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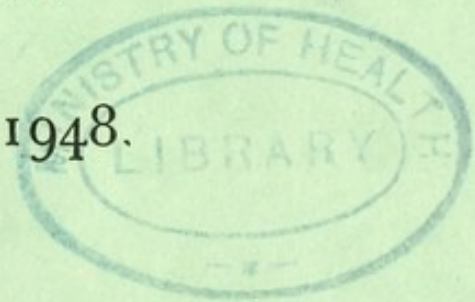
ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE MEDICAL OFFICER

OF HEALTH

For the Year 1948.



J. H. MAUGHAN, M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.



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*To the Chairman and Members of the Rural District Council
of Hexham :—*

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1948.

The 5th July, 1948, saw the coming into force of the National Health Service Act, 1946. The effects of this Act upon the Public Health duties of the council were comparatively few. A noteworthy result of the Act, however, was the setting up in the area of the West Area Health Sub-Committee under the Northumberland Area Health Administration Scheme, 1948. Four members of this Sub-Committee are appointed by the Council, and through them the Council shares in the administration of certain of the County Health Services in operation in the area.

The birth rate is 16.0 per thousand of the estimated population, and shows a decrease over last year, as does the rate for England and Wales. The birth rate in the district is settling from a peak of 18.1 per thousand of the estimated population in 1946, the highest birth rate for the district during the last 25 years.

The death rate of 12.6 per thousand of the estimated population shows a decrease compared with last year and also follows the national trend.

The infant mortality rate has again decreased and has reached a new low figure of 18.0 per thousand live births, representing 6 deaths of infants under one year of age. This figure is the lowest on record for the district. It is significant, however, that a percentage of these deaths is still indirectly attributable to environmental causes and too much stress cannot be laid on the importance of environmental conditions to children, particularly those under one year of age.

During the year there were 186 cases of infectious diseases notified, compared with 280 during the previous year. The decrease was chiefly due to a drop in the incidence of measles. 24 cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year, an increase of 8 compared with last year.

Water supplies varied little from last year and the preparation of schemes to meet the needs of those areas with an insufficient supply proceeded. Sewage disposal again continued as in previous years and as will be seen from the report on the sanitary circumstances of the district, there remain many areas requiring the provision of, or improvement to, sewage disposal facilities.

In conclusion, I should like to bring to your notice the fact that owing to the amount of time that the Sanitary Inspectors have had to devote to the pressing demands of licensing, town and country planning, new housing, water schemes and the maintenance of existing water supplies, it has not been possible for them to give the desirable amount of attention to their routine duties.

Finally, may I express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Committees for the great interest they have shown in the work of my department and for their unfailing support during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. H. MAUGHAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

PART I.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in Acres	196,030
Estimated Population, 1948	20,800

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

Live Births—	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	187	137	324
Illegitimate	5	4	9
Still Births—			
Legitimate	2	4	6
Illegitimate	1	—	1

Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	16.0
Total (Live and Still) Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	16.3

DEATHS.

Deaths from pureperal causes :—

Puer. and post-abortion. Sepsis	Nil
Other maternal causes	2
Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still) Births	5.8

Death Rates of infants under one year of age :—

All infants per 1,000 live births	18.0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	18.5
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	50
„ „ Measles (all ages)	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	Nil

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (all causes and all ages)	12.6
---	------

The following Table classifies deaths according to their age groups in each Sub-District, and also as to their certification :—

AGE GROUP	ALLENDALE				BYWELL				HEXHAM				TOTALS	
	Cert-ified		Un-Cert-ified		Cert-ified		Un-Cert-ified		Cert-ified		Un-Cert-ified			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	5	1
1-2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
5-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
15-25	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	2
25-45	—	2	—	—	3	2	—	—	2	1	—	—	5	5
45-65	5	2	—	—	8	17	1	—	20	8	—	—	34	27
Over 65	26	27	1	2	24	21	4	—	35	39	1	1	91	90
	31	32	1	2	36	41	5	—	65	49	1	1	139	125
	Total ...												264	

The chief causes of death are as follows :—

CAUSES OF DEATH	Allendale		Bywell		Hexham		TOTAL	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Typhoid and Parat. Fevers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis of Resp. System...	—	—	2	—	1	1	3	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	1
Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ac. Polio-myel and polio-enceph. ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ac. Inf. enceph....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cancer of Buc. cav. and oesoph. (M) uterus (F) ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Cancer of stomach & duodenum	—	2	—	1	4	1	4	4
Cancer of breast ...	—	4	—	3	—	1	—	8
Cancer of all other sites ...	4	6	3	9	5	5	12	20
Diabetes ...	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	2
Intra-cran. vasc. lesions ...	6	8	8	6	6	8	20	22
Heart Disease ...	10	5	16	8	20	20	46	33
Other diseases of circ. system...	2	1	2	3	2	—	6	4
Bronchitis ...	1	1	—	—	3	—	4	1
Pneumonia ...	—	1	—	1	3	1	3	3
Other resp. diseases ...	1	—	—	2	—	—	1	2
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	—	1	1	—	—	2	1
Diarrhoea under 2 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Appendicitis ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—
Other digestive diseases ...	1	—	—	—	1	2	2	2
Nephritis ...	2	2	1	2	1	2	4	6
Other maternal ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2
Premature Birth ...	—	—	—	1	2	—	2	1
Con. mal. birth inj. infant dis....	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	—
Suicide ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Road traffic accidents ...	—	—	1	1	3	—	4	1
Other violent causes ...	—	1	2	1	2	1	4	3
All other causes ...	2	2	4	1	8	2	14	5
	32	34	41	41	66	50	139	125
TOTAL ...							264	

Infant Mortality during Year ending December 31st, 1948.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1-3 months.	3-6 months.	6-9 months.	9-12 months.	Total deaths under 1 year.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Smallpox - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pul. Tuberculosis -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases- Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all forms) -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Diarrhoea - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth - -	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	3
Marasmus - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth - -	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Appendicitis - - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other causes- - -	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
All causes { Certified. Uncertified.	5 ...				5 ...			1 ...		6 ...
GRAND TOTALS -	5	...	...	...	5	...	...	1	...	6

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1948

	Rate per 1,000 total Population		Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population										Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis	Influenza	Smallpox	Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis	Pneumonia	Diarrhoea & Enteritis (under 2 years)	Total Deaths under one year	
England and Wales ...	17.9	0.42	10.8	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.51	0.03	—	0.01	0.41	3.3.	34	
126 County Boroughs & Great Towns, including London ...	20.0	0.52	11.6	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.59	0.03	—	0.01	0.38	4.5	39	
148 Smaller Towns (estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931)	19.2	0.43	10.7	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.46	0.04	—	0.01	0.36	2.1	32	
London Adm. County	20.1	0.39	11.6	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.63	0.02	—	0.00	0.54	2.4	31	
Hexham R.D. ...	16.0	0.33	12.6	—	—	—	0.28	—	—	0.04	0.28	—	18	

VITAL & MORTALITY STATISTICS.

Year.	Birth Rate per 1,000 living	General Death Rate per 1,000 living	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 living
1924	16.8	11.6	67.0
1925	16.0	11.3	36.0
1926	14.1	12.5	76.4
1927	14.4	10.3	37.9
1928	14.7	10.9	55.1
1929	13.2	11.6	50.1
1930	13.2	11.8	63.3
1931	12.7	12.7	94.3
1932	13.5	12.3	53.3
1933	12.3	12.3	26.9
1934	10.6	12.2	67.5
1935	13.9	12.1	52.8
1936	13.2	13.4	66.9
1937	13.2	13.9	60.6
1938	14.1	15.3	68.5
1939	10.7	12.4	79.4
1940	12.2	12.9	56.1
1941	12.0	12.3	42.2
1942	14.4	12.6	21.1
1943	13.7	13.7	37.2
1944	15.4	12.8	44.0
1945	13.2	13.1	31.1
1946	18.1	13.1	46.9
1947	17.4	14.4	34.2
1948	16.0	12.6	18.0

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1948

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in Whole District.													Total Cases notified in each Sub-District		
	At all Ages	Un-der												Allendale	Bywell	Hexham
		1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over			
Scarlet Fever	29	—	1	1	—	1	11	9	2	2	1	1	—	13	8	8
Whooping Cough	56	2	8	7	7	10	18	3	1	1	—	—	—	7	27	22
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Measles	81	4	10	5	9	13	34	2	1	3	—	—	—	3	33	45
Pneumonia	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	3	—	5	3
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	1	—	—	1	—	5
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	4
TOTALS	186	6	19	13	16	24	64	15	6	11	3	6	3	24	75	87
																186

TUBERCULOSIS.
New Cases and Mortality during 1948.

Age periods	New Cases				Nett Deaths in Hexham Rural District			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulm.		Pulmonary		Non Pulm.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
5—15 ...	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—25 ...	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
25—35 ...	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
35—45 ...	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
45—55 ...	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	1
55—65 ...	3	—	1	—	1	—	1	—
65 & over	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	10	5	1	8	3	1	1	1

FOOD POISONING.

No outbreaks of food poisoning occurred in the district during the year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1924-1948.

Year.	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Measles	Pneumonia	Cerebrospinal Fever	Acute Polio- myelitis	Acute Polio- encephalitis	Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	Dysentery	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Puerperal Pyrexia	Smallpox	Paratyphoid Fever	Enteric Typhoid	Erysipelas
1924	61	—	11	—	22	—	1	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	5
1925	36	—	27	—	17	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
1926	42	—	10	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
1927	49	—	9	—	19	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
1928	14	—	—	—	8	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
1929	18	—	6	—	39	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
1930	17	—	10	—	20	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19
1931	29	—	9	—	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	14
1932	18	—	14	—	29	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
1933	26	—	1	—	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
1934	126	—	10	—	19	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
1935	72	—	16	—	17	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13
1936	107	—	48	—	26	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
1937	32	—	4	—	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
1938	53	—	13	—	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
1939	62	—	28	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
1940	17	7	16	7	14	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
1941	11	59	13	170	16	3	1	—	—	—	8	11	—	—	—	2
1942	13	1	7	91	11	3	—	—	—	—	8	17	—	—	—	7
1943	23	24	4	65	20	3	—	—	—	—	8	13	—	—	—	3
1944	29	28	3	114	5	1	—	—	—	—	10	18	—	—	—	5
1945	36	18	8	32	8	—	—	—	—	—	15	8	—	—	—	5
1946	21	45	6	23	15	—	3	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	5
1947	4	33	6	81	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	5
1948	29	56	1	208	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	4

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1948.

Number of Children who completed a full course of Primary Immunisation in the Hexham Rural District during year 1948.		
Age at date of Final Injection.		TOTAL
Under 5	5 to 14	
301	5	306

IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

	Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1948.						
	Under 1 1948	1 1947	2 1946	3 1945	4 1944	5 to 9 1939-41	10 to 14 1934-38
Age at 31/12/48 Born in Year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Number immunised ...	9	166	210	251	384	1219	823
Estimated mid-year child population, 1948	Children under five. 1,778						Children 5-14 2,960
Percentage immun- ised at 31st Dec., 1948	57.3						68.9

Total
Under 15

3062

PART II.—HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA.

(1) HOSPITALS :

There are in the district five hospitals under the management of the Hexham and District Hospital Management Committee. These comprise the Charlotte Straker Hospital and the Bridge End Maternity Hospital at Corbridge, the Dilston Maternity Hospital, Barrasford Sanatorium and Wooley Sanatorium. These hospitals together with the Hexham General Hospital, the Hexham War Memorial Hospital and the Newcastle group of hospitals are available to cases from the area.

Cases of infectious disease requiring admission to hospital are now all referred to the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Newcastle-upon Tyne.

(2) AMBULANCE SERVICE :

The British Red Cross acting as agents for the Northumberland County Council provide an ambulance service which serves the district. Ambulance Stations are situated at Corbridge and at Hexham.

(3) HOME HELP SERVICE :

The Northumberland County Council Home Help Service is in operation in the district. Home Helps are available to households where such help is required owing to illness or confinement, and their services are obtained through the office of the West Area Health Sub-Committee, Prospect House, Hexham.

(4) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CLINICS :

The following Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are held by the Northumberland County Council in the district :—

Child Welfare Clinics.

Allendale	...	...	Dr. Clayburn's Surgery. Second Monday in month, 1-30—4 p.m.
Corbridge	...	...	Parish Hall, Princes Street. Alternate Tuesdays, 10 a.m.—4 p.m.
Haydon Bridge	...	...	Church Hall. Alternate Mondays, 2 p.m.—4 p.m.
Humshaugh	...	...	Village Hall. Third Wednesday each month, 1-30—4 p.m.
Riding Mill	...	...	Parish Hall. Every fourth Thursday, 1-30—4 p.m.
Stocksfield	...	...	Red Cross Hut. Alternate Mondays, 10 a.m.—4 p.m.

Ante-natal Clinics.

Allendale	...	...	Dr. Clayburn's Surgery. Alternate Tuesdays, 1-30—4 p.m.
Stocksfield	...	...	Red Cross Hut. Every fourth Tuesday, 1-30—4 p.m.

(5) MIDWIFERY AND HOME NURSING SERVICE :

These services are now administered by the Northumberland County Council and in this area are combined. There are nine Nurse Midwives working in the Hexham Rural District.

(6) MOBILE MASS RADIOGRAPHY UNIT :

The Newcastle upon Tyne Regional Hospital Board's Mobile Mass Radiography Unit visited Hexham during the year and examined persons from all parts of the district. The Medical Director reported that the number of people who presented themselves for examination was satisfactory, and it is hoped that the Unit will be able to make a yearly visit to the district.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTORS

by RONALD C. HESLOP, A.R.San.I.

PART III.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Acomb Parish.

The village of Acomb is supplied by the Council, the quality of the water being satisfactory. The quantity available is sufficient in winter, but totally insufficient in dry weather, and the installation of the new scheme (Hexhamshire—Acomb) is of the greatest urgency.

Oakwood lies partly in Acomb and partly in Sandhoe parishes. The water supply is privately owned and is inadequate. Oakwood is included in the area of the new scheme for Hexhamshire—Acomb.

Allendale Parish.

Allendale Town and Catton are supplied by the Council. The quality of the water is satisfactory and the quantity is sufficient.

The Old Town area is very badly served, and a scheme to supply it by boosting mains water to a service reservoir is awaiting Ministry of Health approval.

The Council also supply Ropehaugh area of Allenheads. The quantity is sufficient.

Broomhaugh Parish.

The village of Broomhaugh is supplied by the Council, the quality is satisfactory and the supply is generally sufficient.

Broomley Parish.

Stocksfield and New Ridley are adequately supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.

Broomley Village has a private supply owned by the Northumberland County Council, which is adequate.

Chollerton Parish.

Barrasford Village has a private supply which is inadequate in dry weather.

Colwell Village is supplied by the Council. The quality is satisfactory and there is an ample supply at the springs, but the hydraulic ram cannot pump a supply sufficient for all purposes.

Gunnerton Village is supplied by the Council; more water is required.

Corbridge Parish.

Corbridge is supplied by the Council. There is difficulty in supplying the higher reaches.

Corbridge is included in the area of the new scheme Hexhamshire—Acomb.

Hallington Parish.

The village of Hallington is served partly by a private piped supply, and partly by wells.

The piped supply is sufficient to serve all the houses in the village.

Haydon Parish.

Haydon Bridge is supplied by the Council. The quality is satisfactory and the quantity is sufficient for present needs.

Langley (Hill Top) is supplied by a well. There is no proper piped supply for these 8 houses.

Healey Parish.

Healey is served principally by wells. The possibilities of providing a piped supply are being investigated.

Hedley Parish.

Hedley-on-the-Hill—The Council supply the village with water obtained from the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co., by pumping to a reservoir south of the village. The supply is generally sufficient.

Hexham Low Quarter.

Part of the parish is supplied from the Council's supply at Slaley. There is insufficient water in the dry season.

The new Hexhamshire—Acomb scheme will give an ample supply to part of this Parish and part of the Hexham Middle and High Quarter Parishes.

Horsley Parish.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co. supply the village and the houses and farms surrounding it.

Humshaugh Parish.

The Village of Humshaugh is supplied by the Council. The quality of the water is satisfactory and the quantity sufficient.

Newbrough Parish.

The Council supply the village of Newbrough. The quality is satisfactory but there is not sufficient for modern sanitation.

Settlingstones Mines cottages have a private supply which is sufficient and satisfactory.

The Woodbine area is supplied by the Council, but the quantity is insufficient.

Newton Parish.

The village has a private supply, but the quantity is not sufficient for future needs.

Newton Hall Parish.

The quantity of water available from the private supply is insufficient for modern sanitation.

Ovingham Parish.

Is adequately supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.

Ovington Parish.

The village is adequately supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.

Riding Parish.

Riding Mill is supplied by Riding Mill Estate Co., and the supply is generally sufficient.

Sandhoe Parish.

The villages of Sandhoe and Anick have private supplies which are insufficient. They are both included in the new Hexhamshire—Acomb Scheme.

Oakwood.—See Acomb Parish.

Shotley High Quarter.

Blanchland is supplied by the Lord Crewe Trustees and the supply is generally sufficient.

Shotley Low Quarter.

The Snods has a private supply which is generally sufficient.

Simonburn Parish.

Simonburn Village has a private supply which is insufficient.

Nunwick Town Head has a private supply which is adequate.

Slaley Parish.

Slaley is supplied by the Council but the supply is insufficient in dry seasons. The area is included in the Hexhamshire—Acomb scheme.

Wall Parish.

Wall Village is supplied by the Council. The quality is satisfactory and the quantity sufficient for present demands.

Warden Parish.

Hardhaugh has a private supply which is adequate.

Fourstones.—The old village of Fourstones has a private supply which is adequate.

The remainder of the village is supplied by a private supply which is inadequate.

West Allen Parish.

Ninebanks and Carrshield Villages are each partly supplied by private piped supplies.

Great Whittington Parish.

The village is supplied by the Council. The quality is satisfactory and the quantity sufficient.

Whittonstall Parish.

The village still depends on a well from which water is pumped by hand.

Wylam Parish.

The area is adequately supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.

FUTURE POSITION : SCHEMES PREPARED.

1. Old Town area of Catton.
2. Hexhamshire to Acomb.

This scheme will provide an ample supply of water to parts of Hexham High, Middle and Low Quarter Parishes, Slaley, Corbridge, Sandhoe, Anick, Oakwood and Acomb.

SCHEMES IN COURSE OF PREPARATION OR WHICH ARE TO BE PREPARED.**Chollerton Parish.**

- | | | |
|------------|-----|-----------------------------------|
| Colwell | ... | Installation of Electric Pump. |
| Barrasford | ... | Extension of supply from Colwell. |
| Gunnerton | ... | Additional Water. |

Healey Parish.

New supply to Healey School and cottages.

Newbrough and Warden Parishes.

New supply to Woodbine, Newbrough and Fourstones.

Newton and Newton Hall.

New supply for these villages.

Simonburn Parish.

New supply to Simonburn Village.

Whittonstall Parish.

New supply to Whittonstall Village.

SUMMARY OF SOURCES OF WATER SUPPLIED TO HOUSES IN HEXHAM R.D.C.

PARISH	1931 Total		WATER SUPPLY BY							
			Council		N/cle. and Gateshead Water Co.		Piped Private supplies		Springs & Wells	
	Pop.	Hses.	Pop.	Hses.	Pop.	Hses.	Pop.	Hses.	Pop.	Hses.
Acomb ...	929	287	660	207	—	—	216	65	53	15
Allendale ...	2218	756	1157	394	—	—	476	201	585	161
Aydon ...	91	21	—	—	—	—	79	18	12	3
Aydon Castle ...	14	3	—	—	—	—	7	2	7	1
Bearle ...	47	9	—	—	—	—	47	9	—	—
Bingfield ...	64	18	12	4	—	—	46	12	6	2
Blackcarts & Ryehill ...	11	2	—	—	—	—	11	2	—	—
Broomhaugh ...	230	68	198	60	—	—	28	7	4	1
Broomley ...	1741	577	—	—	1575	525	152	47	14	5
Bywell ...	161	36	—	—	—	—	161	36	—	—
Chollerton ...	1192	262	373	88	—	—	595	118	224	56
Clarewood ...	66	19	—	—	—	—	48	15	18	4
Cocklaw ...	143	36	—	—	—	—	117	27	26	9
Corbridge ...	2050	724	1743	623	—	—	220	72	87	29
Dilston ...	223	59	35	9	—	—	177	47	11	3
Dukeshagg ...	6	1	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—
Espershields ...	124	34	—	—	—	—	112	30	12	4
Fallowfield ...	28	7	—	—	—	—	20	5	8	2
Hallington ...	69	21	—	—	—	—	33	10	36	11
Halton ...	21	6	—	—	—	—	10	3	11	3
Haughton ...	85	23	—	—	—	—	67	17	18	6
Haydon ...	2050	631	1338	419	—	—	520	152	192	60
Healey ...	103	23	—	—	—	—	50	11	53	12
Hedley ...	343	60	243	42	—	—	94	17	6	1
Hexham High Qr. ...	118	39	—	—	—	—	88	29	30	10
Hexham Low Qr. ...	328	92	154	45	—	—	141	36	33	11
Hexham Middle Qr. ...	197	56	—	—	—	—	169	48	28	8
Hexham West Qr. ...	95	24	3	1	—	—	85	20	7	3
High Fotherley ...	62	15	—	—	—	—	62	15	—	—
Horsley ...	322	100	—	—	318	99	—	—	4	1
Humshaugh ...	394	132	283	102	—	—	107	28	4	2
Nafferton ...	34	6	—	—	—	—	34	6	—	—
Newbrough ...	656	178	200	49	—	—	394	109	62	20
Newlands ...	113	25	—	—	—	—	63	14	50	11
Newton ...	123	27	—	—	—	—	123	27	—	—
Newton Hall ...	127	32	—	—	—	—	127	32	—	—
Ovingham ...	393	114	—	—	389	112	—	—	4	2
Ovington ...	470	135	—	—	460	132	10	—	10	3
Portgate ...	83	15	—	—	—	—	80	14	3	1
Riding ...	398	127	—	—	—	—	398	127	—	—
Sandhoe ...	355	103	—	—	—	—	332	95	23	8
Shotley High Qr. ...	207	62	—	—	—	—	163	50	44	12
Shotley Low Qr. ...	427	131	—	—	—	—	344	105	83	26
Simonburn ...	344	86	—	—	—	—	302	74	42	12
Slaley ...	648	138	516	110	—	—	100	21	32	7
Spittle ...	6	6	—	—	—	—	6	6	—	—
Stelling ...	53	12	—	—	—	—	36	8	17	4
Styford ...	66	17	—	—	—	—	58	15	8	2
Thornbrough ...	56	14	—	—	—	—	52	13	4	1
Wall ...	305	105	193	67	—	—	81	28	31	10
Warden ...	748	219	—	—	—	—	700	205	48	14
Welton ...	44	11	—	—	—	—	36	9	8	2
West Allen ...	394	126	—	—	—	—	138	40	256	86
Whittington Great ...	178	54	142	42	—	—	27	9	9	3
Whittington Little ...	8	3	—	—	—	—	8	3	—	—
Whittle ...	22	5	—	—	22	5	—	—	—	—
Whittonstall ...	184	42	—	—	—	—	78	16	106	26
Wylam ...	1279	412	—	—	1273	140	—	—	6	2
TOTALS ...	21246	6346	7250	2262	4037	1283	7624	2126	2335	675

PRIVATE PIPED SUPPLIES SERVING MORE THAN 10 HOUSES.

PARISH	No. of houses on supply	NAME OF SYSTEM	REMARKS
Acomb	27	Oakwood*	Insufficient
	12	Riding	Generally sufficient
Blackcarts & Rychill	2	Teppermoor*	Generally sufficient
Broomley	25	Broomley Village	Sufficient
Bywell...	12	Bywell Hall	Sufficient
Chollerton	17	Tone Hall (Chipchase)	Sufficient
	10	Great Swinburne	Sufficient
	12	Barrasford Quarry	Sufficient
	37	Barrasford Village	Insufficient
Corbridge	4	Stagshaw*	Sufficient
Dilston	28	Dilston Hall	Sufficient
Espershields	19	Minster Acres*	Sufficient
Haughton	15	Haughton Castle	Sufficient
Hexhamshire High Qr.	12	Kings Law*	Distribution poor
Hexhamshire Middle Qr.	33	Kings Law*	"
Humshaugh	19	Plane Trees & Chesters	Sufficient
	1	Teppermoor*	Sufficient
Newbrough	24	Settlingstones	Sufficient
	14	Carr Edge	Sufficient
	23	Butt Bank*	Insufficient
	17	Allerwash	Sufficient
	10	Wharmley	Sufficient
Newton	20	Newton Village	Insufficient
Newton Hall	24	Newton Hall	Sufficient
Riding Mill	100	Riding Estate	Sufficient
Sandhoe	23	Anick	Insufficient
	16	Sandhoe	Insufficient
	9	Oakwood*	Insufficient
	7	Stagshaw*	Sufficient
Shotley High Qr.	40	Blanchland	Sufficient
Shotley Low Qr.	14	Shotley Field	Sufficient
	5	Minsteracres*	Sufficient
Simonburn	21	Simonburn	Insufficient
	15	Nunwick	Sufficient
	3	Teppermoor*	Sufficient
Slaley	11	Trvgill	Sufficient
	10	Slaley Hall	Sufficient
Warden	96	Fourstones	Insufficient
	17	Teppermoor*	Sufficient
	16	Warden Hill	Sufficient
	16	Warden Paper Mill	Sufficient
	12	High Warden	Sufficient
	9	Butt Bank*	Insufficient

Supplies included above marked * feed houses in more than one parish, and are summarised below :—

Oakwood supply feeds 27 houses in Acomb Parish and 9 in Sandhoe Parish	Houses 363
Teppermoor supply feeds 2 houses in Blackcarts, 1 in Humshaugh, 3 in Simonburn and 17 in Warden	23
Stagshaw supply feeds 4 houses in Corbridge and 7 in Sandhoe	11
Minsteracres supply feeds 19 houses in Espershields and 5 in Shotley Low Quarter	24
King's Law supply feeds 12 houses in Hexham High Quarter and 33 in Hexham Middle Quarter	45
Butt Bank supply feeds 23 houses in Newbrough and 9 in Warden	32

PRIVATE SUPPLY (not piped) SERVING MORE THAN 10 HOUSES.

Whittonstall.—24 houses in the village are supplied from a pump, and the supply is totally inadequate.

All other private supplies in the district, not referred to above, serve less than 10 houses.

SUMMARY OF WATER SAMPLES TAKEN.

SUPPLY	Number of Samples	Number Satisfactory	Number Unsatisfactory.
Private Supplies :			
Bacteriological	6	4	2
Chemical	1	1	—
Council's Supplies :			
Bacteriological	8	4	4
Chemical	5	2	3
Samples taken in connection with Hexhamshire Water Scheme :			
Bacteriological	8	8	—
Chemical	7	7	—
Other Samples :			
Bacteriological	5	4	1
Chemical	—	—	—
	40	30	10

Private Supplies :

Of the two unsatisfactory samples, one was from a supply proposed to be used for a farm, and subsequently abandoned. The other was from a well at a farm, and in this case an alternative source is being sought.

Council's Supplies :

Of the seven unsatisfactory samples taken from Council supplies, five of these were from the Colwell Village supply. Investigation of the cause of the pollution was made and it was found to be due to a fracture in the drive pipe of the hydraulic ram. This was repaired and subsequent sampling has shown satisfactory results.

The other two unsatisfactory samples were from Holly Hall Middle Spring (Corbridge), and as a temporary measure the water is being chlorinated, and land is to be fenced off to protect the spring.

Samples shown under the heading of "Other Samples" do not include any supplies at present used for domestic purposes.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Acomb Parish.

The village of Acomb is adequately sewered and the works consist of settling tanks and bacteria beds with rotary sprinklers.

Oakwood is sewered and the sewerage system also serves Anick (Sandhoe Parish). The works consist of a settling tank and bacteria bed.

Allendale Parish.

Allendale Town and Catton Village (except Wentworth Terrace) are sewered to a works near Catton. The works consist of settling tanks, bacteria beds with rotary sprinklers and land treatment.

Wentworth Terrace is sewered to a small settling tank and bacteria bed.

The main sewer between Allendale Town and the works is inadequate.

Allenheads and Ropehaugh.—There are no public sewers. A portion of Allenheads village is sewered to a septic tank. Many of the other drains deliver into the River East Allen. A scheme is to be prepared.

Broomhaugh and Riding Parishes.

There is an adequate system of sewers and a sewage works (settling tanks and bacteria beds). The whole of the sewage is pumped.

Broomley Parish.

Broomley Village is sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds.

Stocksfield and New Ridley are sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds. This works is to be extended.

Chollerton.

Barrasford Village is sewered to a works (settling tanks and bacteria beds).

Colwell Village.—A small portion is sewered to a settling tank. A scheme is to be prepared.

Gunnerton Village is sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds.

Corbridge Parish.

Most of Corbridge is sewered. The drainage from the remainder of the houses either goes into the River Tyne or into cesspools.

There is a small works (tanks and bacteria beds) dealing with the sewage of Farnley, but the bulk of the sewage goes into the River Tyne untreated.

A scheme is required.

Hallington Parish.

The village of Hallington is provided with a sewer leading to a settling tank.

Haydon Parish.

Haydon Bridge is mostly sewered, but Brigwood Bungalows have soakaways on the river bank, and Chesterwood sewage goes into a ditch. The bulk of the sewage goes direct into the South Tyne.

A scheme has been approved by the Ministry of Health, the requisite land purchased, but permission to commence the work has not yet been received.

Langley Hill Head and Sawmill Cottages have no proper sewers or works.

Haughton Parish.

The drainage from Haughton Castle district goes to a works (settling tanks and filters) near the old papermill.

Hedley Parish.

The village is sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds.

Hexham Low Quarter.

Juniper is sewered to a works (settling tank and bacteria bed).

Horsley Parish.

Horsley Village is sewered. A works is provided but this requires renovation.

Humshaugh Parish.

Humshaugh Village has an old system of sewers discharging into a stone conduit, thence to the North Tyne.

A scheme is required.

Newbrough Parish.

Newbrough Village is sewered, but there is no treatment.

Settlingstones is sewered to a septic tank which is now inadequate.

Newton Parish.

Sewers are provided in the village but they discharge into a stream.

Newton Hall Parish.

Sewers are provided in the village, but there is no treatment.

Ovingham Parish.

The village is sewered and there are two separate works, neither of which is very satisfactorily sited.

Ovington Parish.

The village is sewered, but there is no treatment of the sewage which goes into an open runner leading to the River Tyne.

Riding Parish.

See Broomhaugh Parish.

Sandhoe Parish.

Sandhoe Village.—There are drains and a private sewer.

Anick Village and Oakwood are sewered to a works consisting of settling tank and bacteria bed.

Shotley High Quarter Parish.

Blanchland.—There is no piped sewerage system but the sewage, carried by piped drains and small enclosed conduits, causes no nuisance. There is a constant flow of water through the system.

Shotley Low Quarter Parish.

The Snods.—There is no proper sewerage system.

Simonburn Parish.

Simonburn Village has no proper sewerage system.

Slaley Parish.

The village is sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds.

Wall Parish.

The village is sewered to a works consisting of settling tanks and bacteria beds.

Warden Parish.

Hardhaugh Cottages have a sewer which delivers into the South Tyne.

Fourstones Village.—The new houses and part of the old village are sewered to a septic tank. The rest of the village has no proper sewerage system.

West Allen Parish.

Carrshield and Ninebanks Villages.—No proper sewerage systems exist.

Great Whittington Parish.

There are sewers leading to settling tanks.

Whittonstall Parish.

No proper sewerage system.

Wylam Parish.

North and South Wylam are principally served by piped sewers but the sewage is discharged untreated into the River Tyne.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

Almost all the houses in the following places have W.C's. :—

Allendale	Corbridge
Broomhaugh	Ovingham
Stocksfield	Riding Mill
Settlingstones	Wylam
Anick	Oakwood

The greater part of the houses in the following places have W.C's. :—

Acomb	Humshaugh
Catton	Newbrough
Haydon Bridge	Slaley
Healey	Wall
Juniper	Blanchland
	Sandhoe

In the following places the greater part of the houses have privies or pail closets :—

Allenheads	Newton Hall
Barrasford	Ovington
Colwell	Simonburn
Gunnerton	Whittington
Hallington	Fourstones
Horsley	Ninebanks
Newton	Carrshield

REMOVAL OF HOUSEHOLD REFUSE

The following are the arrangements for removal in the villages and hamlets in the district :—

There is a weekly collection of household refuse by the Council's own wagon in the following places :—

Houses				Houses			
Oakwood	...	...	45	Riding Mill	...	...	117
Anick	...	...	16	Broomhaugh	...	...	57
Wall	...	...	72	Slaley	...	...	62
Humshaugh	...	...	90	Juniper (fortnightly)	...	...	50

Total : 509 houses.

Contractors collect weekly on behalf of the Council in the following places :—

Houses				Houses			
Acomb	...	...	219	Hedley	...	...	39
Allendale & Catton	...	...	331	Horsley	...	...	79
Stocksfield	...	...	517	Ovingham	...	...	112
Corbridge	...	...	698	Ovington	...	...	133
Haydon Bridge	...	...	386	Fourstones & Newbrough	...	...	202
				Wylam	...	...	432

Total : 3,148 houses.

During the year this service has been extended to Newbrough and Fourstones (202 houses).

Thus out of 6,346 houses, the collection from 3,657 houses (approximately 57%) is provided by the Council.

There is no public service in the following places ; the occupants make private arrangements for removal :—

Allenheads	Sandhoe
Broomley Village	Simonburn
Barrasford	Whittington
Colwell	Whittonstall
Gunnerton	Carrshield
Hallington	Ninebanks
Healey	Warden
Langley	Settlingstones
Newton	Hardhaugh
Newton Hall	Walwick
Blanchland	Lincoln Hill

DESTRUCTION OF RATS AND MICE.

The Council has accepted delegation of powers under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, from the County Council.

Eight of the Council tips are serviced by the Agricultural Executive Committee under contract.

The other Council tips are serviced by the Council's workmen.

During the year 28 visits have been made to infested properties.

PART IV.—HOUSING.

HOUSES COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR 1948.

				With State Assistance Unaided TOTAL		
(a)	By Local Authority ...	...	...	...	80	— 80
	Acomb ...	...	16			
	Horsley ...	...	4			
	Ovingham ...	...	10			
	Slaley ...	...	2			
	Fourstones ...	...	8			
	Wylam ...	...	24			
	Haydon Bridge ...	...	4			
	Corbridge ...	...	12			
(b)	By other bodies or persons ...	...	...	...	— 11	11

HOUSES UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT 31st DECEMBER, 1948.

				With State Assistance Unaided TOTAL		
(a)	By Local Authority ...	...	...	...	50	— 50
	Allendale ...	...	12			
	Slaley ...	...	10			
	Haydon Bridge ...	...	16			
	Corbridge ...	...	12			
(b)	By other bodies or persons ...	...	...	...	4	4

From the commencement of the Council's post-war building programme to 31st December, 1948, 114 houses have been completed. 15 houses have been built by private persons during the same period.

Action under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, was taken in regard to 2 houses. The owner agreed to carry out the work specified and this has now commenced.

Housing Survey.

This survey is still in progress.

Moveable Dwellings and Bungalows.

During the year a survey was carried out in conjunction with the County Planning Authority with a view to controlling these erections.

Over 600 visits were made.

PART V.—SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1. FOOD INSPECTION.

UN SOUND FOOD.	Surrendered	Seized	Legal Pro- ceedings
Beef (Imported) stones	41	—	—
Bacon lbs.	322	—	—
Canned Goods ... Tins	135	—	—
Other Foods :— lbs.	74	—	—

2. INSPECTION OF MEAT.

Slaughtering continues to be centralised and takes place at the Abattoir in Hexham.

The inspection of Meat and other foods exposed for sale is carried out by the Council's Inspectors.

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

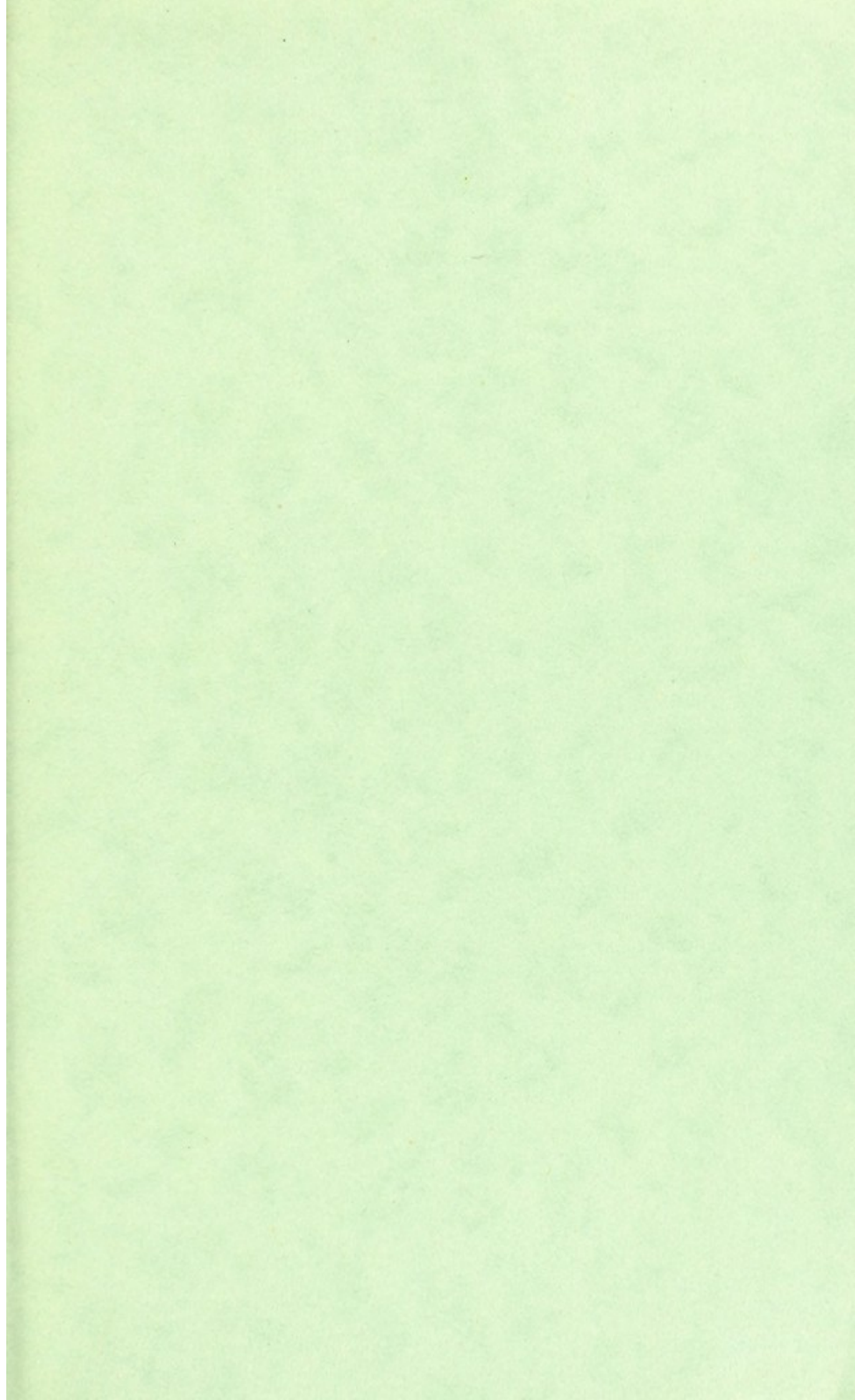
Number of Cowkeepers (registered) in district	...	...	...	696
Approximate number of cows kept	...	...	...	10,000

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

Privies converted to water-closets	...	...	...	...	...	25
Additional water-closets provided	...	...	...	...	...	32
Bathrooms provided	...	...	...	...	...	23
Baths installed	...	...	...	...	...	23
Lavatory basins provided	...	...	...	...	...	36
Sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	35
Hot water systems installed	...	...	...	...	...	35
New drainage systems provided	...	...	...	...	...	22
Existing drainage re-constructed	...	...	...	...	...	7
Septic tanks and filters provided	...	...	...	...	...	11
New water supplies provided	...	...	...	...	...	11
Water laid into houses	...	...	...	...	...	24
Water closets repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	1
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	2
Foodstores provided	...	...	...	...	...	25
Sculleries provided	...	...	...	...	...	17
Washing accommodation provided	...	...	...	...	...	7
Yards re-paved	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fuel stores provided	...	...	...	...	...	10
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	47
Walls repointed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	24
Gutters and fallpipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	38
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
New windows provided	...	...	...	...	...	26
Ceilings renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	51
Walls replastered	...	...	...	...	...	24
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	45
Cooking ranges and fireplaces renewed	...	...	...	...	...	76

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 & 1948.

26 inspections have been made and 4 defects remedied.
No statutory notices were served.



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