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**Contributors**

Consett (England). Urban District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

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**Urban District of Consett**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

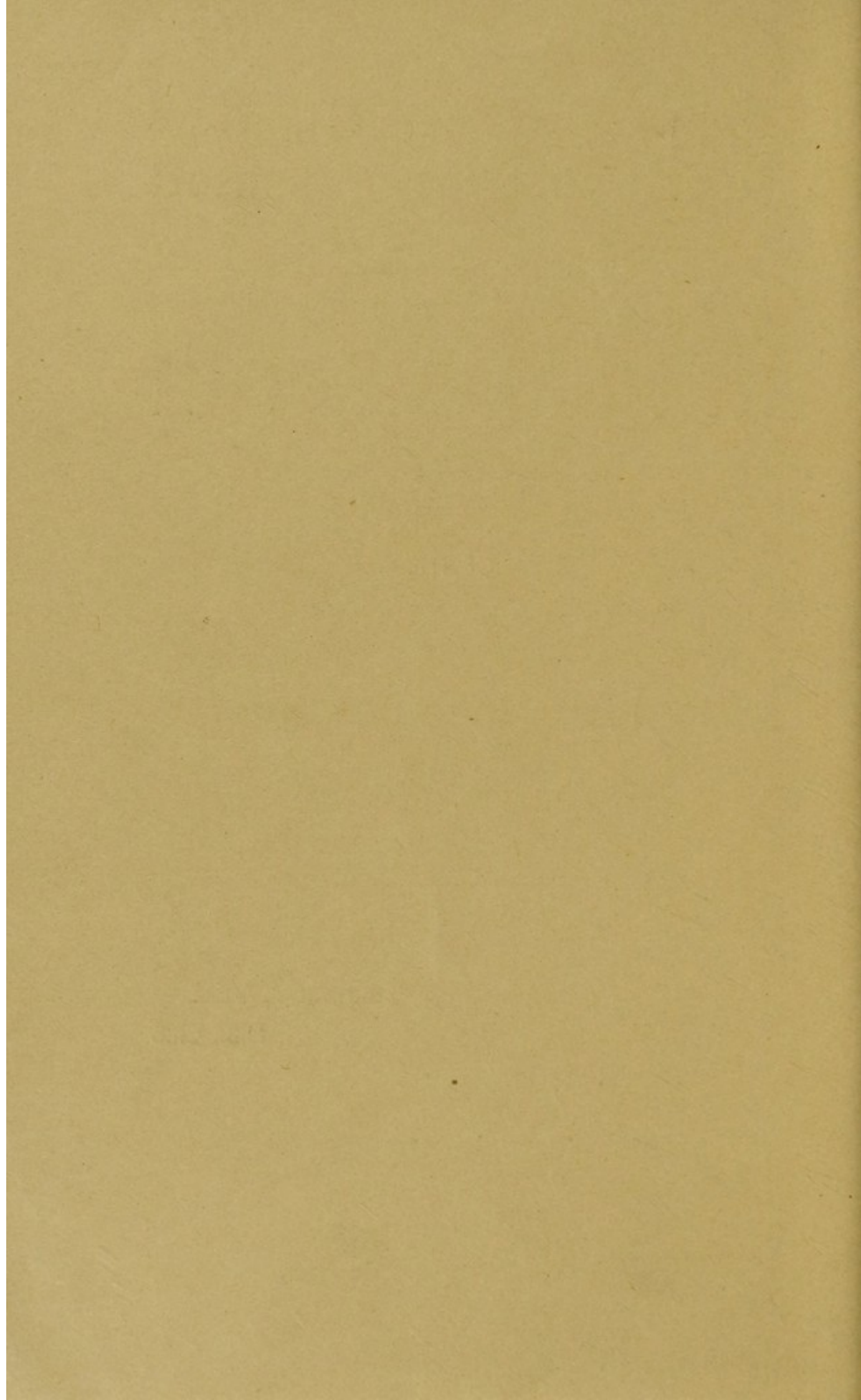


**Medical Officer of Health  
for the Year 1951**

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GEORGE EWEN,  
M.B., Ch.B.

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**Urban District of Consett**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health  
for the Year 1951**

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GEORGE EWEN,  
M.B., Ch.B.

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Urban District of Council

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1921

GEORGE EWEN

M.B. Ch.B.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH, BUILDING AND  
SANITARY COMMITTEE, 1951.

Chairman : Coun. T. A. WALTON.

Vice-Chairman : Coun. J. MAWSON.

Coun. Mrs. A. B. Vigor.      Couns. E. Atkinson,  
R. Bell,      F. H. Curran,      J. Hunt,      E. Smith,  
S. W. Smith,      J. H. Temple,      L. A. Thomas  
and W. Walton.

Also Chairman of the Council,  
Coun. R. G. Knowles, J.P. (Ex-officio).

Vice-Chairman of the Council,  
Coun. J. Donnelly (Ex-officio).

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH BUILDING AND  
SANITARY COMMITTEE 1921

Chairman: Coun. T. A. WALTON

Vice-Chairman: Coun. I. HAWSON

Coun. Mr. A. B. Vigor, Coun. E. Atkinson,

R. Bell, F. H. Curran, J. Hunt, E. Smith,

S. W. Smith, J. H. Temple, J. A. Thomas

and W. Walton.

Also Chairman of the Council:

Coun. R. G. Knowles, J. P. (Ex-officio)

Vice-Chairman of the Council:

Coun. J. Donnelly (Ex-officio)

Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
Medomsley Road,  
Consett.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF CONSETT URBAN  
DISTRICT COUNCIL

---

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the Health, Vital Statistics and Sanitary Circumstances of your area for the year 1951.

The Vital Statistics can be regarded as satisfactory. Measles was again epidemic during the year but no deaths were recorded from this infection. There was no diphtheria recorded during the year.

I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Members of the Council for their support and to the Staff for their assistance and co-operation during my term of appointment.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

G. EWEN.

Health Department  
London, Ontario  
Monday, March 10th  
1903

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF COUNTY BOARD  
DISTRICT NO. 1

My Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the annual report on the Health  
and Sanitary Conditions of your area for the  
year 1902.

The Health Statistics can be regarded as satisfactory. There  
was again epidemic during the year but no deaths were recorded  
from this infection. There was no diphtheria recorded during the  
year.

I take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the members  
of the Council for their support and to the staff for their assistance  
and co-operation during my term of appointment.

I am,

My Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

G. E. W. E.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

### Summary of General and Vital Statistics

|   |                    |     |     |     |     |          |
|---|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|
| Area in acres   | ...                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10,042   |
| Population (Census 1951)  | ...                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 39,456   |
| Population (estimated by the Registrar General 1951)                  | ...                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 39,020   |
| Number of inhabited houses according to rate books at the end of 1951 | ...                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11,195   |
| Rateable Value  | ...                | ... | ... | ... | ... | £179,451 |
| Sum represented by a penny rate                                       | ...                | ... | ... | ... | ... | £682     |
| Births during 1951—659.   | Birthrate          | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16.8     |
| Deaths during 1951—435.   | Crude Deathrate    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11.1     |
| Infant Mortality Rate, 1951   | ...                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 34.9     |
| Tuberculosis Deathrate, 1951...                                       | ...                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0.28     |
| Pulmonary—0.20.   | Non-pulmonary 0.08 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ...      |
| Zymotic Deathrate, 1951   | ...                | ... | ... | ... | ... | 0.02     |

### CONSETT URBAN DISTRICT

Consett is an industrial town with its prosperity depending on Iron, Steel and Coal.

### SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND INDUSTRIES

Many social activities operate in the area and the Health Department maintains close touch with these services.

### SPECIAL CAUSES OF SICKNESS, EFFECTS OF OCCUPATION, ETC.

Measles was epidemic during the year and excluding accidents associated with heavy industries, there appeared to be no ill effects on the workers by reason of these industries.

### Extracts from Vital Statistics

|                        |              | Total | M.  | F.  |  |
|------------------------|--------------|-------|-----|-----|--|
| Live Births            | Legitimate   | 648   | 329 | 319 | Birthrate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 16.8. |
|                        | Illegitimate | 11    | 5   | 6   |  |
|                        | Totals       | 659   | 334 | 325 |  |
| Still Births           | Legitimate   | 15    | 9   | 6   | Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births 22.2.                   |
|                        | Illegitimate | —     | —   | —   |  |
|                        | Totals       | 15    | 9   | 6   |  |
| Deaths from all causes |              | 435   | 246 | 189 | Deathrate per 1,000 of estimated resident population 11.1.     |

# ANNUAL REPORTS OF MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH—1951

## VITAL STATISTICS

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case-rates for Certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1951. Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

|   | England<br>and<br>Wales | 126 County<br>Boroughs<br>and Great<br>Towns<br>including<br>London | 148 Smaller<br>Towns<br>(Resident<br>Population<br>25,000 to<br>50,000 at<br>1931 Census) | London<br>Adminis-<br>trative<br>County | Consett<br>Urban<br>District |
|---|-------------------------|---|---|---|------------------------------|
| Rates per 1,000 Home Population                               |                         |   |   |   |                              |
| BIRTHS:—  |                         |   |   |   |                              |
| Live births ...   | 15.5                    | 17.3  | 16.7  | 17.8                                    | 16.8                         |
| Still births ...  | 0.36                    | 0.45  | 0.38  | 0.37                                    | 0.38                         |
| DEATHS:—  |                         |   |   |   |                              |
| All Causes ...  | 12.5                    | 13.4  | 12.5  | 13.1                                    | 11.1                         |
| Typhoid and Para-<br>typhoid ...                              | 0.00                    | 0.00  | 0.00  | —                                       | 0.00                         |
| Whooping Cough ...  | 0.01                    | 0.01  | 0.01  | 0.01                                    | 0.00                         |
| Diphtheria ...  | 0.00                    | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.00                                    | 0.00                         |
| Tuberculosis ...  | 0.31                    | 0.37  | 0.31  | 0.38                                    | 0.28                         |
| Influenza ...   | 0.38                    | 0.36  | 0.38  | 0.23                                    | 0.28                         |
| Smallpox ...  | 0.00                    | 0.00  | 0.00  | —                                       | 0.00                         |
| Acute Poliomyelitis<br>(including polio-<br>encephalitis) ... | 0.00                    | 0.01  | 0.01  | 0.00                                    | 0.00                         |
| Pneumonia ...   | 0.61                    | 0.65  | 0.63  | 0.61                                    | 0.28                         |
| NOTIFICATIONS<br>(Corrected):—                                |                         |   |   |   |                              |
| Typhoid Fever ...   | 0.00                    | 0.00  | 0.00  | 0.01                                    | 0.00                         |
| Paratyphoid Fever ...   | 0.02                    | 0.03  | 0.02  | 0.01                                    | 0.00                         |
| Meningococcal<br>infection ...                                | 0.03                    | 0.04  | 0.03  | 0.03                                    | 0.05                         |
| Scarlet Fever ...   | 1.11                    | 1.20  | 1.20  | 1.10                                    | 0.61                         |
| Whooping Cough ...  | 3.87                    | 3.62  | 4.00  | 3.11                                    | 2.17                         |
| Diphtheria ...  | 0.02                    | 0.02  | 0.03  | 0.01                                    | 0.00                         |
| Erysipelas ...  | 0.14                    | 0.15  | 0.12  | 0.15                                    | 0.10                         |
| Smallpox ...  | 0.00                    | 0.00  | 0.00  | —                                       | 0.00                         |
| Measles ...   | 14.07                   | 13.93   | 14.82   | 14.64                                   | 18.9                         |
| Pneumonia ...   | 0.99                    | 1.04  | 0.96  | 0.72                                    | 0.23                         |
| Acute poliomyelitis<br>(including polio-<br>encephalitis)     |                         |   |   |   |                              |
| Paralytic... ..   | 0.03                    | 0.03  | 0.03  | 0.02                                    | 0.00                         |
| Non-paralytic ...   | 0.02                    | 0.02  | 0.03  | 0.02                                    | 0.00                         |
| Food poisoning ...  | 0.13                    | 0.15  | 0.08  | 0.23                                    | 0.02                         |
| Rates per 1,000 Live Births                                   |                         |   |   |   |                              |
| DEATHS:—  |                         |   |   |   |                              |
| All causes under 1<br>year of age ...                         | 29.6(a)                 | 33.9  | 27.6  | 26.4                                    | 34.9                         |
| Enteritis and Diarr-<br>hoea under 2 years<br>of age ...      | 1.4                     | 1.6   | 1.0   | 0.7                                     | 1.5                          |
| Rates per 1,000 Total (Live and Still Births)                 |                         |   |   |   |                              |
| NOTIFICATIONS<br>(Corrected):—                                |                         |   |   |   |                              |
| Puerperal fever and<br>pyrexia ...                            | 10.66                   | 13.77   | 8.08  | 14.90                                   | 1.4                          |

(a) Per 1,000 related live births.

The following figures relate to Consett Urban District:—

|  |        | Rate per 1,000 (Live<br>and Still) Births |
|--|--------|---|
| Deaths from Puerperal Causes.                                | Deaths |   |
| No. 30 Pregnancy, Childbirth,                                |        |   |
| Abortion ... ..  | 1      | 1.4                                       |
| Deathrate of Infants under 1 year of age:—                   |        |   |
| All Infants per 1,000 Live Births ... ..                     |        | 34.9                                      |
| Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Births               |        | 35.5                                      |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Births           |        | 0.00                                      |
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ... ..                         |        | 71  |
| Deaths from Measles ... ..                                   |        | Nil                                       |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough ... ..                            |        | Nil                                       |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis<br>(under 2 yrs.) ... .. |        | 1   |
| Population estimated by the Registrar General                |        |   |
| 1951 ... ..  |        | 39,020                                    |

#### POPULATION

The Registrar General's estimate of the population for mid-year 1951 was 39,020. This shows a decrease on last year's population which was 39,456. The figures for the last ten years are given in the following table:—

| Year            | 1942   | 1943   | 1944   | 1945   | 1946   | 1947   | 1948   | 1949   | 1950   | 1951   |
|-----------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Popula-<br>tion | 36,210 | 35,320 | 35,050 | 35,310 | 36,760 | 37,040 | 38,820 | 38,900 | 39,130 | 39,020 |

#### BIRTHS, BIRTHRATE, ETC.

The birthrate for 1951 was 16.8 per 1,000 population compared with 15.5 for England and Wales and 17.5 for the Administrative County. The following table gives the births and birthrates for the past ten years:—

| Year   | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 |
|--------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Births | 671  | 602  | 732  | 694  | 751  | 780  | 737  | 708  | 684  | 659  |
| Rate   | 18.5 | 17.0 | 20.8 | 19.6 | 20.4 | 21.0 | 18.9 | 18.2 | 17.4 | 16.8 |

#### SEX DISTRIBUTION OF BIRTHS

There were 334 male and 325 female births, the ratio being 1,000 males to 973 females.

#### DEATHS, DEATHRATES, ETC.

There were 435 deaths in 1951 compared with 482 last year. The deathrate was 11.1 per 1,000 population and the rate for England and Wales was 12.5. The Administrative County rate was

11.9. The following table gives the deaths and deathrates for the past 10 years:—

| Year   | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 |
|--------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Deaths | 433  | 432  | 434  | 435  | 415  | 415  | 417  | 463  | 482  | 435  |
| Rate   | 11.9 | 12.2 | 12.0 | 12.3 | 11.2 | 11.2 | 10.7 | 11.9 | 12.3 | 11.1 |

#### ZYMOTIC DEATHRATE

The zymotic deathrate was 0.02 compared with 0.10 for 1951. The rate for the Administrative County was 0.05 and the rates for the last 10 years are given in the following table:—

|                          | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 |
|--------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Zymotic<br>Death<br>rate | 0.24 | 0.14 | 0.00 | 0.08 | 0.10 | 0.10 | 0.07 | 0.02 | 0.10 | 0.02 |

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY

One death from puerperal causes was recorded, giving a mortality rate of 0.02. The rate for the Administrative County was 1.20 and the rates for the Consett Urban District for the last 10 years are given in the following table:—

| Year                         | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 |
|------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Deaths from Puerperal Sepsis | 0    | 1    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 1    | 0    | 0    |
| Deaths from Puerperal Causes | 2    | 0    | 2    | 0    | 0    | 1    | 0    | 1    | 0    | 1    |
| Totals                       | 2    | 1    | 2    | 0    | 0    | 1    | 0    | 2    | 0    | 1    |
| Rate per 1,000 total births  | 2.8  | 1.5  | 1.3  | 0    | 0    | 1.2  | 0    | 2.7  | 0    | 1.4  |

#### INFANT MORTALITY RATE

Twenty-three deaths occurred in infants under 1 year of age and the mortality rate was 34.9 compared with 29.6 for England and Wales and 40 for the Administrative County. The rates for the past 10 years are given in the following table:—

| Year                  | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Rate per 1,000 births | 59   | 46   | 43   | 49   | 39   | 36   | 55   | 41   | 43   | 34   |

The causes of death in these children and their ages are shown in the following table:—

| CAUSE OF DEATH<br>(Infants under 1 year of age) | Under 1 m. | 1 month | 2 months | 3 months | 4 months | 5 months | 6 months | 7 months | 8 months | 9 months | 10 mths. | 11 mths. |
|---|------------|---------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Cerebral Injury, Haemorrhage                    | 3          |         |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| Prematurity ... ..                              | 6          |         |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| Asphyxiation ... ..                             |            |         |          | 1        | 1        |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| Bronchitis ... ..                               |            |         |          | 1        |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| Congenital Heart Disease ...                    |            |         |          |          |          |          |          |          | 1        |          |          |          |
| Marasmus ... ..                                 | 1          |         |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| Convulsions, Cerebral Oedema                    | 2          | 1       |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| Haemorrhagic Disease of New-born ... ..         | 1          |         |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| Atelectasis ... ..                              | 1          |         |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| Broncho-pneumonia ... ..                        |            | 1       |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| Anoxia-Ante-partum Haemorrhage ... ..           | 1          |         |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| Encephalocele ... ..                            | 1          |         |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| Multiple Congenital Abnormalities ... ..        |            |         | 1        |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |
| Ulcerative myelo-meningocele                    | 1          |         |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |          |

#### CAUSES OF DEATH

The causes of death are set out in the following table. Tuberculosis was responsible for 2.5 per cent. of the total deaths. Bronchitis and pneumonia accounted for 7.8 per cent. and vascular lesions of nervous system 13.7 per cent. The percentage of deaths from heart disease was 17.9.

| CAUSES OF DEATH                           | Males | Females |
|---|-------|---------|
| All Causes ... ..                         | 246   | 189     |
| 1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ... ..       | 6     | 2       |
| 2. Tuberculosis, other ... ..             | 3     | —       |
| 3. Syphilitic disease ... ..              | 1     | —       |
| 4. Diphtheria ... ..                      | —     | —       |
| 5. Whooping Cough ... ..                  | —     | —       |
| 6. Meningococcal infections ... ..        | —     | —       |
| 7. Acute poliomyelitis ... ..             | —     | —       |
| 8. Measles... ..                          | —     | —       |
| 9. Other infective and parasitic diseases | —     | 2       |
| 10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...       | 16    | 5       |
| 11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus    | 11    | 2       |
| 12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ...        | —     | 7       |

|   | Males | Females |
|---|-------|---------|
| 13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...              | —     | 7       |
| 14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ... | 13    | 10      |
| 15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...                   | 1     | 1       |
| 16. Diabetes ...                                | 2     | 3       |
| 17. Vascular lesions of nervous system          | 26    | 34      |
| 18. Coronary disease, angina ...                | 32    | 19      |
| 19. Hypertension with heart disease ...         | 8     | 8       |
| 20. Other heart disease ...                     | 33    | 29      |
| 21. Other circulatory disease ...               | 11    | 3       |
| 22. Influenza ...                               | 3     | 8       |
| 23. Pneumonia ...                               | 6     | 5       |
| 24. Bronchitis ...                              | 16    | 7       |
| 25. Other diseases of respiratory system        | 2     | 1       |
| 26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...           | 3     | 1       |
| 27. Gastritis enteritis and diarrhoea ...       | —     | 1       |
| 28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...                 | 3     | 4       |
| 29. Hyper-plasia of prostate ...                | 4     | —       |
| 30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...         | —     | 1       |
| 31. Congenital malformations ...                | 4     | 2       |
| 32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases      | 30    | 25      |
| 33. Motor vehicle accidents ...                 | 2     | —       |
| 34. All other accidents ...                     | 10    | 2       |
| 35. Suicide ...                                 | —     | —       |
| 36. Homicide and operations of war ...          | —     | —       |

### STILL BIRTHS

Fifteen still births were recorded during the year 1951 compared with 18 in 1950. All were legitimate births. The still birthrate was 0.38 per 1,000 population, whilst the rate for England and Wales was 0.36 and that for 148 Smaller Towns was 0.38 per 1,000 population. The following table gives the rates for the last 10 years, both per 1,000 population and per 1,000 births:—

| Year                        | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 |
|-----------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Total No.                   | 36   | 34   | 31   | 27   | 34   | 20   | 27   | 26   | 18   | 15   |
| Rate per 1,000 population   | 0.99 | 0.96 | 0.88 | 0.76 | 0.92 | 0.54 | 0.43 | 0.66 | 0.46 | 0.38 |
| Rate per 1,000 total births | 50.9 | 53.4 | 40.6 | 37.4 | 43.3 | 25.6 | 22.5 | 35.4 | 25.6 | 22.2 |

## CANCER MORTALITY

There were 71 deaths from cancer during 1951, four more than in the previous year. There were 40 male and 31 female deaths from this disease.

## SITE OF DISEASE ACCORDING TO SEX

| MALE              |     |     |    | FEMALE            |     |     |    |
|-------------------|-----|-----|----|-------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Colon             | ... | ... | 7  | Colon             | ... | ... | 3  |
| Stomach           | ... | ... | 16 | Stomach           | ... | ... | 5  |
| Pancreas          | ... | ... | 1  | Pancreas          | ... | ... | 1  |
| Prostate          | ... | ... | 3  | Rectum            | ... | ... | 4  |
| Bronchus and Lung | ... | ... | 11 | Bronchus and Lung | ... | ... | 2  |
| Other Sites       | ... | ... | 2  | Cervix, Uterus    | ... | ... | 7  |
|                   |     |     |    | Breast            | ... | ... | 7  |
|                   |     |     |    | Other Sites       | ... | ... | 2  |
| <hr/>             |     |     |    | <hr/>             |     |     |    |
| Total             | ... | ... | 40 | Total             | ... | ... | 31 |
| <hr/>             |     |     |    | <hr/>             |     |     |    |

## GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- (a) Acting Medical Officer of Health:—  
GEORGE EWEN, M.B., CH.B.
  - (b) Chief Sanitary Inspector, H. WALTON, M.S.I.A., M.INST.B.A. Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute for Meat and Food Inspectors. The duties of this appointment, which is whole-time, are set out in the Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.
  - (c) Additional Sanitary Inspectors:—  
W. TELFORD, M.S.I.A., Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Meat and Food Inspectors.  
T. E. HODGSON, M.S.I.A., Certificate of Royal Sanitary Institute for Meat and Food Inspectors.
- These appointments are subject to the approval of the Minister of Health and 50% of the salaries are payable from County Funds.
- (d) Shops Inspector:—  
R. P. JOPE.
  - (e) Clerical Staff:—  
MISS P. E. BARROW, MR. W. A. ROBERTS, MRS. E. WINTER.
  - (f) Rodent Officer:—  
S. ROBINSON.
  - (g) Home Visitor, Assistant Clerk, etc.:—  
MISS E. A. PICKERING (terminated employment November 30th, 1951).

### (1) LABORATORY FACILITIES

Specimens of pathological material can be examined for Public Health Officers or Medical Practitioners at the Central Laboratory, Government Buildings, Ponteland Road, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 5; Telephone No. Kenton 69319. Your Medical Officer of Health will assist in such matters with advice as to the method of collection, dispatch, etc. Water samples are sent to this Laboratory for bacteriological examination and to the County Public Analyst, Darlington, in other cases.

### (2) AMBULANCE FACILITIES

A 24-hour ambulance service is provided from the local headquarters at Villa Real, Consett: Telephone No. Consett 411.

## SERVICES IN THE AREA PROVIDED BY DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

Assistance with enquiries regarding these services will be furnished at the Public Health Department, Council Offices, Medomsley Road, Consett, on request.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE—CHILD WELFARE CENTRES

1. At Weatherall House, Medomsley Road, Consett.  
Ante-natal clinics all day Tuesday. Sessions for babies alternate Wednesdays and Fridays. Post-natal, alternate Friday mornings.
2. Blackhill.  
Clinics held at the Presbyterian Church Hall, Durham Road, alternate Thursdays; Session for babies—morning. Ante-natal—afternoon.

### CONVALESCENT HOME

The E. F. Peile Convalescent Home, Shotley Bridge, telephone Shotley Bridge 27, admits nursing mothers and their babies and children under 5 years of age.

### COUNTY MIDWIFERY SERVICES

A domiciliary midwifery service is provided. The names and addresses of the midwives available can be obtained from the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, Health Visitors or from the County Medical Officer.

### HOME HELP SERVICE

Particulars of this service can be obtained from the Home Help Organiser, 81 New Elvet, Durham, telephone Durham 1616.

### TUBERCULOSIS CARE AND AFTER-CARE

This service is administered by the County Council and particulars can be obtained from the County Medical Officer.

### WELFARE OF THE BLIND

The County Scheme includes education of blind children, training of approved workers, treatment for prevention of blindness, etc. Information regarding the services can be obtained from the County Medical Officer or from Miss K. A. J. Robson, 8, St. Andrew's Gardens, Blackhill.

## CARE OF THE MENTALLY DEFECTIVE

Parents or relatives of children or young adults who are mentally retarded or undeveloped are invited to communicate with the County Medical Officer or the District Health Visitor.

## SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE

The Scheme provides for the medical inspection of school children and for medical treatment of defects discovered. School Clinic, Weatherall House, Medomsley Road, Consett. Sessions Tuesdays and Fridays.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Sessions are held for children under 5 years of age, alternate Friday afternoons at Weatherall House, Medomsley Road, Consett.

## HOSPITALS SERVING THE DISTRICT

These are controlled by the North-West Durham Hospital Management Committee—Secretary, Mr. A. Lawther, Shotley Bridge General Hospital, Shotley Bridge. Enquiries should be made of your own Doctor or from the Bed Bureau, Shotley Bridge General Hospital, telephone Shotley Bridge 118. The Hospitals under this group are:—

Shotley Bridge General Hospital; Infectious Disease Hospital, Lanchester; Lee Hill Hospital, Lanchester; Richard Murray Hospital, Blackhill; and South Moor Hospital.

## LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY HOSTELS

There are not in this district any Local Health Authority Hostels for those requiring care and attention. These persons are accommodated at premises as follows:—

Barnard Castle, Houghton-le-Spring, Sedgefield, Easington, Weardale House, Stanhope, Newtown House, Stanhope, Whickham, Bishop Auckland, Chester-le-Street, Durham, Lanchester, Stockton.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

During the year it was found necessary to compulsorily remove and detain in part 3 accommodation of a hostel a lady aged 62 years, who was without any relatives available to give her proper care and attention. Action was taken under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948. The original period of detention being extended by a Court Order on the 26th November, 1951.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

### WATER SUPPLY

The public water supply is under control of the Durham County Water Board and has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. The main supply is of moorland water obtained from upland catchment areas. Filtration is carried out by means of pressure and sand filters, treatment is of alum, lime and chlorine.

Reservoirs are situated at Smiddy Shaw, Waskerley Park and Hysehope with a filtering station at Honey Hill, Waskerley. A covered in surface reservoir supplies the lower extremities of the district and this is situated at the Water Board's works at Consett. Samples taken for chemical analysis were stated by the County Analyst to be perfectly safe and satisfactory for human consumption and having no evidence of lead salts.

Eight samples from this public supply were taken for bacteriological examination and all these with the exception of one were satisfactory. In this one sample it was suspected that contamination was occurring through a defective tap and after this had been renewed, subsequent samples proved to be of the required grading.

One sample was taken for a chemical analysis in order to ascertain the reason for clothes turning to a greenish hue after being washed. The analyst reported that this water was perfectly safe and satisfactory and he could find no means of contamination. It was eventually established that marking was caused by used water being allowed to stand for a few days in a copper washing boiler after washing days. This resulted in a greenish exudate forming on the sides of the boiler which permeated the next boiling of clothes. Since this practice has discontinued, subsequent investigations have revealed that no further discolourations have occurred.

Fourteen houses are without a proper supply of mains water. Of these, two are unoccupied and another will be closed shortly as the result of a closing order. Two others have been purchased by this authority and tenders have been received for the installation of a mains supply which we understand will be carried out in the New Year.

Thirty-four samples were forwarded to the bacteriologist from various runners and springs used as a supply to these houses. In all cases where the number of coliform bacilli exceeded 10 per ml., the occupiers were warned that all water used for cooking and drinking purposes should be boiled.

A water storage chamber used for supplying a nurse's home and six cottages, was found to be defective and becoming polluted. Remedial action was taken, since when, satisfactory results have been obtained.

Approximately 11,212 houses are supplied from the public water mains, this in all cases being direct to the houses. There are no

stand pipes in this area and no notification has been received from any illness due to plumbo solvency.

During the year, the following work has been done by the Durham County Water Board: completion of pipe supplies to the Selby Lodge and Dale Avenue Estates, and supplies laid ready at Moorside and Leadgate Housing Estates. During the year 638 yards of 3" pipe, 25 yards of 4" pipe and 241 yards of 6" pipe were laid. Below is given the results of water samples taken throughout the district:—

| Date         | Source of Supply                | Probable No.<br>of coliform<br>bacilli<br>MacConkey<br>2 days 37°<br>per 100 ml. | Probable No.<br>of faecal Coli<br>per 100 ml. |
|--------------|---------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. 4. 4.51   | Mill House, Ebchester ... ..    | 2  | —   |
| 2. 4. 4.51   | Sewage Works Cottage, Ebchester | 17   | —   |
| 3. 4. 4.51   | The Cottage, Shotley Grove ...  | 1  | —   |
| 4. 4. 4.51   | Hearts of Oak Farm ... ..       | 1  | —   |
| 5. 4. 4.51   | Southfield Farm ... ..          | 0  | —   |
| 6. 4. 4.51   | Public Water Supply (1) ... ..  | 0  | —   |
| 7. 4. 4.51   | Rose Cottage, Allensford ... .. | 8  | —   |
| 8. 4. 4.51   | Allensford Hall, Allensford ... | 3  | —   |
| 9. 4. 4.51   | Public Water Supply (2) ... ..  | 0  | —   |
| 10. 4. 4.51  | Dene Cottage ... ..             | 2  | —   |
| 11. 4. 4.51  | Stockerley Grove ... ..         | 1  | —   |
| 12. 4. 4.51  | Salem Cottage ... ..            | 35   | —   |
| 13. 15. 8.51 | Hearts of Oak Farm ... ..       | 50   | —   |
| 14. 15. 8.51 | Grove Cottage ... ..            | 90   | —   |
| 15. 15. 8.51 | Sewage Works Cottage ... ..     | over 180   | —   |
| 16. 15. 8.51 | Public Water Supply (3) ... ..  | 20   | —   |
| 17. 15. 8.51 | Public Water Supply (4) ... ..  | 0  | —   |
| 18. 15. 8.51 | Public Water Supply (5) ... ..  | 0  | —   |
| 19. 22. 8.51 | Public Water Supply (6) ... ..  | 0  | —   |
| 20. 22. 8.51 | Public Water Supply (7) ... ..  | 1  | —   |
| 21. 22. 8.51 | Rose Cottage, Allensford ..     | 90   | —   |
| 22. 22. 8.51 | Salem Cottage ... ..            | over 180   | —   |
| 23. 22. 8.51 | Stockerley Grove ... ..         | 25   | —   |
| 24. 22. 8.51 | Dene Cottage ... ..             | 17   | —   |
| 25. 22. 8.51 | Shotley Grove House ... ..      | 13   | 3   |
| 26. 22. 8.51 | Shotley Grove Cottage ... ..    | 1  | —   |
| 27. 22. 8.51 | Hearts of Oak Farm ... ..       | 50   | 5   |
| 28. 3. 9.51  | Shotley Grove Cottage ... ..    | 1  | —   |
| 29. 3. 9.51  | Shotley Grove House ... ..      | 1  | —   |
| 30. 10. 9.51 | Shotley Grove Cottage ... ..    | 2  | —   |
| 31. 10. 9.15 | Shotley Grove House ... ..      | 2  | —   |
| 32. 10. 9.51 | 3, Shotley Grove ... ..         | 3  | 1   |
| 33. 10. 9.51 | 7, Shotley Grove ... ..         | 17   | 3   |
| 34. 24. 9.51 | 3, Shotley Grove ... ..         | 2  | —   |
| 35. 24. 9.51 | 7, Shotley Grove ... ..         | 5  | 1   |
| 36. 24. 9.51 | Shotley Grove House ... ..      | 1  | 1   |
| 37. 30.10.51 | Hearts of Oak Farm ... ..       | 3  | —   |
| 38. 30.10.51 | Shotley Grove House ... ..      | 5  | 1   |
| 39. 30.10.51 | 7, Shotley Grove ... ..         | 13   | —   |
| 40. 27.11.51 | Public Water Supply (8) ... ..  | 0  | —   |
| 41. 27.11.51 | Rose Cottage, Allensford ...    | 35   | 8   |
| 42. 27.11.51 | Derwent Cottage, Allensford ... | 13   | 2   |

## PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACT

The following figures are given relating to nuisances dealt with in accordance with the above Act.

|                               | No. of<br>nuisances<br>dealt with<br>by inform-<br>al notices | No. of<br>nuisances<br>dealt with<br>by formal<br>notice of<br>Local<br>Authority | No. of<br>nuisances<br>abated<br>after ser-<br>vice of<br>notice |
|-------------------------------|---|---|--|
| <b>DWELLING HOUSES—</b>       |   |   |  |
| Foul Conditions ... ..        | 7   | —   | 7  |
| Structural Defects ... ..     | 1,014   | 22  | 853  |
| Overcrowding ... ..           | 61  | —   | 45   |
| BAKEHOUSES ... ..             | 49  | —   | 49   |
| SLAUGHTERHOUSES ... ..        | 4   | —   | 4  |
| Ashpits and Privies ... ..    | 77  | —   | 76   |
| Deposits of Refuse and Manure | 22  | —   | 21   |
| Waterclosets ... ..           | 41  | —   | 37   |
| <b>HOUSE DRAINAGE—</b>        |   |   |  |
| Other Faults ... ..           | 86  | —   | 61   |
| Water Supply... ..            | 4   | —   | 4  |
| PIGSTIES ... ..               | 1   | —   | 1  |
| ANIMALS IMPROPERLY KEPT ...   | 2   | —   | 2  |
| Other nuisances ... ..        | 13  | —   | 13   |
| Ashbins renewed ... ..        | 150   | —   | 132  |
| <b>Totals ...</b>             | <b>1,531</b>  | <b>22</b>   | <b>1,305</b>   |

## SANITARY CONVENIENCES

During the year, 66 houses having privies were converted into W.Cs.

The number and type of closets in the area are as follows:—

|                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Water Closets ... ..  | 12,163 |
| Ash Closets ... ..    | 385    |
| Ashpit Privies ... .. | 62     |

## PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE

Forty-one houses were visited following notification of Infectious Disease. Free disinfectants are supplied to occupiers for the cleansing of rooms and clothing. Thirteen lots of bedding were disinfected or destroyed.

DISINFESTATION—Eradication of bed-bugs, earwigs, black-beetles etc.

Seventy-two houses were treated for insects and vermin.

The method of disinfestation was by spraying with an insecticide such as Zaldecide, after the removal where necessary of skirting boards, picture rails, architraves, etc.

**Sanitary Inspectors', Shop Inspectors' and Rodent Officer's  
Total Summary for Year, 1951**

HOUSING DEFECTS—

|             |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 478   |
| Re-visits   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,536 |

HOUSING ACTS—

|              |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Demolitions  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 62 |
| Overcrowding | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 85 |

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS—

|                    |     |     |     |     |     |     |       |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Inspections        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 493   |
| Re-visits          | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,146 |
| Water Supplies     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 83    |
| Water Samples      | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 42    |
| Foul Conditions    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 57    |
| Verminous Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 108   |
| Smoke nuisances    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 39    |

INSPECTION OF OTHER PREMISES—

|                                |     |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Shops (Section 38, Shops Act)  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9  |
| Hotels, Inns and Public Houses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 83 |
| Cinemas                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4  |
| Offices                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3  |
| Piggeries, Stables, etc.       | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 28 |
| Animals Improperly Kept        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5  |
| Tents, Vans, Sheds             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 44 |

## INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES—

|                                   |     |     |     |     |     |       |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Dairies and Milkshops             | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16    |
| Ice Cream Manufacturers           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 78    |
| Ice Cream Retail Premises         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 135   |
| Ice Cream Vehicles                | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 34    |
| Ice Cream Samples                 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 52    |
| Fishmongers/Poulterers            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 94    |
| Grocers                           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 311   |
| Fruiterers                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 231   |
| General Dealers                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 253   |
| Food Manufacturers (Section 14)   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 245   |
| Confectioners                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 180   |
| Catering Establishments           | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 84    |
| Bakehouses                        | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 53    |
| Fried Fish Shops...               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 27    |
| Cottagers' Pigs                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 30    |
| Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 772   |
| Miscellaneous                     | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 32    |
| Infectious Diseases               | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 51    |
| Factories                         | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 202   |
| Storage of Petroleum and Carbide  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17    |
| Rag Flock Acts                    | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3     |
| Prevention of Damage by Pests Act | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 895   |
| Shops Act, 1950                   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 672   |
| Total                             |     |     |     |     |     | 8,772 |

# **FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948**

Two hundred and two visits were made to factories in which persons were employed. These are divided into two groups:—

- (a) those having machinery in which power is used, and
- (b) those having no power.

Overcrowding, cleanliness, ventilation, heating, water supply, washing facilities, and sanitary conveniences are all matters of a hygienic nature, calling for constant supervision.

## **OUTWORKERS**

A list of outworkers (carrying out work on behalf of a factory in their own homes) must be submitted to the local authority by occupiers of factories twice a year. There is only one outworker in this area.

H.M. Inspector of Factories notifies the local authority of any matter which may come to his notice, and requiring the attention of the local authority. In all, five notices were received referring to insanitary conveniences in factories.

| Premises   | No. on Register | NUMBER OF        |                    |                   |
|--|-----------------|------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
|  |                 | Inspec-<br>tions | Written<br>Notices | Prose-<br>cutions |
| (1) Factories in which Sections 1/4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority ... .. | 29              | 33               | —                  | Nil               |
| (2) Factories not included in (1) to which Section 7 applies ... ..                    | 98              | 169              | 14                 | Nil               |
| Total ...  | 127             | 202              | 14                 | Nil               |

|                                    | Number of cases in which defects were found |          |                   |                   | Prosecutions |
|------------------------------------|---|----------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|
|                                    | Found                                       | Remedied | Referred          |                   |              |
|                                    |   |          | to H.M. Inspector | by H.M. Inspector |              |
| Sanitary Conveniences:             |   |          |                   |                   |              |
| (a) Insufficient ... ..            | 1   | —        | —                 | 1                 |              |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective ... .. | 3   | 1        | —                 | 3                 |              |
| Other Offences ... ..              | 10  | 9        | —                 | 1                 |              |
| Total ...                          | 14  | 10       | Nil               | 5                 | Nil          |

**SHOPS ACT, 1950**

In the administration of the Shops Act, 1950, the whole of the 591 Traders' premises were visited and particulars relating to the number of assistants employed, hours worked by young persons, assistants' half holiday, meal facilities and seating accommodation for females was ascertained. The Statutory Notices were checked and corrected. To ensure the various provisions prescribed were being carried out correctly, return visits to premises were made. A number of these visits were made in the evenings. Sundays and at holiday periods. Several Traders were interviewed and requested to carry out the provisions of the Act.

The appended table shows that 599 premises are liable for inspection, and in 332 of them 1,109 assistants are employed. 821 assistants are over the age of 18 years, 221 under the age of 18 years, and 67 under 16 years of age. The number employed in 1950 was 838 over 18 years of age, 184 under 18 years of age and 64 under 16 years of age. The average hours worked by young persons were approximately  $43\frac{1}{2}$  hours. The number of persons employed in shops is a slight increase over the previous year.

The general closing hours of the majority of shops continuous to be between 5.30 p.m. and 6 p.m. Twenty-six premises close on a Saturday for their weekly half holiday instead of Wednesday and of these eleven are hairdressers.

There are 54 shops open for business on a Sunday of which 11 remain open all day, the remainder closing at approximately 1 p.m.

The position of Mobile Trading remains as reported last year. The standard of a number of these travelling shops is excellent.

The Undermentioned Orders are in operation in the area:—

1. The Consett Butchers and Pork Butchers Half-Holiday Closing Order.
2. The Consett Weekly Half-Holiday Order in respect of:—  
Boot and Shoe Dealers, Clothiers, Drapers, Milliners, Hosiers, Mercers, Furniture Dealers, Glass, China and Hardware Dealers, Ironmongers, Grocers and Provision Dealers, Jewellers, Pawnbrokers, Piano and Wireless Dealers, Cycle Dealers, Stationers, Fancy Goods Dealers, Wallpaper and Paint Dealers, Lending Libraries, and Seed and Corn Merchants.

3. The Shotley Bridge Weekly Half-Holiday Suspension Order.
4. The Shotley Bridge (Week-day) Closing Order.
5. The Shotley Bridge (Sunday Trading Restriction Act, 1936) Closing Order No. 2.
6. Extension of Closing hours for Tobacconists.

The Authority exercised its power under Section 43 (2) of the Shops Act and suspended Closing Hours on five days in the year. During the period of Winter Closing hours the Authority extended the General Closing Hours until 7 p.m. on Friday and granted Hairdressers the facility to remain open to 6.30 p.m. on days other than the late days.

The Cinemas in the area continue to operate under Section 68 of the Shops Act. These Cinemas continue to open on Sundays and provisions regarding persons employed on that day are governed by the Sunday Entertainment Act, 1936.

It is a pleasure to report that the great majority of the Traders continue to observe and to comply with the various provisions of the Act and Closing Orders.

| No. of<br>premises<br>liable to<br>inspection | Trade  | No. of<br>premises<br>where<br>assistants<br>are<br>employed | Males      |             | Females    |             | No. of<br>persons<br>employed |
|---|--|--|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------------------------|
|   |  |  | Over<br>18 | Under<br>18 | Over<br>18 | Under<br>16 |                               |
| 3   | Auctioneers ...                                  | —  | 8          | —           | 16         | —           | 34                            |
| 11  | Boot & Shoe Dealers ...                          | 11   | 57         | 5           | 8          | —           | 76                            |
| 36  | Butchers and Pork Butchers ...                   | 33   | 6          | —           | 70         | 2           | 97                            |
| 83  | Bakers, Caterers and Confectioners ...           | 37   | 7          | —           | 14         | 8           | 29                            |
| 9   | Chemists and Photographers ...                   | 5  | 29         | 2           | 85         | 9           | 156                           |
| 45  | Clothiers, Drapers, Milliners ...                | 37   | 18         | 11          | —          | —           | 29                            |
| 14  | Coal Dealers ...                                 | 12   | 1          | —           | 2          | —           | 3                             |
| 10  | Fish Dealers ...                                 | 1  | —          | —           | 16         | —           | 17                            |
| 19  | Fried Fish Dealers ...                           | 8  | —          | —           | 24         | 2           | 60                            |
| 48  | Fruiters and Florists ...                        | 19   | 28         | 1           | 5          | —           | 12                            |
| 5   | Furniture Dealers ...                            | 4  | 6          | —           | 111        | 10          | 332                           |
| 67  | Grocers and Provision Dealers ...                | 54   | 123        | 17          | 32         | 6           | 45                            |
| 28  | General Dealers ...                              | 3  | 11         | —           | 9          | 1           | 27                            |
| 14  | Glass, China, Hardware Dealers & Ironmongers ... | 5  | 7          | 2           | 6          | —           | 21                            |
| 38  | Hairdressers and Barbers ...                     | 10   | —          | —           | 2          | 1           | 3                             |
| 3   | Hosiery and Mercers ...                          | 2  | —          | —           | 2          | —           | 5                             |
| 10  | Jewellers and Pawnbrokers ...                    | 3  | 2          | —           | 40         | 1           | 81                            |
| 79  | Licensed Victuallers ...                         | 51   | 40         | —           | 3          | 2           | 15                            |
| 17  | Motor Engineers, Cycle & Wireless Dealers ...    | 9  | 8          | 2           | 10         | 6           | 24                            |
| 15  | Newsagents, Stationers, Fancy Dealers ...        | 10   | 2          | —           | 2          | —           | 2                             |
| 3   | Electrical Accessories ...                       | 2  | —          | —           | 2          | —           | 5                             |
| 3   | Tobacconists ...                                 | 2  | —          | —           | 3          | —           | 6                             |
| 5   | Wallpaper and Paint Dealers ...                  | 3  | —          | —           | 3          | —           | 11                            |
| 20  | Miscellaneous Trades ...                         | 5  | 1          | —           | 4          | —           | 19                            |
| 6   | Cinemas ...                                      | 6  | —          | 11          | —          | —           | —                             |
| 8   | Shops not occupied ...                           | —  | —          | —           | —          | —           | —                             |
| 599   |  | 332  | 355        | 50          | 466        | 38          | 1,109                         |

## HOUSING

The Council now own 2,673 houses, 109 of which have been completed during the past year; details are given below:—

|                    |     |     |            |
|--------------------|-----|-----|------------|
| Briardale ...      | ... | ... | 2          |
| Cutlers Hall ...   | ... | ... | 32         |
| Richard Murray ... | ... | ... | 43         |
| Dale Avenue ...    | ... | ... | 6          |
| Selby Lodge ...    | ... | ... | 4          |
| Bradley Square ... | ... | ... | 10         |
| Stanifordham ...   | ... | ... | 10         |
| Medomsley ...      | ... | ... | 2          |
| Total ...          |     |     | <u>109</u> |

In addition, 12 houses were built by private enterprise for owner occupiers and these are situated at:—

|                    |     |     |           |
|--------------------|-----|-----|-----------|
| Blackhill ...      | ... | ... | 3         |
| Cutlers Hall ...   | ... | ... | 1         |
| Hamsterley ...     | ... | ... | 4         |
| Ebchester ...      | ... | ... | 2         |
| Shotley Bridge ... | ... | ... | 2         |
| Total ...          |     |     | <u>12</u> |

Since the war a total of 1,094 houses have been built.

|        |     |     |     | Council<br>Houses | Private   |
|--------|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|-----------|
| 1946   | ... | ... | ... | 58                | 10        |
| 1947   | ... | ... | ... | 238               | 16        |
| 1948   | ... | ... | ... | 268               | 29        |
| 1949   | ... | ... | ... | 195               | 12        |
| 1950   | ... | ... | ... | 134               | 13        |
| 1951   | ... | ... | ... | 109               | 12        |
| Totals |     |     | ... | <u>1,002</u>      | <u>92</u> |

Further housing work is in hand at Durham Road, Leadgate, Moorside, Selby Lodge, Dale Avenue, Richard Murray and Cutlers Hall Estates.

## HOUSING ACT, 1936

|  |     |     |     |     |     |    |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Number of separate tenements in respect of which Closing Orders were made  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2  |
| Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made...  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2  |
| Number of houses in respect of which owners have given undertakings not to use the houses (once vacated) for human habitation  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 21 |
| Number of houses actually demolished   | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6  |
| Number of separate tenements in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1  |

The following unfit houses which were dealt with by Clearance Area Schemes or by Demolition are still standing in ruinous condition:—

|                                     |     |     |     |    |
|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| 9, East View, Templetown            | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| 36-41, Benfieldside Road, Blackhill | ... | ... | ... | 6  |
| 49-53, Wood Street, Shotley Bridge  | ... | ... | ... | 5  |
|                                     |     |     |     | —  |
|                                     |     |     |     | 12 |
|                                     |     |     |     | == |

Owners have give formal undertakings for the following 21 houses, that once they are vacated, they will not be again re-let for human habitation:—

|  |     |     |     |    |
|--|-----|-----|-----|----|
| 101-106, Howlett Hall, High Westwood   | ... | ... | ... | 6  |
| 5-7, Midgeley's Cottages, Medomsley    | ... | ... | ... | 3  |
| 2 and 2a, Green Street, Shotley Bridge | ... | ... | ... | 2  |
| 23 and 24, St. Ives Road, Leadgate     | ... | ... | ... | 2  |
| Wood Hut, West Billingside Farm        | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| The Burn, Ebchester                    | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| 28, Front Street, Leadgate             | ... | ... | ... | 1  |
| 74, 76 and 78 Medomsley Road, Consett  | ... | ... | ... | 3  |
| 35 and 37, Green Street, Consett       | ... | ... | ... | 2  |
|  |     |     |     | —  |
| Total                                  | ... | ... | ... | 21 |
|  |     |     |     | == |

## BOTTLE BANK AREA

In this area, Messrs. Consett Iron Co. Ltd., gave undertakings not to re.let 91 houses; 33 of these have now become vacant of which 5 have been demolished.

### HAMSTERLEY AREA

A similar agreement was made with the National Coal Board regarding 146 houses. twenty-six are now vacant, of which some are partly demolished.

### GENERALLY

The National Coal Board and the Consett Iron Co. Ltd., have carried out schemes for the modernisation to some of the properties belonging to them. This has included the making of a new backstreet together with conversions of ash closets to W.Cs., installations of new fireplaces with the inclusion of a hot water system, baths and wash-up sinks. Stone houses have been repointed and necessary joinery work to doors and window frames with painting have all come within some of their schemes.

The repair of other houses let by private owners, which are in any respect unfit for human habitation, and capable of repair at reasonable expense, has become a problem owing to the present-day cost of building labour and materials, with no consequent rise in rents.

The term "reasonable expense" is not defined, but in coming to a decision, the local authority must have regard to:—

- (1) the estimated cost of the works necessary to render the house fit, and
- (2) the estimated value of the dwelling house upon completion of the proposed works.

In reaching a decision for which there is no prescribed method of finding out the value of a house, due regard must be given to this type of cottage property wherein the value can only be assessed by the net annual income.

With this condition of reasonable expense compared to the valuation of property when works have been completed, has legally not helped local authorities. In view of no major repair or reconstruction during the war years, some properties are gradually receding to a sub-standard condition, the life of which can only be, until more housing accommodation becomes available, to warrant schemes for clearance areas.

### OVERCROWDING

Forty-five cases of overcrowding were relieved during the year, six by removal to Council properties, twenty by removal to privately owned houses and nineteen cases by reduction in family. Three hundred and two persons were involved. Sixteen families were found to have grown to overcrowded conditions.

The list of known legally overcrowding cases now stands at 39.

## MILK SUPPLY

### MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

There are 48 farms in the area producing milk, eight of whom retail their own, the remaining farmers forward their milk to pasteurisation plants. This is returned pasteurised in bottles to retail purveyors.

### MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949

There are 53 retailers of milk in the area and premises are inspected as a routine measure. The majority of these retailers are supplied with designated milk from pasteurisation plants. During the year, two applications for the change of registration were granted for retailing T.T. (Pasteurised) and Pasteurised Milk.

|                                      |                           |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Producers of Milk (wholesale) ... .. | 45                        |
| Retailers of Milk ... ..             | 53, of which              |
|                                      | 7 are producer retailers. |

### THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (PASTEURISED AND STERILIZED) REGULATIONS, 1949

All persons selling milk as pasteurised and sterilized are required to be licensed, the following dealers' licences having been issued:—

|                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Pasteurised Milk ... ..             | 29 |
| Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) ... | 25 |
| Sterilized ... ..                   | 7  |

### THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949

In addition the following dealers' licences have been granted for raw milk:—

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Tuberculin Tested Milk ... .. | 1 |
|-------------------------------|---|

#### *Supplementary*

|                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Tuberculin Tested Milk ... .. | 2 |
|-------------------------------|---|

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The slaughter of animals for human consumption is still being carried out at the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse, Prospect Place, Consett. This is a centre for supplying all butchers in the Consett Urban and Lanchester Rural Areas.

The Wholesale Meat Supply Association together with Consett Retail Buying Group continue to operate at the above premises and have additional storage space at a small defunct slaughterhouse in this vicinity.

Seven hundred and seventy-two visits were made at the Slaughterhouse for both ante and post mortem inspection work, and again 100% inspection of carcasses was obtained.

Difficulty in inspection work is experienced during "peak" slaughtering months due to the excessive amount of animals being killed in a slaughterhouse primarily designed for the supply of a Co-operative Store and its Branches. Some of the difficulties experienced are the close packing of carcasses after slaughter and the inability, due to insufficient hanging space of properly separating diseased meat from that of sound meat. Storage of hides and waste matters during these periods lead to insanitary conditions and in view of the close proximity of dwelling houses and the Co-operative Store, together with the nuisances of animals arriving and waiting for slaughter, advocates for a very early review with the Ministry concerned for the provision of a slaughterhouse of adequate size and more suitably sited.

A local haulage contractor conveys home killed and frozen meats to the various retail shops by means of covered in vans having special floor boards. Offals are placed in metal containers and generally the work is carried out satisfactorily.

Altogether 10,104 animals were slaughtered during the year as follows:—

|          |     |     |     |     |       |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Bulls    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 21    |
| Bullocks | ... | ... | ... | ... | 684   |
| Cows     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 378   |
| Heifers  | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,374 |
| Calves   | ... | ... | ... | ... | 725   |
| Sheep    | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6,520 |
| Pigs     | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1     |
| Total    |     |     |     |     | 9,703 |

The following animals were slaughtered as casualties:—

|          |     |     |     |       |
|----------|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| Bulls    | ... | ... | ... | 13    |
| Bullocks | ... | ... | ... | 25    |
| Cows     | ... | ... | ... | 72    |
| Heifers  | ... | ... | ... | 19    |
| Calves   | ... | ... | ... | 66    |
| Sheep    | ... | ... | ... | 156   |
| Pigs     | ... | ... | ... | 50    |
|          |     |     |     | <hr/> |
|          |     |     |     | 401   |
|          |     |     |     | <hr/> |

The following appendix gives the details of carcasses and other foods inspected and condemned:—

#### CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

|   | Cattle<br>exclud-<br>ing Cows | Cows  | Calves | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs | Pigs  |
|---|-------------------------------|-------|--------|-----------------------|-------|
| Number Killed ... ..  | 2,136                         | 450   | 791    | 6,676                 | 51    |
| Number Inspected ... ..   | 2,136                         | 450   | 791    | 6,676                 | 51    |
| ALL DISEASES EXCEPT<br>TUBERCULOSIS   |                               |       |        |                       |       |
| Whole Carcasses Condemned...  | 9                             | 22    | 11     | 27                    | 6     |
| Carcasses of which some part<br>or organ was Condemned ...                              | 478                           | 87    | 11     | 70                    | 12    |
| Percentage of the number<br>inspected affected with dis-<br>ease other than Tuberculous | 22.70                         | 24.22 | 2.78   | 1.15                  | 35.29 |
| TUBERCULOSIS ONLY   |                               |       |        |                       |       |
| Whole Carcasses Condemned   | 11                            | 19    | 3      | —                     | 2     |
| Carcasses of which some<br>part or organ was con-<br>demned ... ..                      | 215                           | 155   | —      | —                     | 3     |
| Percentage of the number<br>inspected affected with<br>Tuberculosis ... ..              | 10.58                         | 38.66 | .37    | —                     | 9.80  |

# CONSETT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Total Carcasses, etc., found to be unfit for human consumption during the year 1951

|  | CARCASSES, ETC.                       |              |               |              | HEADS |       |      | Ox Lungs | Ox Hearts | Ox Livers | PUCKS |        |      | Ox Stomachs & Intestines | Cow Udders | Ox Thick Skirts | Pig Stomach & Intestines |
|--|---------------------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|-------|-------|------|----------|-----------|-----------|-------|--------|------|--------------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------------------|
|  | Beasts                                | Calves       | Sheep         | Pigs         | Ox    | Sheep | Pigs |          |           |           | Sheep | Calves | Pigs |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Tuberculosis ...                         | 30 + 10 Forequarters                  | 3            |               | 2            | 135   |       | 3300 | 11       | 18        |           |       |        | 13   |                          |            | 13              |                          |
| Actinomycosis ...                        |                                       |              |               |              |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Septic Pneumonia                         |                                       |              | 2             |              | 3     |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Abscesses ...                            |                                       |              |               |              |       |       |      |          |           | 92        |       |        | 1    |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Cirrhosis ...                            |                                       |              |               |              | 1     |       |      |          |           | 515       |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| C. Haemangioma                           |                                       |              |               |              |       |       |      |          |           | 8         |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Fever Acute ...                          |                                       |              | 1             |              |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Oedema & Emaciation ...                  | 17                                    | 5            | 13            |              |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Johne's Disease ...                      | 3                                     |              |               |              |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Parasites ...                            |                                       |              |               |              |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Mastitis ...                             |                                       |              |               |              |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Immaturity ...                           |                                       | 2            |               |              |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Dead, Moribund or Imperfect Bleeding ... |                                       |              |               |              |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Traumatism ...                           | 1                                     | 3            | 6             |              |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Pleurisy and Peritonitis                 | 1,074 lbs.                            | 21 lbs.      | 85 lbs.       | 190 lbs.     |       | 10    |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Septic Pericarditis                      |                                       | 1            |               | 1            |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Septic Conditions                        | 3                                     |              |               |              |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
|  | 7                                     |              | 4 + 35 lbs.   |              |       | 1     |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Swine Fever ...                          |                                       |              |               | 1            |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Swine Erysipelas                         |                                       |              |               | 1            |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Urticaria ...                            |                                       |              |               | 18 lbs.      |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Congestion ...                           |                                       |              |               |              |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Extensive Bruising                       | 1                                     |              |               |              |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Bacterial Necrosis                       | 2 Kidney<br>Knobs—70 lbs.<br>252 lbs. |              | 1             | 1 + 312 lbs. |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Decomposition ...                        |                                       |              | 32 lbs.       |              |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Bone Taint ...                           | 152 lbs. English                      |              |               |              |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Enteritis ...                            |                                       |              |               |              |       |       |      |          |           |           |       |        |      |                          |            |                 |                          |
| Totals ...                               | 62 + 10 qrs.<br>+ 1548 lbs.           | 14 + 21 lbs. | 27 + 152 lbs. | 8 + 520 lbs. | 139   | 11    | 3300 | 11       | 633       | 72        | 11    | 2      | 19   | 69                       | 13         | 9               |                          |

## IMPORTED MEAT

The following meat was distributed to the trade in addition to the home killed.

|                                |          |
|--------------------------------|----------|
| Lambs ... ..                   | 7,955    |
| Sheep ... ..                   | 1,487    |
| Hindquarters Beef ... ..       | 779      |
| Forequarters Beef ... ..       | 598      |
| Beef Crops ... ..              | 155      |
| Boneless Beef ... ..           | 527 bags |
| Boneless Mutton ... ..         | 119 "    |
| Boneless Veal ... ..           | 101 "    |
| Tongue roots ... ..            | 32 "     |
| Sides Pork ... ..              | 339      |
| Pigs (home killed transferred) | 245      |

*Offal*

|                                |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| Ox Livers ... ..               | 103 bags  |
| Ox Tongues ... ..              | 99 "      |
| Ox Hearts ... ..               | 38 "      |
| Ox Tails ... ..                | 11 "      |
| Ox Kidneys ... ..              | 10 "      |
| Calves', Sheep & Lambs' Livers | 181 Cases |
| Pigs', Sheep and Lambs' Hearts | 34 "      |
| Pigs' Livers ... ..            | 33 "      |

*Canned Corned Beef*

598—(48 x 12 ozs.) Cases.

616—(12 x 6 lbs.) Cases.

The following was found on examination to be unfit for human consumption:—

304½ lbs. Corned Beef.

115 lbs. Frozen Beef.

## OTHER FOODSTUFFS

Examination of various articles of food at retail shops, warehouses, etc., resulted in the surrender of the following as unfit for human consumption by reason of unsound, unwholesome or damaged conditions:—

*Tinned Goods*

|          |              |         |           |
|----------|--------------|---------|-----------|
| 546 tins | Fruit        | 14 tins | Jam       |
| 335 „    | Milk         | 7 „     | Beetroot  |
| 471 „    | Meat         | 6 „     | Spaghetti |
| 312 „    | Tomatoes     | 6 „     | Chicken   |
| 277 „    | Vegetables   | 3 „     | Syrup     |
| 159 „    | Fish         | 3 „     | Coffee    |
| 84 „     | Crunchets    | 2 „     | Rhubarb   |
| 72 „     | Malted Milk  | 2 „     | Rabbit    |
| 33 „     | Soup         | 2 „     | Cocoa     |
| 27 „     | Fruit Juice  | 1 tin   | Figs      |
| 21 „     | Bananas      | 1 „     | Mincemeat |
| 20 „     | Tomato Juice |         |           |

*Bottled Goods*

|         |            |           |                 |
|---------|------------|-----------|-----------------|
| 59 jars | Fruit      | 3 jars    | Mustard         |
| 24 „    | Mayonnaise | 1 jar     | Gherkins        |
| 17 „    | Pickles    | 1 „       | Sandwich Spread |
| 14 „    | Beetroot   | 1 „       | Honey           |
| 5 „     | Jam        | 3 Bottles | Sauce           |

*Various Foodstuffs*

|           |                     |            |                |
|-----------|---------------------|------------|----------------|
| 307 pkts. | Cheese Spread       | 1,438 lbs. | Bananas        |
| 97 „      | Sponge Mixture      | 808½ „     | Cooked Ham     |
| 54 „      | Cereals             | 68 „       | Figs           |
| 36 „      | Malted Milk Tablets | 51 „       | Cooked Mutton  |
| 8 „       | Table Jelly         | 42 „       | Sausage        |
| 4 „       | Biscuits            | 24 „       | Potato Powder  |
| 1 pkt.    | Farex               | 11 „       | Milk Chocolate |
| 1 carton  | Ginger Spread       | 3½ „       | Chicken        |
|           |                     | 2½ „       | Rabbit         |
|           |                     | 1 lb.      | Farinoca       |

**CIRCULAR 2886**

Food found to be unfit for sale and returned to the Ministry of Food in accordance with this Circular:—

|          |          |
|----------|----------|
| 260 lbs. | Currants |
| 184 „    | Sugar    |
| 82 „     | Butter   |
| 42 „     | Bacon    |
| 6 „      | Ham      |

**PRIVATE SLAUGHTERING**

Thirty-five Pigs slaughtered for private use were examined in various parts of the district.

## SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT

Thirty-five licences were issued to slaughter under the provisions of the above Act.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

One thousand seven hundred and seventy-four visits of inspection were made to premises where food intended for human consumption is prepared for sale, or sold, or offered or exposed for sale, or deposited for the purpose of sale or of preparation for sale and for the enforcement of Byelaws made under Section 15 of the above Act.

*Premises Classified:—*

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| Butchering premises and preparation rooms ...   | 39         |
| Bakehouses ... ..                               | 12         |
| Restaurants, Cafes and Snack Bars ... ..        | 13         |
| Shops—General Dealers ... ..                    | 92         |
| Grocers ... ..                                  | 38         |
| Green Fruit ... ..                              | 17         |
| Confectionery ... ..                            | 26         |
| Fish— Wet Shops ... ..                          | 5          |
| Fried Fish Shops ... ..                         | 18         |
| Licensed Premises (Hotels, Public Houses, Inns) | 74         |
| Total ...                                       | <u>334</u> |

Details are given below of notices served, and the defects remedied.

|                                 | Structural Repairs |    | Cleansing and Redecoration |    | Accumulations of Refuse |   | Provide proper receptacles for refuse |   | Provide proper sink and washing facilities |   | Provision of hot water |    | Provide supply of clean towels and soap |   | Notice requesting employees to wash their hands on leaving toilet |    | Exposing foodstuffs in such a manner as to render it liable to contamination |     | Provide additional sanitary accommodation |   | Existing Water Closets defects |   | Other Defects |   |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|----|----------------------------|----|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|---|------------------------|----|---|---|---|----|--|-----|---|---|--------------------------------|---|---------------|---|
|                                 | S                  | A  | S                          | A  | S                       | A | S                                     | A | S  | A | S                      | A  | S                                       | A | S   | A  | S  | A   | S   | A | S                              | A | S             | A |
| Grocery and General Dealers ... | 7                  | 7  | 3                          | 3  | 2                       | 2 | 2                                     | 2 | 5  | 2 | 34                     | 23 | —                                       | — | 33  | 32 | 89   | 86  | 1   | 1 | 1                              | 1 | 1             | 1 |
| Green Fruit ...                 | 4                  | 4  | 2                          | 2  | —                       | — | —                                     | — | 3  | 3 | 8                      | 5  | —                                       | — | 3   | 2  | 9  | 9   | —   | — | —                              | — | —             | — |
| Confectionery ...               | —                  | —  | 1                          | 1  | 1                       | 1 | —                                     | — | —  | — | —                      | —  | —                                       | — | 3   | 3  | 14   | 14  | —   | — | —                              | — | —             | — |
| Bakehouses ...                  | 22                 | 21 | 10                         | 9  | 1                       | 1 | 1                                     | 1 | —  | — | 1                      | 1  | 6                                       | 6 | 10  | 10 | —  | —   | —   | — | —                              | — | —             | — |
| Butchers ...                    | 25                 | 25 | 16                         | 16 | 1                       | 1 | 3                                     | 3 | 2  | 2 | 10                     | 3  | 3                                       | 3 | 16  | 15 | 3  | 3   | —   | — | —                              | — | —             | — |
| Fried and Wet Fish ...          | 7                  | 6  | 1                          | 1  | —                       | — | —                                     | — | —  | — | —                      | —  | —                                       | — | —   | —  | —  | —   | —   | — | —                              | — | —             |   |
| Cafes and Snack Bars ...        | 4                  | 4  | 4                          | 4  | —                       | — | —                                     | — | —  | — | —                      | —  | —                                       | — | —   | —  | 4  | 4   | —   | — | —                              | — | 1             | 1 |
|                                 | 69                 | 67 | 37                         | 36 | 5                       | 5 | 6                                     | 6 | 10   | 7 | 53                     | 32 | 9                                       | 9 | 65  | 62 | 119  | 116 | 1   | 1 | 1                              | 1 | 2             | 2 |

No. of Defects found — 377  
No. of Defects remedied — 344

**Byelaws for Securing Observance of Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions and Practices in connection with the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air.**

These Byelaws came into force on 4th December, 1950, and a preliminary survey was made to enable a correct assessment of the methods used for the protection of foodstuffs, their handling and wrapping before delivery to the customer.

It was obvious that to guard against sources of contamination, certain foodstuffs would require to have a more complete protection than others and it was decided to divide types of foodstuffs into three classes in the following manner:—

1. *Those which required complete protection.* In this group was placed the following: potted and pressed foods, ice cream, milk products, cream confectionery, trifles, sausages, bacon, ham, butter, cheese, lard, etc., this is to say, those foods which are liable to contamination may readily cause food poisoning.

2. *Those which required partial protection.* In this group is placed bread, cakes (other than cream cakes) and soft fruit, flour, unwrapped sweets, biscuits, etc.

3. *Those which required no special protection.* Into this group were placed vegetables, hard fruits and all pre-packed articles.

*By complete protection.* The food had to be placed in glass cupboards or glass covered display cabinets.

*Partial Protection.* Food to be properly sited so that no contamination by dust, flies, etc., or by customers, could occur, it was considered sufficient for this type of foodstuffs to be placed behind the counters on shelves or other shop fitments.

*By special protection.* In this class, vegetables were regarded as the main foodstuffs and it was decided that providing they were properly protected from weather, and placed at such distances from the ground so that no contamination could arise from animals, this would suffice. The above categories were used as a basis in assessing a uniform condition on all premises selling foodstuffs.

All foodstuffs' preparation rooms, etc., were again visited, posters were circulated for display in shops, drawing the attention of customers to observe simple rules of hygiene, and particularly asking them to keep dogs out of such shops. Another type of poster was distributed for the use of persons engaged in the preparation

of foodstuffs, imparting the need for personal hygiene, and the dangers of spreading infection through coughing, boils, and forms of sepsis.

During this inspection, each proprietor or manager was interviewed and the implication of the Byelaws regarding his premises and staffs were fully explained. Where compliance was not being observed we were able to discuss the matter personally with the person concerned. It was found that the posters which had been distributed were being well received among the shopkeepers and were being prominently displayed. Traders had become alive to our requests, display cabinets were being obtained, existing cabinets used for pre-packed foods and patent medicines, were cleared and put into service for the types of foodstuffs liable to contamination. Other shops obtained glass sides and tops for their counters, bread and cakes, were taken from the counters and placed out of reach of the customers.

No food guilds were formed and only one meeting was held with certain traders in the district. Whilst our methods of patiently visiting every shop and explaining the Byelaws individually entailed much work, we are of the opinion that during the subsequent visits we made, these personal talks had helped to lay a good foundation. At the present time many shops have taken out old wood fittings and counters and have installed plastic fittings of an easily-cleaned type. Hot water for the use of assistants is now becoming a general condition on all food producing and retailing premises.

#### LICENSED PREMISES (HOTELS, PUBLIC HOUSES AND INNS)

Inspections were made of all licensed premises throughout the district for the purpose of ascertaining the methods of sale of refreshments to the public, and also as to the conditions of hotel kitchens, cellars and sanitary conveniences. Below is given a synopsis of the conditions found:—

|  | No. of<br>premises |
|--|--------------------|
| <i>Beer</i>  |                    |
| Drawn through pipes ... ..   | 66                 |
| Drawn from the wood ... ..   | 6                  |
| Drawn from the wood and through pipes ... ..                                     | 2                  |
| <i>Disposal of Drippings and Overspill</i>                                       |                    |
| Discarded (poured down drain) ... ..   | 30                 |
| Collected, passed through filter and returned to barrel<br>for re-service ... .. | 40                 |

No. of  
premises*Cleansing of Glasses*

|   |    |
|---|----|
| Premises where Detergents and Sterilizing Agents<br>are used ... .. | 51 |
| No means of sterilization other than hot or warm<br>water ... ..    | 23 |

*Sinks (Washing up)*

|  |   |
|--|---|
| None provided ... ..                                 | 2 |
| Unsuitable ... ..                                    | 0 |
| Absence of waste pipe (bucket placed under sink) ... | 3 |
| Insanitary waste pipes and defects ... ..            | 2 |
| Drainage Faults ... ..                               | 1 |

*Water Supply to Sinks*

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Cold water supply not available (drawn from<br>occupier's quarters) ... .. | 3  |
| Hot water available but not discharging over washing<br>up sink ... ..     | 29 |

*For Use of Men Customers:**Urinals*

|  |   |
|--|---|
| No urinal accommodation provided ... ..          | 0 |
| Unsuitable urinal accommodation ... ..           | 3 |
| Structural defects ... ..                        | 6 |
| Inadequately flushed ... ..                      | 4 |
| Absence of intervening ventilated space ... ..   | 2 |
| Urinals requiring cleansing and redecoration ... | 7 |
| Inadequate drainage of floor ... ..              | 2 |

*Water Closets*

|   |   |
|---|---|
| None provided ... ..                        | 8 |
| Unsuitable ... ..                           | 1 |
| Shared with occupier ... ..                 | 3 |
| Structural defects ... ..                   | 6 |
| Requiring cleansing and redecoration ... .. | 8 |

*Women:**Water Closets*

|  |    |
|--|----|
| No separate accommodation provided ... ..      | 10 |
| Shared with occupier ... ..                    | 3  |
| Unsuitable (E.C.) ... ..                       | 1  |
| Structural defects ... ..                      | 1  |
| Cleansing and redecoration ... ..              | 2  |
| Not properly screened ... ..                   | 4  |
| Absence of intervening ventilated space ... .. | 3  |

|   | No. of<br>premises |
|---|--------------------|
| <i>Cellars</i>  |                    |
| Structural Defects ... ..   | 3                  |
| Cleansing and redecoration ... ..   | 9                  |
| Drainage arrangements inadequate ... ..   | 1                  |
| Evidence of vermin ... ..   | 1                  |
| <i>Sale of Food</i>   |                    |
| No food of any description sold ... ..  | 6                  |
| Provide proper meals ... ..   | 3                  |
| Sandwiches and Pies ... ..  | 13                 |
| Pre-packed Foods—Potato Crisps, Mussels, Oysters,<br>Nuts, Cheese Sandwiches ... ..             | 65                 |
| Sandwiches provided on special occasions (Dart<br>matches, parties, etc.) and given free ... .. | 15                 |

Practically all the above sanitary defects have been remedied, owners of premises in which sanitary accommodation was found insufficient have been notified but some time must elapse before these will be rectified due to the preparation of plans and the issue of licences.

#### MARKET SQUARE

The open market is still being extensively used, particularly on a Saturday when some forty to fifty stalls occupy the area allotted to it.

Nine stalls are used for the sale of foodstuffs. These consist of five greengrocers, two wet fish merchants, and two bakers and confectioners. Those stalls selling vegetables have covered tops and commodities are so placed as to prevent contamination from animals and inclement weather conditions. One baker and confectioner has his wares covered in glass cases, whilst another has converted a wooden van complete with glass windows. A similar type of convenience is used as a wet fish shop wherein all fish is protected by glass. A travelling shop with foodstuffs suitably enclosed is used throughout the week for sale of general provisions.

On weekdays, the market consists permanently of one green-grocery van, two wet fish shop vans, and the aforementioned travelling shop. Concern is still felt for the proper enclosure of foodstuffs as the amount of dust that is blown can be regarded as excessive. Although every care is taken by these traders it is evident that this problem will only be solved by that of a covered-in market.

GENERALLY, It would only be by means of whole propaganda education of the food handlers and general public together with the

constant supervision and inspection by Health Officers that measures of success can be judged in the future.

#### ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT, ETC.) REGULATIONS 1947 AND 1948

Six premises are registered for the manufacture of ice cream, one of these being for the cold mix method only. Seventy-eight shops are registered for the storage and/or sale of ice cream.

Samples of ice cream were procured from manufacturers and vendors and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory, the results being as follows:—

|       |     |     |    |
|-------|-----|-----|----|
| Grade | I   | ... | 39 |
| "     | II  | ... | 3  |
| "     | III | ... | 2  |
| "     | IV  | ... | 8  |
| <hr/> |     |     |    |
| Total | ... |     | 52 |

#### Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

During the year, 631 visits were made to business premises, Council properties and private dwellings. The inspection and supervision of all Council properties was maintained and particular attention was given to refuse tips.

Maintenance treatment of sewers and sewage disposal works and the annual test baiting were carried out at six-monthly intervals in accordance with Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries' requirements. During the first treatment in March, 208 manholes were baited, 96 of which were found to be infested. In the second treatment in September, a further 204 manholes were baited of which 96 showed signs of infestation.

Test baiting of 141 manholes revealed infestations in 24 cases. Sewage disposal works showed only minor infestations which were dealt with in this scheme.

#### BUSINESS PREMISES

Sixteen food shops were serviced for the extermination of rodents and the cost of the work in each of these cases recovered from the owners.

#### PRIVATE DWELLINGS

115 private dwellings were successfully treated and works of rat-proofing carried out to our satisfaction.

Close relations have been maintained with the representatives of the Northern Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries and representation was made at two, two-day instruction courses at Newcastle, and one Workable Area Meeting at Chester-le-Street.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries have continued to administer the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, which gives local authorities a grant aid of 50% of all expenses incurred.

Under the 1949 Act, a letter from Infestation Control Division, headed "Hospitals" was received by the local authority in which it was stated that the Boards and Management Committees of Hospitals were being asked to invite the local authority to inspect premises and lands under their control. In certain cases, the local authority may be asked to undertake rodent control work, and in that event, to recover the cost from the Board or Committee.

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

No rag flock is manufactured in the Area. It is however, used in one business for the making up of bedding and upholstery. Registration of these premises authorising the storage of rag flock was granted.

#### **EDUCATIONAL**

One person qualified for the certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Examination Board, after serving four years as a pupil Sanitary Inspector.

#### **PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES**

There were 874 notifications of infectious disease (other than tuberculosis) received during 1951, compared with 676 in 1950. There was again a high incidence of measles during the year and 740 cases were recorded compared with 375 in the previous year. Only 85 cases of whooping cough were notified compared with 212 in 1950. The following table shows the number of cases notified and the number admitted to an isolation hospital (or already in an institution) for the past 10 years.



### SCARLET FEVER

Twenty-four cases of scarlet fever were notified during 1951 compared with 59 in 1950. Ten of these cases were admitted to hospital and the remainder treated at home.

### DIPHTHERIA

During the year no cases were recorded and the following table shows the number of cases notified and deaths during the last 10 years.

| Year           | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 |
|----------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Cases Notified | 18   | 29   | 33   | 13   | 14   | 1    | 2    | 1    | 0    | 0    |
| Deaths         | 2    | 2    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

During the year 1951 there were 487 children immunised against diphtheria, and figures are given as follows:—

|  |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Children under 5 years of age receiving 2 doses of A.P.T.<br>during 1951 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 464 |
| Children over 5 years of age receiving 2 doses of A.P.T.<br>during 1951  | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 23  |
| Children receiving Boosting doses during 1951                            | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 303 |

At the end of the year the total number of children immunised in the Consett Urban Area was as follows:—

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Children under 5 years of age who had received<br>2 doses of A.P.T.—1,633—47.3% of this age group. |  |
| Children over 5 years of age who had received<br>2 doses of A.P.T.—4,715—77.6% of this age group.  |  |

It will be seen by these figures that the percentage of children immunised under 5 years of age is 47.3 compared with 77.6 in the higher age group. This is much too low, and if we are to enjoy and maintain a satisfactory state of immunisation in our child population, the percentage of children immunised under 5 years of age must be increased.

### MEASLES

This infection was epidemic during the year and 740 cases were recorded compared with 375 in 1950. Nine cases were admitted to hospital because of complications. No deaths from this infection were recorded.

## WHOOPING COUGH

There was a decrease in the number of cases of whooping cough notified during 1951. A total of 85 cases was recorded compared with 212 in 1950. There were no deaths from whooping cough.

## DYSENTERY

During the year under review 5 cases of dysentery were notified compared with 3 in the previous year. All the cases were admitted to hospital for treatment.

## FOOD POISONING

One case of food poisoning was notified during the year.

## TUBERCULOSIS

New notifications received during the year numbered 76 compared with 91 in 1950. At the end of 1951 there were 358 pulmonary and 177 non-pulmonary cases on the Register compared with 322 and 178 respectively for 1950.

The Mass Radiography Unit visited the Consett Urban Area on three occasions during the year and 3,160 miniature films were taken. This is a very valuable method of discovering new cases at an early stage of the disease when treatment can be so satisfactory. Resulting from these visits 36 new active cases were discovered, most of whom would probably have remained undiscovered without this new valuable aid.

| Year   | Total<br>Notifi-<br>cations | Pulmonary | Non-<br>Pulmonary | Deaths | Recovered | Removed<br>from<br>Area |
|--------|-----------------------------|-----------|-------------------|--------|-----------|-------------------------|
| 1942   | 39                          | 17        | 22                | 12     | 4         | 7                       |
| 1943   | 43                          | 31        | 12                | 24     | 3         | 8                       |
| 1944   | 77                          | 45        | 32                | 18     | 5         | 4                       |
| 1945   | 54                          | 34        | 20                | 28     | 19        | 4                       |
| 1946   | 47                          | 33        | 14                | 17     | 9         | 3                       |
| 1947   | 59                          | 43        | 16                | 20     | 11        | 5                       |
| 1948   | 72                          | 53        | 19                | 22     | 1         | 10                      |
| 1949   | 49                          | 40        | 9                 | 25     | Nil       | 5                       |
| 1950   | 91                          | 79        | 12                | 11     | Nil       | 9                       |
| 1951   | 76                          | 62        | 14                | 11     | 15        | 20                      |
| Totals | 607                         | 437       | 170               | 188    | 67        | 75                      |

## TUBERCULOSIS DEATHRATE

There were 11 deaths recorded from tuberculosis, giving a death-rate of 0.28 compared with 0.40 in the previous year. The rates for the last 10 years are given in the following table:—

| Year...                | ... | ... | ... | 1942 | 1943 | 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Tuberculosis Deathrate | ... | ... | ... | 0.58 | 0.67 | 0.79 | 0.48 | 0.68 | 0.50 | 0.66 | 0.61 | 0.40 | 0.28 |
| Pulmonary              | ... | ... | ... | 0.34 | 0.61 | 0.51 | 0.39 | 0.46 | 0.40 | 0.51 | 0.61 | 0.28 | 0.20 |
| Non-pulmonary          | ... | ... | ... | 0.24 | 0.06 | 0.28 | 0.09 | 0.22 | 0.10 | 0.15 | —    | 0.12 | 0.08 |

## HEALTH EDUCATION

The "Better Health" Journal was circulated monthly to the various schools and associations, etc., in the district.

## ANNUAL REPORT OF RAINFALL, ETC., 1951

Mr. E. Simpkin, Surveyor, has kindly supplied the following information regarding weather conditions during the year:—

| Month<br>(1951)                   | Rainfall in ins. |                | No. of days rain<br>fell |                | Heaviest daily<br>fall |      |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|------------------------|------|
|                                   | West-<br>wood    | Crook-<br>hall | West-<br>wood            | Crook-<br>hall | Inches                 | Date |
| January ...                       | 2.17             | 1.42           | 14                       | 17             | 1.01                   | 6th  |
| February ...                      | 2.86             | 2.15           | 19                       | 18             | .93                    | 4th  |
| March ...                         | 3.35             | 4.83           | 20                       | 25             | 1.04                   | 17th |
| April ...                         | 1.83             | 1.66           | 15                       | 16             | .68                    | 1st  |
| May ...                           | 3.94             | 3.02           | 18                       | 20             | .73                    | 26th |
| June ...                          | 1.93             | 1.57           | 12                       | 15             | .49                    | 21st |
| July ...                          | 2.18             | 1.64           | 14                       | 11             | .43                    | 22nd |
| August ...                        | 4.87             | 4.30           | 20                       | 20             | .81                    | 30th |
| September ...                     | 1.36             | 1.08           | 14                       | 12             | .33                    | 5th  |
| October ...                       | 0.86             | 0.71           | 8                        | 8              | .38                    | 21st |
| November ...                      | 7.04             | 4.45           | 21                       | 24             | 1.48                   | 5th  |
| December ...                      | 2.73             | 2.29           | 14                       | 19             | .56                    | 8th  |
|                                   | 35.12            | 29.12          | 189                      | 205            |                        |      |
| Average over past<br>20 years ... | 30.26            | —              | 178                      | —              |                        |      |

The rainfall recorded for 1951 of 35.12 ins. is the heaviest since 1937, and the month of November with a rainfall of 7.04 ins. is the heaviest since January, 1948.

The wettest days during the year were November 5th with 1.48 ins. March 17th with 1.04 ins. and January 6th with 1.01 ins. of rainfall.

The readings at Westwood and Crookhall Works show a difference of 6" of rainfall during the year, and it is thought that this is caused by the very exposed position of the Crookhall rain gauge. The Meteorological Office inspected the gauges and they recommend that the Crookhall instrument should be placed near the shelter of some young trees to avoid inaccurate recording during high winds.

The total hours of sunshine for 1951, as recorded by the Forestry Commission, Chopwell Woods, Rowlands Gill, was 1,310 hours compared with 1,353 hours during 1950.



