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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO THE

Hexham Urban District Council

FOR THE

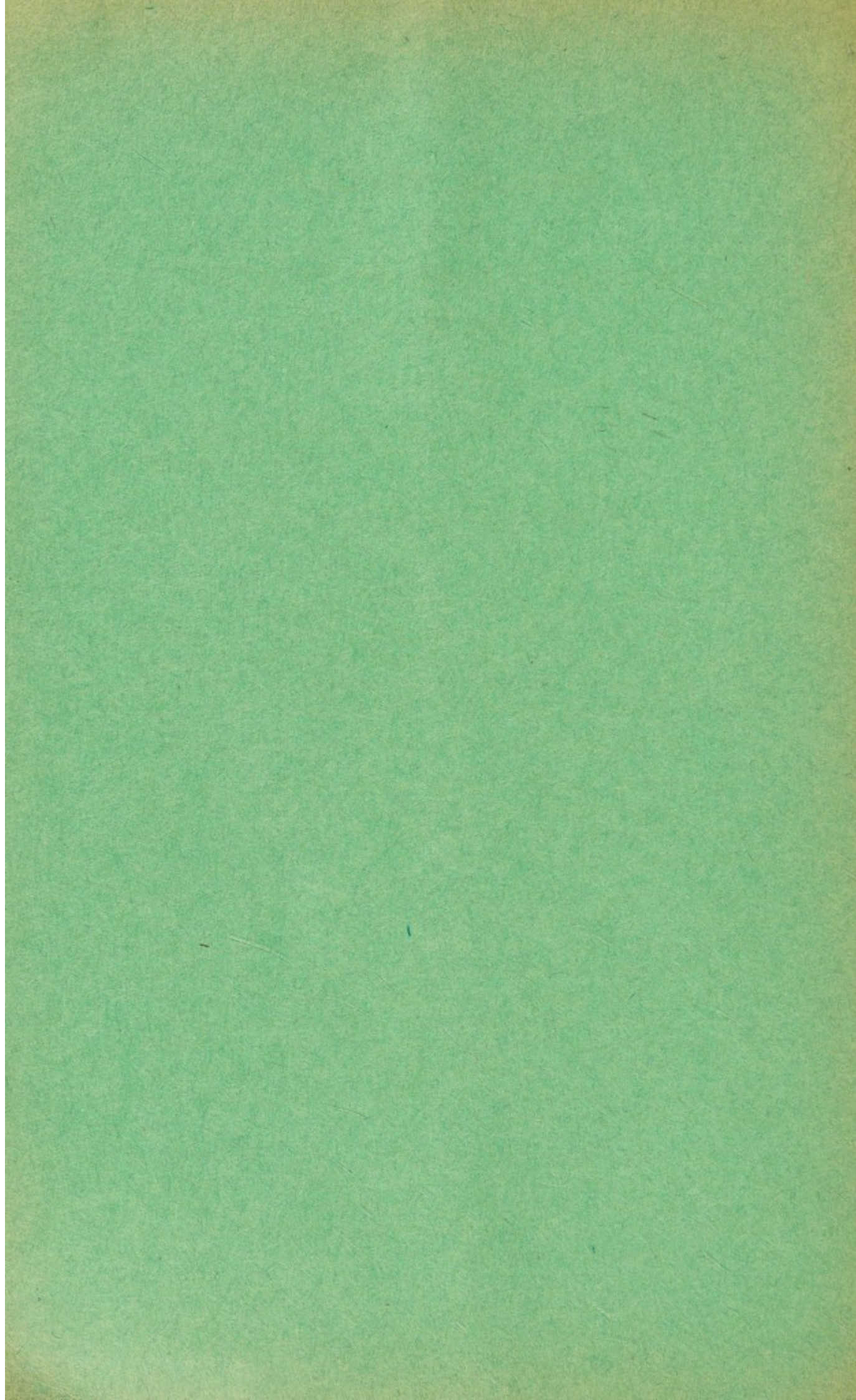
Year ended 31st December, 1938.

BY

DR. G. PATTON.

HEXHAM :

R. ROBSON & SONS, Printers, Priestpottle.



ANNUAL REPORT
of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1938.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
HEXHAM.

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

GENTLEMEN,—

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health, for the year ending 31st December, 1938. This report contains the particulars required by the Ministry of Health Circular 1728, dated 25th October, 1938.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority :—

The Public Health Staff of the Local Authority comprises one whole-time Medical Officer, who holds the Diploma of Public Health and one Sanitary Inspector, who holds the Diploma of the A.R.S. Inst.

In the past days, many owners of business properties lived over their premises. In the course of time, these were found unsuitable for habitation, and, as is often the case the upper portions have become tenemented. Almost without exception, these places are entirely unsuitable for such purpose. Some possibly could be converted into flats, but this is usually a costly business and at the best a makeshift. It will, therefore, be necessary to empty them in most cases by means of "Partial Closing Orders" and subsequent rehousal of their tenants.

The survey under the 1935 Housing Act to determine the amount of overcrowding existing was undertaken during the year previous to the one under review. In accordance with the Act, a considerable number of houses will also have to be provided to relieve this evil.

The health of the town calls for no special mention. The total of all notifiable infectious diseases (not including Tuberculosis) shows an increase, being 52 against 37. Tuberculosis also shows an increase, being 14 against 11 for the previous year. Deaths from this cause, however, are lower, being 3 against 5. The Infant Mortality Rate shows a decrease this year, being 47.2 per thousand births, compared with 132.2 for the previous year.

The incidence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria shows an increase. There were 32 cases of Scarlet Fever notified, compared with 10, and 5 cases of Diphtheria compared with 2 for the previous year.

The standard of nutrition of children of school age is improving, and this I attribute to a large extent to the increasing advantage being taken of cheap milk in the schools. With this as a pointer, I consider it little short of a tragedy that the retail price of milk remains so high. If surplus milk can be sold to manufacturers at a very low figure, it is surely not beyond the ability of the Milk Marketing Board to devise some means of cheapening it to the domestic consumer. In my opinion, the price of domestic milk is at least one-third too high, and until the figure is reduced by this amount, the Board cannot claim to have succeeded.

The promised Welfare Centre which was to have been built this year has not yet been commenced. I understand that this is accounted for by the enormous increase of work thrown on the County Architect's department by the pressure of A.R.P.

There were no Maternal Deaths during the year under review.

As I stated in my last reports, this Council has adopted a scheme for immunisation of all children against Diphtheria. I should like to see more parents take advantage of it (it is entirely without cost to them), but such is unfortunately by no means the case.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. PATTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Sec. A.—STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	5,926
Estimated Population, 1938	...	...	...	...	...	9,057
Number of Inhabited Houses, end of 1938, according to Rate Book	...	...	...	...	...	2,670
Rateable Value and Sum Represented by a Penny Rate (£68, 197)	...	...	...	...	£284 3s. 1d.	

SOCIAL CONDITIONS, INCLUDING INDUSTRIES CARRIED ON IN THE AREA.

No large industries; nothing affecting Public Health.

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS.

	TOTAL	M.	F.
Legitimate	119 ...	70 ...	49
Illegitimate	8 ...	4 ...	4

STILL BIRTHS.

	TOTAL	M.	F.
Legitimate	4 ...	1 ...	3
Illegitimate	1 ...	— ...	1

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated Population	...	14.0
Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births	...	14.5

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES.

			Rate per 1,000 Total (Live and Still)		
			Deaths	Births.	
No. 29—Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	Nil	...	Nil
No. 30—Other Puerperal	...	...	Nil.	...	Nil
Total	...	...	Nil	...	Nil

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	47.2
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	...	...	50.4
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	...	...	Nil
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	19
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	Nil
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population...	...	...	13.5

**DEATHS.—Age Groups in each Ward, also Adult, Infant
and Uncertified Deaths.**

WARDS.			Gilegate.	Leazes.	Priestpottle.	Hencotes.	TOTAL.	
AGE GROUPS :—								
0—1	...		2	—	1	3	6	
1—2	...		1	—	—	1	2	
2—5	...		1	—	1	—	2	
5—15	...		—	—	1	1	2	
15—25	...		—	—	2	—	2	
25—45	...		1	1	5	1	8	
45—65	...		8	7	11	6	32	
65—75	...		9	6	11	8	34	
Over 75	...		9	7	8	11	35	
Totals all ages ...			31	21	40	31	123	
Uncert.	M.	...	2	—	1	—	3	
	F.	...	1	—	—	—	1	
Infant	M.	...	1	—	1	2	4	
	F.	...	1	—	—	1	2	
Adult.	M.	...	13	12	15	13	53	} 123
	F.	...	16	9	24	15	64	

The chief causes of death are set out in the following Tables :—

CAUSES OF DEATH.						M.	F.
Typhoid Fever, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Other Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Gen. Paralysis of Insane, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	9	10
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
Cerebral Haemorrhage	...	...	...	...	...	3	5
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	9	17
Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other Circulatory	...	...	...	...	...	5	3
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	4
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	4	5
Other Respiratory	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Peptic Ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Diarrhoea, etc., (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	...	...	...	...	—	1
Other Liver Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other Digestive	...	...	...	...	...	2	1
Nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	7	4
Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Other Puerperal	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Congenital Causes, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Senility	...	...	...	...	...	2	3
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
Other Violence	...	...	...	...	...	3	1
Other Defined Causes	...	...	...	...	...	2	4
Ill-defined Causes	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
						57	66
TOTAL ...						123	

INFANT MORTALITY.—There were 6 deaths of infants under one year of age as compared with 16 in 1937. The infant Mortality Rate is 47.2 per thousand births compared with 132.2 for 1937.

BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1938.

	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 & Paratyphoid fevers	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea & Enteritis (under 2 years)	Total Deaths under one year
England and Wales ...	15.1	0.60	11.6	0.00	0.00	0.04	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.11	5.5	53
126 County Boroughs & Great Towns, including London ...	15.0	0.65	11.7	0.00	0.00	0.05	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.10	7.8	57
148 Smaller Towns (estimated Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at Census 1931)	15.4	0.60	11.0	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.06	0.11	3.6	51
London ...	13.4	0.48	11.4	0.00	0.00	0.06	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.06	13.1	57
Hexham U.D. ...	14.0	0.55	13.5	0.00	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.11	0.00	0.11	0.00	47

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (Other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1938.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65&upward	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Smallpox ...	—	—	1	4	22	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	32	—	1	4	4	5	—	—	—	30	—
Diphtheria ...	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	8	2	2	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	9
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	2	—	—
TOTALS ...	52	3	3	5	26	5	4	3	3	35	9

GENERAL.—The total of the chief notifiable infectious diseases shows an increase from the previous year, being 52 against 37.

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.—The particulars of this disease are given herewith :—

Table showing cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum in 1938.

		CASES.			Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
		Notified	Treated					
			At Home	In Hospital				
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	1	1	—	—	—	—	—

(a) Prevention of Blindness.

No special treatment other than the usual Post-Natal treatment.

(b) Tuberculosis.

Cases of Tuberculosis are treated at Wooley Sanatorium and are under the auspices of the Northumberland County Council. A few beds are at their disposal at Dene Street House Hospital, Hexham, when necessary.

14 cases of Tuberculosis have been notified during the year and three deaths occurred.

Particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease are given in the following tables :—

TUBERCULOSIS.—New cases and Mortality during 1938 :—

Age periods.	New Cases				Nett Deaths in Hexham Urban District			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulm		Pulmonary		Non Pulm	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	—
15—25	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
25—35	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
35—45	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
45—55	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
55—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	4	5	2	3	1	1	—	1

	Cases Notified.	Deaths.
Gilesgate Ward ...	2	—
Leazes Ward ...	2	—
Priestpottle Ward ...	9	3
Hencotes Ward ...	1	—
	14	3

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

- (a) Laboratory Facilities.—Work of this type is done by the Northumberland County Council, at their Laboratory in Newburn.
- (b) Ambulance Facilities.—One Motor Ambulance is available for Infectious cases. For non-infectious and accident cases, an ambulance is available by arrangement with the Hexham Red Cross Society.
- (c) Nursing in the Home.—A voluntary Association provides district nurses, who also act as Midwives for the district.

- (d) Treatment Centres and Clinics.—No such Clinics are provided by the Council. There is an Orthopaedic Clinic at the War Memorial Hospital, for School Children, controlled by the Northumberland County Authorities. There is also a Tuberculosis Dispensary carried on at the War Memorial Hospital, which serves the district for this disease, and is controlled by the Northumberland County Council.
- (e) Hospitals : Public and Voluntary.
- (1) The Isolation Hospital. Final arrangements have been made and a scheme for the provision of a joint Hospital is being arranged.
 - (2) The War Memorial Hospital. This Hospital is supported by public subscription. It has an up-to-date Operating Theatre and X-Ray establishment and receives both Medical and Surgical cases.
 - (3) Dene Street House. Patients are received from the Urban Area. There is accommodation for Maternity cases. Others go to Corbridge Hospital which is about 3 miles away and belongs to the County.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

- (1) Midwifery and Maternity Services.—Two district nurses.
- (2) Institutional Provision for Mothers or Children. For Mothers—None by the Urban District Council, other than the County Hospital, Dean Street House. For Children—The Children's Nursery, Hextol Terrace, where they have 35 cots for permanent children.

N.B.—This refers only to the first quarter of 1938. These have been delegated to the Northumberland County Council from the 1st April of the year under review.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

A scheme for providing free immunisation to all children in the district is still in operation. The response to this scheme has not been completely satisfactory. An effort is being made to make parents realize the importance of having their children immunised. The diphtheria prophylactic used is T.A.P. (Parke, Davis & Co.). The following table shows the number of children immunised during the year :—

Diphtheria Immunisation, 1938.

	Total number of Children Immunised	Pre- School Children	School Children
Diphtheria Immunisation	23	3	20

HEXHAM URBAN DISTRICT.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

(H. MITCHELL),

FOR THE YEAR 1938.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1938.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
HEXHAM HOUSE,
HEXHAM.

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

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—

I have the honour of submitting my Annual Report dealing with the work carried out by your Sanitary Department during the year ended 31st December, 1938.

Appended hereto will be found the tables giving particulars of the inspections made during the year, in conformity with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

Your decision to separate the dual position of Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, resulted in my appointment as your full time Sanitary Inspector, such appointment dating from 21st March, 1938.

Sixteen New Houses were erected during the year by private enterprise :—

WATER SUPPLY.—The supply was well maintained during the year, and there were no complaints that could not be abated by your works department. 21 New Services were installed, 17 of which were in connection with dwelling-houses, the other 4 supplying field troughs.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.—All new and re-conditioned drains were properly tested, mainly by smoke under pressure, and in some cases by the hydraulic test.

Good drainage is of the greatest importance where the health of the public is concerned, and too much time cannot be given to work of this description ; owing to the fact that most of it is underground and never seen by the general public, it is essential that this work should be efficiently done and supervised.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.—This is carried out by your Surveyor's Department and no important complaints have been received in this office.

The refuse question of the open markets was considered by your Sanitary Inspector and sanitary metal ashbins are now

provided at various points in the market place on market days, and an appreciable improvement has resulted.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.—Inspection of the district takes place periodically and when required on complaint, and the necessary notices served upon owners or occupiers without delay.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.—Hexham is mainly served by the water carriage system, direct to sewers and sewage works; there are still used in the outlying areas, however, several pail and earth closets where the sewer is not available.

Three pail closets were converted to W.C.'s during the year, in each case a septic tank and filter being provided all of which are working satisfactorily.

WORKSHOPS AND BAKEHOUSES.—The necessary routine visits were made; of the latter, two have unsatisfactory sanitary conveniences, and an undertaking has been given in each case, but as extensive structural alterations are contemplated these are sub-judice at the present time.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN FROM DWELLINGS.—In the case of bed bugs, Cescones in conjunction with Zaldecide have been used and found to be satisfactory. It was also found that silver fish could only be exterminated by the latter. Beetles were cleared by the use of proprietary beetle powders.

Before removal of tenants to Council Houses, the houses were inspected under the supervision of your Housing Supervisor and any disinfection was carried out solely by your own staff.

MILK SUPPLY.—Of the 27 producers in the district, only five have accredited herds, and none tuberculin tested: this is to be deprecated considering the extra 1½d. and 2½d. per gallon respectively received. Under these special designations, a much higher standard of production must be maintained so far as inspection of animals, and sterilization of utensils, structure of cowsheds and dairies are concerned. It is hoped that in the future, more producers will avail themselves of the benefits derived from the production of milk under these special designations and make the necessary arrangements with the County Council.

There was only one prosecution for a milk offence during the year, when a purveyor was convicted for selling milk from unregistered premises and of being unregistered.

FOOD SUPPLY.—During the year 6,288 animals were slaughtered for human consumption and were inspected at the abattoir previous to being offered for sale.

This causes a tremendous amount of work, much of which has to be done outside office hours, also on public holidays, but the work is of such importance that no effort is spared in order to carry it out regardless of whether it be night or day.

Definite hours of slaughter have been fixed, and the hours of the slaughter house attendant revised : this has made a remarkable change for the better in the working of that sphere of the Health Department. Structural alterations are being made so as to ease the pressure in the pig slaughtering houses, and when these are completed, the obligations of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, can be more stringently administered.

The question of the disposal of diseased meat was considered and there are now two properly covered metal containers at the abattoir into which all small portions are deposited. The refuse cart collects the containers and the unsound meat is buried well down on our tips, after being thoroughly disinfected.

With respect to whole carcasses and large portions, these are taken to the local knackers' yard where they are disinfected and destroyed under your Inspector's personal supervision.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.—One application was made for a licence to use land as a camping site ; this was refused on the grounds of inadequate sanitation.

DISINFECTION OF VEHICLES AT THE CATTLE MARTS.—This is done by the employees of the Cattle Marts, and the order under which this work is necessary is administered by the Police Department of the district.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION.—The Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919, is administered by the County Council, but in all local complaints, advice is given and poison baits laid when necessary.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—After all cases of infectious diseases, and in other cases when requested, the houses or rooms are fumigated with humid formaldehyde vapourisers, disinfectants are supplied and instructions given with respect to isolation of contacts and cleansing of the premises. Sinks, wastes, sanitary conveniences and ashbins are examined and any nuisances noted and the necessary notices serviced.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.—This Act became operative on the 1st July, 1938, and is a consolidating and amending measure, and replaces the Factories and Workshops Act, 1901 and various later Acts. It follows broadly the lines of the 1901 Act, but contains many new provisions based on modern practice, and it also embodies a large number of changes suggested by experience on points of detail.

The old distinction between a factory and a workshop is abolished and the expression "workshop" disappears, one term "factory" being employed.

The overcrowding section has been revised and the standard is now 400 cubic feet per person instead of 250 as in the old Act, subject to certain conditions.

COMMON LODGING-HOUSES.—There is now only one on the register and this is under constant supervision: one was demolished during the year and another old landmark disappeared from the town.

GENERAL.—The new Food and Drugs Act, 1938, does not come into force until 1939, so a report upon that will be premature.

I have pleasure in stating that the working of the Department is proceeding smoothly and satisfactorily.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. MITCHELL,

Sanitary Inspector.

SUMMARY OF WORK EFFECTED, 1938.

	Hexham Urban District. Inspector—H. MITCHELL.	After Letter or Interview	After Informal Notice	After Statutory Notice	Total
Sanitary Conveniences	Privies abolished ...	...	...	...	...
	" repaired ...	...	...	...	...
	Privy ashpits abolished ...	...	...	...	...
	" " roofed or repaired ...	...	...	...	...
	Pail-closets abolished ...	3	...	...	3
	Water closets provided ...	...	...	...	...
	" " repaired ...	...	18	...	18
Drainage	Sanitary bins provided ...	...	17	...	17
	" " renewed ...	...	...	...	...
	New drains constructed ...	...	1	...	1
	Drains repaired or reconstructed ...	...	15	...	15
	Additional gullies provided ...	...	1	...	1
	Old gullies replaced... ...	...	3	...	3
	Scullery sinks provided ...	...	2	1	3
Water supply	" waste pipes repaired ...	...	7	...	7
	" " trapped ...	...	9	...	9
	Yards repaired or reconstructed ...	...	8	...	8
Water supply	Sources closed or discontinued, —	No. of houses affected, —			
	New service provided ... 21	..	..	..	17
RIVERS POLLUTION—					
Particulars—					
Cases detected	—	..	..	..	—
Remedied ...	—	..	..	..	—
S.D. Works provided—Nil.	..	..	..	..	—

Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report, Year ending Dec. 31st, 1938.
[Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926, Art. 19 (15).]

Name of District Hoxham Urban Dist. Population, 9,416 Name of Inspector, H. Mitchell.	HOUSING				WATER SUPPLY		DRAINAGE		SANITARY CONVENIENCES		Shops, Food-stores, etc.	Dairies, cowsheds and Milkshops	Slaughter houses and Knackers' Yards	Tents, Vans, etc.	Offensive trades	Workshops & Work-places	Keeping of animals	Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles	Ashpits improperly used	Offensive accumulations	Smoke nuisances	Petrol stores	TOTALS
	Structural defects	Defective Food-store	Dampness	Overcrowding	Nuisances	Insufficient	Unsatisfactory	Insufficient	Defective	Insufficient	Defective												
No. of Inspections during year ...	...	...	480	...	...	48	...	...	68	...	231	115	421	14	12	43	6	...	...	12	10	...	1528
No of defects or contraventions of byelaws ...	315	52	32	1	444	10	...	2	23	...	15	3	2	1	...	8	1	...	...	8	1	...	950
No. outstanding from previous year ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Total ...	315	52	32	1	444	10	...	2	23	...	15	4	2	1	...	8	1	...	...	8	1	...	951
No. remedied after letter or interview ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	1	2	2	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	1	...	14
No. of informal notices served ...	51	30	19	1	33	...	...	...	10	...	7	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	8	...	...	183
Defects remedied thereafter	34	13	17	1	83	...	...	...	10	...	14	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	8	...	...	...	199
No. of statutory notices served ...	25	22	13	...	22	10	...	...	10	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	114
Defects remedied thereafter	55	2	3	...	57	1	...	...	7	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	131
In progress or being dealt with	159	27	12	...	204	9	...	...	3	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	420
Legal proceedings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

D.—HOUSING

HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR 1938.

		With State Assistance.	Unaided	TOTAL.
(a) By Local Authority	...	—	—	—
(b) By other Bodies or Persons	...	—	16	16

1.—Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the Year :

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	118
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	381
2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	...	41
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	45
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous as to be unfit for human habitation...	...	...	...	...	16
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	54

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	...	...	...	...	14
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3.—Action under Statutory Powers :

(A) <i>Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :</i>					
(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which "notices" were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	—
(2) No. of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices—					
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	3
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—	—	—	—	—
(B) <i>Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—</i>					
(1) No. of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	—
(2) No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—					
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	—
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	—	—	—	—	—
(C) <i>Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of Housing Act, 1936 :—</i>					
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	6
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	—
(D) <i>Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :</i>					
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	16
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	2

4.—Number of houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included above

—

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

(a) (i)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	67
(ii)	Number of families dwelling therein	68
(iii)	Number of persons dwelling therein	457
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	1
(c) (i)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	67
(ii)	Number of persons concerned in such cases	152
(d)	Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	—
(e)	Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	—

H. MITCHELL, Inspector.

FOOD INSPECTION, 1938.

UNSOUND FOOD.				Surrendered		Seized	Legal Pro-ceedings
				stones	lbs.		
Beef (home-killed)	...	...	...	287	11	...	...
„ (Imported)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Mutton (home-killed)	...	...	...	4	13	...	...
„ (Imported)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pork	...	...	...	36	6	...	...
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fruit...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Foods :	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL				329	2		

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, excl'dg Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	862	—	302	3947	1177
Number inspected ...	862	—	302	3947	1177
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	1	2	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	230	—	—	60	48
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	26·7	—	0·3	1·6	4·1
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	2	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	36	—	—	—	48
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	4·4	—	—	—	4·1

**CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES FOUND IN THE
UNSOUND FOOD.**

									Lbs.
Abscesses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30½
Bruising ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Cirrhosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	251
Decomposition	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
Distomum Hepaticum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	469
Fatty Infiltration	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15½
Inflammation	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Mammitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Pericarditis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	½
Pleurisy	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41½
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28½
Gangrenous Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	210
Pyæmia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	104
Neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	54½
Strongylus Rufescens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1½
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,983½
Moribund	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
Other parasites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Congestion	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Extra vasation of blood (from accident)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	168
Hepatitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,608 lbs. or 329 stones 2 lbs.

URBAN DISTRICT OF HEXHAM. 1938.

Inspection of Factories, Workshops & Workplaces,

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or
Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (4)
Factories (including Laundries) ...	17	...	...
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises)	26	...	...
Total ...	43	...	...

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	No. of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) ...	2	2	...	...
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	...	...	...	...
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ...	...	...	...	...
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	...	...	...	...
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	...	...	...	...
Sanitary (insufficient ...	2	...	...	...
Conveniences (unsuitable, defective (S.7) not separate for sexes	...	...	...	...
Other offences ...	4	4	...	...
(Not including offences relating to Home Work or offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921, and re-enacted in the Third Schedule to the Factories Act, 1937).				
Total ...	8	6	...	...

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

Section 6 (1) and (4).

Number of Cowkeepers (registered) in district ...	27
Approximate number of cows kept ...	465

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

Supplementary Licences Granted (Pasteurised Milk)...	3
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MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

Registration of Retail Purveyors during Year...	10
Registration of Dairies during Year ...	1

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Renewals of Licence to Slaughter ...	23
New Licences Granted ...	4

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Safety in Case of Fire Certificates granted	...	...	7
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SHOPS ACTS 1934 and 1936.

Exemption Certificates granted (Sanitary Conveniences)	4
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DISINFECTION.

Cases of Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
„ „ Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ „ Cancer...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ „ Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
„ „ Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
School Rooms and Outbuildings, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
School Books destroyed (bundles)	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other Rooms and Outbuildings, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Small Articles disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	214
Squares disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Mattresses and Eiderdowns	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Pillows	...	...	...	...	...	...	43
Blankets	...	...	...	...	...	...	143
Other bedding, beds, etc., when required.							

