

[Report 1969] / Medical Officer of Health, Castle Ward (Union) R.D.C.

Contributors

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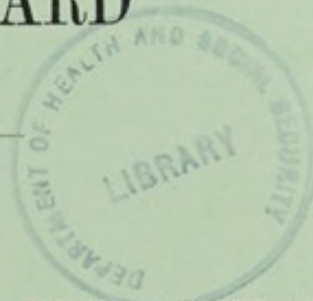
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I

RURAL DISTRICT OF
CASTLE WARD



—♦—

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND OF

THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH
INSPECTOR

FOR 1969



OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

| | |
|--|---|
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| Acting Medical Officer of Health and Deputy Airport Medical Officer | H. J. NICHOLSON, M.B., Ch.B. |
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Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1969

COUNCIL OFFICES,
PONTELAND,
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

It is again my privilege to present the report on the health of the district during 1969.

After a period of rapid expansion the population of the district only increased by 650 during 1969, and in the next few years increases in population are likely to be small. The birth rate is again low but fractionally above last year's figure. All the statistics relating to deaths of infants are at low levels. Unfortunately there was a maternal death in 1969.

In the years 1965 - 68 only one human case of brucellosis occurred in the district, but last year there were seven. Apart from this there was little infectious disease. However a great deal of checking had to be done on contacts of typhoid and other salmonella infections.

The information asked for by the Ministry of Health and Social Security relating to Newcastle Airport is set out. This was obtained through the co-operation of the Airport Director and his staff, the operating companies, H.M. Immigration Service and H. M. Customs and Excise, to all of whom thanks are due.

During 1969 three further wardens for the elderly were appointed at Brunswick Village, Heddon-on-the-Wall and Ponteland.

Some idea of the wide and constantly changing work of environmental health is given in Mr. Strachan's section of the report. Members of the Health Department have an almost bewildering variety of duties to carry out at short notice and at the same time a great deal of routine monitoring work which must not be neglected. All this has been cheerfully performed.

The members of the Council have again supported the work of the Department, and I would like to thank them for their interest.

Yours faithfully,
H. C. T. SMITH,
Medical Officer of Health.

PARTICULARS OF DISTRICT

| | |
|---|------------|
| Area in acres | 81,746 |
| Registrar General's estimated population | 37,000 |
| Number of habitable houses (including 228 not separately assessed) | 11,162 |
| Sum represented by penny rate | £5,590 |
| Rateable Value.. .. . | £1,336,774 |

CHANGES IN POPULATION

| | |
|--------------|--------|
| 1951 | 14,570 |
| 1956 | 17,470 |
| 1961 | 25,330 |
| 1962 | 26,590 |
| 1963 | 28,220 |
| 1964 | 29,310 |
| 1965 | 32,040 |
| 1966 | 33,470 |
| 1967 | 34,820 |
| 1968 | 36,350 |
| 1969 | 37,000 |

BOUNDARY CHANGES

On 1st April 1969 a boundary adjustment took place and 1,100 acres were transferred to Seaton Valley Urban District Council for development purposes. There were 20 properties and 70 persons resident in the area transferred.

VITAL STATISTICS — 1969

| | <i>Numbers</i> | | <i>Total Rates</i> |
|---|----------------|-----------|--------------------|
| | <i>M.</i> | <i>F.</i> | |
| TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS | 200 | 183 | 383 |
| Crude birth rate per 1,000 population.. .. | | | 10.3 |
| Comparability factor 0.86 .. | | | |
| Adjusted birth rate per 1,000 population.. .. | | | 8.9 |
| Ratio of locally adjusted birth rate to national rate .. | | | 0.54 |
| ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS .. | 5 | 11 | 16 |
| Illegitimate live birth rate per 100 live births .. | | | 4.2 |
| STILLBIRTHS | 3 | — | 3 |
| Stillbirth rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths | | | 7.8 |
| INFANT DEATHS (Deaths in first year) | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births | | | 13.1 |
| ILLEGITIMATE INFANT DEATHS | — | 1 | 1 |
| Legitimate infant mortality rate per 1,000 live legitimate births | | | 10.9 |
| Illegitimate infant mortality rate per 1,000 live illegitimate births | | | 62.5 |
| NEONATAL DEATHS (Deaths in the first four weeks) .. | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births | | | 13.1 |
| PERINATAL DEATHS (Deaths in first week plus stillbirths) | 5 | 2 | 7 |
| Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths.. | | | 18.1 |
| MATERNAL DEATHS (including abortion) | | 1 | |
| TOTAL DEATHS.. .. | 270 | 251 | 521 |
| Crude death rate per 1,000 population.. .. | | | 14.1 |
| Comparability factor 0.77 .. | | | |
| Adjusted death rate per 1,000 population.. .. | | | 10.9 |
| Ratio of locally adjusted death rate to national rate | | | 0.91 |

COMPARISON WITH PREVIOUS YEARS

| | Adjusted Birth Rate | Illegitimate Birth Rate | Still-birth Rate | Infant Mortality Rate | Neonatal Mortality Rate | Perinatal Mortality Rate | Adjusted Death Rate |
|---------|---------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 1956-60 | 16.2 | 1.7 | 15.9 | 17.4 | 13.4 | 29.0 | 11.0 |
| 1961-65 | 15.4 | 2.5 | 16.0 | 18.5 | 14.1 | 28.0 | 11.6 |
| 1966 | 11.4 | 5.1 | 15.9 | 18.5 | 11.6 | 27.3 | 11.1 |
| 1967 | 11.5 | 4.8 | 6.6 | 17.6 | 15.4 | 21.8 | 8.5 |
| 1968 | 8.8 | 4.6 | 10.6 | 13.4 | 13.4 | 21.2 | 10.4 |
| 1969 | 8.9 | 4.2 | 7.8 | 13.1 | 13.1 | 18.1 | 10.9 |

COMPARISON WITH OTHER AREAS — 1969

| | Birth Rate (Adjusted) | Illegitimate birth Rate | Still birth Rate | Infant Mortality Rate | Neonatal Mortality Rate | Perinatal Mortality Rate | Maternal Mortality Rate | Death Rate (Adjusted) | Comparability Factors Births | Comparability Factors Deaths |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| England and Wales | 16.3 | 8.6 | 13.0 | 18.0 | 12.0 | 23.0 | 0.19 | 11.9 | 1.00 | 1.00 |
| Northumberland Admin. County | 13.9 | 5.6 | 12.5 | 15.6 | 11.6 | 21.7 | 0.42 | 12.8 | 1.01 | 1.03 |
| South Area of Northumberland | 12.6 | 4.7 | 10.7 | 15.6 | 10.8 | 18.8 | 0.67 | 12.3 | 0.96 | 1.01 |
| Castle Ward Rural District | 8.9 | 4.2 | 7.8 | 13.1 | 13.1 | 18.1 | 2.6 | 10.9 | 0.86 | 0.77 |

CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Intra uterine anoxia | M at 5 hours |
| 2. Prematurity | F at 9 hours |
| 3. Prematurity | F at 12 hours |
| 4. Exomphalos | F at 1 day |
| 5. Congenital heart disease | M at 2 days |

CAUSES OF STILLBIRTHS

1. Rhesus iso-immunisation
2. Placental insufficiency. Hydrocephalic foetus
3. Placental insufficiency

MATERNAL DEATH

A woman aged 27 died from pulmonary embolism due to femoral thrombosis. She also had peritonitis. The birth was by Caesarian section due to a transverse lie. This was the first maternal death in the district since 1961.

PLACE OF DEATH

| | Home | Hospital and Institution | Total |
|--|------|--------------------------|-------|
| A. Deaths in District .. | 150 | 307 | 457 |
| B. Outward Transfers .. | 16 | 58 | 74 |
| C. Remaining deaths in District (A—B) .. | 134 | 249 | 383 |
| D. Inward Transfers .. | 132 | 6 | 138 |
| E. Total deaths assigned district (C + D) .. | 266 | 255 | 521 |

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH

| | Home | | Hospital and Institution | | Total | |
|---|------|--------|--------------------------|--------|-------|--------|
| | No. | % | No. | % | No. | % |
| Cancer | 59 | (22.2) | 13 | (5.1) | 72 | (13.8) |
| Cerebro-vascular disease .. | 40 | (15.0) | 82 | (32.2) | 122 | (23.4) |
| Ischaemic heart disease .. | 79 | (29.7) | 65 | (25.5) | 144 | (27.7) |
| Other heart and circulatory disease | 11 | (4.1) | 28 | (10.9) | 39 | (7.5) |
| Respiratory disease | 33 | (12.4) | 45 | (17.7) | 78 | (14.9) |
| All other diseases | 23 | (8.6) | 17 | (6.7) | 40 | (7.7) |
| Violence | 21 | (8.0) | 5 | (1.9) | 26 | (5.0) |
| | 266 | 100 | 255 | 100 | 521 | 100 |

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT AGES DURING 1969

| CAUSE OF DEATH | Sex | Total All Ages | Under 4 weeks | 4 weeks and under 1 year | AGE IN YEARS | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|------|----------------|---------------|--------------------------|--------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|---|---|
| | | | | | 1— | 5— | 15— | 25— | 35— | 45— | 55— | 65— | 75 and over | | |
| B5 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | M. | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| B19(1) Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc. | ..F. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| B19(2) Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus | M. | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| B19(3) Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach | ..F. | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| B19(4) Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine | M. | 11 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 3 |
| B19(6) Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus | ..F. | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 2 |
| B19(7) Malignant Neoplasm, Breast | M. | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| B19(8) Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus | ..F. | 5 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| B19(9) Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate | ..M. | 9 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| B19(10) Leukaemia | ..M. | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| B19(11) Other Malignant Neoplasms | ..F. | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| B20 Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms | M. | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| B21 Diabetes Mellitus | ..F. | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| B46(1) Other Endocrine Diseases etc. | ..M. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | ..F. | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

ACCIDENTAL DEATHS

| <i>Motor Vehicle Accidents</i> | | AGE | | | | | | TOTAL |
|-------------------------------------|----|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|-------|
| | | 5-14 | 15-24 | 25-34 | 45-54 | 65-74 | 75+ | |
| Passenger in car/car | M. | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| | F. | — | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | 3 |
| Pedestrian/Motor Car | M. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | F. | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 |
| Car/car | M. | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Passenger in van/ out of control | M. | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Car/lorry | M. | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL | M. | — | 1 | 1 | 2 | — | — | 4 |
| | F. | 1 | 2 | — | 2 | 1 | 1 | 7 |

| <i>All Other Accidents :</i> | | AGE | | | | TOTAL |
|---|----|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | 35-44 | 55-64 | 65-74 | 75+ | |
| Falls—Fractured femur | M. | — | — | — | (1) | (1) |
| | F. | — | — | (2) | 2(2) | 2 (4) |
| " " cervical | M. | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — |
| " " vertebrae | M. | — | — | — | — | — |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — |
| " " ribs | M. | — | 1 | — | 1 | 2 |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Perforated oesophagus (misadventure) | M. | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Drowning (open verdict) | M. | — | — | — | — | — |
| | F. | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Electrocution (accident at work) | M. | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Coal gas poisoning | M. | — | — | — | — | — |
| | F. | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| TOTAL | M. | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 (1) | 5 (1) |
| | F. | — | — | 1 (2) | 3 (2) | 4 (4) |

Figures in brackets refer to deaths in hospitals and institutions within the district.

DEATHS FROM CANCER

| PRIMARY SITE | | AGE | | | | | | | | TOTAL |
|---------------------|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|------|------|-------|------|---------|
| | | 5+ | 15+ | 25+ | 35+ | 45+ | 55+ | 65+ | 75+ | |
| Hypopharynx | M. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Submandibular Gland | M. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | F. | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Oesophagus | M. | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Stomach | M. | — | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | 5 | 1(2) | 9 (22) |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | (1) | — | 1(1) | 1 (22) |
| Pancreas | M. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | 2 |
| Colon .. | M. | — | — | — | — | (1) | — | — | 1(1) | 1 (22) |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | (1) | 3 | 4 (11) |
| Rectum | M. | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 2 |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Lung | M. | — | — | — | — | 2 | 4 | 1 | 2(1) | 9 (11) |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | (1) | 2 (11) |
| Breast | M. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | F. | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 1(1) | (2) | 1 | 4 (33) |
| Uterus—cervix | M. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| body sarcoma | M. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Prostate | M. | — | — | — | — | — | — | (1) | 2 | 2 (11) |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Bladder | M. | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 2 |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Skin (Melanoma) | M. | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | 2 |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Brain Tumour | M. | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | 2 |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Lymphosarcoma | M. | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Hodgkin's disease | M. | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Osteosarcoma | M. | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 2 |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Leukaemia | M. | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 3 | — | 4 |
| | F. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTALS | M. | 1 | — | 2 | 2 | 6(1) | 6 | 14(1) | 8(4) | 39 (66) |
| | F. | — | — | — | 2 | 3 | 5(2) | 2(3) | 8(2) | 20 (77) |

1. Figures in brackets refer to deaths of hospital residents within the district.
2. The figures have been prepared from local records and do not fully agree with the figures of the Registrar General on pages 8 and 9.

TUBERCULOSIS NEW CASES, 1969

| AGE PERIODS | NEW CASES | | | | INWARD TRANSFERS | | | |
|-------------|-----------|----|---------------|----|------------------|----|---------------|----|
| | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Under 1 .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 1—4 .. | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 5—14 .. | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 15—24 .. | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — |
| 25—34 .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 35—44 .. | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| 45—54 .. | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 55—64 .. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 65—74 .. | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 75+ .. | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Age unknown | — | — | — | — | — | 2 | — | — |
| Total .. | 4 | — | — | — | 2 | 5 | — | — |

Comparison with previous years

| | NEW CASES | | INWARD TRANSFERS | | DEATHS |
|-----------------|-----------|----------|------------------|----------|-----------------|
| | Pul. | Non-Pul. | Pul. | Non-Pul. | Pul. & Non-Pul. |
| Average 1951-55 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 3 |
| Average 1956-60 | 7 | 2 | 14 | 2 | 1 |
| Average 1961-65 | 8 | 2 | 12 | — | 1 |
| 1966 .. | 4 | 2 | 17 | 2 | 1 |
| 1967 .. | 7 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 1968 | 5 | 1 | 5 | — | 1 |
| 1969 | 4 | — | 7 | — | 1 |

STATEMENT OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS, 1969

| | No. of cases on Register at beginning of year | | New Notifications | | Inward Transfers | | No. of cases removed from Register | | No. of cases remaining at end of year | |
|---------|---|----------|-------------------|----------|------------------|----------|------------------------------------|----------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| | Pul. | Non-Pul. | Pul. | Non-Pul. | Pul. | Non-Pul. | Pul. | Non-Pul. | Pul. | Non-Pul. |
| Males | 34 | 20 | 4 | — | 2 | — | 1 | — | 39 | 20 |
| Females | 28 | 11 | — | — | 5 | — | 3 | 1 | 30 | 10 |
| Total | 62 | 31 | 4 | — | 7 | — | 4 | 1 | 69 | 30 |

YEARLY RETURN OF NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE — 1969

| | AGE | | | | | TOTAL |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|------|-------|----|-------|
| | 0—1 | 1—4 | 5—14 | 15—44 | | |
| Measles | 4 | 6 | 14 | — | 24 | |
| Scarlet fever | — | 1 | 5 | — | 6 | |
| Whooping cough | 2 | 3 | 3 | — | 8 | |
| Infective hepatitis.. .. | — | — | 7 | 2 | 9 | |

MONTH OF NOTIFICATION :

| | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | April | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Total |
|------------------------|------|------|------|-------|-----|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|
| Measles .. | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | 1 | 12 | 7 | 24 |
| Scarlet fever .. | 2 | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | 2 | — | 6 |
| Whooping cough .. | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 3 | 3 | — | — | — | 8 |
| Infective hepatitis .. | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | 1 | — | 1 | 2 | 4 | 9 |

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Salmonella Infections

1. TYPHOID

A family and two single persons who had contact with cases of typhoid abroad were investigated with negative results.

2. SALMONELLA TYPHIMURIUM

An outbreak of the infection in a catering establishment in a neighbouring authority occurred. Five possibly affected members of the staff resided in this area. Specimens were taken but the two who were positive quickly reverted to negative. The outbreak was of *Salmonella typhimurium* phage type IV usually associated with ducks. Another person became infected with the same serotype who had eaten duck at a catering establishment inside this district. The premises were visited, and specimens taken from the catering staff. Some items of food, including a subsequent purchase of duck, were also sent to the laboratory. Results were all negative.

The animal health division of the Ministry of Agriculture notifies us when *Salmonellae* occur in domestic animals. During 1969 four notifications of *S typhimurium* and ten of *S dublin* were received. In the cases of *S typhimurium* infection, enquiry was made of the farmer or the persons dealing with the animals and their families to see if there had been any illness. In one case there was a history of vomiting and diarrhoea in the family of one of the farmers. Specimens taken from all members of the family were negative.

Food Poisoning

A family outbreak of gastro-enteritis occurred and it was at first thought that this was food poisoning due to eating a barbecued chicken. The remains of the chicken were sent to the laboratory together with specimens from the persons affected. Results from the laboratory were inconclusive and it later transpired that two persons who ate some of the chicken were not affected. It may be that this was a family outbreak of a prevalent virus infection. One of the affected persons was a baker and he was kept off work for part of the week.

Infective Hepatitis

A few cases occurred towards the end of the year and were visited. Three of the cases attended the same school and two were in the same family, but otherwise no connection could be traced between the cases.

Brucellosis

Six serologically confirmed and one probable case of *Brucella abortus* infection occurred in the district during 1969. All seven were males and in only one case was there any occupational exposure. This was a dairyman who became ill in October with a "flu" like illness. However, the illness recurred and a serum test revealed an antibody titre of 1/500. The man was not off work and the illness cleared after a full course of tetracycline.

The farm concerned had a large herd of 130 cows with 60 milking cows. Sampling had already revealed the presence of *Brucella abortus* in the milk. 60 gallons had been sent daily as farm bottled milk and the rest was sent for pasteurisation. However when *Brucella abortus* was grown from the milk the farmer agreed to send all the milk for pasteurisation and this arrangement has continued.

Five of the cases, including the unconfirmed case, lived in Ponteland and purchased untreated milk from the same retailer. Two of the cases, including the unconfirmed case, drank about one and a half pints of milk daily. The other three did not drink milk and only had raw milk with puddings and cereals. In each case the illness was of several months duration with intermittent bouts of fever and symptoms of malaise, lassitude, loss of appetite and night sweating. One man was in hospital for four weeks and was off work ten weeks. The others only had short spells off work during the acute phases of the illness.

Two cases commenced in May, one in July and two in August, but in fact it was August before any of the cases came to the notice of this department. The retailer obtained supplies of farm bottled milk from two farms outside this district. A series of samples was taken by ourselves from the retailer and all were negative. Other samples were taken at the two farms by the health department concerned, again with negative results. However at one of the farms positive milk samples had been obtained in April and part of the herd

had been segregated. Subsequently negative samples had been obtained. The other farm had been completely free from infection.

The association of these cases with infected milk is thus not as definite as is usually the case. Enquiry was made about cream, cheese and other milk foods but there were no likely leads. The fact that all five men consumed farm bottled milk from the same source makes this the most probable vehicle of infection.

The remaining case was in another part of the district and again was associated with farm bottled milk. Again the person concerned did not drink milk in any quantity. The illness started in July and bouts of fever occurred over a period of four months. The disease was confirmed serologically after admission to hospital.

The milk was obtained from a producer retailer outside the district. Another case had occurred in a boy who drank the same milk, and the medical officer of health of the district concerned made an order under Section 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1959. This required that the milk should be sent for pasteurisation.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

The following schedule was introduced early in 1968 :—

1. 4 months Triple Antigen and Oral Poliomyelitis
2. 6 months Triple Antigen and Oral Poliomyelitis
3. 12 months Triple Antigen and Oral Poliomyelitis
4. 2nd year Measles
5. 2nd year Smallpox
6. 4 — 5 years Diphtheria, Tetanus and Oral Poliomyelitis
7. 10 — 12 years B.C.G. (to those negative to skin test)
8. On leaving school Tetanus and Oral Poliomyelitis

Measles vaccination was introduced in 1968 when 608 children were immunised. In 1969, however, the principal manufacturing company withdrew their vaccine because of doubts about safety, and for the rest of the year vaccine was in very short supply. The number of infants receiving triple and polio vaccine is satisfactory, and comparing the numbers with the number of births registered in the last two years most children must be getting immunised. The number having smallpox vaccination is well down on last year's figures, 144 compared with 239. This means that the number being vaccinated in the second year of life has fallen below 50%.

NUMBERS IMMUNISED DURING 1969

| | YEAR OF BIRTH | | | | | | Total |
|--|---------------|------|------|------|---------|---------|-------|
| | 1969 | 1968 | 1967 | 1966 | 1962-65 | 1953-61 | |
| Primary Diphtheria/Pertussis/Tetanus | 7 | 300 | 27 | 6 | 8 | — | 348 |
| Primary Diphtheria/Tetanus | — | 3 | — | — | 1 | 4 | 8 |
| Primary Diphtheria | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Primary Tetanus | — | — | — | — | 1 | 6 | 7 |
| Reinforcing Diphtheria / Pertussis/Tetanus | — | 3 | 226 | 51 | 68 | 2 | 350 |
| Reinforcing Diphtheria/Tetanus | — | 2 | 21 | 13 | 640 | 75 | 751 |
| Reinforcing Diphtheria | — | — | — | — | 5 | — | 5 |
| Reinforcing Tetanus | — | 1 | — | — | 9 | 31 | 41 |
| Primary Poliomyelitis | 6 | 311 | 28 | 5 | 11 | 3 | 364 |
| Reinforcing Poliomyelitis | — | 7 | 237 | 60 | 736 | 309 | 1349 |
| Measles | — | 28 | 63 | 42 | 72 | 11 | 216 |
| Smallpox—Primary | 3 | 95 | 24 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 144 |
| Smallpox—Re-vaccination | — | — | — | 1 | 3 | 8 | 12 |

NEWCASTLE AIRPORT

1. The North East Regional Airport is at Woolsington and its public health control has been in the hands of this council since 1966. Previously it was a municipal airport and the public health control was the responsibility of Newcastle Corporation.

The airport is a modern one and the new terminal and control buildings were completed in 1967. The runway is now 7,600 feet, and the airport is capable of handling most types of aircraft.

2. The health control unit is situated on the apron and passengers can be taken there immediately from the aircraft, that is, before going to customs and immigration control. The unit consists of a main hall where passengers' documents (e.g. vaccination certificates) can be rapidly inspected and destination addresses can be noted. Off this hall are medical and examination rooms. Here the medical inspection of aliens can be carried out and indeed any medical examination of personnel. There is also an isolation room for cases of infectious disease and an ambulance room for the treatment of casualties. Both the isolation room and the ambulance room have double doors, outside which ambulances can draw up.

3. The following are the basic statistics for the year ended 31st March 1970 :—

| | <i>Domestic</i> | <i>International</i> | <i>Total</i> |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Passenger Movements | 299,784 | 132,289 | 432,073 |
| Aircraft Movements | 6,126 | 2,282 | 8,404 |
| Freight | | | 2,713 |
| | | | <i>short tons</i> |

Apart from a few flights to and from North America all the flights abroad are to Europe, the bulk of them to airports serving holiday resorts. There is a week-day service to and from Amsterdam and Dusseldorf and a twice weekly service to Kristiansand in Norway.

The bulk of the freight is machinery and electrical parts brought from London Airport. Only very rarely are there direct imports of food. These are either samples or small quantities of exotic food.

4. **Water**

Drinking water is taken aboard in one-gallon containers obtained from the domestic supply. Most of this is boiling water used for making coffee.

Water for washing and cleansing is again taken from the public supply and pumped into tanks in the aircraft from a special container on wheels.

5. **Food**

Scottish and Newcastle Breweries have a flight catering department at the airport. Cold meals are freshly prepared. On some flights re-heated frozen meals are used. These are prepared at the flight catering unit. This food is now heated on the planes immediately prior to consumption. Previously it had been heated at the airport but with delays in flights this proved unsatisfactory. (See last year's report).

6. **Sewage Disposal**

Sewage from the aircraft is treated chemically and the tanks are emptied and re-charged from another special container on wheels. The containers are emptied at a special building on the periphery of the airport which contains a tank and a maceration unit. Sewage is then discharged into the public sewer.

7. **Infectious Disease Control**

A list of scheduled flights is received from the operating companies from time to time. Lists of chartered flights are also received. If any flights are from endemic or locally infected areas, then arrangements would be made to meet all planes from these areas. The operating companies, flight control, H.M. customs and excise and H.M. immigration control have all been requested to inform the health department as soon as possible about any unscheduled flights from outside Europe. In the last four years no flights have come direct from any locally infected area.

Persons arriving suffering from infectious disease can, if necessary, be sent to the infectious diseases unit, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead or children to the infectious diseases unit at Walkergate Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne.

At the health control unit, facilities exist for obtaining the names and addresses of all persons on a flight within a short time, and forms are to hand for informing the medical officer of health at the destination addresses of these persons, if surveillance is necessary. A small amount of equipment is kept for taking laboratory specimens.

Smallpox

Langley Park Isolation Hospital, County Durham, is the designated smallpox hospital for the district, and the consultant in charge is Dr. T. A. Grimson. The hospital can be opened in two hours' notice by contacting the senior administrative medical officer of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board or his deputy. The ambulance for the conveyance of suspected smallpox patients is provided by Durham County Ambulance Service.

Three smallpox consultants are available in the region :

| | <i>Office</i> | <i>Home</i> |
|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Dr. J. Grant | — | Low Fell 875035 |
| Dr. T. R. Lauckner | Newcastle 38811 | Newcastle 812132 |
| Dr. W. Minns | Gosforth 859011 | Humshaugh 317 |

Laboratory facilities, including electron microscopy, are available at the public health laboratory, Newcastle General Hospital, whose director is Dr. J. H. Hale.

A small amount of smallpox vaccine is held at the health control unit, and arrangements exist for informing other medical officers of health of the need for surveillance.

No facilities exist at Newcastle Airport for the complete disinfection or disinfestation of an aircraft. The nearest airport with such facilities is Manchester.

8. Medical Inspection of Aliens and Commonwealth Immigrants

The four doctors listed on Page 1 hold warrants of appointment as medical inspectors of aliens and commonwealth immigrants.

Last year we were only called upon to examine one alien, although in the month of May quite an amount of stand-by was necessary. This came about because one of the Norwegian mail boats went out of service and for four days passengers were flown in instead of travelling by sea.

STATISTICS

| | |
|--|-------|
| Total number of arriving Commonwealth citizens subject to control under the Act 1969 | 259 |
| Total number of Commonwealth citizens medically examined | Nil |
| Total number of aircraft carrying aliens.. | 411 |
| Total number of arriving aliens (excluding crews) | 4,952 |
| Total number of aliens medically examined | 1 |

9. Other Work

The health control unit is in fact chiefly used for the treatment of casualties who may be either employees or passengers.

It is possible for persons to be transferred direct from aircraft to ambulances, and methods exist for the conveyance of handicapped persons from the terminal building to aircraft.

The health control unit also houses some of the equipment which is required under Board of Trade regulations for use in the event of a major disaster.

WARDENS FOR THE ELDERLY

In February 1966 Mrs. E. Alexander was appointed warden at Stamfordham primarily for the supervision of persons in the grouped flatlets in the village. Her appointment was gradually extended so that she was keeping an eye on all the 60 or so elderly people in the village.

During 1968 the Council had under consideration ways and means of providing warning systems for elderly persons living alone. No single system seemed to be satisfactory unless in purpose built group dwellings. It was considered that personal contact was more valuable than any mechanical warning system and with the success of Mrs. Alexander's work at Stamfordham in mind the Council decided to appoint two further wardens. In January 1969 Mrs. Gill took up her duties at Brunswick Village where there are about 120 elderly people, and at Heddon-on-the-Wall Mrs. Watson commenced at the same time with about 150 people in the area. In the latter part of the year the Council decided to extend the scheme to Ponteland and Mrs. Gardner was appointed in November. In Ponteland village, excluding Darras Hall, there are about 160 elderly people.

The duties of the wardens are to compile a list of the old persons in the area, to visit each one and to carry out such further visiting as is necessary. They should be familiar, with the various statutory and voluntary services for the elderly and know where to get help when required. The Council have provided telephones in the wardens' homes.

Help should be given in emergency. In general the wardens visit some 3 — 5 persons every day and another 20 or so persons every one or two weeks. Contact with some of the others is maintained through Over 60's Clubs etc. and the rest are visited once or twice per year. The scheme has worked very well but is rather open ended and the wardens have to guard against giving routine help, particularly when relatives are available. The remuneration paid is for approximately 10 hours per week but the wardens have, particularly in the initial stages, often been doing far more than this. It is the type of job in which a strong voluntary element exists, and of course it is more important for the warden to be there when a need arises than for routine visiting to be carried out. Thus the number of hours put in at certain times in the

winter is high and, we hope, is counterbalanced by a lighter-case load in the summer.

The scheme has been very successful in each area, largely due to the personal qualities and dedication of the wardens, and the fact that they are well known in their villages.

The following are the wardens appointed :—

| <i>Name</i> | <i>Address</i> | <i>Telephone No.</i> |
|-------------------|---|----------------------|
| Mrs. E. Alexander | 26 North Side, Stamfordham. | Stamfordham 298 |
| Mrs. H. Watson | 21 Heddon Banks, Heddon-on-the-Wall. | Wylam 2584 |
| Mrs. A. Gill | 8 Walter Street, Brunswick Village. | Wideopen 4139 |
| Mrs. A. Gardner | 23 Rowan Drive, Ponteland. | Ponteland 3024 |

*Annual Report of the
Chief Public Health Inspector
1969*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my report for the year ended 31st December 1969. Progressive activity in the field of environmental hygiene has been maintained throughout the year. Recent legislation in the form of the Housing Act 1969 repealed the compulsory improvement powers contained in the Housing Act 1964. An "Improvement Area" has been replaced with "General Improvement Area" which is much more elastic than the 1964 concept.

The success of this new approach depends largely on the co-operation of house owners improving their houses with grants. Such an area at Hazlerigg comprising 140 houses is at present under consideration.

Further changes under this Act are directed to amend the law with regard to rents payable for dwellings in good repair and possessing all the amenities of a modern house.

Particular attention continues to be directed to regular inspection of food premises. During the last decade there has been an all-round improvement in standards. Many of the establishments in the district have been newly built.

As in previous years, the system of personal contact and informal notices has largely been employed in connection with the remedying of nuisances and housing repairs to the ultimate benefit of all concerned.

Domestic and trade refuse collection has proportionally increased with the expansion of housing and business development.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) MILK SUPPLY

The following milk distributors are registered under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959 :—

T. & E. Forster, Friendly Buildings, Dinnington.
 Clarke Bros., 19 Northside, Stamfordham.
 Gelders (Confectioners) Ltd., 2 Merton Way, Ponteland.
 W. P. Irwin, Kirkley Hall Farm, Ponteland.
 Laws Stores Ltd., 4 Newlands Avenue, Melton Park.
 Laws Stores Ltd., 17/19 Merton Road, Ponteland.
 John Lumley, "Troy", Stamfordham.
 Moores (Grocers) Ltd., Shopping Centre, Newbiggin
 Hall Estate.
 R. W. Rutherford, Hawkwell Farm, Stamfordham.
 So-Fresh Eggs Ltd., Stannington Filling Station, Clifton.
 J. Ford, Breckney Hill Farm, East Heddon.
 K. Waudby, 15/17 Broadway, Darras Hall, Ponteland.
 W. & J. Pearson, 2 Grey Street, Brunswick Village.
 E. & G. Bell, 12 Grey Street, Brunswick Village.
 H. Thompson, Hawthorn Cottage, Brunton Lane.
 J. A. Herron, 16 Woodside, Darras Hall.
 J. H. Brown, Ivy House, Kenton Bank Foot.
 J. Hudspeth, North Brunton Farm, North Gosforth.
 J. F. Smith, West House Farm, Stannington.
 Ashington Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd.
 Newcastle Co-operative Society Ltd.
 Throckley & District Co-operative Society Ltd.
 Cramlington Co-operative Society Ltd.

Samples of milk taken by the County Health Inspector during the year under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1960 and their examination results are as follows :—

| | | | | |
|-------------|----|----|----|----|
| Untreated | .. | .. | .. | 22 |
| Pasteurised | .. | .. | .. | 41 |
| U.H.T. | .. | .. | .. | 1 |
| | | | | — |
| | | | | 64 |
| | | | | — |

Of these, five samples of 'Untreated' and four samples of 'Pasteurised' milk failed to satisfy the methylene blue test ; the remainder satisfied the prescribed tests.

(b) FOOD PREMISES

There are 172 food premises in the district as follows :—

| | |
|---|-------|
| Bakers and Confectioners | 7 |
| Butchers | 11 |
| Canteens (Industrial) | 2 |
| Chemists | 6 |
| Clubs | 8 |
| Food Manufacturers | 3 |
| Fried and Wet Fish Shops | 2 |
| Groceries and Provisions | 23 |
| General Dealers | 23 |
| Greengrocers | 6 |
| Hospital and Institution Kitchens | 9 |
| Public Houses and Off-Licences | 37 |
| Restaurants, Cafes, Snack Bars | 11 |
| School Kitchens and Dining Rooms | 18 |
| Slaughterhouses | 1 |
| Confectioners | 3 |
| Residential Hotels | 2 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 172 |
| | <hr/> |

Of these premises 53 are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the following purposes :—

| | |
|--|-------|
| Sale of Ice-Cream.. .. . | 43 |
| Manufacture of Sausage and Preserved Meats | 10 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 53 |
| | <hr/> |

FOOD HYGIENE (MARIETS, STALLS AND DELIVERY VEHICLES) REGULATIONS, 1966

There was a noticeable improvement in the type and condition of motor vehicles used as mobile shops throughout the district. By far the majority of vehicles are purpose made, whilst those that remain are vans that have been suitably adapted. The converted single deck bus has now almost disappeared, not being the right type of vehicle anyway for a single operator to use on narrow estate roads.

Vehicles were clean internally, with three exceptions. These were improved after warning letters were sent. Clean-

liness amongst personnel was also noticeable. This was probably the most encouraging factor, bearing in mind that such employees are engaged the entire day keeping the vehicle tidy within restricted accommodation serving and van driving.

Twenty three mobile shops were examined during the year.

(c) **ICE-CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT) REGULATIONS, 1959**

Thirteen samples of ice-cream were taken and submitted for examination by the Public Health Laboratory.

Results were as follows : —

| | | |
|---------------------|----|----|
| Provisional Grade 1 | .. | 10 |
| Provisional Grade 2 | .. | 3 |

(d) **FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955 — SAMPLING OF FOOD**

The Northumberland County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority are responsible for sampling under this heading and 129 samples were taken in the Castle Ward area during the year.

The following information has been supplied by Mr. C. L. Arlidge, Chief Inspector, County Weights and Measures Department :—

PARTICULARS OF SAMPLES TAKEN IN CASTLE WARD RURAL DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1969

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Almond Marzipan | Dessicated Coconut | Menthol and Eucalyptus |
| Apple Chutney | Drinking Chocolate | Sweets |
| Apricot with Sherry | Epsom Salts B.P. | Milk |
| Liqueur Preserve | Fish Cakes | Milk (Condensed) |
| Baking Powder | Fish (Frozen) | Milk (Dried) |
| Barley Sugar Sweets | Fish Fingers | Minced Steak |
| Beef Dripping | Flour | Olive Oil |
| Biscuits | Fried Potato Chips | Pie Fillings |
| Blackcurrant Crumble | Gelatine | Pepper |
| (Fruit Dessert) | Gravy Mix | Potato Puffs |
| Butter | Ground Cinnamon | Ready Meals (Canned) |
| Castor Oil B.P. | Instant Coffee | Ready Meals (Dehydrated) |
| Cheese | Liquid Paraffin B.P. | Sausage Meat |
| Cooking Oil | Margarine | Soft Drinks and |
| Cranberry—Orange | Meat Pies and Sausage | Fruit Juices |
| Relish | Rolls | Stewed Apple |
| Christmas Pudding | Meat Products (Canned) | Vinegar |
| Custard (Canned) | Meat Products (Frozen) | |

(continued on page 30)

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|-----|
| Total number of samples taken.. | .. | 129 |
| Number sent to Analyst .. | .. | 71 |
| Number of samples of milk .. | .. | 38 |
| Number of samples other than milk .. | .. | 91 |
| Number of genuine samples .. | .. | 116 |
| Number of unsatisfactory samples .. | .. | 13 |

PARTICULARS OF UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES

| <i>Sample</i> | <i>Analysis</i> | <i>Action Taken</i> |
|--|--|--|
| Beef Slices in Gravy (Canned) No. HY.475 | Meat in form of chunks and pieces, not in form of six slices as shown on illustrated lid. | Manufacturers agreed to re-design labels. |
| Frozen Haddock Steaks No. HY. 479 | Pictorial representations on faces of cartons depicted "dressed fish." In fact the contents of the packets consisted of steaks of uncooked fish with no dressing — the addition of further ingredients was necessary to produce the articles illustrated on carton. | Manufacturers agreed to consider either amending the illustrations or adding a suitable rider, e.g. "does not include dressing." |
| Ready Meals Nos. HY. 531- HY. 539 and HY. 541 | These products required preparation times of from 15 — 25 minutes and required some or all of the following processes : adding water, mixing, boiling, stirring, simmering, frying, draining and rinsing. It was considered therefore that they could not justifiably be classed as ready meals . | Enquiries showed that the matter was under consideration at National level and that a Government Department was involved. It was agreed, therefore, that no further action should be taken until the results of these considerations be known. |
| Blackcurrant Crumble HY. 747 | Illustration on face of sealed container showed a slice of fruit pudding containing a solid mass of whole blackcurrants. In actual fact the fruit filling consisted of a semi-liquid, jelly-like preparation. | Manufacturers agreed to re-design label to show a more realistic picture of the contents. |

(e) COMPLAINTS OF UNSOUND FOOD FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955 — SECTION 2

During the year four complaints were received under this heading. These were as follows :—

1. Foreign bodies in a bottle of milk.

2. Meat pie affected with mould.
3. Foreign body in a fish cake.
4. Sandwich cake affected with mould.

In the case of the foreign bodies in a bottle of milk the Health Committee resolved to institute legal proceedings against the firm, which resulted in them being fined a total of £29 19s. 0d.

In the case of the meat pie affected with mould, it was resolved to institute legal proceedings against the firm, which resulted in them being fined a total sum of £17 14s. 6d.

In the other two cases letters were sent to the two firms in question warning them that should complaints of this nature again arise a more serious line of action would be taken.

MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS 1959 and FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955 —

SECTION 31 CIRCULAR 17/66

Referring to Dr. Smith's remarks under the section Brucellosis, the number of milk samples, including routine sampling, and the results of examination thereof were as follows :—

| <i>Number of Samples Taken</i> | <i>Number Negative</i> | <i>Number Ring Test Positive</i> | <i>Number Ring Test Doubtful</i> | <i>Number Culture Positive</i> |
|--|----------------------------|--|--|--|
| 94 | 78 | 11 | 5 | 3 |

(f) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

In early December Messrs. E. Lumley & Son closed down their slaughterhouse at Stamfordham. This left one licensed slaughterhouse in the district, namely Messrs. R. Manners & Sons Limited, situated on the Meadowfield Industrial Estate. Permitted hours of slaughtering are stipulated by the Council (this includes Saturday morning working), and as required by The Meat Inspection Regulations 1963 100% meat inspection is maintained at all times.

The Northumbrian Chicken Company Limited, which is also situated on the Meadowfield Industrial Estate operates a broiler processing plant handling 17,500 birds per week. Five of the eight battery houses within the district are under contract with this company to supply them.

A much smaller poultry processing station, operated by R. S. Wright and situated at Kirkley Mill, handles about 750 birds per week, a third of which are hens. Tabled below are details of all birds processed at these two stations during the year.

POULTRY PROCESSING PREMISES

| No. | No. of Visits | Number of Birds Processed | | | | | % Birds Rejected | Weight of Birds Rejected (in stones) |
|-----|---------------|---------------------------|-------|--------|--------|----------|------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | Turkeys | Ducks | Hens | Capons | Broilers | | |
| 2 | 312 | — | — | — | — | 875,000 | .5 | 1,276 |
| | | — | — | 13,000 | — | — | 5.0 | 232 |
| | | — | — | — | 26,000 | — | 2.0 | 100 |

SLAUGHTER OF POULTRY ACT 1967

The above Act will come into force on 1st January 1970 and extends only to turkeys and domestic fowls slaughtered for purposes of preparation for sale for human consumption. The act requires that all birds shall be slaughtered instantaneously, either by decapitation, dislocation of the neck, or stunning by an approved instrument.

The only exemption to these provisions are where birds are slaughtered by the Jewish and Muslim method for the food of Jews and Muslims.

It shall also be the duty of each local authority to maintain a register of all premises in its area where turkeys or domestic fowls are stunned before slaughter.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT 1958

The Council is a Licensing Authority under Section 3 of this Act and during the year 1 licence and 12 renewals of licences to slaughter animals were issued.

DETAILS OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AND INSPECTED

| | Cattle excl. Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs | Total |
|--|-------------------------|------|--------|-----------------------|------|-------|
| Normal Kill | 5389 | 577 | 10 | 17027 | 5082 | 28085 |
| Casualties | 9 | 8 | 1 | 57 | 20 | 95 |
| Number examined | 5398 | 585 | 11 | 17084 | 5102 | 28180 |
| CARCASES CONDEMNED WHOLLY OR IN PART : | | | | | | |
| A. All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci— | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned .. | 16 | 2 | 1 | 85 | 32 | 136 |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 2482 | 276 | — | 2223 | 1230 | 6211 |
| B. Tuberculosis only : | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned .. | — | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. | 4 | — | — | — | 1 | 5 |
| C. Cysticercosis : | | | | | | |
| Whole Carcasses condemned .. | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. | 5 | — | — | 2 | — | 7 |

**DETAILS OF MEAT AND OTHER ORGANS CONDEMNED,
SURRENDERED AND DISPOSED OF**

FOR TUBERCULOSIS

Pigs :

Heads.. .. 5

Bovine :

Carcases .. 1

Head & Tongues 4

Lungs.. .. 2 sets

FOR OTHER DEFINED DISEASES

Bovine :

| | | |
|-------------------|------|--|
| Head & Tongues | 25 | Abscesses 5, Actinobacillosis, 14, Actinomycosis 4, Congested Lymph Glands 1, Cysticercus Bovis 1. |
| Hearts.. .. | 52 | Cysticercus Bovis 5, Pericarditis 47. |
| Kidneys | 19 | Abscesses 9, Nephritis 2, Retention Cysts 1, Traumatism 7. |
| Livers (whole).. | 1038 | Abscesses 53, Fascioliasis 939, Fatty Degeneration 1, Peritonitis 29, Telangiectasis 16. |
| (part) | 1276 | Fascioliasis 1274, Peritonitis 2. |
| Lungs.. .. | 548 | Abscesses 21, Emphysema 1, Fascioliasis 284, Pleurisy 227, Pneumonia 15. |
| Spleen.. .. | 4 | Peritonitis 4. |
| Thick Skirt | 5 | Pleurisy 5. |
| Beef | 75 | Arthritis 5 $\frac{1}{2}$, Abscesses 5, Bone Taint |
| Stones | | 7, Oedema and Emaciation 38 $\frac{3}{4}$, Severe Bruising 12 $\frac{3}{4}$, Traumatism 6. |
| Carcases | 19 | Arthritis, Oedema & Emaciation 5, Gangrenous Metritis & Septic Peritonitis 2, Johnes Disease & Emaciation 3, Ill Bled 1, Septicaemia 2, Septic Mastitis & Traumatism 2, Tetanus 1, Immaturity 3. |
| (413) | | |
| (Stones) | | |

Sheep :

| | | |
|----------|--------------------|---|
| Liver .. | ..1002 | Cysticercus Tenuicollis 19, Bacterial Necrosis 1, Fascioliasis 841, Parasites 137, Peritonitis 4. |
| Lungs .. | .. 999 | Meullerius Capillaris 755, Parasites 2, Pleurisy 12, Pneumonia 230. |
| Plucks.. | .. 19 | Pleurisy, Peritonitis & Pericarditis 19. |
| Mutton | .. (16 stones) | Arthritis $1\frac{3}{4}$, Abscesses $4\frac{3}{4}$, Emaciation & Oedema $1\frac{3}{4}$, Fracture $1\frac{1}{2}$, Haemorrhage 1, Pleurisy 1, Septic Pneumonia $1\frac{3}{4}$, Traumatism $2\frac{1}{2}$. |
| Carcases | .. 82 (339 stones) | Acute Pleurisy & Oedema 1, Gangrene, Ill Bled & Pyrexia 8, Moribund 2, Septic Peritonitis 1, Septic Pneumonia 2, Arthritis, Oedema & Emaciation 48, Pyaemia 3, Pyrexia 2, Septic Mastitis & Oedema 4, Ill Bled 3, Immaturity 2, Gangrenous Mastitis 1, Septic Arthritis 2, Septic Pneumonia & Septic Pleurisy 1, Toxaemia 1, Abscesses & Septicaemia 1. |

Pigs :

| | | |
|----------|--------------------|---|
| Heads.. | .. 16 | Abscesses 4, Corynebacterium Equi. 1, Pericarditis 6. |
| Hearts.. | .. 105 | Pericarditis 105. |
| Liver .. | .. 352 | Ascaris Lumbricoides 329, Fascioliasis 2, Peritonitis 21. |
| Lungs.. | .. 817 | Pleurisy 41, Pneumonia 776. |
| Plucks.. | .. 41 | Pericarditis, Peritonitis & Pleurisy 41. |
| Pork .. | .. 11 | Abscesses 3, Arthritis 6, Pleurisy 1, Stones Traumatism 1. |
| Carcases | .. 30 (145 Stones) | Abdominal Abscesses & Generalised Oedema 1, Generalised Peritonitis 1, Pyaemia 3, Septic Arthritis & Emaciation 1, Septic Pneumonia |

& Oedema 1, Pyrexia & Ill Bleeding 1, Gangrene 2, Pyaemia & Septic Pleurisy 1, Septic Pneumonia & Emaciation 1, Acute Septic Pneumonia 1, Emaciation & Oedema 5, Septic Pleurisy & Pneumonia 1, Septicaemia 1, Ill Bled, Oedema & Spinal Abscesses 1, Malformation & Oedema 1, Bruising & Oedema 1, Multiple Abscesses 1, Pleurisy & Peritonitis 1, Septic Peritonitis 1, Septic Pneumonia & Pyrexia 1, Septic Pleurisy & Emaciation 1, Septic Arthritis & Oedema 2.

**TOTAL NUMBER OF FOOD ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED
AND INSPECTED IN PAST EIGHT YEARS**

| | 1962 | 1963 | 1964 | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 |
|----------------------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Cattle (ex. cows) | 1,183 | 1,091 | 5,238 | 5,087 | 5,142 | 6,088 | 6,252 | 5,398 |
| Cows .. | 332 | 269 | 956 | 1,090 | 804 | 618 | 618 | 585 |
| Calves .. | 351 | 417 | 277 | 168 | 162 | 147 | 20 | 11 |
| Sheep and Lambs | 6,048 | 6,606 | 19,083 | 14,772 | 18,885 | 19,174 | 20,053 | 17,084 |
| Pigs .. | 487 | 388 | 4,210 | 6,256 | 6,663 | 5,672 | 5,538 | 5,102 |
| | 8,401 | 8,771 | 29,764 | 28,093 | 31,656 | 31,699 | 32,481 | 28,180 |

PRE-PACKED AND CANNED FOODS

The following were condemned as unsound :—

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Canned Meats | 10 lbs. |
| Other Canned Foods | 94 lbs. |

PUBLIC CLEANSING

A weekly collection of household and trade refuse throughout the thirteen parishes covering an area of approximately one hundred and twenty five square miles was maintained. As in the previous year a considerable amount of time was lost through sickness. Some of the adjoining local authorities experience the same difficulties in maintaining the service through time lost in this way.

It is a Council policy that no work of collection is carried over to the following week. Due to sickness etc. this has inevitably resulted in a certain amount of overtime.

Special collections are made from a large hotel and the Newcastle Airport on Saturdays, and in the case of the latter on Sundays during the season. In both cases a charge is made.

A free service is provided for the collection and disposal of bulky household articles, i.e. furniture, pianos, beds, mattresses etc. Garden refuse is also collected provided that the quantity is small and can be collected at the same time as the domestic refuse. Otherwise a charge is made.

Two refuse disposal points where residents of the district can dispose of unwanted articles are situated near Dinnington Village to serve the eastern area of the district together with north-east and south-east, and Kirkley disused gravel pit to serve the west, south-west and north-west. There is no doubt that the service mentioned above has resulted in the infrequent use of these points by the public.

Although these facilities exist for the disposal of waste material, unwanted articles, etc., the dumping of litter in field gateways and grass verges on the highway still persists.

In accordance with the requirements of the Civic Amenities Act 1967 arrangements were made for the disposal of seven unwanted motor cars. Five of these were collected by a car dismantling merchant and two were deposited on the refuse tips.

Apart from the above there were at least a further four cars and one van deposited without authority on the Belsay Tip.

Wherever possible the use of bulk containers, i.e. 1½ cu. yd. bins, to service schools, hospitals, etc. is encouraged. Two of the fleet of refuse vehicles are supplied with the necessary lifting machinery to handle this type of container.

The character and quantity of refuse is slowly changing. It is the volume now, not the density which is the real issue. One constituent stands out before all others as the main cause of volume increase. As one would expect it is paper. This involves something like 65% of the refuse collected. To remove this amount, together with other combustible matter, would solve the biggest problem facing controlled, tipping, the method still favoured throughout rural districts on economical grounds.

Septic Tank Emptying Service

All the villages in the district are provided with public sewers and sewage disposal works. There are, however, over six hundred private septic tanks taking the drainage from isolated houses. A thousand gallon four-wheel drive cesspool emptier is employed on this work.

This is a free service and every endeavour is made to desludge each tank twice a year. There are some instances where the siting of the tank, i.e. in fields, when according to either weather or "crops" conditions this is not always possible.

The occasion does arise on farm premises where there is a septic tank which deals exclusively with liquid waste from byres, milk establishments, etc. In these instances the farmer usually requests the desludging of the septic tank at the same time as the domestic tank is being serviced. A charge for labour and running costs is made for this work.

Vehicles

The following vehicles are employed on the service :—

| | | |
|---------|------------------------|---|
| JNL 952 | Shelvoke & Drewry 1955 | 18/25 cu. yd. Rear loader fore and aft tipper |
| | Original cost : £2,504 | Present-day cost : £4,260 |
| PNL 140 | Karrier Bantam 1959 | 7 cu. yd. Side Loader. |
| | Original cost : £1,060 | Present-day cost : £1,622 |
| RTY 550 | Karrier Gamecock 1960 | 18/25 cu. yd. Rear loader fore and aft tipper |
| | Original cost : £2,212 | Present-day cost : £4,135 |
| RJR 394 | Thames Trader 1960 | 1,000 galls. Cesspool emptier. |
| | Original cost : £3,342 | Present-day cost : £5,000 approx. |

| | | | |
|----------|-------------------|--------|---|
| WNL 796 | Karrier Bantam | 1962 | 10 cu. yd. Side loader. |
| | Original cost : | £1,325 | Present-day cost : £2,108 |
| YTY 269 | Shelvoke & Drewry | 1963 | 25 cu. yd. Rear loader fore and aft tipper. |
| | Original cost : | £3,632 | Present-day cost : £5,310 |
| CNL 257B | Karrier Bantam | 1964 | 10 cu. yd. Side loader. |
| | Original cost : | £1,389 | Present-day cost : £2,108 |
| ETY 590C | Karrier Bantam | 1965 | 10 cu. yd. Side loader. |
| | Original cost : | £1,321 | Present-day cost : £2,108 |
| JNL 279D | Shelvoke & Drewry | 1966 | 50 cu. yd. Rear loader Pakamatic |
| | Original cost : | £5,060 | Present-day cost : £6,315 |
| LJR 840E | Karrier Bantam | 1967 | 10 cu. yd. Side loader. |
| | Original cost : | £1,398 | Present-day cost : £2,108 |
| PJR 389F | Weatherill | 1968 | 4-wheel drive loading shovel. |
| | Original cost : | £4,664 | Present-day cost : £5,800 |
| SNL 497G | Shelvoke & Drewry | 1969 | 50 cu. yd. Rear loader Pakamatic. |
| | Original cost : | £6,229 | Present-day cost : £7,080. |

A 20 cu. yd. Shelvoke & Drewry fore and aft tipper is currently on order to replace the 7 cu. yd. Karrier Bantam and the additional capacity is expected to cope with the increased development in the sector served without the need to increase the crew.

Refuse Disposal

Disposal points are as follows :—

1. Belsay Quarry
2. Heddon-on-the-Wall
3. Kirkley West Thorn Gravel Pit
4. Mill Hill, Dinnington
5. Stannington
6. Stobhill, Cheeseburn Grange

Sites for disposal are a continual pre-occupation as development proceeds and the amount of refuse increases in a "throw away" society. Whilst there is no immediate crisis, the present sites for the tipping of refuse have a limited life and give some cause for concern. In the past, tipping has been a satisfactory and very economical means of disposal, but serious consideration will have to be given to alternative methods of which incineration, with its large capital costs, is that most generally favoured.

Cleansing Costs for the Year ended 31st March, 1970

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Volume of refuse removed | 89,930 cu. yds. |
| Estimated weight of refuse removed.. .. | 11,100 tons |
| Approximate average weight per house per annum | 19.75 cwts. |
| Average volume per house per annum .. | 8.1 cu. yds. |
| Average weight per 1,000 population per day (365 days) | 16.45 cwts. |
| Total cost of collection and disposal (Domestic, Trade Refuse and Salvage) and operation of septic tank emptying service | £59,129 9 7 |
| <i>Less</i> Income from Trade Refuse, Salvage and chargeable work | £5,723 2 7 |
| Net Cleansing Cost.. .. | £53,406 7 0 |
| Cost per house per annum | £4 15 8 |
| Cost per person per annum | 1 8 10 |
| Cost on Rates in the £.. .. . | 9.5d. |

Salvage

Waste paper, rags and scrap metal are collected with the normal refuse collection and their sale is a useful source of income. The collection of paper serves the further object of reducing demand on tipping space.

The following salvaged material was sold during the financial year ended 31st March 1970.

Details of salvage disposed of :—

| | <i>Tons</i> | <i>Cwts.</i> | <i>Qtrs.</i> | <i>lbs.</i> | <i>£</i> | <i>s.</i> | <i>d.</i> |
|--|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|
| Newsprint | 113 | 11 | 1 | | 1,093 | 16 | 8 |
| Fibreboard (cardboard) | 156 | 5 | 0 | | 1,658 | 8 | 4 |
| Mixed Paper | 79 | 17 | 1 | | 716 | 7 | 9 |
| Mixed Light Iron, Metal | 7 | 1 | 2 | | 37 | 10 | 0 |
| Rags | 3 | 13 | 3 | | 54 | 3 | 0 |
| Wool | | 4 | 1 | | 17 | 17 | 0 |
| Scrap lead | | 2 | 2 | | 14 | 15 | 0 |
| Aluminium | | | 1 | 18 | 3 | 3 | 8 |
| Iron | | | 1 | 6 | | 15 | 2 |
| Copper (council house maintenance) .. | | 2 | 1 | 7 | 61 | 17 | 2 |
| | <u>360</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>3</u> | <u>£3,658</u> | <u>13</u> | <u>9</u> |

WATER SUPPLY

The official water undertakers to the Council are the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company who have laid service mains throughout the rural district. Most premises are now connected to these mains except where the cost of connection is considered prohibitive, and these premises are served by their own private supplies. In addition, the villages of Belsay and Capheaton rely on estate supplies which are adequate.

Regular sampling for bacteriological examination is carried out, emphasis being placed on private supplies. In addition frequent sampling from mains supplies is carried out by the water undertaker. Details are given below.

Samples Taken by the Council

| No. of Samples | Probable numbers per 100 ml. | |
|----------------|------------------------------|---------------------|
| | Coliform bacilli | Bact. coli (type I) |
| 10 | Nil | Nil |
| 3 | 1 | 1 |
| 2 | 3 | 3 |
| 1 | 3 | 2 |
| 1 | 7 | 7 |
| 1 | 50 | Nil. |
| 1 | 160 | Nil. |
| 1 | 180+ | Nil. |

In the case of unsatisfactory samples action is taken to restore the supply to a wholesome condition or to connect to the main.

I am indebted to Mr. M. J. Lowther, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., M.I.W.E., Engineer, Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, for the following information :—

“ A total of 1,028 works control samples from Whittle Dene and Henderson Filters were examined in the Company's laboratory during the year, and of these all were of an “ excellent ” quality, with one exception which was classified as “ satisfactory.”

In addition to the foregoing, 232 samples of water from the Coquet Water Board's Warkworth Plant were taken at

Longbenton Governor House. Two of these samples were "unsatisfactory" but check samples were found to be "excellent" as were the remaining 230 samples.

449 samples from special sampling points in Newcastle upon Tyne gave the following results :—

448 "excellent" 1 "satisfactory."

The results of samples taken from various points within the Castle Ward Area were as follows :—

| <i>Source of Supply</i> | <i>No. of Samples</i> | <i>Classification</i> |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Mootlaw Reservoir | 4 | Excellent |
| Harlow Hill Reservoir | 9 | Excellent |
| Fenham Reservoir | 9 | Excellent |
| Whalton Reservoir | 7 | 5 excellent 2 Satisfactory |
| Walbottle Pumping Station . | 3 | Excellent |
| Heddon Tank | 1 | Excellent |
| Coquet Water Board | 4 | 3 Excellent 1 Unsatisfactory |

In all cases check samples proved to be "excellent."

The following new water pipes were laid in Castle Ward Rural District during the year. (Lengths given are in yards).

| | 3" | 4" | 6" |
|-----------------------|-----|-------|-----|
| North Gosforth Ph. .. | 59 | 1,479 | 594 |
| Ponteland Ph. .. | 460 | 944 | 752 |
| Stannington Ph. .. | 257 | 626 | |
| Woolsington Ph. .. | 26 | 239 | 700 |

The following premises within the added limits were connected during the year :—

OPEN SUPPLY

31 Moor Farm, Stannington.

Windy Walls Cottage, Dalton.

Rose Cottage, Eachwick, Dalton.

Site 1, Hawkwell Village, Stamfordham.

West Toft Cottage, Harnham.

Sites, 19, 21, 27, 30, House Nos. 1, 2, 10, 11, 12

Station Road, Stannington.

Site Nos. 2, 10, 11, 12 Temperance Site, Stannington.

Site Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 Glebe Site, Stannington.

METER SUPPLY

Castle Ward R.D.C. Sewage Disposal, Matfen.

A. K. Turner & Sons, 3/4 Small Holding, Stannington.

G. M. Strachan, Moor Farm, Stannington.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

This Act lays upon local authorities the duty of keeping their districts free from rats and mice, and a full-time rodent operator is employed by the Council. The Council sewers and refuse tips are regularly serviced and agricultural properties are kept under observation.

Although it is the duty of occupiers to keep their premises free from rodents, it is Council policy to treat infestations in private houses free of charge. In the case of business premises a charge is made and the sum of £100 6s. 3d. was recovered under this head during the current year.

Rodent control is a national problem and is co-ordinated by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Area Liaison Committee meetings, held under the auspices of the Ministry, are held regularly, which result in useful discussions of common problems with officers of neighbouring authorities.

The following is a summary of the work carried out under the above Act :—

| | Type of Property | |
|---|------------------|--------------|
| | Non-Agricultural | Agricultural |
| Number of properties in the district .. | 10,703 | 459 |
| Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification | 554 | 39 |
| Number infested by (i) Rats | 456 | 27 |
| (ii) Mice | 85 | 12 |
| Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification | 477 | 27 |
| Number infested by (i) Rats | 342 | 15 |
| (ii) Mice | 58 | 12 |

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES :—

| | | | | |
|----------------|----|----|----|----|
| Wasps' Nests | .. | .. | .. | 40 |
| Cockroaches | .. | .. | .. | 11 |
| Clover Mite | .. | .. | .. | 14 |
| Red Mite | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Fleas | .. | .. | .. | 7 |
| Black Beetles | .. | .. | .. | 5 |
| Carpet Beetles | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Woodworm | .. | .. | .. | 4 |
| Spiders | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Bugs | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Silver Fish | .. | .. | .. | 3 |
| Wood Lice | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Flies | .. | .. | .. | 2 |
| Snails | .. | .. | .. | 1 |

HOUSING

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Housing Act, 1949. Housing Repairs and Rent Act 1954
Rent Act, 1957. Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958
Sections 30 — 33), House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959
Housing Act, 1969

Over the last two centuries, there has always been in this country a housing problem of one kind or another. It has, more so in post-war years, been recognised that bad housing is a major environmental health problem which demands a quick solution to give people a life in which they can enjoy modern amenities both within and surrounding their homes.

Evidenced by the introduction of the Housing Act, 1969, new emphasis has now been laid upon improving the standard of older dwellings, being otherwise sound, in order that the needs of the population can be more rapidly met. The solution does not lie only by demolition and the erection of new properties.

To encourage those who want to improve and modernise sound older homes, the new Act introduces more generous assistance by increasing the discretionary grant from £400 to £1,000 (£1,200 for conversion) and increasing the standard grant from £155 to £200.

A further incentive equally important, was added by allowing certain items of repair to rank for grant aid, providing the cost did not exceed 50% of the total cost of the proposed works.

Since 1949 when the grant system was first introduced, over a million and a quarter older homes have been modernised.

Returning to our own situation, during the past year twenty dwellings have been improved with the aid of the discretionary grant. The average cost per house on improvements alone amounted to £386.

The total number of houses improved under this scheme, which this Council adopted from the very commencement, is 491.

Under the scheme of standard grants, nine properties had amenities installed, bringing the total number to 66.

| | <i>Discretionary Grants</i> | <i>Standard Grants</i> |
|--|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| (a) Applications submitted to local authority during year | 19 | 6 |
| (b) Applications rejected .. | — | — |
| (c) Applications withdrawn .. | — | — |
| (d) Applications approved .. | 19 | 6 |
| (e) Total number of properties improved in the area since inception of scheme .. | 491 | 66 |

Housing Consolidation Regulations 1925/32

| | |
|--|-----|
| 1. No. of houses unfit for human habitation.. | 1 |
| 2. No. of houses where defects were remedied by informal action | 106 |
| 3. No. of representations made to the Council with a view to :— | |
| (a) service of notices requiring the execution of works | — |
| (b) making demolition or closing orders | — |
| 4. No. of notices served requiring the execution of works | 106 |
| 5. No. of houses rendered fit after service of formal notices | — |
| 6. No. of demolition or closing orders made .. | — |
| 7. No. of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957 | — |
| 8. No. of houses demolished | 5 |

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Clean Air Act 1956

We have in latter months been made very much aware of our polluted environment. The land, the sea-shore and the air we breathe, are each affected in varying degrees. Reports, which have been made available to the general public, and the numerous articles in newspapers and magazines have been the means of making the whole nation very much aware of this environmental pollution.

Still in the forefront, however, is the continuing problem of atmospheric pollution. It is therefore vital that the enthusiasm, which has taken a number of years to build up in

some areas for cleaner air, is not lost through one reason or another, particularly on the subject of solid smokeless fuel shortage, which we are beginning to hear so much about.

Naturally it is not surprising that as a rural district the picture of polluted air is considerably better than that experienced in built-up areas. Regardless of our situation which would be envied by many local authorities, it is very gratifying when this Council saw the need to remedy its worst area by making the Castle Ward No. 1 (Newbiggin Hall/Whorlton Grange) Smoke Control Order and coming into operation on 1st October 1970. This is an extension of Newcastle upon Tyne Smoke Control Area No. 10, which is considered the most sensible way of creating smoke control areas.

In all, some 3,245 properties are affected by the Order, of which one-third require new installations to comply with the Clean Air Act 1956. Works have already begun, both by the Newcastle City Council who have 1,027 appliances to deal with, and also in the case of 59 houses for which individual owner occupiers are responsible.

Up to the end of the year 135 installations had been completed.

SMOKE AND SO₂ AVERAGES
(Microgrammes/cubic metre)
PONTELAND

| DATE | SMOKE | | | | S.O. 2 | | |
|--------------|-------|------|----------|------|--------|---------|--|
| | Max. | Min. | Averages | Max. | Min. | Average | |
| 1969 | | | 61 | 55 | 12 | 29 | |
| January .. | 205 | 8 | | 74 | 11 | 39 | |
| February .. | 98 | 4 | 33 | 57 | 12 | 21 | |
| March .. | 162 | 7 | 42 | 36 | 11 | 22 | |
| April .. | 100 | 11 | 33 | 53 | 6 | 28 | |
| May.. | 51 | 3 | 20 | 54 | 12 | 26 | |
| June.. | 60 | 3 | 29 | 53 | 12 | 33 | |
| July.. | 42 | 3 | 12 | 46 | 17 | 29 | |
| August .. | 48 | 3 | 16 | 38 | 8 | 16 | |
| September .. | 48 | 5 | 22 | 70 | 18 | 36 | |
| October .. | 220 | 6 | 42 | 78 | 8 | 20 | |
| November .. | 195 | 6 | 36 | 154 | 21 | 69 | |
| December .. | 184 | 15 | 75 | | | | |

COMPARATIVE TABLE — 1969 MONTHLY AVERAGE

| SMOKE | MONTHLY AVERAGE | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|------|------|-------|-----|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|
| | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | April | May | June | July | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
| Ponteland .. | 61 | 33 | 42 | 33 | 20 | 29 | 12 | 16 | 22 | 42 | 36 | 75 |
| Westerhope .. | 284 | 140 | 229 | 115 | 98 | 72 | 47 | 46 | 72 | 97 | 126 | 206 |
| Blakelaw .. | 183 | 84 | 103 | 53 | 56 | 42 | 14 | 19 | 42 | 81 | 30 | 147 |
| Laing Art Gallery | | | 99 | 78 | 114 | 63 | 23 | 66 | 72 | 118 | 44 | 218 |
| S.O. 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Ponteland .. | 29 | 39 | 21 | 22 | 28 | 26 | 33 | 29 | 16 | 36 | 20 | 69 |
| Westerhope .. | 174 | 102 | 168 | 116 | 87 | 82 | 74 | 67 | 86 | 117 | 103 | 129 |
| Blakelaw .. | 208 | 146 | 178 | 76 | 82 | 86 | 82 | 72 | 88 | 100 | 150 | 213 |
| Laing Art Gallery | | | 264 | 138 | 158 | 162 | 127 | 95 | 129 | 152 | 195 | 351 |

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

The total number of registered premises at the end of the year was 134, a decrease of 2 on last year's figure. Of this total, 3 premises were registered during the year.

The number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year was 134, and the total number of visits of all kinds was 183.

Number and Type of Premises Registered :

| CLASS OF PREMISES | Number of premises registered during year | Total number of registered premises at end of year | Number of registered premises inspected during year |
|--|---|--|---|
| Offices | 1 | 30 | 30 |
| Retail Shops .. | — | 78 | 78 |
| Wholesale Shops and Warehouses | 2 | 3 | 3 |
| Catering Establishments and Canteens | — | 23 | 23 |
| Fuel Storage Depots | — | — | — |
| Totals .. | 3 | 134 | 134 |

Analysis of Persons Employed in Registered Premises :

| CLASS OF WORK PLACE | NUMBER OF PERSONS EMPLOYED |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Offices | 254 |
| Retail Shops | 356 |
| Wholesale Shops and Warehouses .. | 26 |
| Catering Establishments } | 201 |
| Canteens } | |
| Fuel Storage Depots | — |
| Total .. | 837 |
| Total Males .. | 353 |
| Total Females .. | 484 |

No applications were received during the year for exemptions in respect of space, temperature, sanitary conveniences and washing facilities. The number of exemptions current at the end of the year thus remained at nil.

No prosecutions were instituted during 1969 and the number of informal notices served and complied with was two.

Animal Boarding Establishment Act 1963

There are no animal boarding establishments in the district.

Local Government Act 1894

Game Act 1831 (Licence to Deal in Game)

One game dealer's licence was issued during the year. This allows the holder to buy game from any person so authorised and to sell it from their own property within the district.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act 1964

No applications were received in respect of the above Act during the year.

Agricultural Nuisance

It is not often that complaints are received of a nuisance from traditional run farms. A nuisance can however arise where intensive farming is practised.

Of the 294 farms in the district it is estimated that there are eight broiler houses.

The average space allotted to a bird reared under these conditions is 0.73 square feet with a life span of 7 — 9 weeks before despatch to the Chicken Factory for slaughter. To date no complaints have been received from this form of intensive farming.

The position is however changed where battery hens are concerned. There are four establishments of which two have required the attention of the department. The main cause of complaint is from the method of disposal of hen manure — 30,000 birds can produce 30 tons of waste per week.

In one instance the problem was thought to have been completely solved when a drying plant costing over £10,000 was installed. The complaints, which albeit are few, are now directed to the vapour emission from the chimney serving the drying plant.

Breakdown of machinery does occur with the resultant spreading of the liquid manure on surrounding fields, which brings the position back to square one.

Mootlaw Quarry, Ryal

The residents in the villages of Ingoe and Ryal have complained of nuisance from dust and noise from the Mootlaw Quarry workings.

This establishment is engaged in quarrying limestone which is crushed into various grades for use in road making, etc.

The plant consists of three crushing machines which are :-

- (1) Mansfield Stone Crusher
- (2) Sheepbridge Stone Crusher
- (3) Nordburg Stone Crusher

The first two are hammer type in action whilst the latter has a gyratory action (mincing machine type).

Two deposit gauges are on order, one for installation in the village of Ingoe and the other to the west of the quarry near the village of Ryal. The latter gauge is for comparison with the readings of the Ingoe gauge.

The advice of the Inspector Alkali Etc Works was sought. When the implementation of the various recommendations are completed, it is expected they will result in a general improvement of the position.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1961

There are 64 factories in the district. The following tables show the number of inspections and defects found during the period under review

| PREMISES | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|---|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|----------------------|
| | | Inspections | Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
| (I) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| (II) Factories not included in (I) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. | 63 | 66 | — | — |
| (III) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' Premises) | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL | 64 | 67 | — | — |

Defects Found

| PARTICULARS | Number of Cases in which Defects were found | | | | No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|--|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|
| | Found | Re-medied | Referred | | |
| | | | To H.M.I. | By H.M.I. | |
| Want of cleanliness .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Overcrowding | — | — | — | — | — |
| Unreasonable temperature | — | — | — | — | — |
| Inadequate ventilation .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ineffective drainage of floors | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sanitary Conveniences— | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 2 | 2 | — | — | — |
| (c) Not separate for sexes .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) .. | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL | 2 | 2 | — | — | — |

The following report has been provided by the Engineer and Surveyor, Mr. G. E. Dimmack, M.I.Mun.E., M.I.P.H.E. :-

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

At the 31st December 1969 the Council controlled 24 sewage treatment works as follows :—

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Belsay | 13 Milbourne (Hall Farm) |
| 2 Berwick Hill | 14 Milbourne (Village) |
| 3 Capheaton | 15 Ogle |
| 4 Dalton | 16 Ponteland (Collingwood |
| 5 Fenwick | 17 Ryal Cottages) |
| 6 Harlow Hill | 18 Stamfordham |
| 7 Heddon Hall | 19 Stannington Station Road |
| 8 Heddon-on-the-Wall | 20 Stannington Village |
| 9 Ingoe | 21 Stannington—Netherton |
| 10 Kirkheaton | 22 Wallridge Training School |
| 11 Matfen (Standing Stone) | 23 Whalton |
| 12 Milbourne (Belsay Road) | 24 Matfen |

together with 10 pumping stations through which sewage is passed to either sewage treatment works or the Seaton Burn Valley Joint Sewerage Board or to the Ouseburn Sewer of the Newcastle Corporation.

The following table gives an indication of the mileage of the various foul and surface water sewers together with pumping mains that are maintained by the Rural District Council :—

| LOCATION | Separate Systems | | Combined | Pumping Mains | No. of Manholes |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| | Foul | Surface Water | | | |
| | Length of Sewers in Lin. Yards | | | | |
| BELSAY | | | 733 | | 11 |
| BERWICK HILL .. | | | 467 | | 7 |
| BRUNTON PARK .. | 6781 | 7067 | | | 243 |
| BURN CLOSE | | | 3220 | | 39 |
| CAPHEATON | | | 392 | | 6 |
| DALTON | | | 157 | | 3 |
| DARRAS HALL .. | 23094 | 20952 | | 62 | 439 |
| DINNINGTON | 9083 | 4936 | | 3387 | 67 |
| FENWICK | 340 | | | | 5 |
| FRENCHMAN'S ROW .. | | | 600 | | 5 |
| HAZLERIGG | 752 | 1126 | 3015 | | 81 |
| HEDDON-ON-THE-WALL | | 677 | 9761 | 545 | 189 |
| KENTON BANK FOOT .. | 269 | 295 | 2600 | | 44 |
| KIRKHEATON | | | 400 | | 16 |
| MILBOURNE | 476 | | | | 7 |
| OGLE | | | 953 | | 11 |
| PONTELAND | 8081 | 6231 | 7641 | 3163 | 451 |
| RYAL | 362 | | | | 6 |
| STAMFORDHAM .. | 449 | 372 | 3855 | 30 | 75 |
| STANNINGTON | | | 7523 | 727 | 57 |
| STANDING STONE .. | 175 | | | | 5 |
| WHALTON | 103 | 103 | 883 | | 12 |
| WOOLSINGTON .. | 15557 | 15164 | 18657 | | 1007 |
| TOTALS | 65522 | 56923 | 60857 | 7914 | 2786 |
| Equivalent Mileage of each type .. | 37.32 | 32.34 | 34.60 | 4.60 | |

TOTAL MILEAGE OF ALL TYPES -- 104.26.

Disposal of Sewage to Neighbouring Authorities

(a) GOSFORTH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

893 houses at Brunton and Melton Park together with the sewage from the Gosforth Park Hotel, discharge to sewers belonging to the Gosforth Urban District Council and also directly to the Ouseburn Sewer.

(b) SEATON BURN VALLEY JOINT SEWERAGE BOARD

The total number of premises now draining to the East and West Pumping Stations at Dinnington and from Hazlerigg and Brunswick Village to the Longbenton U.D.C. Sewer at Seaton Burn School was 1,274 at 31st December 1969.

(c) NEWBURN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

The total number of properties now connected to this Authority's sewer is 47.

(d) CITY AND COUNTY OF NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

(i) BRUNTON PARK

Total number of houses discharging to the Ouseburn Sewer is 419. (This figure is included in the gross figure referred to above in paragraph (a).

(ii) NEWBIGGIN HALL ESTATE

2,119 houses and flats discharge by gravity to the Ouseburn Sewer via the Council's Trunk Sewer from Brunton Bridge to Point 'Z' at Fawdon.

(iii) NEWBIGGIN HALL ESTATE (PHASE 1A)

905 houses and flats discharge by gravity to the Black Swine Sewer at Denton Burn.

(iv) WHORLTON GRANGE ESTATE

276 houses, 8 factories and 1 service station discharge by gravity to the Ouseburn Sewer via the Council's Trunk Sewer at Brunton Bridge.

(v) PONTELAND, DARRAS HALL, WOOLSINGTON MAIN DRAINAGE

Sewage discharges by gravity and pumping to the head of the Corporation's Ouseburn Sewer, the present average rate of flow being approximately 1.5 million gallons per day.

CONCLUSION

To the Chairman of the Council, the Chairman and members of the Health Committee and to Dr. H. C. T. Smith, I express my thanks for the support rendered me throughout the year, and to all Chief Officers and Officers for their co-operation.

I also record my appreciation of the satisfactory manner in which the duties of the department have been carried out by Mr. J. Taylor, Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. R. Hardy, Mr. F. W. Higgins, Mr. A. McLaren, the Rodent Officer and Mr. T. Youngman, Cleansing Foreman.

The clerical work of the department has been well taken care of by the efficient application of Mrs. O. Newton and her assistant, Mrs. A. Ridley.

