

[Report 1950] / Medical Officer of Health, Hebburn U.D.C.

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Hebburn Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
for the year 1950.

HEBBURN-ON-TYNE :
Printed by SMITH BROS. (Hebburn & Jarrow), Ltd.,
Lyon Street.
1951.





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HEBBURN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

1950—1951.

Chairman.

Mr. W. Brown, J.P.

Vice-Chairman.

Mrs. S. McIntyre.

MEMBERS.

West Ward.

Mr. Patrick English.
Mrs. Sarah McIntyre.
Mr. John J. Swales.

East Ward.

Co. Coun. Walter Brown,
J.P.
Mr. William Bradley.
Mr. John Spelman.

Central Ward.

Mr. Robert Heard.
Mr. James H. Edmunds.
Mr. John E. Jenkins.

Victoria Ward.

Mr. John G. Kerr.
Mr. William M. Jackson.
Mr. John Frater.

North Ward.

Mrs. Ada Davies, J.P.
Co. Coun. Norman Frankland.
Mr. George Watson.

South Ward.

Miss Beatrice F. Taylor.

Mr. Herbert Oake.

Mr. James M. Black, J.P.

Monkton Ward.

Mr. William Conway.
Mr. Edward French.
Mr. William Slaughter.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

ARGYLE STREET,

HEBBURN,

JULY, 1951.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Hebburn Urban
District Council.**

MR. CHAIRMAN, MESDAMES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1950, on the Health and sanitary condition of the district.

The Birth Rate was lower than 1949, the figures being 19.1 and 36.5 per 1,000 estimated resident population respectively.

The Death Rate was 11.5 per 1,000 in 1950 against 10.6 per 1,000 in the previous year.

The Infantile mortality rate this year 40.1 per 1,000 live births was higher than in 1949 when the figure was 34.9.

There were 45 notifications of respiratory tuberculosis and 5 notifications of non-respiratory tuberculosis this year, compared with 51 and 4 respectively last year.

The number of deaths from respiratory tuberculosis was 15 compared with 17 in 1949, no deaths occurred from the non-respiratory type of the disease against 1 in the previous year.

The incidence of diphtheria during the year was the same as in 1949, namely 1.

The number of scarlet fever cases was less than in 1949, 19 as against 29.

I would like to take this opportunity of recording my grateful appreciation for the assistance I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Council, and also from the Staff of the Health and Cleansing Departments.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

W. D. MILLAR,

M.B., B.S., B.Hy. (Durh.), D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT.

STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health—William D. Millar, M.B., B.S., B.Hy.
(Durham), D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector—W. S. Bruce, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector—P. Milne, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Cleansing Superintendent—Thomas Taggart.

Chief Clerk to the Health Department—David A. McGuinness.

Shorthand-Typist to Health Department—Mrs. E. Wilson.

Shorthand-Typist to Cleansing Department—Miss M. Wallace.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

SECTION A.

Statistics of the Area.

Area of District—1,676.415 acres.

Number of inhabited houses (at end of 1950 according to rate books)—6,654.

Rateable Value (December)—£104,964.

Sum represented by a penny rate—£373.

Estimated resident population—22,990.

No. of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total—112.

(b) As part of Municipal Housing Scheme—112.

No. of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including Nos. given separately under (b))—112.

(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—

(i) By the Local Authority—38.

(ii) By other bodies or persons—74.

Number of houses owned by Local Authority—1,511.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births—	Total.	M.	F.	
Legitimate	449	237	212	
Illegitimate	17	8	9	
				Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population 19.1.
Still Births—				
Legitimate	17	9	7	
Illegitimate	1	1	—	
				Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births, 36.5.
Deaths	266	151	115	
				Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resi- dent population 11.5.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	40.1
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	39.1
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	58.8
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	44
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Deaths from Gastritis, enteritis, & diarrhoea (all ages)	3

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

The Birth Rate in 1950 was 19.1. The total number of births was 449 of which 237 were males and 212 females.

The birth-rate of Hebburn compared with the rest of the Country generally was as follows:—

England and Wales	15.8
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns	17.6
148 Smaller Towns	16.7
London Administrative County	17.8
Hebburn Urban District	19.1

Still Births (Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population).

The number of Still births in the district was 17 and the rate compared with the County generally was as follows:—

England and Wales	0.37
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns	0.45
148 Smaller Towns	0.38
London Administrative County	0.36
Hebburn Urban District	0.74

Deaths.

The Death rate in 1950 was 11.5 compared with 10.6 in 1949. The following figures show the comparison with the rest of the country:—

England and Wales	11.6
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns	12.3
148 Smaller Towns	11.6
London Administrative County	11.8
Hebburn Urban District	11.5
Area comparability factor for births	0.97
Area comparability factor for deaths	1.24

The following table shews the classification of deaths from all causes (Registrar-General's figures) 1950:—

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Males.	Females.
All Causes.		151	115
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	9	6
2	Tuberculosis, other ...	0	0
3	Syphilitic Disease ...	0	1
4	Diphtheria ...	1	0
5	Whooping-Cough ...	0	0
6	Meningococcal infection ...	1	0
7	Acute Poliomyelitis ...	1	0
8	Measles ...	0	1
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	0	0
10	Malignant neoplasm stomach ...	7	5
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	4	0
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	0	2
13	Malignant neoplasm uterus ...	0	4
14	Other malignant and Lymphatic neoplasms ...	11	11
15	Leukaemia aleukaemia ...	0	0
16	Diabetes ...	1	0
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	21	13
18	Coronary disease angina ...	8	10
19	Hypertension with heart disease ...	3	3
20	Other heart disease ...	16	18
21	Other circulatory disease ...	5	3
22	Influenza ...	3	4
23	Pneumonia ...	10	3
24	Bronchitis ...	14	7
25	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1	0
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	2	0
27	Gastritis, enetritis and diarrhoea ...	0	3
28	Nephritis and nephrosis ...	2	0
29	Hyperplasia of prostate ...	2	0
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	0	0
31	Congenital Malformation ...	1	2
32	Other defined and ill defined diseases ...	20	13
33	Motor vehicle accidents ...	1	1
34	All other accidents ...	6	4
35	Suicide ...	0	1
36	Homicide and operation of war ...	1	0

SECTION B.

CLINIC.	SITUATION.	SESSIONS.	PROVIDED BY.
Maternity & Child Welfare	Argyle Street, Hebburn.	Children under Five—Tuesdays, a.m. Ante-Natal—Tuesday, p.m. Children under Five—Tuesdays, p.m.	Durham County Council.
"	"	"	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	Ante and Post-Natal—Wednesdays, a.m. to p.m.	"
"	"	"	"
"	"	Children under Five—Fridays, a.m. Ante-Natal—Fridays, p.m. Children under Five—Fridays, p.m.	"
"	"	"	"
School Medical Service.	"	School Children—Mondays, a.m. to p.m. School Children—Thursdays, a.m. to p.m.	"
"	"	"	"
Tuberculosis Dispensary.	Homer Villa, St. John's Terrace, Jarrow.	Women's & Girls—Mondays, a.m. to p.m. Men & Boys—Wednesdays, a.m. to p.m.	"
"	"	"	"
Veneral Diseases.	General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle, 4.	Male & Female—Mondays to Fridays,— 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Saturdays— 11 a.m. to 12 noon. 4-30 p.m. to 6-30 p.m.	"
"	"	"	"

SECTION C.**Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.****Report of Cleansing Superintendent.**

TO THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Sir,

I beg to submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1950.

Regular inspections of the district have been made and the Public Cleansing Services have been maintained to satisfaction.

No serious complaints or difficulties have arisen during the year and all effort has been made to upkeep an efficient standard of cleanliness in the district.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

THOMAS TAGGART,

Cleansing Superintendent.

Collection and Disposal of Refuse.

There were 6,890 houses and premises from which refuse was collected. This shows an increase of 84 houses and premises since last year.

House refuse is collected once per week and two modern 3 tons Dennis Refuse Collectors are engaged on this work. Each vehicle has a body capacity of 10 cubic yards, and is manned by 4 loaders. Salvage is collected at the same time as the house refuse and a trailer is attached to each vehicle for this purpose.

Trade Refuse is collected from shops, etc., on an average of three collections per week.

During the year we dispensed with the Leyland Refuse Collector after 15 years of service. This vehicle was previously engaged on Trade Refuse Collection and Scavenging work but is now replaced by our 2 ton Morris Lorry with converted body, and manned by one loader.

The quantity of salvage collected and the income therefrom is shewn in the appended summary.

The system of refuse disposal adopted by this Authority is Controlled Tipping, and the Ministry of Health precautions regarding this method have been observed. The tipping ground is the

property of Messrs. A. Reyrolle and Co. Ltd., and is situated at the west boundary of the Company's works. The site is suitably distant from the residential area, and no complaints from the public have arisen during the year as the result of tipping operations on this site.

By kind permission of Messrs. A. Reyrolle and Co. Ltd., we are allowed to use this site as a refuse disposal tip free of cost.

Street Sweeping.

There are 30.35 miles of streets in the district, of which 1.82 are swept daily, 1.7 miles three times weekly, 2.63 miles twice weekly, and 24.2 miles once weekly.

The district is divided into nine cleansing areas, and street sweepings are deposited at suitable tips in each area. In built up areas where there are no convenient tips, sweepings are collected daily.

Gully Cleansing.

All gullies are mechanically cleansed by a Dennis Mechanical Gully Emptier with tank capacity of 750 gallons (350 gallons sludge compartment and 400 clean water compartment). Street Washing and Sewer Flushing is also done by this machine.

There are 2,370 gullies in the district which are cleansed at least, at the rate of ten cleansing per annum. Many of the back street gullies are cleansed at the rate of twenty cleansings per annum, particularly in densely populated areas.

During the year the Scavenging Service on a whole was maintained to satisfaction and without any serious difficulties being experienced.

Annual Return of Salvage.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.		£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	99	2	1	...	605	17	8
Light Scrap Metal	—	16	—	...	1	4	0
Kitchen Waste	5	18	—	...	16	2	5
Textiles	—	6	1	14 lbs.	4	9	3
<hr/>							
Totals ...	106	2	2	14 lbs.	£627	13	4
<hr/>							

Quantity of Refuse Collected during the Year.

	Motor Loads.
House Refuse	3,008
Trade Refuse	301
Scavenging (gully sludge, sweepings, etc.)	370

Collection and Disposal of Refuse during the Year Ending 31st December, 1950.

House and Trade Refuse (excluding salvage)	7,069 tons.
Street Sweepings and Gully Sludge	523 tons.
	<hr/>
Total Refuse disposed of at the tip	7,592 tons.
Total salvage collected and disposed of	106 tons.
	<hr/>
Total ...	7,698 tons.
	<hr/> <hr/>

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.**Report of Mr. W. S. Bruce, Sanitary Inspector.**

I herewith submit my annual report upon the work of the Sanitary Department for the year 1950.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.**(1) Nuisances and Defects.**

The following is a summary of nuisances and defects dealt with:—

Buildings.

Roofs and spouting overhauled and repaired	255
Floors and skirtings repaired and renewed	56
Internal walls and ceilings repaired and renewed	133
External walls repaired and pointed	38
Chimneys, fireplaces, and ranges repaired and renewed	74
Doors, stairs, windows and cords repaired and renewed	140
Scullery sinks and benches repaired and renewed	25
Foodstores repaired and provided	20
Dampness in walls remedied	73

Sanitary Accommodation and Drainage.

Waterclosets and choked drains cleared	51
Watercloset basins and fittings repaired and renewed ...	40
Gullies and gratings renewed	6
Waste pipes repaired and renewed	21

Washing Accommodation.

Washing facilities provided	3
Wash-boilers, firebars, etc., repaired and renewed	14

Yards and Outbuildings.

Yard paving repaired	23
Yard walls and doors repaired and renewed	67
Outbuildings repaired and rebuilt	141

Other Nuisances.

Water supply pipes and fittings repaired and renewed ...	13
Dustbins renewed	50
Smoke nuisances abated	4
Verminous and dirty premises cleansed	5
School sanitary accommodation repaired	1
Miscellaneous nuisances abated	4

Total ... 1,236

Number of Informal notices served

431

Number of Satautory notices served

162

(2) Working Men's Hostel.

These premises, which are owned by a private company, continue to be maintained in a satisfactory condition.

(3) Public Buildings.

In accordance with Circular 120 of the Ministry of Health, all places of public entertainment have been periodically inspected, and found to be maintained in a satisfactory condition.

(4) Smoke Abatement.

During the year the Council became a member of the North East Divisional Council of the National Smoke Abatement Society. The Chairman of the General Purposes Committee and myself were deputed to serve as the Council's representatives, and several meetings were attended.

In their efforts to eliminate atmospheric pollution, the Society submitted to all local authorities in the North East, proposals for a policy of concerted action. These proposals were, briefly, for local authorities to set up instruments for recording the amount of pollution in their areas, the promotion of byelaws for the regulation of industrial smoke emissions, to secure legislative powers of control furnace installations for steam raising in manufacturing and other trades, to instal smokeless fuel fireplaces in new Council property, and secure the replacement, whenever possible, of all fireplaces of an unsuitable type in existing property, to consider the possibility of the establishment of smokeless zones, and to arouse public interest by publicity.

The Council decided to set up two deposit gauges, and delivery of these was awaited at the end of the year.

From time to time certain factories produce excessive smoke emissions, and it was necessary on several occasions to take steps to abate the nuisance. A local firm fitted a larger and taller chimney to their foundry furnaces, but very little improvement has been observed in abating what has been a constant source of nuisance. Further complaint has been made and the matter was receiving attention at the end of the year.

In the residential areas adjoining the River Tyne, a serious nuisance frequently occurs due to heavy smoke emitted by shipping, but any action in this direction is extremely difficult to enforce.

(5) Verminous Dwellings.

Action taken for the eradication of bed-bugs.

	Council Houses.	Other Houses.
Number of houses infested ...	—	9

As a precautionary measure 26 Council houses which became vacant were sprayed prior to occupation by the ingoing tenant.

No general disinfection scheme for Council houses and removals to Council houses is in operation. Complaints of bug infestation are investigated and treatment carried out. D.D.T. is used for this purpose.

A number of houses were also treated with Gammexane powder for the eradication of cockroaches.

In some of the old privately-owned houses, it was necessary to serve notices on owners for the renewal of floors which had been attacked by furniture beetles. In several instances the floors were considerably perished, and in danger of collapse. This insect which appears to be on the increase is particularly destructive, and will attack furniture to such an extent as to render it useless. Treatment with a D.D.T. liquid spray especially during the summer months appears to be efficacious.

(6) **Infectious Diseases.**

Visits were made to cases of infectious diseases notified to the Medical Officer of Health, and housing conditions, contacts, etc., investigated. All cases of suspected food poisoning were also visited.

Houses were disinfected after infectious diseases.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, came into force on the 31st March, 1950, and replaced the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919. The latter Act had been administered by Durham County Council, but under the new Act, this Council is now directly vested, and its duty is to ensure that, so far as practicable, its area is kept free from rats and mice.

The Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries will make a grant equal to half the irrecoverable expenditure incurred by the Council in their execution of the Act, and he requires the submission of an annual report upon the work carried out.

During the period 31st March to 31st December, 14 infestations were notified by occupiers or otherwise discovered, 13 minor infestations by rats and 1 by mice.

In addition, two treatments of the Council's sewers were carried out, together with the refuse tip and depot.

FACTORIES ACT.**(1) Inspections.**

The following inspections of factories were made during the year:—

Premises.	Number on Register.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	13	14	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	58	71	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises) ...	2	—	—	—
Total ...	73	85	—	—

Action taken in respect of defects found in the course of inspection:—

Number of cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.	Referred.		Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
			To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)					
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)..					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—		N	I	L	
(a) insufficient					
(b) unsuitable or defective					
(c) not separate for sexes					
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork					
Total ...					

SHOPS ACTS.

28 visits were paid to shops during the year, and a number of verbal warnings given for infringements all of which were remedied.

SECTION D.
Housing.

The following were the number of inhabited houses at the end of 1950:—

Council Houses	1,511
N.E.H.A. Houses	314
Privately owned houses	4,829
	—
Total ...	6,654
	—

NEW HOUSES.

112 houses were built with State assistance, and occupied during the year.

(1) INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts 794
- (b) Number of inspections for the purpose 1,798
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 & 1932 360
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 458
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health so as to be unfit for human habitation 3
4. Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 3

(2) **REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.**

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or its officers	259
---	-----

(3) **ACTION UNDER STATUTORY NOTICES.**

(A). Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which "notices" were served requiring repairs	3
(ii) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	3
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil.

(B). Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which "notices" were served requiring defects to be remedied	162
(ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	147
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil.

(C). Proceedings under Section 11 & 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	2
(ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	1
(iii) Number of dwelling houses closed but not demolished (Housing Act, 1949, Section 3)	Nil.

(D). Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Acts, 1936 :—

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

(4) NUMBER OF HOUSES PERMANENTLY DISCONTINUED AS DWELLINGS AND NOT INCLUDED ABOVE	2
--	---

HOUSING ACT, 1949 (SECTION 20).

(A). Number of separate dwelling houses in respect of which applications for grant have been received	4
(B). Number of separate dwelling houses in respect of which applications for grant have been approved	Nil.

UNFIT HOUSES.

The following unfit dwelling houses were dealt with during the year :—

Reservoir House, Mill Lane.

A Demolition Order was made on the 18th April, 1950, in respect of this house. The tenant was re-housed by the Council and the house subsequently demolished by the Owners.

Tyne View.

A Closing Order was made on the 28th February, 1950, in respect of part of this property. The tenant was still in occupation at the end of the year.

Redhouse Farm.

A Demolition Order was made by the Council on the 19th December, 1950, in respect of the dwelling house at this farm. The Order had not become operative at the end of the year.

18, John Street.

The necessary works required to be carried out at this house were completed by the owner and the Council determined the Order on the 20th June, 1950.

The Elders, Pelaw Main.

The owner of this house voluntarily demolished the property upon his vacating it.

2, Albert Street, and 47, Back Carr Street.

The tenants of these two houses were rehoused by the Council owing to the rapidly deteriorating condition of their houses, both of which were the subject of Closing Orders. The owners subsequently demolished both houses.

There were, at the end of the year, 10 tenants remaining in houses in this area, all of which are the subject of Closing Orders.

The conditions under which these remaining tenants are living are becoming more acute, and it will be necessary for the Council to find them alternative accommodation in the very near future.

HOUSING SURVEY.

The condition of a large number of dwelling houses in the older parts of the town is rapidly assuming a serious problem, and the enforcement of notices requiring their repair is becoming increasingly difficult. Only works of an essential nature can be carried out and these repairs do very little to alleviate the conditions under which the occupants of such houses have to live.

According to the report of the Local Government Board on the Sanitary Circumstances of Hebburn Urban District in 1908 there was no district in provincial England and Wales to compare with, or even approach Hebburn in the preponderance of two roomed dwellings, as compared with houses of three or more rooms, and this fact is as equally true today. There are 4,829 privately-owned houses in the town, and of these 1,691 or 35% are two roomed dwellings. A large proportion of these houses are unfit for habitation by reason of dampness and extensive disrepair, complete lack of essential facilities together with serious overcrowding, poor ventilation and natural lighting. The absence of these essential factors does not permit the occupants to lead a normal existence, and the problem has now reached alarming proportions.

A comprehensive survey of housing conditions in the worst areas in the town was commenced in October, and a report submitted to the General Purposes Committee of the Council at the end of the year. The Council subsequently declared five areas to be Clearance Areas, in the Hebburn Quay district. In the meantime the survey is being proceeded with.

The following is a summary of the properties inspected up to 31st December, 1950:—

	Percentage.
Number of terrace blocks	16 —
Number of tenancies	360 —
Number of sub-tenancies and families	
“living in”	16 4½%
Number of persons	1276 —
Number of 2 roomed houses	309 86%
Number of houses with rising dampness...	142 —

Number of houses with penetrating dampness	247	—
Number of houses with outside sanitary conveniences	360	100%
Number of houses sharing sanitary conveniences	266	87%
Number of houses without inside water supply	240	66%
Number of houses without sculleries ...	274	76%
Number of houses without sinks	248	69%

Overcrowding.

Number of houses overcrowded according to the Housing Act, 1936	107	30%
Number of houses overcrowded on a bedroom standard	247	69%

REHOUSING.

During the year 133 families were rehoused in Council and North Eastern Housing Association houses, and 9 vacant aged persons cottages were allocated. In addition a number of exchanges and transfers of families were approved by the Housing Committee. All allocations, with the exception of 3 families from unfit houses, were made from the Housing List in accordance with the Council's points scheme.

Since the 30th October, 1948, when the present housing list closed, 661 applications for council houses have been received.

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.**MILK AND DAIRIES.****(1) The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilized Milk) Regulations, 1949 and 1950.****The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 and 1950.**

In accordance with the above Regulations, the following licences were issued during the year to retailers of milk in the Urban District:—

	Principal Licences.	Supplementary Licences.
Tuberculin Tested Milk	1	—
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) Milk	3	1
Pasteurised Milk	5	1
Sterilized Milk	43	—
	<hr/> 52	<hr/> 2

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

During the year legal proceedings were taken against a firm supplying school milk, for an offence under the above Regulations. The offence related to a bottle of milk which contained a number of puparum of the house-fly adhering to the bottle.

The case was heard at Hebburn Police Court, and the firm were fined 40/-.

ICE CREAM.

During the year 10 premises were registered under the requirements of Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the sale of ice-cream in a pre-wrapped form.

There are now 33 premises registered in the district, 2 for manufacture and sale, and 31 for retail sale only. All premises are provided with a continuous supply of hot water.

5 samples of ice-cream were taken and submitted for laboratory examination; of these 4 were classified Grade 1, and the remaining sample Grade 4.

Legal proceedings were taken against an ice-cream vendor for offences against the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, and the Ice-cream (Heat Treatment, etc.), Regulations, 1947. These related to the

sale of ice-cream from an open cart, failure to protect the ice-cream from dust, dirt, or other contamination during its distribution, and no provision made for cleansing utensils, etc., after use. The vendor who had been warned for a similar offence on a previous occasion was fined £5.

MEAT.

All slaughtering is centralised at Newcastle under Ministry of Food control.

FOOD PREPARING PREMISES AND SHOPS.

(1) Inspection and Supervision.

During the year a comprehensive survey of all premises in which food is prepared or sold, was carried out, 350 visits being made for this purpose.

The number and types of businesses were as follows:—

General Dealers	53
Grocery and Provision Dealers	23
Butchers	20
Public Houses	13
Fish Friers	12
Greengrocers	11
Works Canteens	10
Bakers and confectioners	9
Ice Cream Dealers	8
Licensed Clubs	8
Off Licensed general dealers	7
School meal centres	6
Cafes and Restaurants	5
Fishmongers	3
School and Nursery School kitchens ...	3
Workmen's Hostel	1
Pie Manufacturers	1

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Whenever necessary advice was given for the improvement of the hygienic condition of food premises. A considerable number of shops retailing foodstuffs installed apparatus for the provision of running hot water, and wash-hand basins, where this was previously not available, and at the end of the year, practically all premises were thus equipped.

In connection with the practice of displaying pre-cooked and other easily contaminable foods on shop counters and windows, steps are being taken under the Council's new Byelaws to require that such foodstuffs are suitably protected against contamination.

(2) **CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.**

During the year talks were given to members of women's Organisations, and a film show for food handlers were held. Suitable notices have also been prepared and distributed regarding hand-washing, and dogs in shops.

(3) **BYELAWS.**

The Byelaws issued by the Ministry of Food under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, have been adopted by the Council and came into operation on the 6th November, 1950.

UN SOUND FOOD.

The following foodstuffs which were found unfit for human consumption were dealt with during the year. A proportion of the food was utilized, after treatment, for the manufacture of animal feeding stuffs and fertilizers, and the remainder destroyed:—

Meat.	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Number.
Beef (Home Killed)	1	—	8	
Beef (Imported)		2	9	
Geese				8
Provisions.				
Bacon			12	
Butter	1	—	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Cheese			6 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Cashew nuts			7	
Carrots, dehydrated		1	2	
Dates		2	21	
Sago	1	1	14 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Spaghetti			4 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Canned and Bottled Foods.				
Fruit		1	12	
Fish			17 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Jams and Marmalade			5	
Meat and Meat products	1	—	24	
Molasses			3	
Milk (Canned)				113
Soup			6	
Vegetables		2	20	
Total	7	3	12$\frac{1}{4}$	

FOOD ANALYSIS.

Return of Samples submitted for Analysis from the Urban District of Hebburn, North East Division, during the year ending 31st December, 1950.

ARTICLE.	Number Analysed.			Number adulterated or otherwise giving rise to irregularity.		
	Formal.	Informal.	Total.	Formal.	Informal.	Total.
Arrowroot	1		1			
Cooked Ham	1		1			
Cooking Fat	1		1			
Cornflour	1		1			
Glycerine	1		1			
Health Salts	1		1			
Herrings, Tinned	1		1			
Icing	1		1			
Jam	1		1			
Lemon Curd	1		1			
Lime Juice Cordial ...	1		1			
Luncheon Meat, Tinned	1		1			
Milk	12		12	2		2
Milk Full Cream Sw. Cond.	1		1			
Milk Plus	1		1			
Oats, Breakfast	1		1			
Pepper	1		1			
Rabbit Tinned	1		1			
Salt Iodised	1		1			
Steak Tinned	1		1			
Steak Pudding Tinned	1		1			
Sugar	1		1			
Tea	2		2			
Vinegar Malt	1		1			
	36	—	36	2	—	2

Two of the samples were purchased from a Dairy Company and were reported to contain added water, and on investigation it was found that the producer was at fault.

He was prosecuted and given an absolute discharge on payment of £10 3s. 6d. costs.

All other Samples were reported to be genuine.

W. S. BRUCE., M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.,
Sanitary Inspector.

**Summary of Complaints, Visits, and Inspections during the
year, 1950.**

Complaints	342
Nuisances	40
Drainage	52
Council houses	169
Re-housing	407
Overcrowding	5
Housing disrepair	495
Housing survey	458
Rodent Control	71
Food shops and premises	277
Meat and Food inspection	69
Ice cream premises and samples	45
Factories	85
Milk and Dairies, samples, etc.	6
Smoke observations	20
Sanitary conveniences	30
Infectious diseases	58
Suspected food poisoning	—
Verminous and dirty premises	90
Refuse accommodation	44
Keeping of animals	7
Water supply	4
Shops Acts	28
Licensed premises	17
Cinemas and Public Halls	6
Hotels and Hostel	5
Special and Miscellaneous visits	44
Re-visits	675
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Total ...	3,549
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SECTION F.
**Prevention and Control over Infectious and
Other Diseases.**

DIPHThERIA.

5 cases were notified and admitted to Hospital as diphtheria. 5 cases proved to be diphtheria. There was one death from this disease.

DIPHThERIA IMMUNISATION.

During the year 1950, 250 children under 5 years of age, and 11 between the ages of 5 and 15 were immunised. 91 further children were given a third or reinforcing dose of serum.

It is estimated that the following percentage of children are immunised in the district:—

Under five:—76%. Between 5 and 15—80%.

During the year the percentage of immunised children who were notified as suffering from diphtheria, compared to the non-immunised was nil.

SCARLET FEVER.

19 cases were notified and admitted to Hospital as Scarlet Fever. They all proved to be Scarlet Fever. There were no deaths.

WHOOPING COUGH.

9 cases were notified during the year as against 175 last year. There were no deaths from this disease.

MEASLES.

393 cases of Measles were notified during the year 1950, compared with 327 in 1949, 302 occurring in ages 1—5, and remaining 91 in 5—10 group. There was one death.

ERYSIPELAS.

12 cases were notified. 12 occurred between the ages 25—65.

PNEUMONIA.

92 cases were notified, during the year as against 54 last year. There were 13 deaths.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following information :—

The number of inhabitants of Hebburn attending the Clinics for Venereal Diseases during 1950 was 48 males and 11 females, as against 50 and 15 respectively in 1949.

Tuberculosis—New Cases and Mortality for 1950.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	6	—	3	1	—	—	—	—
6—15	2	3	—	1	—	1	—	—
16—25	3	7	—	—	—	1	—	—
26—35	4	8	—	—	1	2	—	—
36—45	2	3	—	—	3	1	—	—
46—55	3	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
56—65	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
66 and upwards.	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	24	21	3	2	9	6	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

Respiratory Tuberculosis—45 notifications were received compared with 51 in 1949.

There were 15 deaths compared with 17 last year.

Non-respiratory Tuberculosis—5 notifications were received compared with 4 in 1949.

There were no deaths compared with 1 last year.



