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Contributors

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Longbenton
Urban District Council.

County of Northumberland.

ANNUAL REPORTS

FOR THE YEAR

1951

OF

WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM,

M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,


Medical Officer of Health,

AND

WILLIAM N. LOCKEY,

M.R.San.I., Certified Meat Inspector,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.



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Senior Sanitary Inspector.

OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

<i>Office</i>	<i>Officer</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>
Medical Officer of Health...	... WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health	... THEODORE CRAIG	M.B., Ch.B.
Senior Sanitary Inspector	... WILLIAM N. LOCKEY	M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A., Cert.S.I.B., Meat and Food Inspector's Cert., R.S.I., Sanitary Science Cert., R.S.I.
Additional Sanitary Inspector	... GEORGE R. HUDSON	M.S.I.A., Cert.S.I.B.

Longbenton Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM,

for the year ended 31st December, 1951.

To the Chairman and Members of the

Longbenton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1951.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Mid-year 1951 figures from the Registrar-General show an increase in population of 730 as compared with mid-year 1950. Births show an increase of 52. Deaths show a decrease of 22. Infantile Mortality Rate shows a commendable decrease from 31·47 per 1,000 live births to 25·8. This compares with the National Rate of 29·6 per 1,000 live births.

The principal causes of death were :—

Diseases of the Heart ...	...	86	(113)
Cancer of all Types ...	...	46	(54)
Vascular Lesions of Brain ...	...	47	(48)

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Details are given on pages 11 and 12.

MILK.

The milk supplies were maintained satisfactorily in quantity and quality. 29 samples were submitted for the presence of *B. tuberculosis*, one proved "positive." The infected cow was slaughtered.

HOUSING.

336 houses were built during 1951. The picture of overcrowding in the district has shown from year to year an appreciable improvement. Approximately 600 families still need houses of their own, 31/12/51.

WATER SUPPLY.

(1) The water supply throughout the area during 1951 has been satisfactory in quantity and quality.

(2) All the water is supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co. through the company's mains.

(3) Eight samples were taken for bacteriological examination. All were satisfactory.

(4) Chemical analysis are made by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.

(5) The water has no plumbo-solvent action.

(6) A tabulated statement is given in the Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report of the number of dwelling houses with piped water supplies inside the house. This department is pressing constantly for the abolishing of standpipes by the provision of inside water supplies.

NUTRITION.

I have no evidence of malnutrition in any class of the community; in particular, I state that the school children in all the areas of the district show a high standard of nutrition and cleanliness.

I wish to thank the Chairman and the Members of the Council for their kind encouragement throughout the year, and Mr. Lockey, Senior Sanitary Inspector, and the Staff for their great help and loyalty.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

W. CUNNINGHAM,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS OF SOCIAL CONDITIONS IN THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	6,786
Registrar General's estimate of Resident Population mid-year 1951	28,360
Number of inhabited houses (31/12/51) according to Rate Book	8,230
Rateable Value	£137,673
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (31/12/51) ...	£550

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The chief industry is coal mining, with the exception of the residential area of Benton and Forest Hall.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

			Male	Female	Total
Live Births—Legitimate	...	...	225	230	455
Illegitimate	...	...	4	6	10
			<hr/> 229	<hr/> 236	<hr/> 465
Still Births—Legitimate	...	...	9	6	15
Illegitimate	...	...	—	—	—
			<hr/> 9	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 15

Comparability Factors:—

Births	...	...	...	1.01
Deaths	...	...	...	1.13
Live Births per 1,000 Population	...	16.39	corrected	16.55
Still births per 1,000 Live and Still Births	31.25	„		31.56

DEATH RATE.

The Death Rate per 1,000 of the
estimated population 10.12 corrected 11.43

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still Births)
Puerperal Sepsis	nil	0.00
Other Maternal Causes	1	2.12
	<hr/> 1	<hr/> 2.12

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR
OF AGE

					Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	6	3	9
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	3	3
					<u>6</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>12</u>

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS
OF AGE

Legitimate	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
					<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>6</u>

DEATH RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS OF INFANTS UNDER
1 YEAR OF AGE.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	25.8
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births				19.78
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births				300

DEATH RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS OF INFANTS UNDER
4 WEEKS OF AGE.

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	...	12.90
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births				8.78
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births				200
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	46
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	—
Deaths from Whooping Cough	...	...	...	—

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE LONGBENTON AREA, 1951.

Causes of Death						Males	Female
All Causes	...	...	...	...	...	142	145
1—Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...					6	2
2—Other forms of Tuberculosis	...					—	—
3—Syphilitic diseases	...					1	2
4—Diphtheria...	...					—	—
5—Whooping Cough	...					—	—
6—Meningococcal infections...	...					—	—
7—Acute Poliomyelitis	...					—	—
8—Measles	...					—	—
9—Other infective and parasitic diseases	...					—	—
10—Cancer of stomach	...					3	4
11—Cancer of lung and bronchus	...					7	—
12—Cancer of breast	...					—	2
13—Cancer of uterus	...					—	3
14—Cancer of all other sites	...					11	16
15—Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...					—	1
16—Diabetes	...					—	—
17—Vascular lesions of nervous system	...					18	29
18—Coronary disease, angina	...					22	17
19—Hypertension with heart disease	...					4	—
20—Other heart disease	...					25	18
21—Other circulatory disease	...					1	2
22—Influenza	...					3	4
23—Pneumonia	...					6	6
24—Bronchitis	...					9	18
25—Other diseases of respiratory system	...					3	1
26—Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...					—	1
27—Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...					2	—
28—Nephritis and nephrosis	...					4	1
29—Hyperplasia of prostate	...					2	—
30—Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...					—	1
31—Congenital malformations	...					—	1
32—Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...					11	14
33—Motor vehicle accidents	...					—	1
34—All other accidents	...					3	—
35—Suicide	...					1	1
36—Homicide and other operations of war...	...					—	—

There is no evidence of any excessive or unusual mortality during the year.

I have no evidence, statistical or otherwise, that conditions of occupation, environment or unemployment have exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of adults. There is, however, evidence that the general health and physique of children, both of pre-school and school age, are steadily improving.

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1951.

(The Mortality Rates for England and Wales refer to the whole population).

	Rate per 1,000 Population	ANNUAL DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION										Rate per 1,000 Live Births	
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Acute Poliomylitis	Pneumonia	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Enteric Fever	Smallpox	Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years	Total Deaths under 1 year	
ENGLAND AND WALES (1951).	15.5	0.36	12.5	0.00	0.99	0.01	0.00	0.38	0.00	0.00	1.4	29.6	
LONGBENTON (1951) (Cor.)	16.55	0.52	11.43	0.00	0.42	0.00	0.00	0.24	0.00	0.00	—	25.80	
LONGBENTON (1950) (Cor.)	15.08	0.22	12.74	0.07	0.32	0.03	0.00	0.10	0.00	0.00	—	31.47	

TABLE SHOWING THE INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES SINCE THE FORMATION OF THE LONGBENTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL IN 1935.

1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
78.3	85.22	87.3	70.27	51.9	85.7	60.6	51.8	61.6	35.95	76.54	35.95	36.68	43.68	38.87	31.47	25.80

SECTION B.

1. (i) Public Health Officials: see page 2.
- (ii) (a) Laboratory facilities are now available at the Public Health Laboratories, General Hospital, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Government Buildings, Blakelaw, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
- (b) Ambulance Service is now under the jurisdiction of the Northumberland County Council. The service in Longbenton is administered by the South-East Area Sub-Committee, of which Committee I act as Area Executive Medical Officer.
- (c) Nursing in the home is controlled by the Northumberland County Council.
- (d) There are no hospitals in the area with the exception of the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Scaffold Hill.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICE.

This service is operated and controlled by the Northumberland County Council.

SECTION C.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

- (i) The water supply for the area during the last year has been satisfactory. All the water for the district is supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co. The mains supplying Annitsford, Dudley, Seaton Burn and Wideopen are still the property of the Longbenton Urban District Council, whilst all other mains are the property of the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co.
- (ii) *Drainage and Sewerage*—Conditions remain the same.
2. (i) *Rivers and Streams*—See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.
3. (i) *Closet Accommodation*—See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (ii) *Public Cleansing*—See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (iii) *Sanitary Inspection of the Area*—See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (iv) *Shops and Offices*—See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (v) *Camping Sites*.—See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.

- (vi) *Smoke Abatement*—No official action has been necessary. See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (vii) *Swimming Baths and Pools*—There are no swimming baths or pools in the area.
- (viii) *Eradication of the Bed Bug*—See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (ix) *Head Lice*—No special treatment was given.
Body Lice—No special treatment was given.

SCHOOLS.

The schools in the area are each provided with a sufficient suitable water supply from the mains supply. Periodical inspections are made of all schools.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

- (a) *Milk Supply*—See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.
- (b) *Meat and other Foods*—See Senior Sanitary Inspector's Report.
A Food Traders' Guild, under the auspices of the Longbenton Urban District Council, has been formed in order to obtain clean and hygienic conditions in the handling and sale of food by voluntary and competitive methods other than by compulsion.
- (c) *Adulteration*—This service is administered by the County Council.
- (d) *Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food*—Samples of milk and ice cream are taken for Bacteriological Examination by this Authority. These samples are examined at the Public Health Laboratory.
- (e) *Nutrition*—Talks were given to young mothers at meetings arranged by the Ministry of Food Branch Officers at Child Welfare Clinics.
- (f) *Shellfish (Molluscan)*—There are no shellfish beds or layings in this area. Shellfish is rarely sold in this area.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following table gives the numbers and age groups of the cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year :—

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR, 1951.

DISEASE	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED										Hospital	Deaths
	Age Group											
	At all Ages (1950)	Under 1 year	1 to 3	3 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 25	25 and over	Age not known			
Scarlet Fever	38 (56)	2	1	7	21	5	1	1	—	21	—	
Whooping Cough	81 (81)	4	20	27	28	1	1	—	—	—	—	
Measles	393 (240)	14	58	129	184	4	4	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia	29 (30)	1	1	—	1	2	2	22	—	—	4	
Erysipelas	2 (3)	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	
Sonne Dysentry	9 (4)	—	—	3	3	—	—	3	—	5	—	
Puerperal Pyrexia	2 (—)	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	
Poliomyelitis	2 (7)	—	—	—	1P	1NP	—	—	—	1	—	
Food Poison....	2 (—)	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	1	
Para-typhoid B	1 (—)	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	
	559 (421)	21	80	166	238	14	13	27	—	31	5	

The following table shows the incidence of Diphtheria since 1940, when our Immunisation Scheme was commenced. It will be noted that until 1943 there were still a number of children not immunised : —

YEARS	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
No. of cases	39	77	101	30	110	16	10	5	—	2	—	—
Deaths ...	2	1	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

ACUTE ANTERIOR POLIOMYELITIS.—Two cases were notified ; no deaths occurred.

SCARLET FEVER.—Notifications show a decrease of 18.

PNEUMONIA.—Notifications show a decrease of 1.

DIPHTHERIA.—It is significant that no cases of Diphtheria were notified during the twelve months under review.

MEASLES.—There is an increase in the number of cases of Measles notified, 393 in 1951, as against 240 in 1950.

WHOOPING COUGH.—There were 81 cases notified in 1951 ; the same number as in 1950.

FOOD POISONING.—There were no outbreaks of Food Poisoning in 1951. Two isolated cases were notified. One death resulted.

VENEREAL DISEASE.—Full support has been given to the Northumberland County Council in their propaganda against Venereal Disease. Posters have been published and handbills distributed and full information as to the places and times of the Clinics supplied to enquirers at this Public Health Department.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.—There were no cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.—No action was necessary under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, with regard to persons employed in the milk trade, nor in the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from Tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS, 1951.—The following Tables are self explanatory :—

	CASES NOTIFIED				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 5 years ...	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 15 years ...	5	5	1	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 25 years ...	8	5	1	3	—	—	—	—
25 to 35 years ...	4	8	—	1	2	2	—	—
35 to 45 years ...	1	5	—	—	1	—	—	—
45 to 55 years ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 to 65 years ...	1	—	1	—	2	—	—	—
65 years and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	22	23	5	4	5	2	—	—

The notification of cases of Tuberculosis in the area has been satisfactory. No action has been necessary in any case of neglect or refusal to notify.

PARTICULARS OF TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER
as at 31st December, 1951.

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	Total
Cases on Register at 1/1/51. ...	131	111	242	36	36	72	314
New Cases ...	22	22	44	5	4	9	53
Cases Removed	4	6	10	1	—	1	11
Cases Reinstated	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
Cases on Register at 31/12/51 ...	149	128	277	40	40	80	357

I attribute much of the increase in numbers to transfers from the Newcastle Register of cases (17) re-housed in Benton Lane from Newcastle.

Longbenton Urban District Council.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

for the year ended 31st December, 1951.

Dear Dr. Cunningham,

I beg to submit my report on the Sanitary and Housing Departments for the year 1951.

HOUSING.—Our records of re-housing in 1951 show that considerable progress was made, the Council were able to build beyond the zonal figure and a total of 183 new houses were occupied. In addition, notices to quit were received in respect of a further 23 houses, 4 of which were allocated to Ministry of National Insurance Employees. During the allocation of new and of houses which became vacant, tenancies were arranged so as to use them to best advantage.

We were able to effect improved conditions for no less than 312 families.

The Committee used 24 of the houses available to re-house families from clearance areas or individual unfit houses and one requisitioned army camp was vacated and demolished. The families in this camp had all been housed therein originally from our Points Allocation Scheme—19 houses were necessary for this scheme.

The following table shows the numbers of houses allocated to the various types of applicants :—

POINTS SCHEME.

Categories	A	B	C	D	Total
	60	31	55	25	171

OTHERS—

Exchanges ...	...	...	...	...	106
Clearance Areas ...	...	...	...	...	24
Eviction Orders, etc	...	...	...	...	7
Ministry of National Insurance ...	...	...	...	...	4

312

Newcastle Corporation were able to occupy 138 houses on the Benton Lane Estate, these houses are under the control of the Corporation and for the re-housing of families from within the City boundaries.

The following table shows the fluctuation of the number of applicants for Council houses between 1/4/49 and 31/12/51 :

CATEGORY ' A '	1/4/49	1/9/49	1/5/50	1/1/51	1/1/52
Applicants with houses of their own residing in overcrowded conditions	282	261	255	212	236
CATEGORY ' B '					
Applicants without homes of their own and residing in overcrowded conditions	225	240	213	103	150
CATEGORY ' C '					
Applicants without homes of their own but not overcrowded	449	481	503	376	446
CATEGORY ' D '					
Normal applicants desiring improved housing accommodation but not overcrowded	477	575	615	582	666
	1433	1557	1586	1273	1498

It will be noted that there has been an increase of 225 applicants although 228 were removed during the year from the lists owing to re-housing and withdrawals, making a total of new housing applications received during the year to be 453. A large proportion of these are however, applicants who did not renew their applications when asked to do so on the 1st January, 1951, and, therefore, were not included in the figures at that date.

An amendment was made in our Points Scheme so as to bring certain numbers such as $4\frac{1}{2}$ units in 3 rooms and $6\frac{1}{2}$ units in 4 rooms into Categories A and B and now being styled to be overcrowded, although not legally overcrowded under the Housing Act.

WHITLEY ROAD CAMP.

The permanent Military Camp at Whitley Road, which was unofficially occupied by "squatters" in September 1946, still remains occupied by 31 families. Huts becoming vacant since this Camp was taken over by the Council have been allocated by the Council where extreme housing conditions were found which could not be dealt with under the points scheme. An attempt is now being made to prevent any further occupation of huts which become vacant, but it is likely that this camp will have to be kept in use for a considerable period. A few of the families residing in this camp have already been tenants in Council houses and it is unlikely that the Council will agree to their being given further tenancies.

A survey has been made of all the Council houses in the area when it was noted that out of a total of 2,197 houses, 59 were found to be overcrowded. 17 of these were overcrowded because of there being more than one family in the house, mostly a son or daughter and their respective spouse and children residing with parents, leaving the small number of 42 houses over-crowded by one family alone. These were 6 two-, 31 three-, and 5 four-bedroomed houses.

There are a large number of houses which are not fully occupied and the Committee has given instructions for the Department to try to arrange suitable exchanges so as to abate this overcrowding.

OVERCROWDING.

Six very bad cases of new overcrowding were found during the year. Abatement was affected following letters which were sent prior to statutory action being taken.

REPAIR OF PRIVATELY OWNED HOUSES.

It is to be noted from the details given in tables Nos. 1, 2 and 3, that a considerable amount of work has been carried out in the repair of privately owned houses. 112 houses were repaired without the service of Statutory Notices. It was necessary to serve Notices under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936, in respect of 43 houses, in 6 instances the owners carried out the work and in 28 specifications were prepared and tenders were obtained by advertisement and the work done by builders on behalf of the Council. The work was supervised by the Department and the final costs charged to the owners. In 20 of the latter 28, however, the work was not wholly completed before the end of the year although the tenders had been let and the contractors had commenced with the work, but had been held up by frost.

It was necessary to deal with 115 houses under the Public Health Act for housing defects, 77 notices were complied with by the owners and 32 by the Council similarly to those under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936. Contracts amounting to £1,773 4s. 1d. were let to builders to do work under the Housing and Public Health Acts.

Legal proceedings taken against owners on 21 counts for non-compliance with Abatement Notices served under Section 93 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the abatement of nuisances, convictions were recorded and Nuisance Orders were made on each count.

It has been noted that owners are finding difficulty in engaging builders to do work, largely I think, because the latter prefer new work to work of repair, and also because of the difficulty of owners meeting builder's costs, some preferring the Council to carry out the work in default and then applying for the payment of the account to be spread over a period of years.

SECTIONS 11 AND 12, HOUSING ACT, 1936.

One house was closed under Section 12, and eleven were demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. They were mostly with regard to small cottage property, one individual house, three pairs, and one block of four.

APPLICATIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT GRANT.

Applications were received during the year from three owner-occupiers for an Improvement Grant under Section 20 of the Housing Act, 1949. In two instances the application was duly recommended for approval, one was commenced, but the other had not commenced before the end of the year.

TABLE 1.

	Number of Inspections during year.	Number of Defects or Contraventions of Bye-Laws.	Number of Informal Notices	Defects remedied by Informal Action	Number of Statutory Notices served	Defects remedied after Statutory Notice	Legal Proceedings
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
HOUSING—							
Structural Defects ...	2192	790	112	353	60	308	—
Defective Food Store ...		10	1	4		4	21
Dampness ...		250	33	84		91	—
Overcrowding ...		6	6	5		—	—
WATER SUPPLY—							
Insufficient ...	408	73	12	62	8	6	—
Unsatisfactory ...		6	6	6	1	2	—
DRAINAGE							
Insufficient ...	242	73	14	62	7	6	—
Defective ...		107	46	91	9	22	—
SANITARY CONVENIENCES—							
Insufficient ...	745	1	1	—	1	—	—
Defective ...		170	67	109	33	125	—
Food Premises ...	344	36	19	30	1	—	—
Shops Acts ...	30	23	8	20	—	—	—
Dairies ...	27	—	—	—	—	—	—
Slaughter Houses ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tents, Vans, etc. ...	10	3	3	1	—	—	—
Factories and Workplaces ...	29	15	7	9	3	6	—
Keeping of Animals ...	39	3	3	3	—	—	—
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles ...	114	116	106	88	1	5	—
Offensive Accumulations ...	10	3	3	3	—	—	—
Smoke Nuisances ...	50	32	16	12	3	9	—
TOTAL	4243	1717	463	942	127	584	21

TABLE II.
HOUSING.

TABULAR STATEMENT FOR YEAR 1951.

Houses Completed during the Year	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By Local Authority—			
Permanent ...	181	—	181
Temporary ...	—	—	—
(b) By other Bodies or Persons			
Permanent ...	138	17	155
Temporary ...	—	—	—

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :
 - (1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 282
 - (2) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 11
 - (3) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 270
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 ... 112
3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS :—
 - (A) *Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.*
 - (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 43
 - (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By Owners ... 6
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... 8

(B) *Proceedings under Public Health Acts.*

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	115
(2)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—					
(a)	By Owners	...	...	...	...	77
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	...	...	...	...	32
						— 109

(C) *Proceedings under Section 11 and 12 of Housing Act, 1936.*

(1)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	11
(2)	Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	26
(3)	Number of dwelling houses closed but not demolished (Housing Act, 1949. Sec. 3.)	...	...	...	...	—

(D) *Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.*

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

4.	NUMBER OF HOUSES PERMANENTLY DISCONTINUED AS DWELLINGS AND NOT INCLUDED ABOVE (Army Huts)	21
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HOUSING ACT, 1949. (Sec. 20).

(a)	Number of separate dwelling houses in respect of which applications for grant have been received	3
(b)	Number of separate dwelling houses in respect of which applications for grant have been approved	...	...	...	...	2

TABLE III.

SUMMARY OF WORK EFFECTED.

	By Informal Action	By Statutory Notice	Total
SANITARY CONVENIENCES— ...			
Privies and Privy Ashpits abolished	—	—	—
" " " " repaired	—	—	—
Pail-Closets abolished ...	—	—	—
Water-Closets provided ...	57	40	97
Number of above for which grant was given, P.H.A. 1936, S. 47	—	—	—
Sanitary Bins provided ...	—	—	—
Sanitary Bins renewed ...	88	5	93
DRAINAGE—			
New Drains constructed ...	62	6	68
Drains repaired or reconstructed ...	78	13	91
Additional Gullies provided ...	62	9	71
Old Gullies replaced ...	9	1	10
Scullery Sinks provided ...	62	6	68
Scullery Waste Pipes repaired ...	4	9	13
Scullery Waste Pipes trapped ...	—	—	—
Yards repaired or reconstructed ...	13	13	26
WATER SUPPLY—			
Sources closed or discontinued	11	No. of houses	... 2
New services provided—			
(a) By Local Authority ...	—	No. of houses	... 2
(b) By Private Owner ...	—	No. of Houses	... 66
Number of Dwelling Houses supplied by—			
(a) internal tap or ...	7754		
(b) standpipe ...	205		
(c) standpipe in yard ...	271		

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

Further progress was made to have water supply in pipes provided to houses which were previously drawing from stand-pipes either in the yard or in the street. In 62 instances the Council were able to have the inside water supply, together with sinks and additional drainage provided without recourse to Statutory Notices, but in eight instances Statutory Notices were served, in four of them the owners did the work, and in other two the Council did the work in default of the owners and charged the costs.

Further schemes have been mooted and it is hoped before the end of the year to have all houses which are drawing water from taps in the streets provided with an inside water supply with the exception of those which are expected to be included in clearance areas in the not too distant future. The proportion of houses now drawing water from common taps as compared with those with inside water supplies has been further reduced by :

1. the erection of new houses which are all provided with inside water supply, sinks and baths,
2. the new inside supplies provided,
3. the demolition of houses in clearance areas where the supply was from a standpipe in the street.

The following table shows the position with regard to water supplies, sinks, baths and w.c.'s, for the whole area. It is to be noted that the houses now drawing water from standpipes in the street have been reduced to 3.3%.

Houses	No. of Houses with						
	Baths	Sinks	Inside Water Supply only	Yard Tap	Common Tap	W.C.s.	E.C's.
8,230	5,757	7,397	263	205	271	8,202	28

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER.

Eight samples of water were submitted for bacteriological examination during the year, all were reported absence of B.coli in 100 m.l., and were satisfactory.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Our records show that only 28 houses are not connected to the water carriage system. Some of these houses are included in potential clearance areas and others are on isolated farms where sewerage facilities are not available.

ASHBINS.

Informal notices were served for the replacement of 116 insanitary ashbins. In only one instance was it necessary to serve a Statutory Notice under Section 75 of the Act.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No cases of pollution of streams were noted during the year.

DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD.

It was necessary on two occasions for the Department to make arrangements for the burial of persons who were reputed to be without means. In each instance we were able to find certain assets which, whilst not covering the whole of the cost, was a material contribution towards the same.

ERADICATION OF THE BED BUG.

The District is comparatively free from bad infestations of the bed bug. All complaints are investigated and, if necessary, work is carried out by Council workmen and a charge made against either (1) the landlord in the case of an empty house or (2) the tenant in the case of an occupied house. Where the tenant is willing to carry out the work himself he is allowed the free use of the sprayer and a charge is made for the solution provided. We are still carrying out treatment of all furniture moved into Council houses whether from slum clearance areas or from normal allocation of Council houses, it being a requirement of the Council that all furniture must be treated prior to removal, but during this treatment it has been noted that there is a very small percentage, even of the old houses, badly infested with vermin. In instances where it is found necessary, second and third treatments are given in the new houses, following the initial treatment before the furniture leaves the old house. The solution used is D.D.T. in Kerosene and it has been found that this preparation is very effective.

TENTS, VANS, AND SHEDS.

Licences are held by occupiers of three trailer caravans stationed in the district. All have adequate water supply and sanitary accommodation.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Bye-laws.—Enforcement of the bye-laws for securing the observation of sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food for sale for human consumption resulted in the service of informal notices on two premises where dirty conditions were noted. These matters were put in order without recourse to formal action.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN.

More progress was made during the year with the Food Traders' Guild of Hygiene and nineteen certificates of membership were granted out of a total of 38 applications. Nine applications were rejected and ten deferred pending alterations. There are other shops in the district with a very high standard of cleanliness, but, because of the refusal of their staffs to wear suitable head coverings, they have not been able to apply for membership. In one or two instances talks have been given to the staffs with success.

TABLE IV.
FOOD INSPECTION.

Unsound Food				Sur-rendered	Seized	Legal Pro-ceedings
1.	Beef (Home-Killed)	...stones		15½	—	—
2.	Beef (Imported)	... "		—	—	—
3.	Mutton (Home-Killed)	... "		—	—	—
4.	Mutton (Imported)	... "		—	—	—
5.	Pork (Home-Killed)	... "		—	—	—
6.	Pork (Imported)...	... "		—	—	—
7.	Game	... lbs.		—	—	—
8.	Poultry	... "		—	—	—
9.	Fish	... "		—	—	—
10.	Fruit	Lbs. or cases		—	—	—
11.	Canned Goods	... Tins		1219	—	—
12.	Bacon	... lbs.		16	—	—
13.	Cheese	... "		36	—	—
14.	Butter	... "		24½	—	—
15.	Lard	... "		—	—	—
16.	Eggs	... "		—	—	—
17.	Macaroni	... "		8	—	—

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

The principle adopted during the war of slaughtering only in Government controlled slaughterhouses in Newcastle area and, only in an emergency, slaughter taking place in the district was still in operation during 1951. The meat is allocated to the Longbenton Butcher's Pool and loaded into vehicles at the slaughterhouse, transported and unloaded at the West Moor Co-operative Slaughterhouse where it is weighed, allocated to the butchers concerned, loaded into butchers' vans and taken to the butchers' shops. I have reported on previous occasions with regard to this extra handling of meat which mitigates against the appearance and the keeping quality of the meat. The Committee of the Master Butchers' Association and the Department work in close harmony and any suggestions made are willingly accepted.

COTTAGERS' PIGS.

The practice of previous years of notifying the Department of all licences issued for the slaughter of cottagers' pigs by the Food Office was stopped and, therefore, it was only in instances where the cottager or the butcher informed the Department were we aware that slaughter was taking place.

In all instances which were drawn to the notice of the Department inspections were carried out. Only a small amount of meat was found to be diseased. Generally, cottagers and farmers slaughtering pigs for their own use are very desirous to have their animals examined by a qualified inspector at the time of slaughter.

THE MILK AND DIARIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

The following are the registrations now kept by the Council under the above regulations :

Number of premises used as dairies within the district not being dairy farms	6
Number of persons registered as distributors ...	26

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of Dealers' Licences to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" in relation to milk sold from premises within the district	6
Number of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" in relation to milk retailed within the district	3
Number of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation "Accredited" in relation to milk retailed within the district	—

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of Dealers' Licences to use the special designation "Pasteurised" in relation to milk sold from premises within the district	6
Number of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation "Pasteurised" in relation to milk retailed within the district	5
Number of Dealers' Licences to use the special designation "Sterilised" in relation to milk sold from premises within the district	14

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF MILK.

Samples of milk from each supply were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for Bacteriological Examination and Biological Test. The detailed tables show the results of the sampling for the year.

UNGRADED MILK.

Examination	Satisfactory	Un-satisfactory	Total	% Satisfactory
Methylene Blue Test	16	10	26	61.5
Coliform Test ...	8	—	8	100
B. Tuberculosis ...	24	1	25	96.1

TUBERCULIN TESTED MILK.

Examination	Satisfactory	Un-satisfactory	Total	% Satisfactory
Methylene Blue Test	7	1	8	87.5
Coliform Test ...	3	1	4	75
B. Tuberculosis ...	4	—	4	100

PASTEURISED AND TUBERCULIN TESTED PASTEURISED MILK.

Examination	Satisfactory	Un-satisfactory	Total	% Satisfactory
Methylene Blue Test	12	—	12	100
Phosphatase Test ...	12	—	12	100

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF ICE CREAM.

During the summer months regular sampling of ice cream has been made, trying as far as possible to have samples from each different trader although some difficulty was experienced with the occasional vendors where regular sampling proved impossible. Visits were made and advice given to the local producer after indifferent results to samples taken from his premises and improvement was immediately apparent as subsequent samples were placed in grade 1.

PRODUCER	SAMPLES	RESULTS AND GRADES.
A.	5	1.1.1.1.1.
B.	4	2.4.1.1. Local Producer
C.	4	2.1.1.1.
D.	4	1.1.3.2.
E.	4	1.1.1.1.
F.	2	1.4.
G.	3	1.2.1.
H.	1	2.
I.	1	1.
J.	3	1.2.1.
K.	1	4.
L.	1	1.

Sanitary Inspectors of the districts from which the unsatisfactory samples were produced were informed of the Bacteriologists' Reports.

Four samples of Iced Lollies were also taken during the year and all were satisfactory, being placed in grade 1.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

The Council's fleet of five refuse collection vehicles was further augmented in October by the delivery of a new S. & D. Fore and Aft Tipper. This extra machine was necessary owing to the large number of new houses which have been provided by the Newcastle Corporation in the Longbenton Area and by this Council's building programme. It was found during the heaviest period of the year, from November to March, that we were able to maintain a regular service of collection at least once a week in the residential districts and twice in the mining areas.

STATISTICS.

I beg to append below statistics with reference to the refuse collected. The figures are based upon the estimated population for mid 1951, 28,360.

HOUSE REFUSE ONLY.

Estimated quantity removed...	...	...	18,842 tons.
Approximate average weight per house	...	...	2.28 tons.
Average quantity per house per annum	...	...	6.7 cu. yds.
Average per 1,000 population per day (365 days)	...	...	36.7 cwts.

Total cost of collection (Refuse and Salvage)	...	13,555
Cost of Disposal	... ..	992
Payment to men when sick	... ..	169
Total Scavenging costs	... ..	14,716
Less Income from Salvage, etc.	... ..	3,592
Nett Scavenging Cost	... ..	11,124
<hr/>		
		£ s. d.
Cost per house	... ..	1 7 0·3
Cost per head population	... ..	7 10·1
Cost on rates in the £	... ..	1 8·2

DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

It is necessary in this area to use three separate tips owing to the scattered nature of the district and to the high ash content and correspondingly heavy nature of the refuse collected.

The three tips used in 1951 were :

1. *Burradon Quarry* which still has sufficient space for a number of years to take the refuse from Annitsford, Burradon and Dudley.
2. *Wideopen Quarry*. This quarry was purchased by the Council with the intention of eventually making it into a park and open space for this part of the district. There is still sufficient space for a further $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 years.
3. *Old Moor Colliery*. In this instance the tip is in the nature of a reclamation scheme of land which has subsided owing to mining operations. It is bogged and full of reeds and can only be tipped in one layer. An agreement has been drawn up between the Gosforth Urban District Council and this Council for the joint use of the tip, the actual work of control being carried out by this Council, and Gosforth paying 50% of the whole of the costs.

ANGLEDIZER.

The Council have purchased a Bristol 20 Angledozer for use on their tips, especially on Whitley Road where the refuse from Gosforth and the residential part of Longbenton is very bulky and has a very low ash content. We are finding that this machine is admirable for the work and is of a size which can be transported by an ordinary platform wagon to either of the other tips or any site at which it is required.

Tipping only takes place at alternate times on the Burradon Quarry and Wideopen Quarry and a man is in attendance whilst tipping is taking place and all tipping is carried out on strictly controlled lines. The tips are kept very free from rats and any outbreaks of fire are quickly dealt with by the angledozer.

The tips are sprayed with Gammazene at frequent intervals so as to prevent flies, cockroaches or crickets.

TRADE REFUSE.

The Council make a charge of 3d. per bin for the removal of trade refuse from wholly business premises. In the case of a house and shop, one bin is removed free of charge and a charge is made for any additional bins. The shopkeepers have objected to the payment of accounts quarterly for the removal of trade refuse, and a ticket system has now been put into operation whereby tickets equivalent to the number of bins collected are handed to the collectors at the time of collection.

SALVAGE.

Our collection of waste paper during the year increased from 177 tons to 206 tons 5½ cwts. We were able to sell 3 tons 17 cwts of clean rags, and 13 tons 16¾ cwts. of scrap iron in addition to small quantities of non-ferrous metals. These materials were sold for £3,132 13s. 11d., which was offset against the scavenging costs.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

During the year one full treatment and one maintenance treatment was carried out to the sewers in the district. Very few "takes" were noted showing that our sewers are comparatively free from rats. Sewerage disposal works and refuse tips are kept under strict observation and any complaints received are immediately investigated and treatments given. Any investigations in connection with business premises are charged to the occupiers.

Yours faithfully,

WILLIAM N. LOCKEY,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

