	Nil

## HOUSING REPORT, 1957

### Houses completed in 1957

	<i>With State Assistance</i>	<i>Unaided</i>
Permanent Traditional—Direct Labour ... ..	54	
Permanent Traditional—Contractor ... ..	24	
Any other Housing Authority ... ..	Nil	

### Houses in Progress 31.12.57

Permanent Traditional—Direct Labour ... ..	62	
Permanent Traditional—Contractors ... ..	Nil	Nil
Any other Housing Authority ... ..	Nil	Nil

### Houses Completed by Private Enterprise

Traditional ... ..	34
Houses approved by Ministry of Housing and Local Government ... ..	59

### Houses completed Post War by Council up to 31.12.57

Permanent Traditional ... ..	2,086
Permanent Non-Traditional ... ..	100
Pre-fabricated—Permanent B.I.S.F. ... ..	72
Pre-fabricated—Permanent Tarran ... ..	44
Pre-fabricated—Permanent Aluminium ... ..	59

### Houses completed Post War by Private Enterprise

Traditional ... ..	91
Conversions ... ..	Nil

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1955

### FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955

Owing to staff shortage and other commitments it was not found possible during the year to complete the detailed re-survey which was commenced during 1956, nor to make a start with the re-inspections to see if the food traders had complied with those provisions of the Regulations to which their attention had been drawn.

Of the retail shops, only a small proportion consisting principally of lock-up or house and shop businesses remain to be inspected, together with the bakehouses and licensed premises, cafes, canteens and hotels.

It is to be regretted that this delay has occurred, as much of the intitial enthusiasm attendant upon the publication of the Regulations may have waned, but it is hoped to proceed with this very essential work as soon as possible.

In the meantime there is still every indication that food hygiene remains at a fairly high standard within the Borough, as evidenced by the only very occasional complaint received, to which immediate attention is given.

### FOOD PREMISES

In accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health the following information is given regarding food premises in the Borough :—

Bakehouses	..	14	Preserved Food	..	12
Confectionery Shops	..	23	Ice Cream M'facturers		4
Bakery and Confectionery Shops	..	14	Food Manufacturers	..	4
Butchers	..	24	Food Warehouses	..	3
Fish Fryers	..	17	Wet Fish	..	4
General Dealers	..	77	Canteens	..	15
Grocery & Provisions		50	Hotels	..	4
Greengrocery	..	15	Dairies	..	4
Licensed Premises	..	43	Off Licences	..	6
Club Premises	..	14	Restaurants, & Snack Bars	..	11

a total of 358.

## REGISTRATIONS

The number of premises registered under Section 16 of the Act are as follows :—

Bakehouses .. ..	14
Butchers .. ..	24
Cooked Meats ..	9
Fish Fryers .. ..	17
Ice Cream M'facturer	4
Ice Cream Retailers ..	96

The undermentioned premises ceased to be used for the purpose for which they were registered and have been removed from the register.

Cooked Meat Manufacturer ..	1
Fish Fryer .. ..	1

## INSPECTIONS

Excluding meat inspection and examination of unsound foodstuffs, only some 560 visits were made during the year for all purposes in connection with food and drugs work, which falls very far short of the requisite number of routine visits which should be made.

Details of this work are shown in the schedule on page 66.

## MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

The details of dairies registered, distributors of milk and licences under the Milk and Dairies (Special Designation) Regulations are as follows :—

Dairies .. ..	4
Distributors (in respect of 101 premises) ..	85
Licences—Sterilised .. ..	101
Pasteurised .. ..	28
Pasteurised (Supplementary) .. ..	1
Tuberculin Tested .. ..	4
Tuberculin Tested (Supplementary) ..	1

New registration of distributors amounted to four and removals from the register after ceasing to trade, five.

*Supply.*—The milk supply to the Borough remains the same as before, the two principal suppliers of pasteurised milk being the Co-operative Wholesale Society Ltd., and Coast Creameries Ltd., together with a supply of sterilised milk from the Co-operative Society Ltd., and the Newcastle Model Milk Co. Ltd. As the Borough is a “Prescribed Area” by an Order made under the Regulations, only Designated Milks are retailed, all of which are either pasteurised or sterilised, only a very small quantity of raw Tuberculin Tested milk being sold.

#### MILK BOTTLE STERILITY

Out of a total of 108 milk bottles submitted for examination, 29 were found to be unsatisfactory, details being given on page 45.

The standard shown by the Public Health Laboratory Service is given as a Colony Count per pint bottle and the provisional classification suggested is :—

##### *Mean Bottle Count, reckoned as per pint bottle*

Not more than 600 . . . . .	.. ..	Satisfactory
Over 600 but less than 2,000 . . . . .	.. ..	Fairly satisfactory
Over 2,000 . . . . .	.. ..	Unsatisfactory

Every effort is made by the Producer/Retailers to achieve this standard, but the production of a completely sterile milk bottle is a highly complex business as the bottles are at their maximum condition of contamination both residual and bacteriological before treatment.

Milk consists basically of fat, casein, lactose, solids (not fat) and water. Residues of milk fat left in the bottle may be heavily infected with micro-organisms and the casein may be difficult to remove where the residues have become dried on the surface.

In practice, the bottles are subject to a series of processes consisting of a pre-rinse hot water tank at a temperature of approximately 100° F., thence to a solution soaking tank containing a proportion of detergent, at a temperature of 140° F., thence by means of a cylindrical drum the bottles are subject to internal and external detergent solution sprays. The drum continues to revolve and the bottles

are again subject to a solution soak in the main tank, then to internal and external solution sprays, thence to internal and external hot water sprays at a temperature of 100°F. to remove the detergent solution, and thence to internal and external cold water sprays before passing to the conveyor feeding the bottles to the filling machine.

Various difficulties may occur during these stages leading to an unsatisfactory bottle count, to mention but a few, such as a rapid build up of bacterial contamination in the solution tank, too rapid dilution of detergent strength, contamination by the warm rinse water and other practical difficulties due to mechanical defects or human error, e.g., inadequate temperature control.

A series of tests were carried out at the Blyth Co-operative Dairy of the various stages of bottle washing in an endeavour to improve the standard of bottle sterility, and they may be briefly summarised as follows :—

1. Six bottles were examined after they had been subjected to the initial solution soak and before the hot rinse, and the six bottles were all satisfactory, with very low bacterial counts as follows—320 ; 20 ; 55 ; 4 ; 4 ; 6, bearing in mind that *up to 600* is considered satisfactory.
2. Six bottles were taken after the cold rinse and were found to be unsatisfactory, all bottles being uncountable.
3. Of six further bottles taken at a later date after the first solution soak, three were found to be satisfactory, two fairly satisfactory and one unsatisfactory.
4. Six bottles were taken after the second solution soak, of which four were found to be satisfactory and two fairly satisfactory.
5. Six bottles taken after the final rinse gave results of three satisfactory, two fairly satisfactory and one unsatisfactory.
6. A colony count from the detergent solution tank gave a result as 20 per 100 millilitre.
7. A similar count from the warm rinse tank gave a result of 18,000 per 100 ml.

It will be seen from these results that although the bottles were more or less completely sterile after the solution soak, they were becoming re-contaminated by the hot rinse, some of this contamination being removed by the final cold rinse by mains water. It will be appreciated that it is not possible



to only subject the bottles to detergent soak, but that this caustic solution must be removed before the bottles are filled.

At this stage it was decided to introduce a hypochlorite drip-feed into the hot rinse tank in an endeavour to reduce the bacterial contamination at this point, but although there were certain limited improvements, they were not to the desired extent. Further investigation revealed that certain of the cold water internal sprays were slightly out of alignment, with the result that the contaminated rinse water was not being effectually removed, and it is hoped that when this fault is overcome, that there will be a further improvement in the bottle standard.

*Bacteriological Analysis*—See page 45.

#### ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1947-1952

Twelve samples of ice-cream manufactured in the Borough were taken during the year, the results being :—

<i>Grade I.</i>	<i>Grade II.</i>	<i>Grade III.</i>	<i>Grade IV.</i>
9	1	1	1

In the case of the Grade IV sample, advice was given to the manufacturer, and the subsequent sample was Grade I.

Three samples were taken of pre-packed supplies to retailers in the Borough, two of which were Grade I and one Grade III.

There are four registered manufacturers, one of whom produces Cold Mix only, and ninety-eight registered retailers of pre-packed ice-cream.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS.

*Meat Inspection.*—Slaughtering took place on 267 days during 1957, necessitating 539 visits to the abattoir by the Inspectors.

Details of slaughtering, inspections and overtime worked are given in the following tables.

*Hours of Slaughtering.*—As shown on the page 44, it was necessary to work overtime at the abattoir on 148 days out of 267 (55%), in order to achieve 100% inspection.

This work is mainly carried out between the hours of 6.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. or 7 a.m. to 7.45 a.m. in order to facilitate early removal of inspected carcasses from the slaughter-house premises.

In addition meat inspection took place on eleven Saturdays, two Sundays and Easter Monday and Whit Monday.

*Animal Health.*—The quality of animals slaughtered continues at a very high standard and although there is a rise in the percentage of part carcasses or organs condemned, these are usually minor in character, affecting liver, lungs, intestines, etc.

One point worthy of note is that it was only found necessary to condemn one entire animal—a sow—for generalised tuberculosis, the total number of animals entirely condemned for all causes being 11 out of a total kill of 11,273, or 0.01%, which is an extremely low figure.

*Condemned Meat.*—The total weight of carcasses, carcase meat and organs found to be unsound was 6 tons 3 cwt. 2 qrs. 9 lbs., the method of disposal being collection not less than twice weekly by Messrs. Tyneside Butchers By-Products Ltd., who recover animal feeding stuffs, fertilisers, glues, fats and chemicals.

All manure is collected weekly by the Borough Engineer's Department for agricultural purposes.

*Increase in Slaughtering.*—Over the years there has been a continual increase in the total number of animals slaughtered in the Borough, and the two figures given below for a ten year period are of some interest.

	<i>Bulls</i>	<i>Bullocks</i>	<i>Heifers</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Totals</i>
1947	—	688	384	131	—	4,924	69	6,196
	1,203							
1957	3	1,337	738	63	31	5,810	3,327	11,273
	2,136							

*Transport and Handling.*—The transport of meat from the abattoir is principally by means of a licensed carrier with two vehicles specifically reserved for this purpose.

In addition a small quantity is removed by the retailers themselves in their delivery vehicles, and it is pleasing to report that a number of the traders purchased new vehicles during the year.

*Slaughtermen.*—There were 15 licensed slaughtermen in the Borough at the end of the year.

#### SLAUGHTER-HOUSE POLICY

During the year the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food issued a White Paper (Cmnd. 243) setting out in the form of draft regulations recommended minimum standards of construction, lay-out and equipment for slaughter-houses for the purpose of securing humane slaughter and hygienic conditions.

These recommendations arose out of the White Paper (Cmnd. 9761), 1956, setting out the Government's policy with regard to the provision of slaughter-houses in England and Wales, which was a reversal of the former policy of successive Governments which heretofore had been designed to limit the number of slaughter-houses and to locate them according to a centrally prepared national siting plan.

The new policy considers that the main purpose of concentration, namely, to ensure that slaughter-houses conform to standards which meet the requirements of public health and hygiene can be achieved in England and Wales by more flexible arrangements, and it is recommended that for a limited period, and subject to the statutory standards, private traders should be free to provide slaughter-houses of the design and size and in the places that best suit the needs of the individual businesses, and after this period a measure of control should be reimposed.

With regard to the present slaughter-house in the Borough which is owned by the Council and leased to the Blyth Meat Traders' Association on a yearly basis, a report has been prepared and circulated, setting out the details by which the present accommodation falls short of the as yet *recommended* standards and, if and when these standards are imposed by the central authority, the Council should then consider whether they propose to modernise the existing facilities, in the light of any applications which may be received from the traders for new premises.

Whichever policy is adopted in the future, I feel it is essential that the needs of the Borough and the general public must receive prime consideration in order that we

may maintain the high quality of animal slaughtered for our own consumption.

### **Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations**

Details of imported meat products condemned are given on page 43 and were restricted principally to unsound canned corned beef.

### **BYELAWS**

Byelaws relating to the Sanitary Conditions and Management of Private Slaughter-houses were made by the Council on the 13th May, 1957, were confirmed by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the 4th July, 1957, and came into operation on the 1st August, 1957.

### **UNSOUND FOOD**

Details of the quantities of canned goods and other foods surrendered and destroyed during the year are given on page 45.

The general procedure for this is the submission at frequent intervals by the traders of unsound foodstuffs in their possession, for which certificates of unsoundness are given, the goods being then removed to the Corporation tip and covered with refuse.

It was not found necessary to carry out any seizures of unsound food during the year and the few minor complaints by the general public were dealt with by visits to the trader concerned, by the officers, and inspection of the premises and stock.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT REGULATIONS)

Meat Inspections 1957

Month	Bulls	Bull- ocks	Heifers	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total 1957	Total 1956
January ...	—	88	96	7	1	478	250	920	950
February ...	—	104	49	4	1	404	273	835	837
March ...	1	131	30	7	1	272	261	703	759
April ...	—	134	40	2	1	352	276	805	622
May ...	1	124	45	4	—	383	261	818	535
June ...	1	89	54	1	1	400	153	699	526
July ...	—	74	118	2	1	726	211	1132	784
August ...	—	95	80	2	1	629	206	1013	956
September ...	—	105	77	3	—	593	270	1048	920
October ...	—	139	55	5	4	588	357	1148	1132
November ...	—	130	47	6	—	513	341	1037	1016
December ...	—	124	47	4	—	472	468	1115	991
Totals ...	3	1337	738	47	11	5810	3327	11273	
		2136							
Totals 1956 ...	11	917	906	63	31	4702	3398		10028
		1928							

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

				<i>Weight in lbs. of Carcase</i>	<i>Weight in lbs. of Offal</i>	<i>Total Weight in lbs.</i>
<i>On account of :</i>						
Emaciation	Bullock	No. 1	240	40	280	
Johne's Disease	Cow	No. 1	255	55	310	
Emaciation & Pathological	Cow	No. 2	230	30	260	
Immaturity	Calf	No. 1	—	—	25	
			725	125	875	
Moribund	Sheep	No. 1	60	14	74	
Septicaemia	Sheep	No. 2	96	12	108	
Oedema & Hydatid	Sheep	No. 3	29	39	68	
Emaciation	Sheep	No. 4	27	10	37	
			212	75	287	
Generalised Tuberculosis	Sow	No. 1	256	30	286	
Septicaemia	Sow	No. 2	191	12	203	
Pyæmia (Acute)	Pig	No. 1	400	30	430	
			847	72	919	

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	711	8,491
Sheep :	Part carcasses and/or organs	31	196
Pigs :	Part carcasses and/or organs	186	2,438
Beef :	Forequarters	2	328
	Hind Leg	1	40
	Trimming	—	4
Sheep :	Forequarter	1	14
	Hind Leg	1	5
Pigs :	Forequarters	2	144
	Legs of Pork (Fore)	10	52
	Legs of Pork (Hind)	3	36
	Kidney and Trimmings		12
			<hr/>
			11,760
			<hr/>

### Public Health (Imported Food) Regulations, 1937

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

	<i>No. of Tins</i>	<i>Weight in lbs.</i>
Corned Beef	268	685
Corned Mutton	10	7½
Lamb		32
Kidney Fat and Rib Beef		13½

## Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned

Form D.S. 97727/1

	Cattle excl'ding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed ... ..	2,078	47	11	5,810	3,327
Number inspected ... ..	2,078	47	11	5,810	3,327
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	2	1	4	2
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	570	8	—	32	135
Percentage of the number inspected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ... ..	22.13	21.28	9.1	0.62	4.11
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	82	4	—	—	49
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis... ..	3.94	8.5	—	—	1.5
<i>Cysticercosis :</i>					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	3	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ... ..	—	—	—	—	—

### Details of Slaughtering, 1957

	Slaughtering Days	Overtime Days	Hours	Saturdays	Sundays	Bank Holidays	Inspections
January ...	22	10	11	—	—	—	62
February ...	20	15	18½	—	—	—	44
March... ..	22	9	12½	1	—	—	37
April ... ..	23	13	15	2	—	1	41
May ... ..	24	13	15½	1	—	—	46
June ... ..	19	12	14½	—	—	1	33
July ... ..	22	12	15½	—	—	—	48
August ... ..	22	14	14½	—	1	—	41
September ...	24	11	12½	3	—	—	46
October ... ..	23	13	15	—	—	—	45
November ...	22	11	13½	1	—	—	46
December ...	24	15	20½	3	1	—	50
	267	148	177½	11	2	2	539

**FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1955**  
**Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949**  
**DETAILS OF SAMPLES TAKEN, 1957**

Pasteurised Milk from Producer/Retailer inside the Borough.

	METHYLENE BLUE		PHOSPHATASE TEST		Total Samples
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	
By Borough 10	Nil		10	Nil	20
By County Council 30	Nil		29	1	60

**Examination of Milk Bottles for Sterility.**

	Satisfactory	Fairly Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory	Total
	33	18	21	72

	Satisfactory	Fairly Satisfactory	Un-satisfactory	Total
After Solution Soak and before Hot Rinse ... ..	6	—	—	6
After Cold Rinse—Final ... ..	—	—	6	6
First Solution Soak ... ..	3	2	1	6
Second Solution Soak ... ..	4	2	—	6
Final Rinse ... ..	3	2	1	6
Tested at Stocksfield ... ..	4	2	—	6
	20	8	8	36

**FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1938-1955**  
**Other Foods**

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

	No. of Tins	lbs.	No.
Bacon ... ..		73½	15 Packets
Biscuits ... ..		9	
Butter ... ..			1000
Chicken ... ..	49		
Cheese ... ..	9	50½	7
Cake ... ..		78	
Coconut Marshmallows ... ..			167
Fish ... ..	211		
Fruit ... ..	1,476		5
Milk ... ..	803		
Meat ... ..	1,149	209½	8
Meat Pies ... ..			
Morfat ... ..	9		167
Margarine ... ..		60	
Puddings ... ..	15		5
Soups ... ..	193		
Salads ... ..	66		8
Syrup ... ..	8		
Vegetables ... ..	3,312		8
Swiss Rolls ... ..			
Table Jellies ... ..			



# PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

## Part II—Sanitation and Buildings

### REMOVAL OF REFUSE

At the request of the Health Committee a report was submitted on the provision of dustbins by the Council, and after consideration it was recommended that a further report be obtained from the Borough Treasurer on the financial implications of the scheme.

### KEEPING OF ANIMALS

Complaint was received from the residents of the North Farm Estate regarding the nuisances arising from the adjacent allotments, and a detailed report and plan was provided for the Town Clerk and the Owners of the land.

Inspection revealed that there was very little cultivation taking place, the majority of the holdings being used for poultry keeping or piggeries, and the structures were generally of make-shift design and materials. The sites are generally untidy with innumerable sheds of various materials and fences are dilapidated and not uniform.

### FILTHY OR VERMINOUS PREMISES

The eradication of insect pests involved the treatment of 345 dwellings during the year. Treatment continues on the lines set out in previous reports.

### PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

In continuation of the policy adopted in principle in 1954 following the submission of a report on existing facilities in the Borough, improvements were effected to the Ferry Street conveniences, involving the improvement of the men's section and the construction of a ladies' section, comprising toilets, washing facilities and incinerator. This work was well advanced at the end of the year.

New conveniences for both sexes, together with a waiting room, were constructed at the Cowpen Cemetery Lodge.

In addition, plans were submitted to the Health Committee for the erection of new conveniences to replace the existing unsatisfactory structure in Union Street, and it is hoped that this work will proceed during the ensuing year.

## LICENSED PREMISES

Further improvements were effected by the construction of a new lounge, conveniences and renovation of the Sidney Arms, Cowpen.

### Part III—Nuisances

A total of 1,880 inspections and interviews were made during the year in respect of duties under the Public Health Act, the principle source of complaint being disrepair to premises.

Attention is again drawn to the continuing deposit of litter on vacant spaces throughout the township, solely due to persons who appear to be completely devoid of civic pride. In many instances the deposits are solely detrimental to the amenities and an eyesore, but cannot be classed as "prejudicial to health" and can therefore not be dealt with under the nuisance provisions of the Public Health Act. In these cases they can only be referred to the County Planning Officer for his attention, with resultant delay in remedy.

For many years the Council have provided a service to the public by the removal of unwanted bedding and furniture free of charge, all that is required from the householder being a signature authorising the removal of the articles, and forms are available at the Health Department for that purpose.

I would again request that a special appeal be made through the Press for the public to apply to the Department for this service and so help to keep the town clean and tidy.

## COLLIERY SPOILBANKS

In company with H.M. Inspector of Alkali and Works, inspections were made of the spoilbanks, and a subsequent report of H.M. Inspector confirmed that there was a marked improvement in the Isabella and New Delaval spoilbanks, but that combustion at Horton Grange had worsened.

*Horton Grange*—Correspondence with the National Coal Board and inspection with their Group Engineer has resulted in an improvement in the conditions. Further water spraying equipment has been provided and levelling of the mounds continued.

*New Delaval Colliery*—Since the work of consolidation and levelling was completed there has been little complaint, although a certain amount of fuming is bound to continue until the spoilbank is inert.

*Isabella Colliery*—It has not been found possible to level the main cone which is still burning internally and is therefore too dangerous to handle as the interior may be hollow. This is being kept under observation and as soon as practicable further representations will be made to the Coal Board to have levelling carried out.

*Bates' Colliery*—No nuisance was evident from the small amount of refuse deposited.

#### 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>Amount Gallons</i>
Newcastle & Gateshead Water Co. . . . .	435,078,000
Tynemouth Water Co. via Seaton Valley U.D.C. . . . .	7,026,000
Tynemouth Water Co. direct . . . . .	520,000
National Coal Board (Hepscott) . . . . .	46,817,000
Total . . . . .	489,441,000

#### BACTERIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

Fifty-five samples were taken, fifty of which proved satisfactory. Routine sampling of the mixed Newcastle and Tynemouth supply in July gave an unsatisfactory bacteriological count, additional samples were taken in the area, the Borough Engineer and the Seaton Valley U.D. Council were informed, and after treatment check samples proved satisfactory. Details of these samples are given on page 62.

#### CHEMICAL ANALYSIS

The reports of the Public Analyst on the purity of the water supplies to the Borough state that the waters are of very satisfactory organic purity and free from deposit. The waters are suitable for drinking and domestic use. Details of these samples are given on pages 60 and 61.

A complaint was received during the year from a visitor to the Borough of the quality of heated water which he had purchased for the purpose of making tea during an afternoon visit to the Links and Foreshore. The water, together with the flask in which it had been placed, were submitted to the Public Analyst, but the deposit complained of was found to be perfectly harmless.

## **Part V—Prevention, Treatment and Notification of Infectious Disease**

The explosive outbreak of dysentery in the early part of the year as described by the Medical Officer on pages 14, 15 and 16, involved a severe strain on the slender resources of the department in the attempt to carry out intensive investigation and collection of faecal specimens from notified cases and contacts and at the same time continue the routine work of the department.

The work involved consisted of initial registration of every notification ; investigation of every member of the family ; exclusion from school and food premises of all appropriate persons ; preparation, labelling and delivery of each specimen container ; collection of specimens and a card index system for each family, case and contacts ; preparation of individual specimen details for the Public Health Laboratory ; recording of all positive and negative results ; notification of results to medical practitioners and preparation of exclusion and return to school notifications. At the height of the epidemic specimens were being taken daily to the Public Health Laboratory by a member of the staff. A major difficulty which could not be overcome in the collection of the specimens and which was solely due to the vagaries of nature, was that of the delivery of a set number of containers to the family but at the time of collection all specimens were not available and it was necessary to return to each case many times until the whole family had been cleared. Owing to the cumulative nature of this, it was eventually necessary to eliminate contacts and concentrate solely on positive cases, as the figure of containers delivered and specimens collected reached a total of 1,852 as shown on the following table :—

<i>Month</i>	<i>Delivered</i>	<i>Collected</i>
January	42	36
February	419	381
March	455	457
April	15	50
	931	924
	1,852	

Due to repeated deliveries and collections it was necessary to visit one household *twenty* times and two households *twenty-two* times, a total of 696 visits being made.

### Part VI—Mortuaries and Postmortem Rooms

The Mortuary was used during the year on 38 occasions, details being :—

<i>Authority</i>	<i>Bodies</i>	<i>Post-mortems</i>
Borough of Blyth .. .. .	27	17
Bedlington Urban District Council	10	2
River Blyth Port Health Authority	1	—

### Part XI—Tents, Vans and Sheds

#### MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

*Pottery Field, South Newsham*—Proceedings were taken against the occupier of the land by the Northumberland County Council before a Court of Summary Jurisdiction sitting at Blyth on the 26th November, 1957, for unlawfully permitting land to be used for caravan dwelling in contravention of a notice served on the 8th February, 1957, under the Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.

The Senior Public Health Inspector appeared as a witness on behalf of the County Council and the Bench found the case proved but ordered an adjournment for fourteen days to enable the site to be cleared.

The site was cleared of occupied caravans within the relevant time.

*Links House Filling Station, Links Road*—An Enforcement Notice in terms similar to the above was served on the occupier of the beforementioned land on the 13th September, 1957.

As a result of the Court proceedings reported above, the occupier decided to comply with the Order before similar proceedings were taken.

*North Farm*—A report was submitted to the Council upon the unauthorised occupancy of the land at North Farm as a site for caravans.

The occupier of the land was instructed to have the caravans removed, but following a petition from the caravan dwellers it was recommended that the petition be referred to the County Planning Officer and that he be asked to indicate a permanent site for caravans which would be approved by the Local Planning Authority.

*General*—Owing to the unprecedented growth of caravaning since the end of the war, both for holiday and residential use, the problem of unofficial sites has created a headache for many Local Authorities throughout the country.

In our own case the only officially authorised site is solely for holiday purposes and is operated privately under new conditions drawn up in 1956.

Investigation of complaints of unauthorised camping in the district has revealed that in at least 90% of the cases the caravans are occupied permanently by persons who are employed either in Blyth or the surrounding areas, in some cases on a short-term basis, e.g., technicians employed on the construction of the Power Station.

In such cases the lack of official sites can mean heavy personal expense if the husband maintains his wife and family in one part of the country and himself in another and for such cases I feel it would be desirable for the Council to have their own properly equipped site. If the site could be utilised partly for permanent dwelling and partly for holiday purposes I feel sure that financially it would be of benefit to the township and would considerably ease the problem of sporadic parking.

For such large-scale projects as the construction of the Power Station, I think that either the Central Electricity Authority or the Contractors should have made application to the appropriate authority for an official site for employees for the duration of the contract, the site to be cleared on completion.

### **FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948**

#### **SHOPS ACT, 1950**

Owing to pressure of other work little attention was paid to these duties during the year by the Health Department.

Routine inspections by the Shops Inspector, however, revealed little cause for complaint.

New toilets and washing facilities were provided in several instances by extensive shop fittings and alterations.

#### **PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949**

Regular supervision and treatment of farms, allotments, dwelling-houses and business premises, together with sewer treatments was undertaken as shown in the Tables—see pages 58 and 59 and in addition regular survey work of all food and business premises was carried out, the sum of £65 9s. 6d. being charged for treatment of premises other than dwelling-houses. The balance of the cost of these services is then subject to a fifty per cent. grant from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

#### **PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951**

Four licences were issued during the year. In all cases the requirements of the Act were being observed and the conditions under which the animals were being kept were satisfactory.

#### **RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951**

There are no registered or licensed premises in the Borough, only two traders using filling materials for reconditioning purposes.

In both cases the materials used satisfy the British Standards Institution Mark Scheme.

### General Services

The following incidental services were carried out during the year :—

No. of houses treated for insect pests .. ..	367
No. of houses disinfected after infectious disease ..	1
No. of schools disinfected after infectious disease ..	3
No. of houses disinfected by request .. ..	10
No. of items of bedding, furniture and clothing disinfected by request .. .. .	8
No. of items of bedding, furniture and clothing destroyed by request .. .. .	533
No. of dogs humanely destroyed .. .. .	208
No. of cats humanely destroyed .. .. .	136
Obstructed drains cleared .. .. .	71

### THE CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956

*Provisions*—In January, 1957, a report was submitted to the Health Committee on those sections of the Act which came into operation on the 31st December, 1956. At the time of preparation of this report the remaining sections of the Act will come into operation on the 1st June, 1958.

*Prior Approval*—*Sec. 3*—Three applications were received during the year in connection with the installation of new heating facilities as under :—

- (1) *Crofton Mill Pit*—Installation of vertical cross tube boilers in connection with the construction of new pit head baths. The original intention was to instal coal, hand fired boilers, but after representation to the National Coal Board as to their unsuitability the Board agreed to instal mechanical underfeed coal fired stokers with full boiler instrumentation.
- (2) *Town Tailors, Cowpen Road*—Installation of vertical cross tube boiler to meet increased load.
- (3) *Star Foundry, Morpeth Road*—Installation of washing facilities. A suitable coke fired boiler was provided.



*Height of Chimneys—Sec. 10*—The responsibility for the enforcement of this section was referred to the General Purposes Committee for consideration when plans are submitted for buildings which come within the provisions of that section.

*Smoke Control Areas*—Tentative proposals were submitted for declaring the proposed new Council housing estate at Seaton Sluice a smoke control area, but it was decided that no action be taken at the present time.

There are no immediate plans for the preparation of a Smoke Control Area in the Borough.

*Model Byelaws—Sec. 24*—The adoption of the model byelaws was under consideration at the end of the year.

*Clean Air Courses*—The Senior Public Health Inspector attended a series of eight lectures held at Durham City by the National Fuel Efficiency Service, and both Inspectors attended a two-day course at Newcastle upon Tyne on the Installation of Modern Solid Fuel Appliances.

*Measurement of Atmospheric Pollution*—In co-operation with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, five lead peroxide gauges for the measurement of sulphur dioxide were set up at selected points within the Borough as under :—

1. Bebside County Secondary School.
2. Morpeth Road County Primary School.
3. New Delaval County Secondary School.
4. Ridley Park.
5. Seaton Delaval Hall, Seaton Sluice.

The measurements commenced during December, 1957, so no information can be given as to the pattern of pollution at the present stage.

In order that the fullest possible range of information can be made available, reciprocal arrangements were made through the courtesy of the Central Electricity Authority for the exchange of information of the readings of their deposit gauges situate in the Borough, thus avoiding duplication of the work and cost of analyses. I am also indebted to H. Davies Jones, B.A., LL.B., Captain, Wellesley Nautical School, for the provision of weather records.

*Nuisances*—Representations were made to the National Coal Board regarding smoke emission from the Horton Grange and Bates' Collieries, and at the end of the year arrangements were in hand for the improvement of the equipment at both collieries.

*General*—Although the coming into operation of the Clean Air Act marked a stage in the improvement of legislation dealing with the problem of atmospheric pollution many years must elapse before there is any marked improvement in this field. Cost will undoubtedly play a major part in any progress made, in industry by the provision of efficient fuel burning appliances, and domestically by the adaptation of out of date appliances, the replacement of volatile by smokeless fuels, and by the promotion by the local authorities of ever expanding smoke control areas.

# FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Form 572 (Revised)

## Part I 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 Authority ...	20	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	111	28	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' Premises)	2	—	—	—
Total ...	133	30	Nil	Nil

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)	Referred By H.M. Inspector. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...					
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...		2			
(c) Not separate for Sexes...					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...					
Total ...	Nil	2	Nil	Nil	Nil

## Factories, 1957

	Mechanical Power.	No Mechanical Power.
Bakeries ... ..	14	—
Blacksmith ... ..	1	—
Boiler Scaling ... ..	1	—
Boot and Shoe Repairers ... ..	5	—
Cabinet Making ... ..	—	1
Car Spraying and Coach Work ... ..	4	—
Clothing Alterations ... ..	—	4
Clothing Repairs ... ..	—	1
Clothing Manufacturers ... ..	6	—
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
Potato 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	—
	111	20

**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. ...	13	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

**PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949**

During 1957 the following treatments were carried out by the Rodent Officer.

	No.	Baits laid	Traps laid	Ozs. Poison bait taken	No. of Bodies		Est. Kill Rats	No. of Visits
					Rats	Mice		
Dwelling Houses ...	153	646	10	436	3	70	5	331
Food Shops ...	25	269	—	135	1	27	2	67
Other Shops ...	11	112	—	68	—	22	—	30
Farm Buildings, Etc. ...	10	418	—	405	45	118	194	34
Allotments, Gardens and Piggeries ...	25	104	4	488	36	6	116	90
N.C.B. Yard ...	2	180	—	56	12	2	87	10
Warehouses ...	7	96	3	34	3	6	6	21
Council Properties ...	16	319	2	134	36	19	114	46
Shipyards ...	1	218	—	49	14	—	113	12
Schools ...	7	125	—	33	—	4	—	17
Ice Cream Factory ...	1	2	—	8	—	—	2	4
B.R. Embankment ...	1	18	—	9	3	—	22	4
Canteens and Cafes ...	3	23	—	26	—	3	2	9
Timber Yard ...	1	21	—	6	5	—	15	4
Bakery ...	1	10	—	5	—	—	—	3
Refuse Tips ...	7	708	2	424	170	—	610	51
Slaughterhouse ...	1	10	Gastubes	6	—	1	—	2
Hotels and Public Houses ...	6	121	—	49	—	13	—	13
Garages, Cinemas, Etc. ...	2	66	—	38	—	9	—	6
Sewers ...	—	224	—	40	1	—	10	472
	280	3690	19 Traps 2 Gastubes	2449	329	300	1298	754 Visits 472 Manholes

In addition to the above treatments the following surveys were carried out.

Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural Premises	Business Premises
50	48	91	490

# PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for 12 months ended 31st March, 1958

Form PDP/R8

	Type of Property				
		Non-Agricultural			
		Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses) (2)	All other (including business premises) (3)	
I. No. of properties in Local Authority's District (Notes 1 and 2) ... ..	31	10,565	1,234	11,830	33
II. No. of properties inspected as a result of:—					
(a) Notification ... ..	3	162	53	218	5
(b) Survey under the Act ...	28	46	498	572	28
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose) ...	—	3,425	683	4,108	—
III. Total inspections carried out—including re-inspections (To be completed only if figures are readily available) ...	50	214	879	1,143	102
IV. No. of properties inspected (in Sec. II) which were found to be infested by:—					
(a) Rats { Major ... ..	3	1	1	5	2
Minor ... ..	1	18	10	29	7
(b) Mice { Major ... ..	1	—	1	2	3
Minor ... ..	5	146	73	224	—
V. No. of infested properties (In Sec. IV) treated by the L.A. (Figures should NOT exceed those given in Sec. IV) ...	10	165	83†	258†	10*
VI. Total treatments carried out—including re-treatments (To be completed only if figures are readily available) ...	24	168	87	279	17
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 ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
X. No. of "Block" control schemes carried out ...	3	4	5	12	1

\* Two Farms treated by Ag. Ex. Committee.

† Two Cinemas treated by Servicing Company.

# ANALYSIS OF WATER, 1957

## Chemical

	NAME OF SOURCE		
	Mixed Newcastle and Hepscoth Supply Taken from tap at 41 Wright Street, Blyth. Sample marked IC/w/57	Mixed Newcastle and Tynemouth Supply. Taken from cold domestic supply at Pattison Farm, The Avenue, Seaton Sluice. Sample marked 2C/w/57	Mixed Newcastle and Hepscoth Supply. Taken from standpipe at Kitty Brewster Camp, Blyth. Sample marked 6C/w/57
<i>Chemical Results :</i>			
Total solids dried at 180° C. ...	209.0	124	240
Chlorine as chlorides ...	14.2	16	14.2
Free Ammonia ...	None	Trace	None
Albuminoid Ammonia ...	None	0.05	0.16
Nitrogen as Nitrates ...	0.70	0.30	Trace
Oxygen absorbed (4 hours at 80° F.) ...	1.4	6.8	1.5
Total hardness ...	121	77	105
Permanent hardness ...	31	17	40
Temporary hardness ...	90	60	65
Lead and Copper ...	None	None	None
Iron ...	0.2	0.3	Trace
Appearance and Colour (Hazen degrees 5) ...	Clear and ex-pale yellow	Clear, pale orange yellow	Clear and ex-pale yellow
Smell and Taste ...	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Microscopical examination of deposit ...	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
P.H. Value ...	7.0	7.2	7.2

The above samples of water are of very satisfactory organic purity, and free from deposit. The water is suitable for drinking and domestic use.

Samples marked 4/C/57 from underneath floor at "7 Claremont Terrace, Blyth" and from domestic tap at "7 Clarence Terrace Blyth."  
 Received 23rd July, 1957.

	Tap		Sub-floor		Result
	Parts per million	Parts per million	Parts per million	Parts per million	
Chlorine as chlorides ...	14.2	28.4			The Sample of water from underneath the floor is not similar to the tap supply. The presence of free ammonia, higher chloride and alkalinity indicates that it is from a domestic drain.
Alkalinity to Methyl Orange ...	95	270			
Free Ammonia ...	None	0.3			
P.H. Value ...	6.8	7.2			

(Sgd.) W. GORDON CAREY.

Sample marked 3C/W/57—Jar containing boiled water and films (stated to be Tynemouth Water) and Thermos flask containing hot Newcastle Water for comparison. Received 17th June, 1957.

### REPORT

Underneath the microscope the deposits in the samples of water submitted recently is seen to consist of organic matter containing traces of brown peaty matter. The organic matter is in the form flat plates and filaments.

Examination of the interior of the Thermos flask showed a brownish adherent deposit and on swabbing the interior to detach the deposit it was found, on microscopic examination, that the deposit was similar to that in the water, consisting of flat plates and peaty matter.

It seems probable that some of the deposit in the flask had become detached and appeared in the water. It is perfectly harmless.

(Sgd.) W. GORDON CAREY.



# PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

## Water Sampling

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

### CHEMICAL

<i>Name of Source</i>	<i>Nature of Source</i>	<i>No. of Samples</i>
(1) Mixed Newcastle and Hepscott Water.	From tap over sink at 41 Wright Street, Blyth ... ..	1
(2) Mixed Newcastle and Tynemouth Water.	From tap at Avenue Farm, Seaton Sluice ... ..	1
(3) (a) Sample of boiled Tynemouth Water.	From Drift Cottage, Seaton Sluice	1
(b) Also sample of Newcastle Water	In thermos flask at "Dinsdale," Marine Terrace, Blyth ...	1
(4) Sub-floor Water.	At 7 Claremont Terrace, Blyth ...	1
(5) Domestic Tap	At 7 Claremont Terrace, Blyth ...	1
(6) Mixed Newcastle and Hepscott Water.	From standpipe at Kitty Brewster Camp, Bebside ... ..	1

### BACTERIOLOGICAL

	<i>No. of Samples</i>	<i>Satisfactory</i>	<i>Un-satisfactory</i>
(1) Newcastle and Gateshead Water ... ..	13	13	—
(2) Hepscott Water before chlorination ...	11	11	—
(3) Mixed Hepscott and Newcastle Water after chlorination ... ..	12	11	1
(4) Newcastle and Tynemouth Water ... ..	18	14	4
(5) Tynemouth Water ... ..	1	1	—
	55	50	5

**SANITARY SECTION—Details of Inspections**

Number of inspections made during the year 1957	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals	Grand Total
	(a) <i>Public Health Act, 1936.</i>													
Inspections following complaints—														
General ... ..	64	79	43	34	60	38	48	52	9	36	25	31	519	
Re-inspections re outstanding notices	110	96	101	90	67	66	13	76	58	63	76	63	879	
Dirty or Verminous premises ... ..	7	4	3	6	11	3	4	10	4	7	5	1	65	
Drainage ... ..	16	6	7	7	19	12	6	9	5	3	3	7	100	
Keeping of Animals ... ..	—	—	—	2	12	4	6	2	1	—	—	—	27	
Licensed Premises ... ..	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	1	7	20	25	5	
Moveable Dwellings ... ..	3	—	12	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	70	
Piggeries ... ..	—	—	7	1	4	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	18	
Places of Public Entertainment ... ..	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	
Spoilbanks ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	—	—	7	—	20	
Families under Supervision ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	6	
Water Supplies ... ..	4	—	—	—	—	1	1	8	—	—	1	—	15	
Smoke Nuisances ... ..	1	2	4	4	6	—	2	2	—	2	—	—	23	
Sanitary Conveniences ... ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	
Refuse Tips ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	—	4	
Vacant Sites ... ..	—	4	1	3	7	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	
Interviews ... ..	—	—	2	14	13	2	10	4	16	14	12	16	103	
													1880	1880

Number of inspections made during the year 1957		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals	Grand Total
<i>(b) Housing Act, 1936/1957.</i>															
Investigations re Overcrowding	...	12	—	7	6	1	—	8	9	2	2	8	4	59	
Houses in Clearance Areas	...	3	76	—	—	—	—	1	30	30	—	—	2	142	
Squatters Camps	...	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	
Corporation Houses	...	3	3	7	7	13	14	16	4	5	9	15	1	98	
Applications for Interview re Re- housing and Exchanges	...	—	—	4	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	18	
Housing Survey	...	15	15	13	5	3	1	12	13	2	30	—	5	114	
Interviews re Housing—General	...	9	10	10	5	17	4	8	—	—	—	—	7	70	
Proposed House Purchase— Inspections	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	2	—	—	6	3	19	
Interviews	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	10	7	—	—	24	
<b>PART II HOUSING ACT, 1936 :</b>															
Section 9—Repairs	...	—	—	1	4	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	9	
Section 11—Demolition Orders	...	6	3	3	1	3	4	4	10	5	9	11	2	61	
Section 12—Closing Orders	...	15	2	7	3	4	13	5	14	11	13	6	5	98	
Interviews	...	5	—	—	—	—	13	—	15	—	—	15	2	50	
<b>PART III HOUSING ACT, 1936 :</b>															
Proposed Clearance Areas	...	—	35	—	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	69	
<b>HOUSING ACT, 1949 :</b>															
Applications re Improvement Grants	...	2	3	17	2	5	15	2	3	2	9	12	4	76	
Interviews re Improvement Grants	...	8	10	7	8	5	8	11	8	9	5	4	3	86	
<b>HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROV. ACT) 1938:</b>															
Inspections	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	4	
<b>COUNCIL HOUSES :</b>															
(a) Repairs	...	—	—	—	—	15	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	
(b) Drains cleaned	...	—	—	—	—	17	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	
<b>RENT ACT, 1957 :</b>															
Interviews re Certificate of Disrepair	...	—	—	—	—	2	2	10	22	23	24	20	3	106	
Inspections made re Cert. of Disrepair	...	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	12	29	7	2	52	
														1220	3100

Number of inspections made during the year 1957		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals	Grand Total
(c)	<i>Clean Air Act, 1956.</i>														
	Interviews ... ..	—	—	2	6	—	1	12	5	1	—	5	2	34	
	Inspections ... ..	—	—	—	2	2	—	2	3	1	—	11	—	21	
														55	3155
(d)	<i>Factories Act, 1957.</i>														
	Mechanical Power ... ..	5	—	1	7	1	1	4	6	1	—	—	—	26	
	No Mechanical Power... ..	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
	Outworkers ... ..	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
														30	3185
(e)	<i>Shops Act, 1950.</i>														
	Sanitary and other arrangements in Shops ... ..	20	3	—	3	2	2	—	4	1	1	—	—	36	
(f)	<i>Pests Act, 1948.</i>														
	Dwelling Houses ... ..	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	
	Council Properties ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
														6	3221
(g)	<i>Pet Animals Act, 1951.</i>														
	Applications for renewal of Licence... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4	
	Investigations made ... ..	1	—	—	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	5	4	15	
														6	3227
(h)	<i>Infectious Diseases (Notifications) Acts</i>														
	Investigations made ... ..	31	6	4	3	10	8	25	13	2	8	10	1	121	
	Investigations made re Dysentery ... ..	—	296	317	52	13	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	679	
														800	4046

Number of inspections made during the year 1957		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals	Grand Total
(i)	<i>Food and Drugs Act, 1955.</i>														
	Abattoir—Meat Inspection ...	62	44	37	41	46	33	48	41	46	45	46	50	539	
	Examination of Unsound Foodstuffs	6	7	11	7	10	10	8	13	10	8	10	12	112	
	Bakehouses ...	2	—	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	7	
	Bakery and Confectionery Shops	5	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	
	Butchers' Shops ...	3	3	—	3	1	—	3	2	—	—	8	15	38	
	Fish and Chip Shops ...	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	—	1	—	—	5	
	General Dealers' Shops ...	9	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	
	Grocery and Provisions Shops	6	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	1	1	4	17	
	Greengrocery Shops ...	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	
	Wet Fish Shops ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	
	Preserved Food Premises	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	
	Food Manufacturing Premises	1	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4	
	Ice-Cream Premises :														
	(a) Manufacturing	—	—	—	1	2	2	7	3	—	—	—	—	15	
	(b) Retail	4	—	—	2	1	2	3	3	—	—	—	—	15	
	Restaurants and Cafes	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	
	Market Stalls ...	21	14	6	12	—	23	20	32	—	6	21	8	163	
	Food Vehicles ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	12	
	Canteens ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	
	Interviews ...	10	5	—	3	—	1	1	10	—	1	2	3	36	
	Sampling : Chemical														
	(a) Water	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	6	
	Bacteriological :														
	(a) Milk ...	4	2	2	2	2	2	2	—	—	2	2	2	22	
	(b) Milk Bottles	18	6	6	6	6	6	12	30	—	6	6	6	108	
	(c) Water	4	4	4	4	4	4	14	9	—	5	4	4	60	
	(d) Ice-Cream ...	—	—	—	3	3	2	4	3	—	—	—	—	15	
														1210	5256

Number of inspections made during the year 1957		Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Totals	Grand Total
(j)	<i>Milk and Dairies Orders.</i>														
	Dairies and Equipment	7	1	—	2	1	1	7	2	6	3	2	3	35	
	Heat Treatment Plant	1	—	—	1	1	1	5	2	3	2	2	3	21	
	Milk Shops	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	14	
	Farms and Producers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	13	
														83	5339
(k)	<i>Miscellaneous.</i>														
	Inspections (*75 Allotments)	11	6	82*	4	6	3	17	15	1	12	4	8	169	
	Interviews	39	42	28	27	59	26	36	25	29	30	12	14	347	
	Number of Houses treated for the eradication of Insect Pests	14	18	16	29	49	38	46	42	22	26	29	16	345	
	Number of Houses disinfected at request of Occupier	2	2	3	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	1	—	12	
	Number of items of Bedding, Cloth- ing, etc., disinfected by request	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	8	
	Number of items of Bedding, Cloth- ing, etc., destroyed by request	31	44	57	43	48	41	50	43	40	56	46	34	533	
	Number of Schools fumigated	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	3	
	Choked drains cleansed	11	3	5	8	6	18	18	7	6	7	4	5	98	
	Number of Informal Notices served	7	34	5	6	28	5	8	7	7	11	10	6	134	
	Number of Statutory Notices served...	—	2	17	14	4	8	16	—	18	7	7	8	101	
														1750	7089
(l)	<i>Land Charges Act</i>														
	Searches	15	27	34	21	34	31	22	20	27	34	21	17	303	7392
(m)	<i>Rent Act Certificates.</i>														
		—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	14	61	53	130	7522

Year	1900	1901	1902	1903	1904	1905	1906	1907	1908	1909	1910
1	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
2	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
3	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
4	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
5	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
6	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
7	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
8	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
9	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
10	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
11	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
12	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
13	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
14	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
15	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
16	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
17	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
18	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
19	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
20	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100





