

[Report 1951] / Medical Officer of Health, Hartlepool Borough.

Contributors

Hartlepool (England). Borough Council. nb2004301809

Publication/Creation

1951

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BOROUGH OF HARTLEPOOL



ANNUAL REPORT

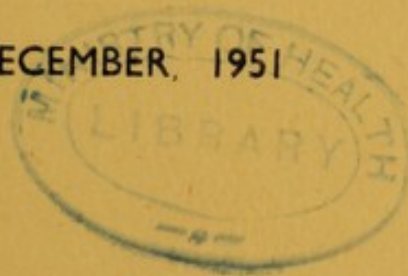
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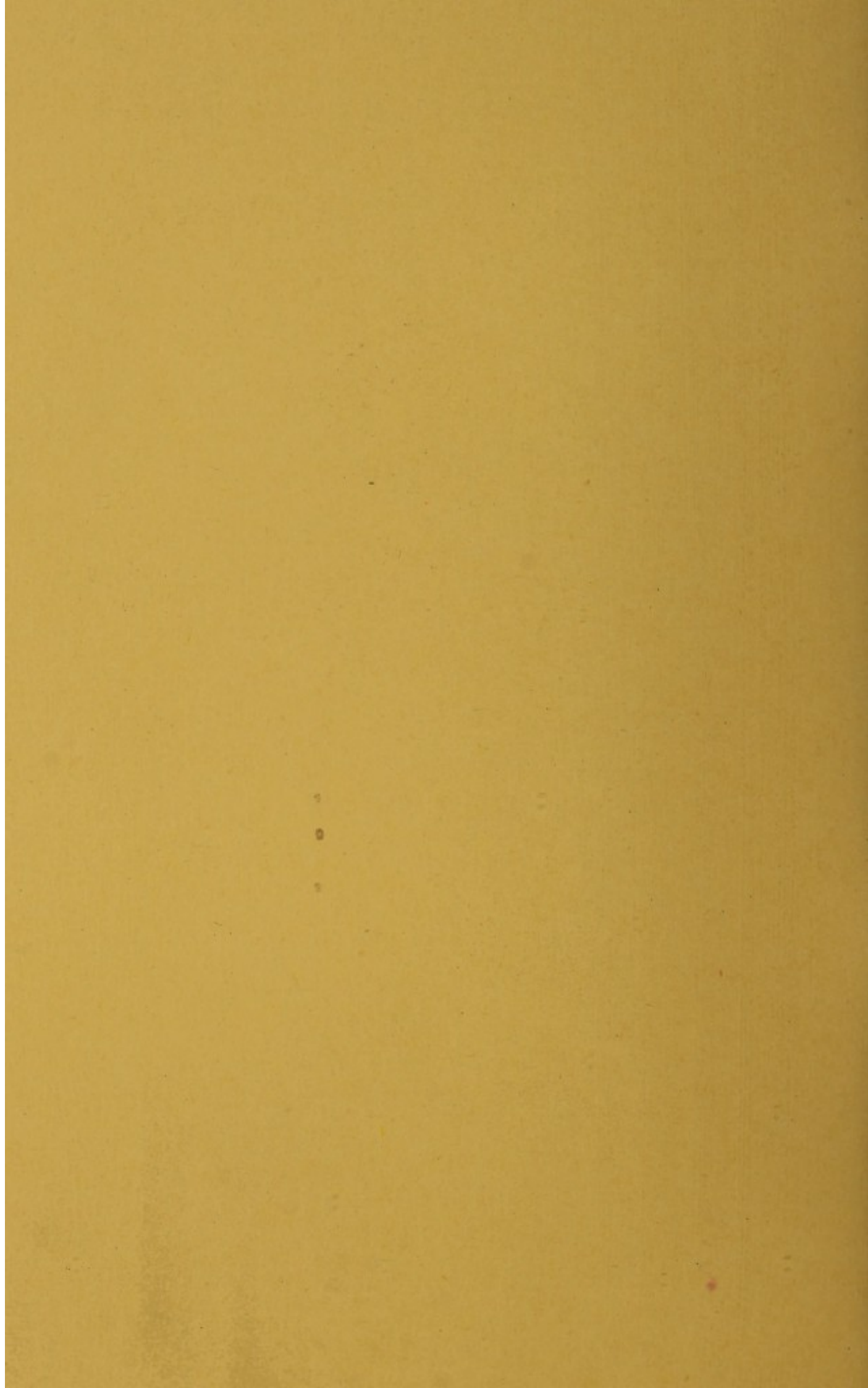
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ON THE HEALTH AND SANITARY
CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951





BOROUGH OF HARTLEPOOL



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OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 1911

BOROUGH OF HARTLEPOOL

Members of the Public Health and Housing Committee, 1951-52.

<i>Chairman</i>	—	His Worship the Mayor (Councillor F. Windebank, J.P.)
<i>Deputy Chairman</i>	—	Councillor A. J. Orley.
<i>Aldermen</i>	—	F. J. Carr G. Davison F. Jacques H. Lightfoot
<i>Councillors</i>	—	T. T. Aird J. McKenna T. Marine V. Pape J. Westmorland Mrs. M. Smith

HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health, Assistant County Medical Officer and
Assistant School Medical Officer ;
J. L. SIDDLE, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspectors, Meat and Food Inspectors :

G. A. WARD, M.S.I.A.

Certificate of R.S.I. and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.

Certificate of R.S.I. and Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

F. HOLLOWAY (Resigned 6/10/51)

Certificate of R.S.I. and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.

Health Visitors and School Nurses :

MISS A. BENDELOW, S.R.N., H.V. Cert., S.C.M.

MISS M. BUCHANAN, S.R.N., H.V. Cert., S.C.M.

MRS. E. PEDDLE, S.R.N. (Part-time) (Resigned Oct., 1951).

MISS S. HOOD, S.R.N.

Clerks :

MISS M. WHEATLEY

MR. J. J. PRYDE

*Health Department,
Frederic Street,
Hartlepool.*

To the Chairman and Members of the Health and Housing Committee.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I submit my annual report on the health of the Borough of Hartlepool for the year 1951.

I have included in the report short accounts of those health services in the Borough for which the Durham County Council are responsible.

The year has been a satisfactory one from a health viewpoint. There were no deaths from childbearing or pregnancy; there were no cases of diphtheria during the year and the deaths from tuberculosis have fallen as has the number of cases notified. The crude death rate was 13.06 as compared with 14.3 for 1950. Unfortunately the Infantile Mortality Rate has risen slightly and remains at a very high level compared with the England and Wales average and the fact that cases of rickets are coming to one's notice is to be deplored.

Progress with regard to Slum Clearance and building of new houses has continued. To my mind the good progress made by the Council in these matters has been largely responsible for the improvement in the health of the inhabitants. Further progress will bring further health improvements.

One unfortunate aspect of Public Health work during 1951 has been lack of accommodation for old people in both hostel and hospital. The lack of such accommodation has been overcome to a certain extent by the provision of domestic helps, but this to my mind is not the real answer in the majority of cases.

I should like to thank you, Sir, and the members of the Health Committee for the help given to the staff in carrying out the duties of the Department.

I should also like to thank Mr. Ward and the other members of the staff for their co-operation and assistance without which little in the Department could have been accomplished.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

J. L. SIDDLE,
Medical Officer of Health.

BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES and ANALYSIS of MORTALITY RATES in the Year 1951.

England and Wales, 126 County Boroughs & Great Towns,
and 148 Smaller Towns.

England and Wales	126 County Borough and Great Towns (including London)	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000—50,000 at 1931 census)	London Administrative County	Hartlepool
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Rates per 1,000 Population

Births—

Live Births	15.5	17.3	16.7	17.8	22.8
Still Births	0.36	0.45	0.38	0.37	.82

Deaths—

All causes	12.5	13.4	12.5	13.1	13.1
Typhoid & Paratyphoid	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	.47
Influenza	0.38	0.36	0.38	0.23	01.3
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis (including polio-ence- phalitis)	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Pneumonia	0.61	0.65	0.63	0.61	.64

Rates per 1,000 Live Births.

Deaths—

All causes under one year of age	29.6	33.9	27.6	26.4	56.5
Enteritis and Diar- rhoea under 2 years of age	1.4	1.6	1.0	0.7	0.00

STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS of the AREA.

Area (Acres)	1,841
Population (Census 1951)	17,217
Population (estimated mid 1951)	16,990
Rateable Value	£80,932
Sum represented by 1d. rate	£304 10 7d.
Total Number of Dwelling houses at 31.12.51	4,693
Number of new houses completed in 1951	182

POPULATION.

The estimated population for mid-1951 as supplied by the Registrar-General was 16,990 compared with the figure of 16,940 for 1950. The natural increase in population during 1951 was 167 which, when considered with the above figures indicates that there has been a limited amount of emigration from the town. The population is continuing the slow upward trend which has been proceeding since the end of the war.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Registrar General's Estimated Population</i>
1939	17,870
1940	15,530
1941	15,280
1942	14,840
1943	14,510
1944	14,740
1945	14,950
1946	15,780
1947	16,020
1948	16,660
1949	16,900
1950	16,940
1951	16,990
Population by 1951 Census	17,217

The distribution of the population throughout the wards is indicated by the following figures of the number of electors in each ward :—

South—1,283 St. Hilda—1,119 Station—1,520 Throston—1,965
 Central—1,829 Hart—3,457

HOUSING.

The housing problem continues to play a big part in the lives of the people in the town. There were 1,050 at the end of 1951 still on the waiting list for Council houses. The number of Council houses completed during 1951 was 182 which altogether with 18 vacancies in other properties made a total of 200 houses available for letting during the year.

There were approximately 115 marriages in Hartlepool during the year.

Newly-weds invariably now find that they have to live with one or the other of the parents. No matter how reasonable the occupants of the house may be this "living-in" frequently leads to trouble of some kind or other. If babies come along conditions become even more trying and the likelihood of quarrelling much increased. These conditions together with the many other housing troubles are considered to be largely responsible for the mass of psychosomatic illnesses which is prevalent today. Not only mental illness is caused but also true organic illnesses.

Fortunately Hartlepool Borough Council are fully aware of the importance of housing in relation to mental and physical health. As may be seen from the progress made since the war in the sphere of slum clearance and building of new houses, every effort possible has been made to solve the housing problem in the Borough.

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	Total
Houses built	112	185	118	153	125	182	875
Unfit houses dealt by Slum Clearance, Demolition Orders, Closures, etc.	6	156	9	120	86	203	580

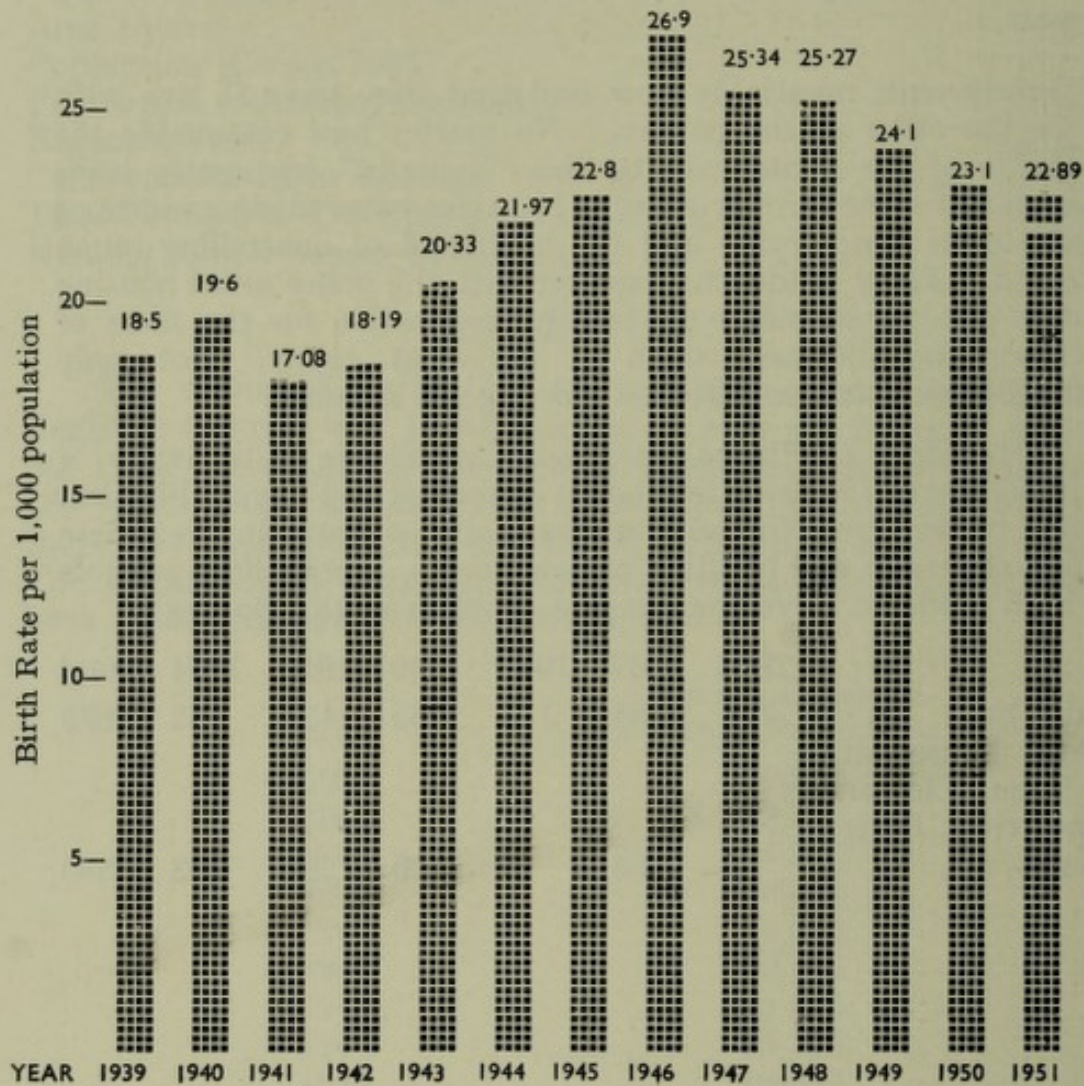
BIRTHS.

There were 389 live births in the Borough in 1951 as compared with 391 in 1950. The birth rate for 1951 was 22.89. A glance at the diagram below shows that the figure has shown little change over the past few years although the fall during the war years has been overcome.

The total births were made up as follows :—

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births—			
Legitimate	192	180	372
Illegitimate	5	12	17
Still Births—			
Legitimate	4	8	12
Illegitimate	2	—	2

Borough of Hartlepool—Birth Rate 1939-1951.



DEATHS.

There were 222 deaths which in a population of 16,990 makes a crude death rate of 13.06. The crude death rate for 1950 was 14.3.

The main causes of death in order of importance were :—diseases of the heart and blood vessels ; cancer ; pneumonia and bronchitis ; influenza and tuberculosis. 72% of total deaths in the Borough were caused by these diseases. Influenza caused 22 deaths as compared with 10 the previous year. Deaths from tuberculosis had fallen from 16 to 8. Cancer has been the cause of 40 deaths as compared with 49 in 1950.

Borough of Hartlepool.

Table to show causes of death during the year 1951 together with percentage of the total for the 4 main causes—figures for 1950 are given for comparison.

CAUSES OF DEATH	1950			1951		
	M	F	% of total of main causes of death	M	F	% of total of main causes of death
Tuberculosis, respiratory	5	6	6.5%	3	4	3.6%
Tuberculosis, other	2	3		—	1	
Syphilitic disease	—	—		1	—	
Diphtheria	—	—		—	—	
Whooping Cough	—	—		—	—	
Meningococcal infections	3	—		2	—	
Acute poliomyelitis	1	—		—	—	
Measles	1	—		—	—	
Other infective and parasitic disease	—	—		—	—	
Malignant neoplasm, stomach ..	6	5	20.16%	6	3	14.0%
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	3		4	1	
Malignant neoplasm, breast ..	—	2		—	5	
Malignant neoplasm, uterus ..	—	3		—	4	
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	17	10		14	3	
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	2	1		1	—	
Diabetes	—	—		1	1	
Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	9	35%	6	17	34%
Coronary disease, angina	10	11		12	6	
Hypertension with heart disease ..	1	5		3	1	
Other heart disease	13	13		13	12	
Other circulatory disease	7	5		2	5	
Influenza	4	6	10.3%	14	8	11%
Pneumonia	7	7		8	3	
Bronchitis	6	5		7	6	
Other diseases of resp. system ..	—	1		1	1	
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ..	—	—		3	1	
Gastritis, enteritis & diarrhoea ..	2	1		—	1	
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	2		3	1	
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—		1	—	
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ..	—	—		—	—	
Congenital malformations	1	1		1	1	
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	15	13		11	12	
Motor vehicles accidents	2	—		2	—	
All other accidents	5	1		3	—	
Suicide	2	2		2	1	
Homicide and operations of war ..	—	—		—	—	

GENERAL PROVISIONS of HEALTH SERVICES for HARTLEPOOL.

Hospitals (under the control of the Hartlepoons Hospitals Management Committee).

Infectious Diseases. These are admitted to Brierton Hospital which still maintains a number of beds for the common infectious diseases.

Tuberculosis. Brierton Hospital is now in the main a hospital for cases of tuberculosis. Cases for whose treatment facilities are not available there, are admitted to hospitals outside the area.

General Hospitals. Hospitals in the area to which Hartlepool people are sent are the General Hospital and the Cameron Hospital in West Hartlepool and the Hartlepoons Hospital in Hartlepool.

General Medical Practitioners.

The Executive Council for the County of Durham is the body responsible for administration of the National Health Service insofar as the General Practitioner Service in Hartlepool is concerned.

Midwives. The Domiciliary Midwifery Service is a County Council service. The midwives serving Hartlepool are :—Nurse E. E. Lee, 13 West View Hartlepool; Nurse E. Foster, 75 Marine Drive, Hartlepool and Nurse Weighill, The Bungalow, Grove Street, Hartlepool.

District Nurses. District Nursing is the responsibility of Durham County Council. There are two district nurses :—Nurse Carter, 22 Hepscott Avenue, Blackhall and Nurse Hart, 7 North Drive, West Hartlepool.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

Infant Welfare Clinic. Durham County Council Infant Welfare Clinics are held as under :—

Frederic Street Clinic—every Tuesday 9-30 a.m. to 11-30 a.m. &
1-30 p.m. to 4-0 p.m.

West View Clinic—every Thursday 1-30 p.m. to 4-0 p.m.

Sunlight Clinic. Held every Wednesday afternoon at Frederic Street Clinic.

Ante-Natal Clinics. These clinics are attended by the general practitioners of the town who see only their own patients. The clinics are held at Frederic Street and West View.

Birth Control Clinic. Durham County Council run a Birth Control Clinic which is held at Frederic Street Clinic twice a month.

The Family Planning Association run a Birth Control Clinic every Wednesday evening at 6-30 p.m. at the General Hospital, West Hartlepool (commenced May, 1952).

School Minor Ailment Clinic. This clinic is held at Frederic Street as follows :—

Monday morning

Wednesday morning

Friday morning—treatment only—no doctor in attendance.

Ophthalmic School Clinic. This clinic is held at Frederic Street every Friday morning from 11 a.m. to 12 noon.

School Dental Clinics. Only one full day session was held each month at Frederic Street owing to shortage of staff. It is hoped that clinics will be held more regularly when the staff shortage has been overcome.

Chest Clinics. The chest clinic is held at Brierton Hospital, West Hartlepool for Hartlepool and Durham County patients as follows :

Males } morning and afternoon—every Monday.
Females }
Children—Wednesday afternoon.

Venereal Diseases Clinic. This clinic is held at Mill House Dispensary, Stranton, West Hartlepool as follows :—

Males : Thursdays at 5-30 p.m.

Females : Wednesdays at 2 p.m.

Ambulance Service. The Ambulance Service in Hartlepool is a Durham County Council Service. One ambulance is stationed in Hartlepool and is controlled from the West Hartlepool Ambulance Station.

The control is continuously manned and receives calls for ambulances, transports and transmits necessary instructions. Where necessary the County ambulance is supplemented by the ambulances of West Hartlepool.

The ambulance stationed in Hartlepool covers also parts of Stockton Rural area.

Usage of Ambulance Service—Hartlepool.

	Journeys under- taken	Cases carried			Mileage
		Stretcher	Sitting	Total	
(a) By County vehicle stationed in Hartlepool	2191	1600	2584	4184	23338
(b) By West Hartlepool Ambulance Service on behalf of County Council	107	104	9	113	794
Total	2298	1704	2593	4297	24132

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table gives the number of notifications of cases of infectious diseases and also the number of deaths for 1951 and for 1950.

Borough of Hartlepool—Prevalence of Infectious Diseases.

Disease	1951		1950	
	Total cases notified	Number of Deaths	Total cases notified	Number of Deaths
Diphtheria	—	—	6	—
Scarlet Fever	12	—	9	—
Measles	234	—	380	1
Pneumonia (Primary & Influenzal)	5	5	2	2
Puerperal Pyrexia	13	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	36	—	7	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	2	—	—
Dysentery	1	—	—	—
Chicken Pox	2	—	—	—

The age-group distribution of cases of infectious diseases for the year 1951 :—

DISEASE	Under 1 year	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	20-	35-	45-	65 & over	Total
Scarlet Fever	—	—	1	—	2	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	12
Measles	10	42	39	57	40	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	234
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	3	—	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13	—	—	—	13
Whooping Cough	3	5	6	3	7	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	36
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Chicken Pox	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2

N.B.—The Puerperal Pyrexia cases were all notified from the Hartlepool Hospital.

Notifiable Diseases.

The notifiable diseases which require to be notified to the Medical Officer of Health of districts under the provisions of the Public Health Acts are Smallpox, Cholera, Diphtheria, Membranous Croup, Erysipelas, Scarlet Fever, Typhus, Typhoid and Enteric or Relapsing Fever.

Apart from these notifiable diseases there are others which are required to be notified by various orders or regulations. These include Plague, Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, Acute Poliomyelitis, Tuberculosis, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Encephalitis Lethargica, Malaria, Dysentery, Acute Primary Pneumonia, Acute Influenzal Pneumonia, Puerperal Pyrexia, Measles and Whooping Cough.

Under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Medical Practitioners are required to notify cases of food poisoning.

Diphtheria.

There were no cases of diphtheria in the Borough during 1951 as compared with 6 in 1950.

This is the first year so far as available records show, that there have been no notifications of cases of diphtheria in the Borough.

Immunisation against diphtheria continues to be reasonably satisfactory, but the gradual elimination of this disease from the community brings with it dangers. The young mothers of today cannot remember when diphtheria was the dread disease causing loss of life and suffering amongst child life. They therefore tend to minimise the necessity for immunisation and in many cases much persuasion is needed before they agree to having the necessary treatment. No doubt as the years go by it will become even more difficult to maintain a satisfactory level of immunisation in the community.

Immunisation of the child population in Hartlepool is carried out by the local practitioners as well as by the Medical Officer of Health. Sessions for this purpose are held by the Medical Officer of Health at Frederic Street for school children. Pre-school children are immunised at the Baby Clinics at Frederic Street and West View.

Diphtheria Immunisations carried out during the year 1951.

	<i>Under 5 years</i>	<i>5-14 years</i>	<i>Booster</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of children immunised	250	61	102	413

The position in the town at the end of 1951 was that 44% of children under 5 years had been protected from diphtheria by immunisation and that 65% of children from 5 to 15 years of age were protected.

Scarlet Fever.

There were 12 cases notified as Scarlet Fever during the year as compared with 9 the previous year. There were no deaths. In the main the cases of Scarlet Fever now occurring are mild, without complications.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.

Better known under the name of Infantile Paralysis though by no means a disease confining its activities to infants. This is a disease sporadic cases of which occur each year though at times taking on an epidemic prevalence usually late in the summer. During 1950 there were 6 cases. There were no cases during 1951.

Measles.

This is an infection to which practically everyone succumbs eventually; most frequently in childhood. It is doubtful whether there is ever a second attack of true measles. There is frequently, in urban areas, a periodicity which is no doubt due to the fact that an epidemic having attacked the susceptibles there is a lapse until a sufficient number of susceptibles has again been built up.

For Hartlepool this periodicity is shown by the table below.

Notified Cases of Measles—Hartlepool.

Year	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
No. of cases notified	59	306	254	16	426	42	380	234

There were no deaths from measles during 1951. Hospital treatment is not normally arranged except when complications arise. These are usually either respiratory or aural and it is important that cases of measles should be looked after carefully in order to prevent these complications from arising.

Whooping Cough.

This is a disease which is serious when attacking very young children. There does not appear to be any periodicity as is the case with measles. There were 36 notified cases in the Borough during 1951.

Whooping Cough apart from being an unpleasant complaint is dangerous to life and often leaves sequelae so that it is a disease

for which protective vaccination would be welcomed. There has been a great deal of research into the production of a suitable vaccine and at times it appears that it has been found. However, in none of the field trials has the effects of any vaccine been found to be so efficient as that used against diphtheria. It is for this reason that there has been a great deal of reluctance to institute schemes for immunisation against whooping cough in the way that it has been done for diphtheria.

When an efficient preparation becomes available the immunisation of children will be done earlier than is the case with diphtheria in order to prevent the effects of the disease on those children to whom it is most deadly.

Tuberculosis.

In the Annual Report for 1950 I had unfortunately to point out that the Tuberculosis figures for the Borough had shown an upward trend which was quite the opposite of the trend shown by the figures for the whole of England and Wales. The year 1951 has, I am glad to say, shown a fall in notifications and a much greater fall in deaths from tuberculosis. There were 25 new cases notified during the year compared with 36 for 1950. Only on one occasion do the records show a lower figure than that of 8 deaths in one year from tuberculosis. (Appendix I shows the improvement in the Tuberculosis Mortality Rate since 1935). Apart from this much to be desired improvement in statistics there has been another bright light on the tuberculosis horizon—during 1951 Hartlepool was visited by the Mass Radiography Unit for a general survey. During the 4 days during which this Unit functioned 1,600 people attended for X-ray. Of these 25 were recalled for further investigation and 4 were finally found to be suffering from active tuberculosis, 6 inactive tuberculosis and 4 cardiac disease. I look upon the Mass Radiography Unit as an important aid to prevention and would like to see the Unit in Hartlepool much more frequently.

Rickets.

The fact that rickets is again showing itself in Hartlepool is very disconcerting, as there is, in these days, no reason why this disease should be anything but a rarity.

Not only has it been mentioned as a secondary cause of death twice in 1951 but there have been other cases which have been brought to my notice by devious routes.

Cod Liver Oil and vitamins A & D tablets are supplied free to infants and expectant mothers respectively. Utilisation of these free vitamin products could completely prevent any possibility of this disease in the otherwise healthy child. Unfortunately, in spite of being supplied free, many entitled to these vitamin products

will not even bother to collect them from the Food Office or the Welfare Clinics.

The take-up of Cod Liver Oil and vitamin tablets in the country as a whole has been very poor but in the case of Hartlepool during 1951 the percentage take-up was only half of the average for the whole country.

Average weekly issue as a percentage of potential demand.

13 weeks ended	Cod Liver Oil		Vitamins A & D Tablets	
	United Kingdom	Hartlepool	United Kingdom	Hartlepool
	%	%	%	%
24.2.51	31.2	15.4	35.1	17.3
26.5.51	26.8	15.5	31.9	18.3
25.8.51	21.8	12.7	31.8	17.3
24.11.51	31.6	18.7	35.7	19.0
23.2.52	32.5	17.5	35.8	15.8
Average for year	28.8	15.9	34.0	19.5

INFANT WELFARE SERVICES.

Home Visiting by Health Visitors.

The basis of the child welfare service is the work undertaken by Health Visitors. The Health Visitor Service in Hartlepool is run by Durham County Council. The main function is the supervision of the child up to the age of 5 years. Visits are paid to the homes of new babies at first fairly frequently but later at much longer intervals. In addition to routine visiting the Health Visitors also undertake special visits where these are required. The usual reasons for special visits are prematurity; failing to thrive and where there appears to be some degree of child neglect.

Health Visitors advise the mother concerning the feeding and all other aspects of child care. Every effort is made to persuade mothers to breast feed. Of course there are disabilities which prevent breast feeding but the vast majority of mothers could breast feed with a little perseverance. Unfortunately, many mothers finding that breast feeding ties them down too much take the easy way out by turning to the bottle.

The Health Visitors in Hartlepool, in addition to the duties mentioned above, also do visiting of Mental Defectives and of Tuberculosis patients besides attending the Birth Control, Chest and Sunlight Clinics.

Work done by Health Visitors in Hartlepool during the year 1951.

Domiciliary Visits.

Total number of effective visits paid :—						
1.	Maternity and Child Welfare	..	..	..	..	3,920
2.	Tuberculosis	..	..	..	..	521
3.	General health	..	..	..	..	2
4.	Mental deficiency	153
5.	School	214
6.	Ineffective visits	373

Total number of visits	5,183
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Time (as days) spent on visits (routine, other and ineffective)	218
Average daily number of effective visits per Health Visitor						22

Clinic, etc., Work.

Time (as days) spent :—						
(a)	at M. & C.W. Centres	..	..	..	..	171
(b)	at Chest Clinics	..	..	..	..	45
(c)	conducting children to special schools	..	..			2

Infant Welfare Centres.

Each week a baby welfare clinic is held at West View and Frederic Street. This clinic is attended by the Medical Officer of Health in the capacity of Assistant Welfare Medical Officer and the 2 Health Visitors. Babies are weighed and mothers given advice regarding their babies and toddlers. Baby foods may be bought in the clinic and National Dried Milk, free Cod Liver Oil and Ministry of Food Orange Juice are also available. Free foods are supplied when considered necessary by the doctor. Booklets and pamphlets concerning child health are distributed to the mothers.

The centres are essentially educational and advisory and children suffering from any complaint are as a rule referred to their general practitioners. There are, however, certain forms of treatment for which arrangements are made.

Occasionally where mother and child need a period of convalescence, arrangements are made to send them to the Durham County Council Piele Convalescent Home at Shotley Bridge.

Child Welfare Centres — Attendances.

Centre	Children		Children attending for first time	
	Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.	Under 1 yr.	1-5 yrs.
Frederic Street	2098	596	158	38
West View	1413	452	119	43
Totals	3511	1048	277	81

Infantile Mortality.

In 1951 there were 22 deaths of infants below the age of 1 year. This gives an infantile mortality rate of 56.5. Appendix II shows how the Infant Mortality Rate for Hartlepool has altered since 1935. The England and Wales average figures have been plotted for comparison. So far as it is possible to ascertain from previous annual reports the Infant Mortality Rate in Hartlepool has never fallen below the level of the average for England and Wales. This indicates that there is a great deal of room for improvement. The factors involved are bad housing, overcrowding and defective sanitation coupled with maternal ignorance or neglect. Until we can bring about an improvement in all these factors then we cannot expect the Hartlepool figures to compare favourably with the average for the country.

The causes of death in the 22 cases are given in tabular form below.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Causes of Infant Deaths in relation to age in Hartlepool.

DISEASE	Under 1 wk	1—2 wks	2—3 wks	3—4 wks	Total under 4 wks	1 mth & under 3 mths	3—6 mths	6—9 mths	9-12 mths	Total
Prematurity	6	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	6
Atelectasis	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4
Broncho- Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	4
Laryngospasm and acute oedema of lung	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Acute congestion of lungs	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Bilateral lower lobar pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Respiratory Infection	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Status Epilepticus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Icterus Gravis Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital abnor- mality of large bowel with obst- ruction	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Congenital Heart Disease	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1

There are infant deaths about which, in the present state of our knowledge, we can do nothing. Thus prematurity and atelectasis (non-expansion of lungs) are still problems needing much research. Why in one case should the lungs remain unexpanded whilst in another they expand without any trouble? However, excluding these deaths there are others which could have been avoided. During the year in question there were 8 deaths which could have been avoided and amongst these were two cases where rickets was stated to be a factor involved in the death of the child.

MATERNITY SERVICES.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

Ante-Natal Clinics are held at both Frederic Street and West View clinics. The expectant mother is here attended by her own doctor with the Midwives in attendance. The following table shows the number of attendances during the year 1951 :—

Ante-Natal Clinics — Attendances.

Centre	No. of Attendances
Frederic St.	255
West View	67
Total	322

If for any reason, medical or domiciliary, it is necessary that the child should be born in hospital, then this is arranged by the doctor. If the child is to be born at the mother's home then she is attended by the midwife and doctor if the latter is desired or required. The midwife is able to supply maternity outfits for births taking place at home.

Post-Natal examinations are carried out by the general practitioners at their own surgeries.

During the year the three midwives attended 166 midwifery and 74 maternity cases, a total of 240.

Birth Control Clinic.

Attendances at the Birth Control Clinic during the year 1951 were :—

230 { this includes 111 attendances of
persons outside the Durham County Council
area).

Maternal Mortality.

For the fifth successive year there have been no deaths amongst the women of the Borough through childbirth, pregnancy or abortion.

Domestic Help Service.

This service, which was in being in Hartlepool when the Durham County Council took over in July, 1948, has been carried on since then without interruption.

There is for the South-East Durham area a Domestic Help District Organiser who investigates and makes arrangements for the provision of a domestic help. Circumstances requiring the services of a help vary greatly but in the main they can be summarised by : confinement and laying-in ; where the mother of the household is ill and where elderly persons are unable to cope with household duties.

It is unfortunate that this service should encourage the present tendency of not helping one's neighbours or should be one of the causes of sons and daughters forgetting their responsibilities to their parents. Nevertheless it is a good service and has continued to solve what appeared to be insurmountable difficulties in many homes. It has also saved many elderly people the indignity (which is how the old people look upon it) of having to be admitted into an institution.

Domestic Help Cases during 1951.

Routine Cases.

No. of cases at 1st January, 1951	28
No. of new cases during year	47
No. of cases terminated during year	30
Cases in operation at 31st December, 1951	45

Maternity Cases.

Application for services of Domestic Help during confinement	14
Confinement applications cancelled (private arrangements made or unwilling to meet cost)	6
Confinement cases receiving services of domestic help	8

During the year the hours allocated to cases were considerably reduced in the area—in accordance with the general restriction of hours imposed throughout the County. Most of the cases served are aged and infirm or suffer from chronic conditions necessitating assistance in their homes.

Home Nursing.

Although this is not strictly speaking a maternity service this is a convenient section in which to give some indication of the work of the two district nurses in Hartlepool.

<i>New Cases</i>			<i>Visits</i>
Medical	150		4,367
Surgical	24		842
Tuberculosis	14		included in above
Casuals	—		98
<hr/> Total			<hr/> 5,307 <hr/>

THE SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

The School Health Service in Hartlepool is the responsibility of the Durham County Council, the Medical Officer of Health acting as Assistant School Medical Officer carries out routine medical inspections of schoolchildren on the school premises. Each child is examined at least 4 times during attendance at school i.e. on entry ; between 8 and 9 years ; at 11 years and as a leaver.

As a result of the inspection any defect which is found is reported and steps taken to correct it. Thus, the child may be referred for examination by Eye Specialist ; an Ear, Nose and Throat Specialist ; an Orthopaedic Specialist ; a Dentist, etc. These appointments are only made if the general practitioner concerned is agreeable.

At Frederic Street a Minor Ailment Clinic is held 3 mornings each week for schoolchildren. Here the Assistant School Medical Officer is available for consultations and the School Nurse carries out any treatments found necessary. The Eye Specialist attends for one session each week in order to examine cases referred to him by the Assistant School Medical Officer.

The Dental Room at Frederic Street was unfortunately used very little during 1951 because there was no school dentist in Hartlepool. A dentist attended at intervals to carry out urgent treatments but no routine dental examinations were carried out in the schools. This is to be deplored but we can only hope for an improvement in the future.

An indication of the extent of the work carried out is given by the figures below.

Medical Inspection Statistics.

No. of Inspections in Prescribed Groups.

Entrants	587
8-9 years	316
11 plus years	112
Leavers	—
	<hr/>
Total	1,015
	<hr/>

The "leavers" are included in the 11 plus group.

Other Routine Inspections — 459

No. of Special Examinations — 83

No. of children who attended Clinic for treatment — 1,135
(4,297 attendances)

No. of children who attended Clinic for examination —
946 (2,064 attendances).

**ANNUAL REPORT of the SENIOR SANITARY
INSPECTOR for the Year 1951.**

*Health Department,
Frederic Street,
Hartlepool.*

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Public Health and Housing Committee.**

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

In presenting my annual report for the year ended 31st December, 1951 there is, I think, adequate grounds for claiming a year of satisfactory progress.

At the year end the Ministerial Enquiry was being awaited in respect of a number of proposed compulsory purchase orders. Rehousing and clearance of certain pre-war areas, which had previously been confirmed, proceeded expeditiously and the sites rapidly made available for redevelopment. Based on this experience there is no reason why clearance should not proceed at the rate of 100 houses per year and the Town Plan implemented. Slum clearance rehousing has, however, pinpointed one pressing problem—that of rehousing single occupiers and special measures will soon have to be taken to rehouse this class of person which is proving an ever-increasing problem.

In all reports since the end of the war emphasis has been laid on the time devoted to property repairs and maintenance and last year followed the well-worn pattern and in fact proved more onerous than before if judged by the number of repair notices served. Repair costs continue to rise and thus owners are less inclined to subsidise houses at their own expense and it is thought that if the Central Government cannot soon devise some method, with suitable safeguards, of increasing rents to meet additional repair costs, then the rate at which existing property falls below the level of fitness will soon exceed the rate of clearance and rebuilding. The position at the year end was grim and it is going to prove extremely difficult in the next few years to maintain houses to the minimum habitable standard.

What time was left over from housing matters was devoted to other duties, as detailed in the report, but it is regretted that, for various reasons, the Ministry of Food Byelaws were still not operative. It is pleasing to note that on a voluntary arrangement no loose or ungraded milk is now on sale in the town.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G. A. WARD,
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

OF THE

The history of the United States is a story of growth and development. It begins with the first settlers who came to the shores of North America, seeking a new life and a new land. They found a land of vast resources and a people who were different from them. Over time, the settlers and the native Americans began to interact, and a new society began to emerge. This society was based on the principles of freedom and democracy, and it was this society that grew into the United States of America. The United States has a long and rich history, and it is a country that has made many contributions to the world. It is a country that has stood for freedom and justice, and it is a country that has inspired people all over the world. The history of the United States is a story of hope and achievement, and it is a story that we should all be proud of.

The United States is a country of many firsts. It was the first country to declare its independence from a European power. It was the first country to adopt a written constitution. It was the first country to abolish slavery. It was the first country to send a man to the moon. These are just a few of the many firsts that the United States has achieved. The United States is a country that has made many contributions to the world, and it is a country that we should all be proud of.

GENERAL SANITARY WORK.

A total of 587 houses were inspected during the year, and 1,214 re-inspections were made in respect of properties under notice. 312 informal notices were served affecting 352 houses with regard to nuisances existing thereon and the terms of 260 such notices affecting 263 houses were complied with. Upon the instructions of the Committee 66 Statutory Notices were served in the year with respect to 74 houses and 63 such notices were complied with in respect of 68 houses.

It is to be noted that 3 Statutory Notices, not fully complied with, were abated on default of the owner to 3 houses and the necessary action taken to recover the expenses incurred which amounted to a total of £17 9s. 1d. It did not prove necessary to take proceedings to recover expenditure incurred.

To summarise, a total of 378 notices were served in respect of 426 houses and 323 such notices were complied with to 331 houses.

The demand on the time of your inspectors still continues at a very high level and is shown by the fact that the number of complaints investigated has trebled in 2 years reaching the high figure of 654 and even though only bare essential repairs were carried out it was necessary to serve 66 Statutory Notices, though in only 3 cases were repairs on default necessary. Comparisons may be invidious but as compared with an adjoining County Borough, visits and inspections under this head were 20% higher in Hartlepool.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

Dwellinghouses.	<i>Inspection</i>	<i>Re-inspections</i>	Total
Notifiable diseases	12	—	12
Other Diseases	—	—	—
Verminous Premises	12	—	12
Dirty Premises	10	12	22
Overcrowded condition	—	—	—
Houses let in lodgings	—	—	—
Housing & Public Health Acts	487	1214	1701
Water Supply....	6	4	10
Animals, etc. kept	10	5	15
Supervision of removals	325	—	325
Rat infested premises	249	700	949
Tents, Vans, Sheds	2	8	10

	<i>Inspection</i>	<i>Re-inspections</i>	Total
Other Premises.			
Offensive trades	12	5	17
Marine Stores	2	—	2
Accumulation of rubbish	5	9	14
Factories with mechanical power	18	4	22
Factories with no mechanical power	9	5	14
Workplaces	—	—	—
Licensed Premises	39	10	49
Places of Public Entertainment	—	—	—
Sale of Rag Flock	4	—	4

Food Premises.

Meat Shops	13	—	13
Provision Shops	50	22	72
Fish Shops—wet	4	2	6
Fish Shops—fried	12	3	15
Milk Shops and Dairies	11	—	11
Restaurant Kitchens....	25	5	30
Bake-houses	6	3	9
Ice Cream Premises	25	6	31

Miscellaneous—Action taken.

No. of complaints investigated during year	654
Informal notices served	312
Informal notices complied with	260
Second or reminder notices sent	232
Nuisances abated without service of written notice	10
Statutory notices served	66
Statutory notices complied with	63
Notices abated on default of owner	3
Warning letters sent	16
Interviews with owners	61
Interviews with builders	38

Sanitary Improvements and repairs effected :—

	<i>No Notice</i>	<i>By owner under notice</i>	<i>Council on default of Owner</i>
Houses.			
Repaired and made fit	10	328	3
Roofs repaired	1	97	2
Floors repaired, ventilated etc.	—	11	—
Plastered walls and ceilings repaired	—	37	2
Windows repaired and sashcords renewed	—	37	—
Pantry repaired or provided	—	5	1

	No Notice	By owner under notice	Council on default of owner.
Staircases repaired (internal and external)	—	13	—
Doors rehung or repaired	—	51	1
Fireplaces, ranges repaired, re-set, renewed	—	34	—
Chimneys or stacks repaired	—	24	—
New sinks provided and fixed	—	3	—
Sink wastes repaired or renewed	1	18	—
Water supply provided inside houses	—	—	—
Wash coppers repaired or provided	—	16	—
Pumps repaired	—	1	—
Walls pointed....	—	37	1
Outbuildings repaired	—	12	—
Eaves and downspouts repaired or renewed	1	79	2
Dangerous walls repaired	—	8	—
Yard paving repaired	—	2	—
Water services repaired	4	15	—
Dust bins provided	—	15	—
Animals improperly kept	—	—	—
Accumulation of rubbish	5	9	14

Verminous, etc. Premises.

Dirty houses cleansed	—	1	—
Verminous houses—bugs	—	25	—
Verminous houses—other vermin	45	—	—
Bedding etc. disinfected (lots)	4	—	—
Bedding etc. destroyed (lots)	69	—	—

Drainage.

Obstructed drains cleansed	2	35	—
New gullys fixed in yards	—	3	—
Drains repaired and reconstructed	—	5	1
Inspection chambers built	—	2	—
W.C. basins renewed....	2	11	1
W.C. pedestal basins in lieu of old type	—	5	—
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	—	39	—
W.C. compartments cleansed	—	2	—
W.C. compartments repaired	—	26	1

Derelict Property.

Good progress was made during the year with the voluntary demolition and clearance of derelict houses. Tenants of a few odd occupied houses were rehoused by the Council to facilitate clearance of blocks of property. The demolition contractor relies on value of salvaged material to pay his costs. The owners were in many cases discarding a liability at no cost to themselves and the Council will in due course acquire 2 sites virtually cleared and ready for redevelopment. Both sites where clearance had taken place were the subject of compulsory purchase orders at the year end.

At the commencement of the year 22 houses were in course of demolition and a further 6 blocks of property containing 56 houses were demolished making a total of 78 for the year and 125 all told in the two years the scheme has operated ; 111 of these sites were in proposed clearance areas noted above.

Two Statutory Notices under section 93 of the Act were abated by the year end but one is still outstanding. The disposal of rubble is somewhat of a problem with a variable market.

Vermin Infestation.

There has been no variation in the methods used from previous years, i.e. liquid and powder insecticides.

Bug-infested houses dealt with numbered 25, a number of which were properties vacated by successful applicants for new houses. Of 12 Council properties infested all were old leasehold houses.

The furniture and effects of 325 tenants was inspected and disinfested as necessary prior to rehousing taking place and 19 properties thus rendered vacant were disinfested prior to reletting.

Furniture and bedding not capable of being cleansed satisfactorily is removed and destroyed ; this action was carried out in 63 cases.

A total of 70 houses were treated during the year for vermin infestation as below.

Bug infested	25	Crickets	—
Black beetles	33	Wood boring beetles	2
Fleas	10		

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The Tees-side Committee still continues to function actively and deputations from this body have met industrial concerns in the district with regard to specific pollution and remedial action. One such meeting was with the National Coal Board with regard to the coal dust nuisance in the coal dock, which was admitted and is commented on in detail later.

The two deposit gauges were in full operation for the year.

The Gray Square gauge is sited in the midst of urban development and is subject to industrial pollution according to wind direction. The New Cemetery gauge is sited in open country which is rapidly being built on. The following table gives wind records for the above period.

Wind Direction.

	N	NE	E	SE	S	SW	W	NW	Calm	No record
Total hours	592	1055	175	491	838	3262	491	713	632	507
Percentage of total	6.7	11.9	2.0	5.6	9.6	37.2	5.6	8.07	7.2	5.8

Appendix III indicates the total deposited matter in tons per square mile for the year; outside contamination of the New Cemetery gauge is suspected during October.

It was to be expected that a heavily developed urban area, though free of industry, would give a higher reading than that for a semi-rural area and this in fact is borne out by the chart but the figures are also indicative, when taken in conjunction with prevailing winds so far as the Gray Square gauge is concerned, of contamination of coal dust from the nearby coaling staithes.

During the year a joint deputation of the Tees-side Standing Committee and of the Dock and Inland Waterways Executive met the area management officials of the National Coal Board with regard to the coal dust nuisance. The Board's officials in admitting the nuisance outlined their long-term policy in relation to coal getting and handling which it is hoped will go a long way to eliminate

free dust in shipped coal, and certain immediate steps which they would take to reduce the nuisance from certain types of coal being shipped. Some of their proposals would call for some change in coking practice at London Gas Works but after a helpful discussion it appears that it is easier to prevent atmospheric pollution at the consumer's end than at the point of shipment. Certain short-term steps had been put into operation by the year end.

It is imperative that progressively with the development of the headland alongside the coaling staithes that coal dust nuisance be radically reduced if the new houses are to enjoyed to the full.

Dust Nuisance.

As reported last year flue gas washing-towers and electric precipitators were being erected at the works of British Periclase Co. and they went into operation when their newest and largest kiln was brought into production. The dust extraction plant was highly successful and the only outward sign that the kiln was working was a small white plume at the chimney top. After operating successfully for several months the equipment was broken-down for examination and very extensive corrosion was found and the use of the dust extractors had to be discontinued until steps had been taken to counteract this corrosion ; this work had not been completed by the year end but there is every prospect of a complete elimination of the nuisance in the near future if the corrosive action of the effluent can be eliminated.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Premises — Fish Curing 7 ; Miscellaneous 2.

Two establishments carrying on the trade of fish curers had annual licences renewed for a further period of twelve months.

Informal action, indicated below, had to be taken on occasions to abate nuisances :—

Limewash	2	Sanitary accommodation	2
Structural defects	3		

WATER SUPPLY.

The town is supplied with water by the Hartlepool Gas and Water Co. Ltd., from boreholes situated at two places within the district of the County Borough of West Hartlepool. There is no information to show that the supply has been insufficient in quantity during the year.

The supply has been found to be at all times pure and wholesome though of outstanding hardness.

With the exception of a few houses in an area taken over in boundary extensions in 1936 all the houses in the town are supplied from public water mains direct to the houses.

Report on water sample from supply :—

	<i>Parts per 100,000</i>
Chlorine as Chlorides	14.3000
Nitrogen as Nitrates	0.1481
Ammonia	0.0021
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0016
Oxygen Absorption	0.0241
Injurious Metals	None
Total Solid Matter dried @ 100 °C.	96.0000
pH value of Sample	7.2
<hr/>	
Temporary Hardness 23.6 Degrees	
Permanent Hardness 21.2 „	
Colour of sample on Hazen Scale	0
Appearance of Sample in 2 foot tube	Bright
Odour when heated to 50 °C.	None
<hr/>	

Microscopical Examination

Satisfactory.

Bacteriological Examination.

Number of colonies on Nutrient Agar @ 37 °C. after 72 hours	0 per ml.
Number of colonies on Nutrient Agar @ 20-22 °C. after 72 hours	1 per ml.
Presumptive B. Coli Test at 37 °C. after 72 hours	Negative in 100 ml.
Clostridium Welchii Test @ 45 °C. in 40 ml.	Negative.

Observations.

The sample is of a high order of purity when judged both by the results of the chemical analysis and the bacteriological examination, and it is of good and wholesome quality for human consumption.

HOUSING ACTS, 1936-1949.

Good progress was made during the year with the rehousing of persons situated in slum clearance areas and there has been no lag in clearance and redevelopment of the sites. The Ministry Enquiry was being awaited at the year end in respect of a few objectors to properties in 2 of 5 Compulsory Purchase Orders containing 92 houses. These 5 miscellaneous areas can be said to be the last 'clearing-up' areas and abut derelict sites which are being acquired or belong to the Council and this will facilitate redevelopment. It is hoped to embark on the major slum clearance scheme next year.

Difficulty is however, beginning to be experienced in rehousing single aged occupiers, of both sexes, who gravitate to low class houses for economic reasons

Individual Unfit Houses.

During the year 18 closing orders and 9 demolition orders were made and 25 families totalling 76 persons were rehoused.

In addition to the making of formal closing orders, informal action secured the voluntary closure of 9 houses and the rehousing of 9 families; the House Management Committee rehouse on my certificate as to the insanitary conditions of the house and on a written undertaking from the owner not to re-let; 3 houses thus vacated were demolished.

Overcrowding.

It is impossible to give an accurate picture of the present overcrowding position without carrying out a fresh survey.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	487
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	2063

(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included in sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 & 1932	123
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	395
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	123
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive to those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	352

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Authority or their officers	263
--	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—

A—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	69
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	60
(b) by local authority in default of owners	3

B—Proceedings under the Public Health Act :—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	5
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by owners	5
(b) by local authority in default of owners	—

C—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	9
--	---

(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	10
---	----

D—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	18
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV.—Overcrowding.

(a)(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	Not known
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	Not known
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	Not known
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	—
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	—
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	—
(d) Particulars of any such cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding (abated after informal action had been taken)	—
(e) Any other particulars in respect of overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	—

(It is not possible to give an accurate picture of the present overcrowding position without carrying out a fresh survey).

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS, 1937-1949.

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

31 inspections of meat and other foods were carried out during the year, and weight of food condemned amounted to 4 cwt. 5st. 3 lbs. The weight of food condemned showed a decrease over the previous year.

Food condemned :—

Miscellaneous canned goods	..	..	..	21st	7 lbs.
Fish	..	..	..	—
Meat	..	..	..	5 st.	
Miscellaneous goods	..	..	..	3 st.	
Eggs	..	..	..	7 st.	10 lbs.

There are no slaughterhouses in the town and centralised slaughtering is carried out in the adjoining town of West Hartlepool.

Public Health (Meat Regulations), 1924.

Number of retail butchers' shops at year end — 17.

All the butchers' shops in the town continue to be well maintained though lack of accommodation is a handicap in a number of cases. The majority of shops are provided with refrigerators—an essential requirement in all such shops.

One shop was closed down during the year.

Outstanding action from last year in respect of 6 shops to secure compliance with the requirements of section 13 of the Act were complied with.

Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.

Persons and premises registered under the above orders are as follows :—

Distributors with retail dairy premises in the town	3	
Distributors with no retail premises in the town	5	
	—	8
Retail purveyors of bottled milk only	..	..
	..	41

All premises continued to be maintained in a satisfactory condition.

All of the milk on sale is bottled graded milk, a very satisfactory state of affairs.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949.

Licences granted under these orders are as follows :—

	<i>Dealers'</i> <i>Licences</i>	<i>Supplementary</i> <i>Licences</i>
T.T. (Pasteurised) Milk	.. 12	2
Pasteurised Milk	.. 12	2
Sterilised Milk	.. 36	1
Tuberculin Tested	.. 1	—

Both the T.T. Pasteurised and Pasteurised milk on sale in the town are each derived from 3 sources and the supply position and the quality was well maintained.

Purity of Milk Supplies — Bacteriological Examination.

T.T. Pasteurised Milk :—Out of 10 samples submitted for examination only 2 failed to pass the Methylene blue test as to adequate keeping quality and none failed the Phosphatase test as to efficiency of pasteurising.

Pasteurised Milk :—Out of 10 samples submitted none failed the Methylene blue or the Phosphatase tests.

A representative number of samples were school milks.

Sterilised Milk :—1 sample submitted satisfied the prescribed tests.

Tuberculin-Tested Milk :—2 samples submitted and 1 sample narrowly failed to pass the Methylene blue test.

Undesignated Raw Milk :—6 samples were submitted for examination of which 5 satisfied the test for accredited milk (a designated standard). One sample failed Methylene blue keeping quality test. All raw milk is consigned to dairies and pasteurised.

Producers were always notified in writing of any unsatisfactory sample results but it can still be said that the standard of milk produced on sale within the Borough is very good indeed.

Presence of Tubercle Bacilli :—6 samples of graded milk were submitted for animal inoculation for the presence of tubercle. All were negative.

Ice Cream.

Premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream	3
Premises registered for the sale of ice cream	.. 39
Premises registered and selling ice cream	.. 31

4 premises were registered for the first time during the year for the sale of ice cream prepacked.

2 manufacturers of ice cream were using a proprietary cold mix powder and all the necessary equipment was provided to comply with the Heat Treatment Regulations in respect of the remaining manufacturer.

In all but 3 instances ice cream on retail from shops is prepacked but is mostly loose as sold from vehicles. Vehicles were well fitted out and maintained.

Purity of Ice Cream—Bacteriological Examination.

A total of 25 samples were submitted from 12 producers, 9 samples being from the 3 local producers; owing to the large number of outside producers whose ice cream is on sale in the town it is only possible to take occasional samples of their products.

Each producer is advised as to unsatisfactory samples but no follow-up action is possible in respect of samples produced by outside producers and it is certain outside producers who have produced persistently unsatisfactory samples.

The following table shows the results of the examinations :—

	Provincial Grade				Total Samples
	I Satisfactory	II	III Unsatisfactory	IV	
Producer A	2	—	1	—	3
Producer B	—	2	—	—	2
Producer C	—	2	2	—	4
Miscellaneous	4	7	3	2	16
	6	11	6	2	25

It is recommended that in interpreting the results over 6 months, 50% of the samples should fall into Grades I and 80% into Grade I or II.

Quality Sampling of Ice Cream.

A total of 11 samples were submitted to the public analyst, 2 being taken from each of the local producers. All samples were genuine ice cream.

Food-preparing Premises—Restaurants, Kitchens, Etc.

Catering establishments in this town fall into two categories, permanent and temporary premises for summer season; all, however, were subject to routine inspection and particularly so during the summer months.

Clean Food.

No specified measures have been taken in the way of Clean Food Campaign etc. during the year but at a Civic and Industrial Exhibition to commemorate the 750th anniversary of the Charter emphasis was given to Food Hygiene on the Health Department Stand and the Ministry of Food Clean Food Shop Stand was displayed. The Health Department Stand was visited by a very large proportion of the public that visited the exhibition and great interest was shown in the exhibits, particularly bacteriological ones.

Continuing the policy of bringing all food premises up to the standard envisaged by section 13 of the Act all provision shops were inspected and owners and occupiers supplied with a list of requirements to bring them up to standard, a copy of section 13 and other relevant literature. Similar action taken during the previous year with regard to other classes of premises was completed by the year end.

The following table indicates the type and number of premises in the town and action taken during the year under written notice :

Action taken in respect of hot water supply, etc.

Class of Premises	Total No.	Notices			
		Served	B/F	Done	In hand
Provision Shops	66	27	—	16	5
Catering Establishments	*26	—	2	2	—
Bakehouses	13	—	3	3	—
Fried Fish Shops	10	—	4	4	—
Wet Fish Shops	3	—	1	1	1
Totals	118	27	10	26	6

*Private 16 ; Industrial 6 ; Schools 4.

The use of one old bakehouse, situated in a clearance area, was discontinued on the completion of new premises. One fried fish shop closed down.

Other nuisances remedied by informal action were :—

Insufficient bins	1	Defective food storage accommodation	1
Accumulation of refuse	1	Dirty conditions	5

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Routine inspections of factories during the year gives rise to little comment ; only a limited amount could be carried out on account of staffing difficulties and pressure of other work.

Further discussions took place during the year with representatives of the Docks and Inland Waterways Executive, who own all timber storage grounds, and various types of timber importers as to the modernisation where possible, or improvement of sanitary accommodation throughout the dock area. Some repairs and improvements were in hand by the year end.

Details of inspections carried out and defects discovered are indicated in the following table :—

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	22	14	5	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	63	20	4	—
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	10	2	—	—
TOTAL	95	36	9	—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found remedied	Referred		
		To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	2	2	—	—
Overcrowding.....	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	5	2	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences				
(a) insufficient	1	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	3	6	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	11	10	—	—

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Little arose which calls for comment though areas of derelict property again proved very troublesome and the treatment of 5 such major infestations by block control resulted in the recovery of 403 dead rats out of a total of 605 bodies recovered from treatment of dwellinghouses. Several of these areas were by the end of the year being cleared up, which called for intensive action, and redevelopment will be completed in the next few months.

Infestation of dwellinghouses was principally sporadic in nature.

Action as to proofing of premises had to be taken on several occasions but no formal action under the Act was called for.

Types of infested areas dealt with are as below.

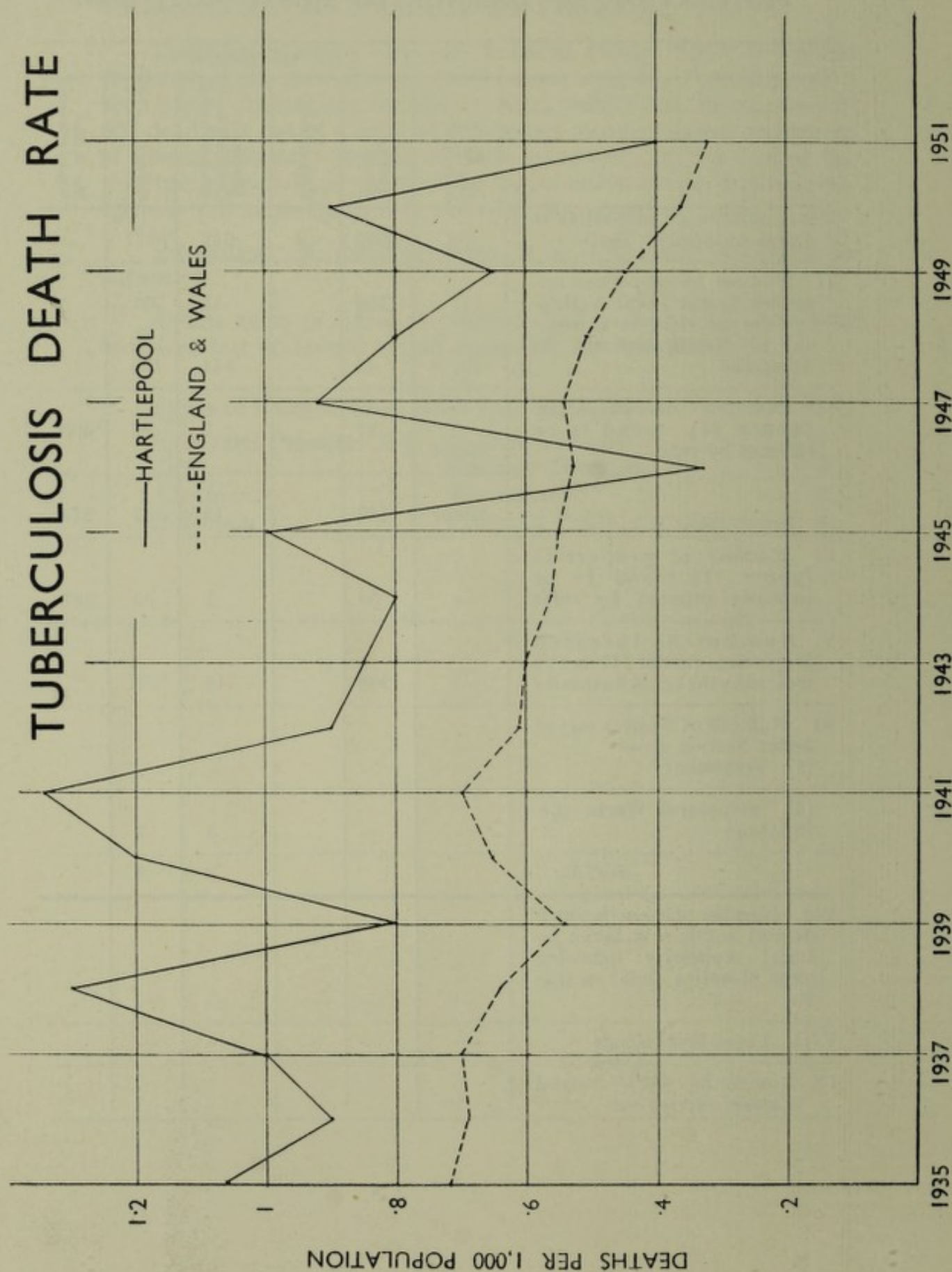
Industrial Premises	5	Provision Shops	1
Tips	1	Business Premises	3
Allotments	1	Restaurants	2
Hospitals	1	Places of Public Entertainment	4

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY					No. of dead bodies recovered
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including Busi- ness & Industrial)	TOTAL	
Total number of properties in Local Authority's District ..	38	4693	4	342	5077	
II Number of properties ins- pected by the Local Author- ity during 1951 as a result (a) of Notification or (b) otherwise... ..	(a)	186		15	201	
	(b) 3	45		144	192	
III Number of properties (under II) found to be infested by rats	2 Major	81		2	85	403
	1 Minor	127		13	141	513
IV Number of properties (under II) found to be seriously infested by mice..	—	34		1	35	253
V Number of infested properties (under III & IV) treated by the Local Authority	3	208		15	226	
VI Number of Notices served under Section 4 :—						
(1) Treatment	—	—		—	—	
(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	—	—		3	3	
TOTAL ...				3	3	
VII Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under section 4	—	—	—	—	—	
VIII Legal Proceedings ..	—	—	—	—	—	
IX Number of "block" control schemes carried out	20					

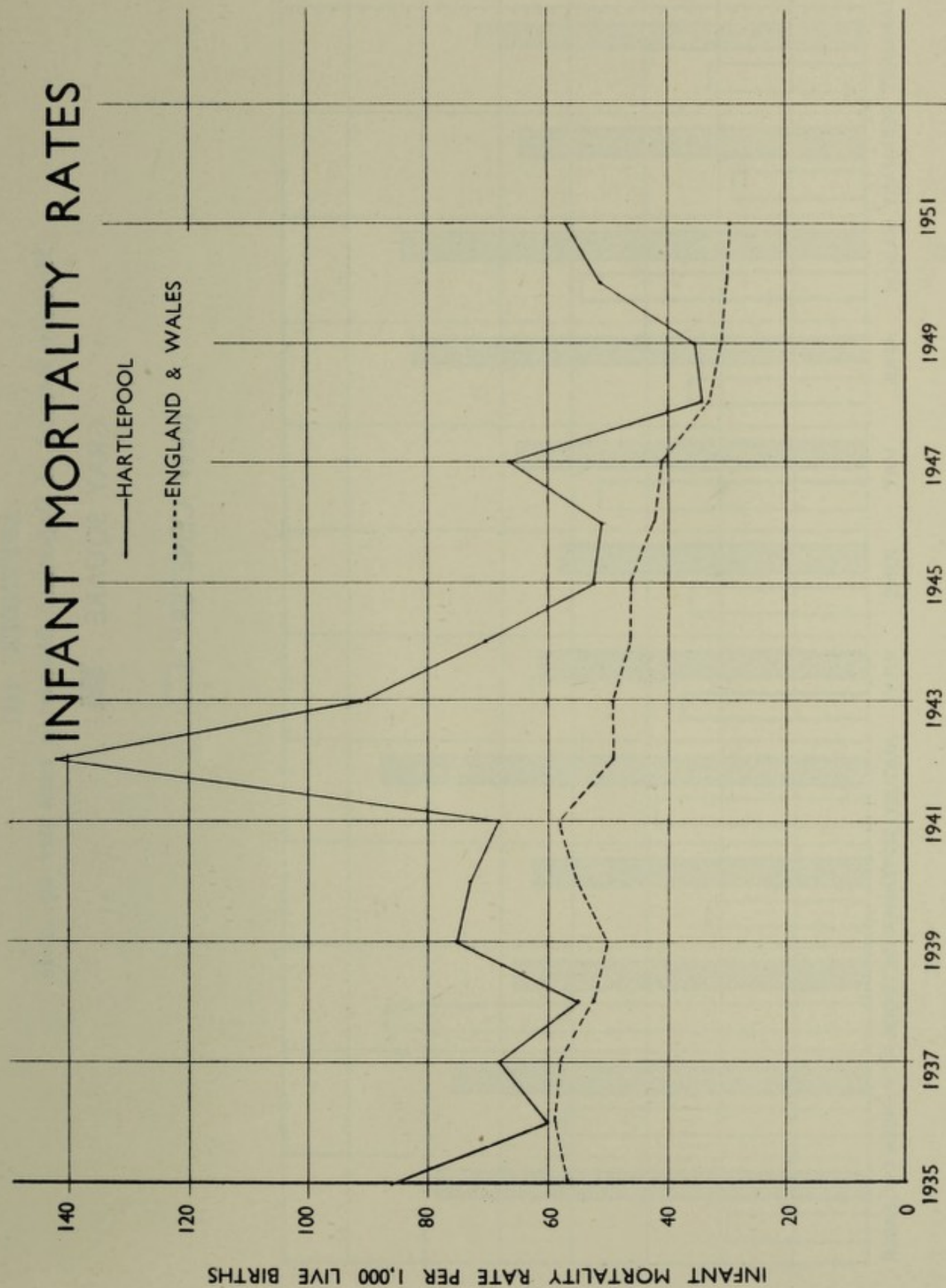
APPENDIX I.

TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE




APPENDIX II.

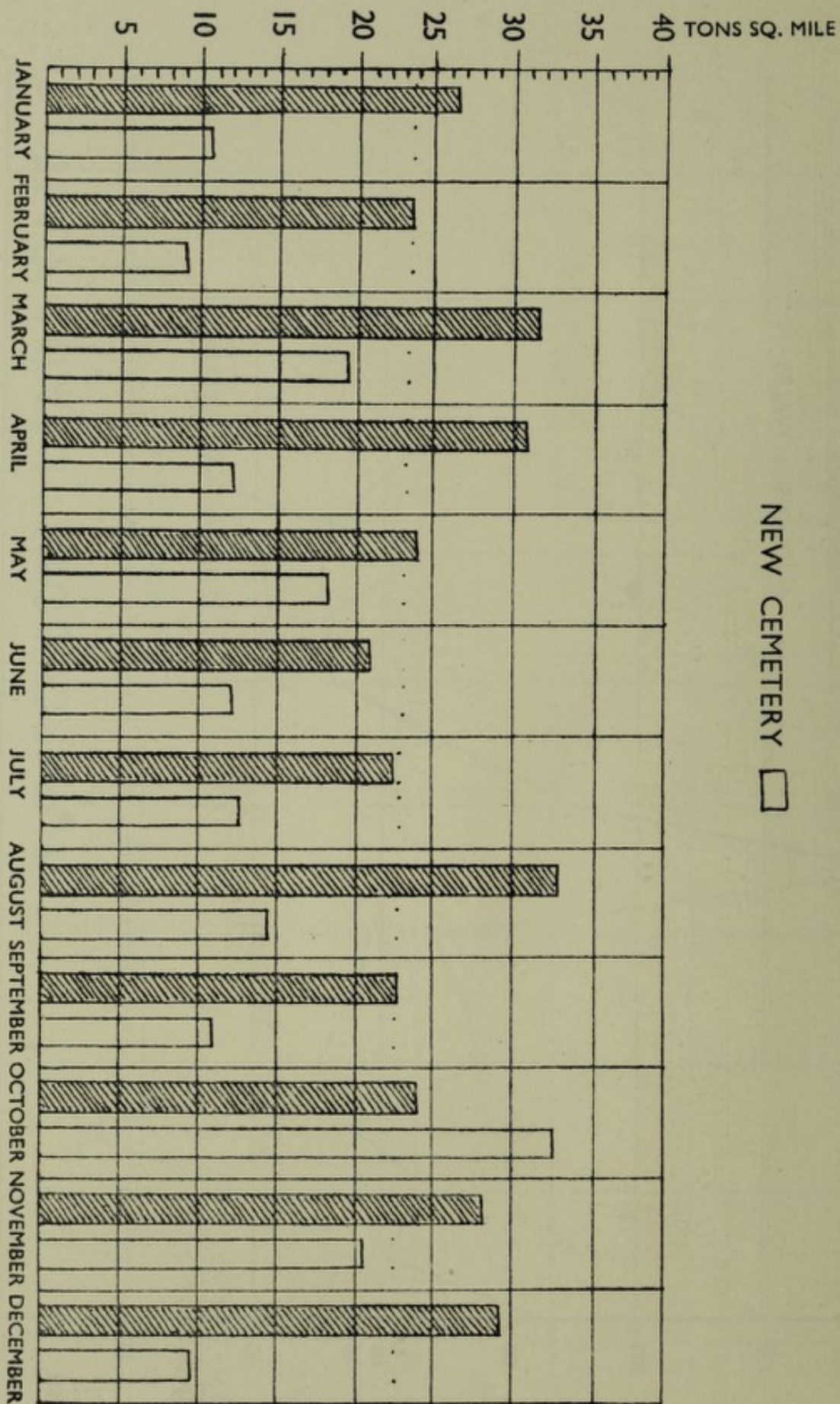
INFANT MORTALITY RATES



APPENDIX III. Monthly Record of Deposited Matter in tons per sq. mile.

GRAY SQUARE 

NEW CEMETERY 





F. W. Mason, 53 Southgate, Hartlepool.