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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH

For the Year 1949.

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, 1949.

During the year, 299 live births and 259 deaths, including 7 children under one year of age, occurred in the area. These figures give a live birth rate of 14.3 per 1,000 of the estimated population, a general death rate of 12.4 per 1,000 of the estimated population, and an infant mortality rate of 23.4 per 1,000 live births. These figures show that in accordance with the national trend there has been a drop in the birth rate, and contrary to the national trend, a very slight drop in the general death rate, and an increase in the infant mortality rate. In considering the infant mortality rate, however, it must be borne in mind that this rate is based on comparatively small figures and in consequence can be misleading.

It is of interest to note that of the 259 deaths, well over half were of persons over 70 years of age and two thirds were due to cancer and diseases of the circulatory system. Of the 7 deaths of children under one year of age, 5 were due to premature birth or to congenital malformations.

During the year, 249 cases of notifiable diseases were notified. Outstanding among these were 22 cases of tuberculosis compared with 24 for last year, 4 cases of acute poliomyelitis and 10 cases of food poisoning. The cases of food poisoning were all related to an outbreak which occurred in an adjoining district during the month of May and which was caused by artificial cream infected with salmonella typhi murium. The active co-operation of all concerned rapidly brought the outbreak under control.

With regard to the sanitary circumstances of the district, the general picture has been one of gradual improvement. Water schemes to meet the needs of some of those areas with an insufficient supply have been prepared and negotiations are now taking place to bring them into effect. During the year, there has been an increase in the number of privies converted to water closets and the Council's scavenging service has been extended to include an additional 258 houses. As will be seen from the report there still remain many areas requiring the provision of, or improvement to, sewage disposal facilities. A sewage disposal scheme for Haydon Bridge, however, which has been prepared and approved, is at present lying in abeyance on account of the economic state of the country.

1949 saw the introduction of new regulations with regard to milk affecting the functions of the Council. Whereas previously, the Council's responsibilities included the supervision of dairy farms, under the new legislation the execution and enforcement of regulations on dairy farms (excepting in so far as they relate to diseases communicable to man) now becomes the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, while local authorities retain responsibility for those provisions which apply outside dairy farms, for the provisions relating to diseases communicable to man, and for the registration of dairies which are not dairy farms and of dairymen who are not dairy farmers. The Council is also responsible for the granting of licences to dealers to use special designations in respect of milk retailed in the district.

Finally, I should like to report that as a result of changes made during the year to staffing arrangements in the Health Department, it is now possible for two of the three Sanitary Inspectors employed by the Council to give their undivided attention to Sanitary Inspectors' duties.

In conclusion, 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, 1949	...	...	...	...	...	...	20,790

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

Live Births—		Males.		Females.		Total.
Legitimate ...	...	151	...	140	...	291
Illegitimate	...	5	...	3	...	8
Still Births—						
Legitimate ...	...	3	...	4	...	7
Illegitimate	...	—	...	—	...	—

Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	...	...	...	14.3
Total (Live and Still) Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated population	...	...	...	14.7

DEATHS.

Deaths from puerperal causes—

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

Death Rates of infants under one year of age—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	23.4
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births...	...	...	...	24.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	...	...	Nil

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	...	37
„ „ Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	Nil
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	1

Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (all causes and all ages)	...	...	...	...	12.4
--	-----	-----	-----	-----	------

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	1	—	—	6	1
1-2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2-5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
15-25	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	5	—
25-45	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	4	3
45-50	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	4	2
50-55	2	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	9	1
55-60	4	—	—	—	7	1	—	—	5	5	—	—	16	9
60-65	3	3	—	—	5	2	—	—	6	2	—	—	14	4
65-70	4	3	1	—	9	3	1	—	10	4	—	—	25	10
70-75	8	3	1	—	8	12	—	—	2	8	—	—	19	23
75-80	3	4	1	1	3	2	—	1	7	9	—	—	14	17
80-85	2	1	—	—	9	9	—	—	10	3	—	—	21	13
85-90	4	4	—	—	4	5	—	—	8	7	—	—	16	16
90-95	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	4
95-100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
	33	18	4	1	52	36	1	1	64	49	—	—	154	105
	TOTAL ...												259	

The chief causes of death are as follows :—

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Allendale		Bywell		Hexham		TOTAL	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
1. Typhoid and Parat. Fevers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Whooping Cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of Resp. Syst.	—	—	—	1	4	1	4	2
7. Other forms of tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Syphilitic diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Influenza ...	2	—	—	1	—	1	2	2
10. Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11. Ac. polio-myel and polio-enceph. ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
12. Acute inf. enceph ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
13. Cancer of buc. cav. and oesoph : (M) uterus (F)..	2	—	1	—	—	—	3	—
14. Cancer of stomach & duodenum ...	3	—	2	—	—	3	5	3
15. Cancer of Breast ...	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
16. Cancer of all other sites ...	4	1	4	5	5	5	13	11
17. Diabetes ...	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	2
18. Inter-cranial vascular lesions	2	4	6	9	5	9	13	22
19. Heart diseases ...	8	9	24	10	22	14	54	33
20. Other diseases of circ. system ...	4	—	2	1	4	1	10	2
21. Bronchitis ...	1	—	2	4	1	4	4	8
22. Pneumonia ...	—	—	3	—	—	1	3	1
23. Other respiratory diseases....	1	—	—	—	1	—	2	—
24. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—
25. Diarrhoea under 2 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
26. Appendicitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
27. Other digestive diseases ...	1	1	1	—	1	2	3	3
28. Nephritis ...	2	1	1	2	1	3	4	6
29. Puer. & post-abortion. sepsis....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30. Other maternal causes ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31. Premature Birth ...	—	—	—	—	3	—	3	—
32. Con. mal. birth inj. infant dis. ...	—	—	1	—	2	—	3	—
33. Suicide ...	1	—	3	—	—	—	4	—
34. Road Traffic Accidents ...	2	—	—	—	2	1	4	1
35. Other violent causes ...	1	—	—	1	3	—	4	1
36. All other causes ...	2	3	3	1	8	—	13	4
	37	19	53	37	64	49	154	105
TOTAL ...							259	

Infant Mortality during Year ending December 31st, 1949.

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.
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)	-	-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea	-	-	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Congenital Malformations	-	-	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	2
Premature Birth	-	-	1	1	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	3
Marasmus	-	-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis	-	-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth	-	-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis	-	-	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Infant Diseases	-	-	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
All causes	Certified.		2	1	1	...	4	2	...	...	1	7
	Uncertified.		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
GRAND TOTALS			2	1	1	...	4	2	...	...	1	7

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1949.

	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 Fevers.	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Tuberculosis	Influenza	Smallpox	Acute Polio-myelitis & Polio-encephalitis	Pneumonia	All causes under 1 year of age	Enteritis & Diarrhoea under 2 years of age		
England and Wales ...	16.7	0.39	11.7	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.45	0.15	0.00	0.01	0.51	32	3.0		
126 County Boroughs & Great Towns, including London ...	18.7	0.47	12.5	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.52	0.15	0.00	0.02	0.56	37	3.8		
148 Smaller Towns (estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931)	18.0	0.40	11.6	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.42	0.14	—	0.02	0.49	30	2.4		
London Adm. County	18.5	0.37	12.2	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.52	0.11	—	0.01	0.59	29	1.7		
Hexham R.D. ...	14.3	0.33	12.4	—	—	—	0.28	0.19	—	—	0.19	23	3.3		

VITAL & MORTALITY STATISTICS.

Year.	Birth Rate per 1,000 living	General Death Rate per 1,000 living	Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 living
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
1949	14.3	12.4	23.4

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1949

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in Whole District.													Total Cases notified in each Sub-District		
	At all Ages	Under 1												Allendale	Bywell	Hexham
		1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	65 and over			
Scarlet Fever	18	—	—	—	1	4	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	10	4
Whooping Cough	22	3	3	4	4	4	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	8	13
Diphtheria	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	146	5	10	25	7	14	66	3	6	—	—	3	—	20	43	83
Pneumonia	12	—	—	2	—	—	4	—	1	—	—	1	4	4	3	5
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	3
Dysentery	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
Smallpox	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	3
Food Poisoning	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	3	1	—	—	10
TOTALS	227	8	11	30	12	22	91	6	19	2	12	5	31	66	130	227

TUBERCULOSIS.—New cases and Mortality during 1949 :—

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	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	2	4	—	2	1	—	—	—
25—35	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
35—45	3	—	—	2	1	—	—	—
45—55	3	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
55—65	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTALS	9	8	1	4	4	2	—	—

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1925-1949.

Year.	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Measles	Ac. Pneumonia	Cerebrospinal Fever	Acute Polio-myelitis	Acute Polio-encephalitis	Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	Dysentery	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Puerperal Pyrexia	Smallpox	Paratyphoid Fevers	Enteric or Typhoid Fever	Erysipelas
1925	36	—	27	—	17	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	3	—	—	8
1926	42	—	10	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	8
1927	49	—	9	—	19	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	2	—	—	8
1928	14	—	—	—	8	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	8
1929	18	—	6	—	39	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	19
1930	17	—	10	—	20	1	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	—	—	14
1931	29	—	9	—	24	—	—	—	—	4	3	—	—	—	—	8
1932	18	—	14	—	29	—	1	—	1	2	1	—	1	—	—	8
1933	26	—	1	—	42	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	13
1934	126	—	10	—	19	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	8
1935	72	—	16	—	17	—	1	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	8
1936	107	—	48	—	26	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	8
1937	32	—	4	—	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
1938	53	—	13	—	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
1939	62	7	28	7	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
1940	17	11	16	170	14	8	1	—	—	—	8	11	—	—	—	8
1941	11	59	13	91	16	3	—	—	—	1	9	17	—	—	—	8
1942	13	1	7	65	11	3	—	—	—	12	8	13	—	—	—	8
1943	23	24	4	114	20	1	—	—	—	7	10	18	—	—	—	8
1944	29	28	3	32	5	—	—	—	—	5	15	17	—	—	—	8
1945	36	18	8	23	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	8
1946	21	45	9	81	15	1	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	8
1947	4	33	6	208	8	—	3	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	8
1948	29	56	1	81	8	—	8	—	—	1	—	6	—	—	—	8
1949	18	22	—	146	12	—	4	—	—	—	—	6	—	1	—	8

**ANNUAL RETURN OF FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS.
YEAR, 1949.**

FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS RETURNED TO R.G.

1ST QTR.	2ND QTR.	3RD QTR.	4TH QTR.	TOTAL.
Nil.	10	Nil.	Nil.	10

OUTBREAKS DUE TO IDENTIFIED AGENTS.

Total Outbreaks—1. Total Cases—10. Total Deaths—Nil.

Outbreaks due to :—

(a) Chemical Poisons	...	...	...	...	Nil.
(b) Salmonella Organisms	...	...	...	...	1
(c) Staphylococci (including toxin)				...	Nil.
(d) Cl. botulinum	...	...	...	...	Nil.
(e) Other bacteria	...	...	...	...	Nil.

OUTBREAKS OF UNDISCOVERED CAUSE.

Total Outbreaks—Nil. Total Cases, Nil. Total Deaths—Nil.

SINGLE CASES.

Agent identified—Nil. Unknown Cause—Nil. Total—Nil.

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 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 Subcommittee, 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, 10 a.m.—4 p.m.
Humshaugh	...	...	Village Hall. Third Wednesday each month, 1-30—4 p.m.
Riding Mill	...	...	Parish Hall. Alternate Thursdays, 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.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR

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.

To augment the supply, chlorinated river water (approximately 3,000 gallons per day) was pumped into the mains over a period of 4½ months.

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.

The Council gave assistance in the distribution of water during the year.

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 the Ministry of Health held a private enquiry into a scheme to boost mains water to a service reservoir.

The Council also supply Ropehaugh area of Allenheads. The quantity is sufficient, and the quality satisfactory.

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. There is an ample supply at the springs, but the hydraulic ram cannot pump a supply sufficient for all purposes.

Samples taken in the period when the springs were recovering after the dry season showed some pollution. The water was chlorinated until three consecutive satisfactory samples were obtained, and all subsequent samples were satisfactory.

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.

The Middle spring at Holly Hall intermittently shows slight contamination and the water is being chlorinated.

Extra land round the spring has been fenced in and it is hoped this will prevent the contamination.

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.

Water was carted by the Council during the drought.

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.

Three unsatisfactory samples were obtained towards the end of the year, and the water is being chlorinated.

Newton Parish.

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

Water was carted by the Council during the drought.

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 generally satisfactory and the quantity sufficient.

Two unsatisfactory samples were obtained towards the end of the year, and the water is being chlorinated.

Whittonstall Parish.

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

Water was carted by the Council during the drought.

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	WATER SUPPLY BY									
	1931 Census	1949	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	768	1157	406	—	—	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	578	—	—	1575	526	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	738	1743	637	—	—	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	647	1338	435	—	—	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	57	—	—	—	—	169	49	28	8
Hexham West Qr.	95	24	3	1	—	—	85	20	7	3
High Fotherley ...	62	15	—	—	—	—	62	15	—	—
Horsley ...	322	101	—	—	318	100	—	—	4	1
Hunshaugh ...	394	132	283	102	—	—	107	28	4	2
Nafferton ...	34	6	—	—	—	—	34	6	—	—
Newbrough ...	656	180	200	49	—	—	394	111	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	—	—	—	—	132	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	148	516	120	—	—	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	106	193	67	—	—	81	29	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	6404	7250	2314	4037	1285	7624	2130	2335	675

PRIVATE PIPED SUPPLIES SERVING MORE THAN 10 HOUSES.

PARISH	No. of houses on supply	NAME OF SYSTEM	REMARKS
Acomb	27	Oakwood*	Insufficient
Blackcarts & Rychill	12	Riding	Generally sufficient
Broomley	2	Teppermoor*	Generally sufficient
Bywell... ..	25	Broomley Village	Sufficient
Chollerton	12	Bywell Hall	Sufficient
...	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	Hght 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
...	36
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 DURING THE YEAR.**A. Council Supplies.**

No.	SUPPLY.	No. of Samples		No. Satisfactory		No. Unsatisf'y		Total Samples taken
		Bact.	Chem-ical.	Bact.	Chem-ical.	Bact.	Chem-ical.	
1.	Acomb ...	2	—	2	—	—	—	2
2.	Allendale ...	2	—	2	—	—	—	2
3.	Ropehaugh ...	2	1	2	1	—	—	3
4.	Broomhaugh....	2	1	2	1	—	—	3
5.	Colwell ...	12	—	4	—	8	—	12
6.	Corbridge ...	24	5	13	5	11	—	29
7.	Gunnerton ...	3	—	2	—	1	—	3
8.	Haydon Bridge	3	—	3	—	—	—	3
9.	Hedley ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10.	Humshaugh ...	6	—	5	—	1	—	6
11.	Newbrough ...	2	—	2	—	—	—	2
12.	Woodbine ...	4	—	1	—	3	—	4
13.	Slaley....	2	1	2	1	—	—	3
14.	Wall ...	2	—	2	—	—	—	2
15.	Whittington ...	3	1	1	1	2	—	4
16.	Bingfield ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		69	9	43	9	26	—	78

The samples from the Colwell, Whittington and Woodbine supplies which were found to be unsatisfactory, were taken in the period during which the yields of the springs were increasing after the prolonged drought.

In each case the contamination showed for about two months, and decreased as the quantity of water increased, disappearing when the normal winter flow was reached.

B. Private Supplies.

No.	SUPPLY.	No. of Samples		No. Satisfactory		No. Unsatisf'y		Total Samples taken
		Bact.	Chem-ical.	Bact.	Chem-ical.	Bact.	Chem-ical.	
	Pagecroft,							
	Haydon Bridge ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
	Sandhoe House ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
	Holly Hall Farm,							
	Corbridge ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	2
	Oakwood ...	3	—	2	—	1	—	3
	The Riding,							
	Riding Mill ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
	Kilnpit Hill ...	1	1	1	1	—	—	2
	Allerwash School ...	2	—	1	—	1	—	2
	Newbrough Lodge...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
	Fawcett Hill ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
	Fourstones Paper							
	Mill ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
	P. Church Cottage,							
	Chollerton ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
	West Boat, Warden	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
	Dipton Cottage ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
		17	1	13	1	4	—	18

Oakwood.

The unsatisfactory sample was taken during the period when water from the Birkey Burn was being used to supplement the supply.

When Oakwood supply returned to normal the reservoir was chlorinated and a sample taken subsequently from the collecting chamber at Oakwood springs was satisfactory.

Allerwash School.

After an unsatisfactory sample was taken from the kitchen tap, a further sample was taken from the spring. The latter was found to be satisfactory. Arrangements were made for media to be renewed in the filters.

Holly Hall Farm.

The present supply is unsatisfactory. The occupier was advised to boil all drinking water.

C. Proposed Supplies.

No.	SUPPLY.	No. of Samples		No. Satisfactory		No. Unsatisf'ty		Total Samples taken
		Bact.	Chem-ical.	Bact.	Chem-ical.	Bact.	Chem-ical.	
	E. Keenley Well, Allendale... ..	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
	Seven Springs, Allendale ...	7	1	7	1	—	—	8
	Cubstocks, Haydon Bridge	2	1	2	1	—	—	3
	Letch House, Whittonstall ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
	Laker Hall Farm, Stocksfield ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
	Greyside, Newbrough	1	1	1	1	—	—	2
	Wheelbirks, Stocksfield ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
	Chesters (Brunton supply)...	1	1	1	1	—	—	2
		15	4	15	4	—	—	19

D. Hexhamshire Water Scheme.

No.	SUPPLY.	No. of Samples		No. Satisfactory		No. Unsatisf'ty		Total Samples taken
		Bact.	Chem-ical.	Bact.	Chem-ical.	Bact.	Chem-ical.	
	Springs to be used in scheme ...	16	7	16	7	—	—	23
	Other springs available ...	10	7	10	7	—	—	17
		26	14	26	14	—	—	40

E. Miscellaneous Samples.

No.	SUPPLY.	No. of Samples		No. Satisfactory		No. Unsatisf' ty		Total Samples taken
		Bact.	Chem-ical.	Bact.	Chem-ical.	Bact.	Chem-ical.	
	River Tyne (Raw Water) ...	2	—	1	—	1	—	2
	River Tyne (Chlorinated) ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
	Birkey Burn ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	2
	Jamesons Drift ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
		6	—	3	—	3	—	6

The three unsatisfactory samples were of raw river and burn water.

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 at 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. Settling-stones 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.

In December the Council obtained delivery of a second Refuse Wagon. This vehicle is employed in the Stocksfield and Wylam areas, which were formerly scavenged by contract.

During the year the service has been extended and now includes Lincoln Hill, Walwick, the village of Sandhoe, Stagshaw, the west part of Newbrough parish (Settlingstones area), and the east part of Warden Parish (Hardhaugh, West Boat, Nether, High and Low Warden).

The removal of refuse in Corbridge was transferred from contract to the Council in January.

Details of the arrangements for the removal of household refuse in the district are summarised below :—

Collection by Council's Wagons.

		Houses			Houses
Oakwood...	(weekly)	45	Riding Mill	(weekly)	117
Anick ...	... „ ...	16	Broomhaugh	... „ ...	57
Wall ...	... „ ...	72	Slaley ...	... „ ...	72
Humshaugh	... „ ...	90	Sandhoe &		
			Stagshaw	... „ ...	56
Corbridge	... „ ...	712	Stocksfield	... „ ...	517
Wylam ...	... „ ...	432	Juniper (Fortnightly)	... „ ...	50
Walwick and Lincoln					
Hill ...	... „ ...	36			

Total—2,272 houses.

Collection by Contractors on behalf of the Council.

		Houses			Houses
Acomb ...	(weekly)	219	Hedley ...	(weekly)	39
Allendale & Catton „	... „ ...	343	Horsley ...	... „ ...	80
Haydon Bridge ...	... „ ...	402	Ovingham	... „ ...	112
Part Warden	... „ ...	57	Ovington	... „ ...	133
Fourstones & Part			Part Newbrough		
Newbrough ...	... „ ...	202	(Fortnightly) ...	... „ ...	56

Total—1,643 houses.

Total Number of houses in District	...	...	...	...	6,404
Total Number of houses scavenged	...	...	...	...	3,915
Percentage of houses scavenged by direct labour	...	...	...	...	35%
Percentage of houses scavenged by contract	...	...	...	...	26%
Total percentage of houses scavenged	...	...	...	...	61%

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

Allenheads	Newton
Broomley Village	Newton Hall
Barrasford	Blanchland
Colwell	Simonburn
Gunnerton	Whittington
Hallington	Whittonstall
Healey	Carrshield
Langley	Ninebanks

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, 38 visits have been made to infested properties.

PART IV.—HOUSING.

HOUSES COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR 1949.

					With State Assistance.	Unaided	Total
(a)	By Local Authority ...	...	...	...	50	—	50
	Slaley ...	...	...	...	10		
	Haydon Bridge ...	...	...	...	16		
	Allendale ...	...	...	...	12		
	Corbridge ...	...	...	...	12		
(b)	By other bodies or persons ...	...	...	...	—	8	8

HOUSES UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT 31st DEC., 1949.

					With State Assistance.	Unaided.	Total.
(a)	By Local Authority ...	...	...	...	38	—	38
	Corbridge ...	...	...	...	18		
	Wall ...	...	...	...	8		
	Wylam ...	...	...	...	12		
(b)	By other bodies or persons ...	...	...	...	—	6	6

SUMMARY OF POST-WAR BUILDING.

(a)	BY COUNCIL—				No. of Houses.	No. of Persons Housed.
	Acomb ...	...	...	...	16	82
	Allendale ...	...	...	...	12	61
	Corbridge ...	...	...	...	30	147
	Fourstones ...	...	...	...	16	83
	Gunnerton ...	...	...	...	6	30
	Haydon Bridge ...	...	...	...	28	140
	Horsley ...	...	...	...	4	19
	Humshaugh ...	...	...	...	6	29
	Ovingham ...	...	...	...	10	49
	Slaley ...	...	...	...	12	46
	Wylam ...	...	...	...	24	102
					164	788
(b)	By Private Persons ...	...	...	...	29	—
					193	

Housing Survey.

This survey is still in progress.

Moveable Dwellings and Bungalows.

During the year another survey was carried out, 36 new erections and additions being noted.

913 inspections were made.

PART V.—SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1. FOOD INSPECTION.

UNSOUND FOOD.	Surrendered	Seized	Legal Pro-ceedings
Beef (Imported)	64 lbs.	—	—
Bacon	92 lbs.	—	—
Pork	90 lbs.	—	—
Margarine	18 lbs.	—	—
Fruit	7 cases	—	—
Other Foods	5 lbs.	—	—

2. MEAT INSPECTION.

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 Sanitary Inspectors.

MILK AND DAIRIES.

SUMMARY OF MILK SAMPLES TAKEN.

SAMPLES TAKEN FOR	Samples taken from C.W.S. Pasteurising Plant.			Samples taken from Milk Retailers.		
	No. taken	Number Satis- factory	Number Unsatis- factory	No. taken	Number Satis- factory	Number Unsatis- factory
Methylene Blue Test ...	12	12	Nil.	20	15	5
Phosphatase Test ...	12	12	Nil.	—	—	—
Tuberculosis..	—	—	—	20	19	1

The five samples which failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue test were taken during the period of drought and the shortage of cooling water was responsible for the unsatisfactory results.

In the case of the positive tuberculosis sample, the affected cow was traced and slaughtered.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS EFFECTED.

Roofs repaired	17
Walls repointed or repaired	3
Eaves, gutters, spouts, wastes	4
Chimneys repaired	6
New windows... ..	27
Ceilings renewed	5
Walls re-plastered	9
Floors repaired	11
Renewal of ranges	33
Hot water system installed	49
Bath installed	84
Bathroom provided	83
Lavatory basin provided	105
New sculleries provided	22
New sinks provided	29
Foodstores provided	18
Fuel Stores provided	7
W.C's. repaired or renewed	1
Privies converted to W.C's.... ..	42
Privies repaired	—
Washing accommodation provided	5
Yards repaved	—
New drainage system provided	27
Drainage system reconstructed	17
Inspection chamber provided	65
Choked drains cleared	—
Septic tank and filters provided	27
Water laid into house	13
New water supply	—
Ashpits abolished	2
Ashpits repaired	—
Dustbins provided	1
Additional W.C's. provided	65
Blocked sewers cleared	1

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

Number of Factories on Register	52
Number of visits made	95
Number of defects found	71

