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Contributors

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Longbenton
Urban District Council

County of Northumberland

ANNUAL REPORTS

FOR THE YEAR

1961

OF

A. W. HAY

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

Medical Officer of Health

AND

WILLIAM N. LOCKEY

C.S.I.B., Certified Meat Inspector

Senior Public Health Inspector



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OFFICERS OF THE DEPARTMENT.

| <i>Office</i> | <i>Officer</i> | <i>Qualifications</i> |
|------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Medical Officer of Health... | ARTHUR W. HAY | M.B., B.S., D.P.H. |
| Senior Public Health Inspector | WILLIAM N. LOCKEY | M.A.P.H.I., Cert.S.I.B., Meat and Food Inspector's Cert., Sanitary Science Cert., R.S.H. |
| Additional Public Health Inspector | ROBERT P. BRUCE | M.A.P.H.I., Cert.S.I.B., Meat and Food Inspector's Cert., Smoke Inspector's Cert. R.S.H. |
| " " " | NEIL W. CROSBY | M.A.P.H.I., P.H.I.E.B., Meat & Food Inspector's Diploma R.S.H. |

Longbenton Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

ARTHUR W. HAY

for the year ended 31st December, 1961.

To the Chairman and Members of the

Longbenton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Report on the state of the Public Health of the district for the year preceding the 31st December, 1961. The size of the population remains approximately the same, although the number of inhabited houses has increased from 14,190 to 14,302. The birth and death rates remain approximately the same, but I am pleased to report a further drop in the number of infants who died during the first year of life. Last year the figure for every thousand births was 17.54; this year it has dropped to 15.29, which is not only the lowest rate ever recorded in the district, but it is substantially below the national rate of infantile mortality. This result is undoubtedly brought about by improved standards of medical and nursing care, as well as better health education of the mother. These factors also contribute to the improvement in the maternal mortality, which this year is Nil, not a single death having occurred in connection with child birth.

The incidence of infectious disease was low, except for the usual epidemic of measles, which comes in two-yearly waves. However, although 1,096 cases of measles occurred, there were few complications and no deaths. In fact, no deaths occurred from any of the common infectious diseases and only one from Tuberculosis. No case of Poliomyelitis occurred in the area during the year, but immunisation against the disease was continued. It is pleasing to report that after an extensive and prolonged campaign, 95 per cent. of children of school age are now immunised against Poliomyelitis.

Turning to causes of death, Coronary Thrombosis remains the largest killing disease, and it is interesting to note the difference in the number of deaths from this disease in males and females. During the year, 52 males died from Coronary Thrombosis, but only 17 females died from the same cause. The reason for the difference is so far unexplained. A large difference in the death rates is also seen in the figures for Cancer of the Lung, which caused the deaths of 12 males, but only 1 female. The difference here may be almost certainly explained by the difference in smoking habits between the sexes. There is undoubtedly a strong connection between cigarette smoking and the onset of Cancer of the lung.

Re-housing still continues to be a problem in the district, and large numbers of medical certificates are submitted to the Housing Department each year, in support of claims for Council houses. Each case is discussed in detail by the Housing Officer and myself, but priority can only be given to a small proportion of the hundreds of applications. This priority is usually reserved for cases of Tuberculosis or similar conditions, where re-housing is urgent, to protect the health of other persons as well as help in the recovery of the sick person. The public should know that those who obtain medical certificates for relatively minor or temporary medical conditions, are wasting the time of both Doctors and Housing Officers.

I would like to conclude by expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued interest in public health problems, and also to thank Mr. Lockey and the Staff of the Health Department for their continued co-operation throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

A. W. HAY,

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 1961 | 47,070 |
| Number of inhabited houses (31/3/62) according to Rate Book | 14,302 |
| Rateable Value (1/4/62) | £440,059 |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate (1962/63) ... | £1,754 |

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 | ... | ... | 414 | 402 | 816 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | 21 | 13 | 34 |
| | | | <hr/> 435 | <hr/> 415 | <hr/> 850 |
| Still Births—Legitimate | ... | ... | 15 | 6 | 21 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| | | | <hr/> 15 | <hr/> 6 | <hr/> 21 |
| DEATHS. | | | 212 | 192 | 404 |

Comparability Factors:—

| | | | | | |
|--|-------|-------|-----------|-------|--|
| Births | ... | ... | ... | 0.86 | |
| Deaths | ... | ... | ... | 1.55 | |
| Live Births per 1,000 Population | ... | 18.05 | corrected | 15.52 | |
| Still births per 1,000 Live and Still Births | 24.11 | „ | | 20.73 | |

DEATH RATE.

| | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------|---|-------|
| The Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population | ... | ... | 8.58 | „ | 13.29 |
|---|-----|-----|------|---|-------|

| DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES | Deaths | Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still Births) |
|------------------------------|--------|--|
| Puerperal Sepsis | ... | — |
| Other Maternal Causes | ... | — |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | — | — |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR
OF AGE

| | | | | | Male | Female | Total |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|----------|-----------|
| Legitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 | 5 | 13 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| | | | | | <u>8</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>13</u> |

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS
OF AGE

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|----------|----------|
| Legitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 | 2 | 8 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| | | | | | <u>6</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>8</u> |

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 WEEK OF AGE

| | | | | | | | |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------|----------|----------|
| Legitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | 5 | 2 | 7 |
| Illegitimate | ... | ... | ... | ... | — | — | — |
| | | | | | <u>5</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>7</u> |

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

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-------|
| All Infants per 1,000 Live Births | ... | ... | ... | 15.29 |
| Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births | | | | 15.93 |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births | | | | — |

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

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|------|
| All Infants per 1,000 Live Births | ... | ... | ... | 9.41 |
| Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births | | | | 9.80 |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births | | | | — |

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

| | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|------|
| All Infants per 1,000 Live Births | ... | ... | ... | 8.23 |
| Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births | | | | 8.57 |
| Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births | | | | — |

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Deaths from Cancer (all ages) | ... | ... | ... | 76 |
| Deaths from Measles (all ages) | ... | ... | ... | — |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough | ... | ... | ... | — |

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE LONGBENTON AREA, 1961.

| Causes of Death | | | | | | Males | Females |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------|---------|
| All Causes | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 212 | 192 |
| 1—Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | ... | | | | | 1 | — |
| 2—Other forms of Tuberculosis | ... | | | | | — | — |
| 3—Syphilitic diseases | ... | | | | | — | — |
| 4—Diphtheria... | ... | | | | | — | — |
| 5—Whooping Cough | ... | | | | | — | — |
| 6—Meningococcal infections... | ... | | | | | — | — |
| 7—Acute Poliomyelitis | ... | | | | | — | — |
| 8—Measles | ... | | | | | — | — |
| 9—Other infective and parasitic diseases | ... | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| 10—Cancer of stomach | ... | | | | | 9 | 7 |
| 11—Cancer of lung and bronchus | ... | | | | | 12 | 1 |
| 12—Cancer of breast | ... | | | | | — | 8 |
| 13—Cancer of uterus | ... | | | | | — | 2 |
| 14—Cancer of all other sites | ... | | | | | 25 | 12 |
| 15—Leukaemia, aleukaemia | ... | | | | | — | 1 |
| 16—Diabetes | ... | | | | | — | 3 |
| 17—Vascular lesions of nervous system | ... | | | | | 26 | 38 |
| 18—Coronary disease, angina | ... | | | | | 52 | 17 |
| 19—Hypertension with heart disease | ... | | | | | 1 | 8 |
| 20—Other heart disease | ... | | | | | 25 | 39 |
| 21—Other circulatory disease | ... | | | | | 6 | 7 |
| 22—Influenza | ... | | | | | — | 1 |
| 23—Pneumonia | ... | | | | | 6 | 3 |
| 24—Bronchitis | ... | | | | | 21 | 9 |
| 25—Other diseases of respiratory system | ... | | | | | 1 | — |
| 26—Ulcer of stomach and duodenum | ... | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 27—Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea | ... | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| 28—Nephritis and nephrosis | ... | | | | | 1 | 3 |
| 29—Hyperplasia of prostate | ... | | | | | — | — |
| 30—Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion | ... | | | | | — | — |
| 31—Congenital malformations | ... | | | | | 2 | 2 |
| 32—Other defined and ill-defined diseases | ... | | | | | 13 | 18 |
| 33—Motor vehicle accidents | ... | | | | | 4 | — |
| 34—All other accidents | ... | | | | | 3 | 5 |
| 35—Suicide | ... | | | | | 1 | 4 |
| 36—Homicide and operations of war | ... | | | | | — | — |

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

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 |
| 78.3 | 85.22 | 87.3 | 70.27 | 51.9 | 85.7 | 60.6 | 51.8 | 61.1 |
| 1944 | 1945 | 1946 | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 | 1952 |
| 35.95 | 76.54 | 35.95 | 36.68 | 43.68 | 38.87 | 31.47 | 25.80 | 38.31 |
| 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 |
| 23.76 | 24.41 | 35.18 | 20.40 | 16.52 | 18.18 | 27.71 | 17.54 | 15.29 |

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, 1961.

| NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|--------------|----------------|----------------|-------------------|----------|--------|--------------------|
| | Age Group | | | | | | | | | | Hospital | Deaths | |
| | At all Ages (1960) | U'der 1 year | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 to 9 | 10 to 14 | 15 to 24 | 25 and over | | | Age not k'wn |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Scarlet Fever | 15 (11) | — | — | 4 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 1 | — | — | — | |
| Whooping Cough | 13 (2) | 1 | 2 | 2 | — | 4 | 3 | 1 | — | — | — | — | |
| Measles | 1096 (10) | 34 | 136 | 144 | 171 | 166 | 439 | 4 | 2 | — | — | — | |
| Pneumonia | 4 (10) | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | — | 9 | |
| Erysipelas | 3 (—) | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | — | — | |
| Food Poisoning | 3 (—) | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | |
| Dysentery | 2 (8) | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | |
| Meningococcal Infection | 1 (—) | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | |
| TOTAL | 1137 (41) | 36 | 139 | 151 | 172 | 171 | 446 | 11 | 3 | 8 | 1 | 9 | |

The following table shows the number of bacteriological specimens from the Longbenton Area examined in the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle, during 1961.

| Examination Requested. | Positive | Negative. | Total. |
|----------------------------------|----------|-----------|--------|
| Vincent's Angina | — | 1 | 1 |
| Diphtheria | — | 12 | 12 |
| Haemolytic Strep. | 2 | 10 | 12 |
| Tuberculosis Sputa | 2 | — | 2 |
| Enteric and Dysentery Groups ... | 16 | 148 | 164 |
| Staphylococcus Aureus | 1 | — | 1 |
| | 21 | 171 | 192 |

TUBERCULOSIS, 1961.—The following Tables are self explanatory :—

| | NEW CASES NOTIFIED FORM A | | | | DEATHS | | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|----|---------------|----|-----------|----|---------------|----|
| | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Under 5 years ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 5 to 14 years ... | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| 15 to 24 years ... | 2 | 2 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| 25 to 44 years ... | 2 | 5 | 1 | 4 | — | — | — | — |
| 45 to 64 years ... | 2 | 3 | — | — | 1 | 1* | — | — |
| | | | | | 2* | | | |
| 65 years and over | 1 | — | — | — | 2* | — | — | — |
| Age not known ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Totals | 7 | 11 | 1 | 5 | 5 | 1 | — | — |

*Cases removed from register but principal cause of death not given as Tuberculosis.

CASES TRANSFERRED INTO AREA.

| | Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | |
|--------------------|-----------|----|---------------|----|
| | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| Under 5 years ... | — | — | — | — |
| 5 to 14 years ... | 1 | 1 | — | — |
| 15 to 24 years ... | 1 | 4 | — | — |
| 25 to 44 years ... | 6 | 6 | — | — |
| 45 to 64 years ... | 2 | 1 | — | — |
| 65 years and over | — | — | — | — |
| Age not known | 1 | — | — | — |
| | 11 | 12 | — | — |

PARTICULARS OF TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER
as at 31st December, 1961.

| | Pulmonary | | | Non-Pulmonary | | | Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----|-------|---------------|----|-------|-----------------------------|
| | M. | F. | Total | M. | F. | Total | Total |
| Cases on Register at 1/1/61 ... | 299 | 293 | 592 | 46 | 52 | 98 | 690 |
| New Cases ... | 7 | 11 | 18 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 24 |
| Cases transferred into area ... | 11 | 12 | 23 | — | — | — | 23 |
| Cases Reinstated | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Cases Removed | 20 | 19 | 39 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 42 |
| Cases on Register at 31/12/61 ... | 297 | 297 | 594 | 46 | 55 | 101 | 695 |

SECTION C.

1. WATER SUPPLY.

- (i) The water supply for the area during the last year has been satisfactory and water for the district is supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company. 40 samples were taken for bacteriological examination and only one showed presence of 1 coli-form bacilli per 100 ml.

- (ii) *Drainage and Sewerage*—
There have been no extensive alterations to drainage or sewerage during the year.

2. (i) *Rivers and Streams*—
No action has been necessary during the year.

- (ii) *Public Cleansing*—See Senior Public Health Inspector's Report.

- (iii) *Sanitary Inspection of the Area*—See Senior Public Health Inspector's Report for details.

- (iv) *Shops and Offices*—
Periodical visits are made to shops, especially food shops in the area.

- (v) *Camping Sites*—
There are two individual caravans only licensed in the area.
- (vi) *Clean Air Act, 1946*—
Up to date nothing has been done to implement the above as regards the formation of Smoke Control Areas.
- (vii) *Swimming Baths and Pools*—
There are no swimming baths in the area.
- (viii) *Eradication of the Bed Bug*—
See Senior Public Health Inspector's Report.
- (ix) *Head Lice*—No special treatment was given.
Body Lice—One case of body lice was found and treated during the year.

SCHOOLS.

All schools in the area are provided with a sufficient and suitable water supply from the mains supply together with a water carriage system of sanitary accommodation. Periodical inspections are made of all schools and particular attention paid to those schools provided with school meals facilities, including kitchens.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

The figures produced by the Housing Manager and the Senior Public Health Inspector show the extensive work carried out in the use of new Council houses, 49 were allocated to re-house from Slum Clearance Areas.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

- (a) *Milk Supply*—
Designated milk, viz., T.T. Raw, Pasteurised or Sterilised are only retailed in this area.
- (b) *Meat and Other Food*—
Details of the work done in meat inspection are given in this report of the Senior Public Health Inspector.
- (c) *Adulteration*—
This service is administered by the Northumberland County Council.

- (d) *Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food*—
Samples of ice cream only were taken by this department for Bacteriological Examination.
- (e) *Nutrition*—
Talks are given to young mothers in Child Welfare Clinics.
- (f) *Shellfish (Molluscan)*—
There are no shellfish beds or layings in this area. Shellfish is rarely sold in the district.

LONGBENTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year ended 31st December, 1961

To the Chairman and Members of the
LONGBENTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my report for the Public Health and Refuse Collection Departments for the year 1961.

HOUSING.

Details, showing the number of families re-housed during 1961 and the numbers still remaining on the Housing Applications List, have been kindly supplied by the Housing Manager.

The following Table shows the number of houses allocated to the various types of applicants:

POINTS SCHEME.

| | | | | | |
|--------------|----|---|----|----------|-------|
| Categories : | A | B | C | D & O.P. | Total |
| | 28 | 1 | 68 | 53 | 150 |

OTHERS.

| | | |
|--|--------|-----|
| Exchanges to abate overcrowding | ... | 124 |
| Slum Clearance | | 49 |
| Eviction Orders and Special Allocation | ... | 6 |
| Transfer of Tenancy | | 43 |
| | | 222 |

The following table shows the fluctuation of the number of applicants for Council Houses between 1/4/49 and 1/4/62 :--

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-----|------|------|------|-----|
| CATEGORY 'A.' Applicants with homes of their own and residing in overcrowded conditions | 282 | 225 | 212 | 236 | 205 | 116 | 98 | 86 | 55 | 32 | 39 | 50 | 50 | 27 |
| CATEGORY 'B.' Applicants without homes of their own and residing in overcrowded conditions | 225 | 213 | 103 | 150 | 138 | 24 | 15 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 5 | 11 | 15 |
| CATEGORY 'C.' Applicants without homes of their own but not over- crowded | 449 | 503 | 376 | 446 | 532 | 465 | 550 | 484 | 411 | 183 | 397 | 353 | 379 | 200 |
| CATEGORY 'D.' Normal applicants desiring improved hous- ing accommo- dation but not overcrowded | 477 | 615 | 582 | 666 | 740 | 717 | 761 | 722 | 765 | 431 | 557 | 604 | 586 | 571 |
| | 1433 | 1586 | 1273 | 1498 | 1615 | 1322 | 1424 | 1298 | 1235 | 653 | 1001 | 1021 | 1026 | 813 |

SLUM CLEARANCE PROGRAMME.

The tenants of 16 of the houses included in the Clearance Areas confirmed in 1959 had not been re-housed at the end of the year but houses were in course of construction for that purpose. Re-housing took place from the following houses which were dealt with as Individual Unfit Houses and Demolition Orders made or the houses closed.

| | <i>No. of Houses</i> | |
|---|----------------------|-------------|
| 9, Front Street, Annitsford ... | 1 | Demolished. |
| 6/8, Front Street, Seaton Burn | 2 | " |
| 1-3, Warden Place, Benton ... | 3 | " |
| 1, 2, 3, Town Farm Cottages, Benton | 3 | Closed. |
| 2, 4, 6, Ivy Road, Forest Hall | 3 | " |
| 2, 4, 6, Back Ivy Road, Forest Hall | 3 | " |
| 7, 21, 31, Ivy Road, Forest Hall | 3 | " |
| 16-20, Front Street, Seaton Burn | 3 | Demolished. |
| 48, West Lane, Forest Hall ... | 1 | " |
| "Westgate," Park Drive, Forest Hall | 1 | " |
| 1-12, Church Row, Seaton Burn | 12 | " |
| | <hr/> 35 | |

Preparations were made to deal with 1-8, Bridge Street, 1-11, Railway Row and 28-32, Front Street, Seaton Burn, 29 houses in Ivy Road, Forest Hall and 60 in Palmersville, Forest Hall. Some 67 houses were demolished during the year.

REPAIR OF PRIVATELY OWNED HOUSES.

The policy of securing repairs to private houses by informal action has again been pursued. 42 Informal Notices were served, in one instance it was necessary to serve Statutory Notice, the work being completed by the owner.

RENT ACT, 1957.

It would appear that there is a considerable amount of agreement between the landlords and tenants relative to the carrying out of repairs as no applications were made for Certificates of Disrepair.

TABLE 1.

| | Number of inspections during year. | Number of Defects or Contraventions of Bye-Laws. | Number of Informal Notices served | Defects remedied by Informal Action | Number of Statutory Notices served | Defects remedied after Statutory Notices | Legal Proceedings |
|--|--|---|--|---|--|---|----------------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| HOUSING— | | | | | | | |
| Structural Defects ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Defective Food Store ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Dampness ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Overcrowding ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| WATER SUPPLY— | | | | | | | |
| Insufficient ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Unsatisfactory ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| DRAINAGE | | | | | | | |
| Insufficient ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Unsatisfactory ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| SANITARY CONVENIENCES— | | | | | | | |
| Insufficient ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Unsatisfactory ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Defective Dustbins ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Nuisances, Watercourses and Offensive Accumulations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Tents, Vans, and Sheds ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Infectious Diseases ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Rodent and Pest Control ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Keeping of Animals ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1960— | | | | | | | |
| Public Houses and Food Premises ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Food and Drugs Act, 1955 ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Shops Act ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Milk and Dairies Regulations ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Meat Inspection & Food Inspection & Slaughterhouses (Slaughterhouse Hygiene Regulations). | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Public Cleansing ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Factories Act ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Clean Air Act, 1956 ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Rent Act, 1957 ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Petroleum Regulations ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| Agriculture, Safety Health and Welfare Regulations | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... |
| TOTALS | 6439 | 457 | 230 | 495 | 13 | 21 | — |

TABLE II.
HOUSING.

TABULAR STATEMENT FOR YEAR 1961.

| Houses Completed during the Year | With State Assistance | Unaided | Total |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------|---------|-------|
| By Local Authority | 149 | — | 149 |
| By any other Housing Authority | — | — | — |
| By private persons | — | 54 | 54 |
| Total | 149 | 54 | 203 |

Total number of Inhabited Houses in District, 14,302.

Total number of Houses owned by Local Authority 3,395.

CLOSING AND DEMOLITION OF HOUSES.

A. FORMAL ACTION.

- | | |
|--|----|
| (1) Number of houses demolished during 1961 as a result of Clearance Schemes or other formal action | 67 |
| (Number of houses included in above which were from pre-war confirmed Clearance Areas) ... | — |
| (2) Number of houses <i>closed</i> but not demolished as a result of formal action | 12 |

B. INFORMAL ACTION.

- | | |
|---|---|
| (1) Number of houses permanently discontinued as dwellings as a result of informal action and not included above | — |
| (2) Houses demolished | — |

RECONDITIONING AND REPAIR.

Number of houses made fit during 1961 by procedure under either Housing or Public Health Acts :

- | | |
|---|-----|
| (a) As a result of Informal Action | 112 |
| (b) By owners as a result of statutory notice ... | 1 |
| (c) By Local Authority in default of owners ... | — |

HOUSING (FINANCIAL PROVISIONS) ACT, 1958.
HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959.
IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.

A. *Discretionary Grants.*

| | |
|---|----------|
| 1. Applications submitted to Local Authority during year | 53 |
| 2. Applications rejected by Local Authority during year | — |
| 3. Applications approved by Local Authority during year | 53 |
| 4. Approximate average Grant approved per house | £185-8-0 |
| 5. Total number of houses approved for grant since inception of scheme | 168 |

B. *Standard Grants.*

| | | |
|--|----|----------------------|
| 1. Number of separate houses for which grants were made during year | 19 | Total to Date. 27 |
| 2. Number of houses so provided with— | | |
| (a) Bath or shower | 12 | 16 |
| (b) Washhand basin | 14 | 18 |
| (c) Hot water supply | 13 | 17 |
| (d) Water Closet | 19 | 26 |
| (e) Food Store... .. | 13 | 18 |

INSPECTION OF FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES.

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|--|--------------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| | | Inspections | Written Notices | Occ'piers P'cuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority | 7 | 9 | — | — |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 69 | 84 | 4 | — |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-worker's premises) | 10 | 17 | 2 | — |
| Total | 86 | 110 | 6 | — |

DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES.

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|---|---|----------|-------------------|-------------------|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred | | |
| | | | To H.M. Insp'ctor | By H.M. Insp'ctor | |
| Want of Cleanliness (S.1) | 2 | 1 | — | — | — |
| Overcrowding (S.2) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Inadequate Ventilation (S.4) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | 4 | 2 | — | — | — |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 7 | 3 | — | 1 | — |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | — | — | — | — | — |
| Other Offences (not including offences relating to Homework) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Total | 13 | 6 | — | 1 | — |

TABLE OF OUTWORKERS.

| Nature of Work | No. of outworkers in August List. | No. of cases of default in sending lists to Council. | No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists. | No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises. | Notices served. | Prosecutions. |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|---|-----------------|---------------|
| Wearing Apparel Making, etc. | 8 | — | — | — | — | — |
| All other outworkers | 3 | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTAL | 11 | — | — | — | — | — |

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

It was necessary to serve formal notice, under Section 138 of the Public Health Act, 1936 (as amended by Section 30 of the Water Act, 1945), in one instance only to secure repairs to the water pipes of a dwelling house in the district. Informal procedure resulted in the restoration of a further four supplies to dwelling houses. Notices were served to provide inside supply to two houses.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER.

The regular sampling of domestic water supplies throughout the district was continued, in all some 40 samples were taken : of these one showed signs of slight contamination but this was only localised and check samples showed that this had been rectified.

The number of samples submitted for bacteriological examination, together with the results, are set out below :—

| <i>No. of Samples</i> | <i>Coliform Bacilli per 100 ml.</i> | <i>Bacilli Coli per 100 ml.</i> |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| 39 | Nil | Nil |
| 1 | 1 | Nil |

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are only two dry closets remaining in the district, one is at a farm where drainage is not available and the other at a house scheduled for early Slum Clearance.

Informal action secured in 20 instances the necessary repairs to defective W.Cs. It was, however, necessary to serve two statutory notices, under Section 45 of the Public Health Act, 1936, on the owners of the property to carry out works of repair. The work had not been completed during the year.

ASHBINS.

Informal Action was taken for 80 defective ashbins and in this respect 68 Informal Notices were served. In two instances, however, it was necessary to serve Statutory Notices under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936, to secure the provision of new bins. The Council decided that the notices should be served upon the owners of the property and not on the occupiers.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No action has been necessary.

DISPOSAL OF THE DEAD—NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

It was necessary to arrange for the funeral of a man who had a housekeeper who could not be held responsible for the payment of the costs for so doing. The local branch of the

British Legion, of which the man had been a member, were very co-operative and they did, in fact, pay the Council the amount of the costs which had not been met by his assets.

ERADICATION OF VERMIN.

Few complaints have been received of the presence of vermin and those mostly in relation to cockroaches. We feel that we are having a large number reported because of the amount of success we have been experiencing by our methods. We find that in treating premises (especially those with sprung floors) and giving a secondary treatment within three months so as to kill young hatching out from any eggs left, before they are mature enough to breed, is proving satisfactory. In order to encourage this the Council has agreed to charge 5/- per house for the initial treatment but, if 7/6d. is paid for the initial treatment, a second treatment is given.

Dirty and verminous conditions have been found in three houses which were occupied by four old bachelors and, in one instance, the man was found to be infested with body lice, a condition which has not been noted in this area for the past 25 years. In the other two cases the houses were dirty and infested with fleas and statutory notices were served, under Section 83 of the Public Health Act, 1936. In one case the work was completed by the owner-occupier and in the other we had to do the work and charge the costs of so doing.

The furniture of all tenants moving into Council houses is inspected for bed bugs and, if necessary, treated with a solution of D.D.T. in Kerosene. In all 215 visits were made.

The following table shows the number of treatments given :—

| | No. of Houses Inspected | | No. of Houses Treated by L.A. | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|---------|-------------------------------|---------|
| | Council | Private | Council | Private |
| Furniture Inspections | 34 | 226 | 34 | 215 |
| Cockroaches | 115 | 50 | 114 | 47 |
| Bugs | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Lice | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Wasps | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2 |
| Woodworm | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Cluster Flies | — | 3 | — | 3 |
| Fleas | 1 | 2 | — | 2 |
| Spider Beetles | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Blow Flies | 1 | 2 | — | 2 |
| Clover Mite (Red Spider) | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Moths | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| TOTALS | 161 | 291 | 158 | 277 |

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

There are only two caravans licensed in the area, one is in connection with a market garden, which is a considerable distance from a built-up area and, as the market garden develops, it is anticipated that this will be replaced by a house.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960.

| | | | |
|-------|---|-----|-----|
| (i) | Number of Food Premises in the Area ... | ... | 252 |
| (ii) | Registered Premises ... | ... | 128 |
| (iii) | Number of Inspections of registered premises... | | 302 |

MOBILE SHOPS.

There is a considerable number of mobile shops operating throughout the district, not only on the new estates where new shops have not yet been provided, but in the whole of the district. There appears to be a trend to purchase from the mobile shop rather than make shopping visits. Vans are inspected regularly to see that the Food Hygiene Regulations are being complied with.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.
Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924—1952.

There are three licensed slaughterhouses in the district where regular slaughter takes place.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNATIONS.

| | Cattle excl. Cows | Cows | Calves | Sheep and Lambs | Pigs | Total |
|---|-------------------------|--------|--------|-----------------------|--------|--------|
| Number Killed | 1898 | 364 | 69 | 7355 | 2246 | 11932 |
| Number Inspected | 1898 | 364 | 69 | 7355 | 2246 | 11932 |
| ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | 1 | 1 | 4 | 22 | 3 | 30 |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ... | 689 | 133 | 1 | 125 | 714 | 1662 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci | 36.35% | 36.81% | 7.24% | 2.00% | 32.81% | 14.20% |
| Total weight of meat and offal condemned (lbs.) ... | 8656 | 2306 | 157 | 1363 | 3366 | 15848 |
| TUBERCULOSIS ONLY | | | | | | |
| Whole carcasses condemned | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Carcasses of which some part or organs were condemned | 2 | 2 | — | — | 75 | 79 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis | 0.11% | 0.54% | — | — | 3.34% | 0.66% |
| Total weight of meat and offal condemned (lbs.) | 98 | 72 | — | — | 1021 | 1191 |
| CYSTICERCOSIS | | | | | | |
| Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned | 24 | 3 | — | — | — | 27 |
| Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ... | 1 | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Generalised and totally condemned | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Percentage of Bovine Carcasses inspected affected with C. Bovis. | 1.26% | 0.82% | — | — | — | 1.19% |
| Total weight of meat and offal condemned. (lbs.) | 569 | 90 | — | — | — | 659 |

TABLE IV.
FOOD INSPECTION.

| Unsound Food | | | | Sur-rendered | Seized | Legal Pro-ceedings |
|--------------|----------------------------|-----|------|--------------|--------|--------------------|
| 1. | Beef (Home-Killed) | ... | lbs. | 31 | — | — |
| 2. | Beef (Imported) | ... | " | 194 | — | — |
| 3. | Mutton (Home-Killed) | ... | " | — | — | — |
| 4. | Mutton (Imported) | ... | " | — | — | — |
| 5. | Pork (Home-Killed) | ... | " | 30 | — | — |
| 6. | Pork (Imported) | ... | " | — | — | — |
| 7. | Game | ... | " | — | — | — |
| 8. | Poultry | ... | " | — | — | — |
| 9. | Fish | ... | " | — | — | — |
| 10. | Fruit | ... | " | — | — | — |
| 11. | Canned Goods | ... | Tins | 533 | — | — |
| 12. | Bacon | ... | lbs. | — | — | — |
| 13. | Cheese | ... | " | — | — | — |
| 14. | Butter and Margarine | ... | " | — | — | — |
| 15. | Lard | ... | " | — | — | — |
| 16. | Eggs (frozen and powdered) | ... | " | — | — | — |
| 17. | Flour | ... | " | — | — | — |
| 18. | Sugar | ... | " | — | — | — |
| 19. | Other Foods | ... | " | — | — | — |

THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1959.

THE MILK AND DAIRIES (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS, 1960.

From the 1st January, 1961, the responsibility for licensing and registration of distributors has been transferred to the Food and Drugs Authority for the Area, namely, the Northumberland County Council. All milk sampling is also now the duty of the Northumberland County Council.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF ICE CREAM.

Almost all ice cream sold in the district is pre-wrapped hard frozen. 23 samples were taken for Bacteriological Examination and 22 were certified to be Provisional Grade I. The remaining sample was placed in Provisional Grade II.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Particulars of samples of Food and Drugs taken in the Urban District have been kindly provided by Mr. C. L. Arlidge, County Weights and Measures Inspector.

The following is a list of samples taken :—

| Article. | No. taken | Genuine. | Unsatisfactory |
|-----------------------------|-----------|----------|----------------|
| Milk | 31 | 31 | — |
| Milk (School) ... | 9 | 9 | — |
| Other Samples ... | 114 | 112 | 2 |
| | | 152 | 2 |
| No prosecutions were taken. | | — | — |

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

It is the Council's aim that each bin should be emptied at least once per week. In some 2,717 instances it is necessary to empty the bins twice per week and in 3,632 three times per fortnight. We find that by so doing the teams can return to each bin before it becomes full to the maximum and overflowing as in that instance one man can deal with the bin alone whereas if the bin was full to its limit it would be necessary for two men to handle it.

The Council have continued the system of paying bonus and, the workmen receive the same holidays as the office staff, although in the refuse collection department the extra days are taken in the summer instead of Boxing Day, the day following Easter Monday and Whit Monday which means there are eleven 4-day weeks in the year. As the scheme allows for extra bonus to be paid for the work of five days being done in four, we can overcome the back log from holidays very quickly.

In all some 6,735 loads of refuse were collected and disposed of.

STATISTICS.

I beg to append statistics with reference to the refuse collected. The figures are based upon the estimated population for mid-year 1961—47,070 and 14,684 premises at 31/3/62.

HOUSE REFUSE ONLY.

| | | | |
|--|-----|-----|---------------------|
| Estimated quantity removed | ... | ... | 22,929 tons |
| Approximate average weight per house | ... | ... | 1.55 tons |
| Average quantity per house per annum | ... | ... | 6.13 cu. yds. |
| Average per 1,000 population per day (366 days) | ... | ... | 26.7 cwts. |
| Total cost of collection (Refuse, Salvage and Kitchen Waste) | ... | ... | £29,373 |
| Cost of Disposal | ... | ... | £7,346 |
| | | | <hr/> £36,719 |
| Less Income from Salvage, Tips, Bins, etc. | | | £6,478 |
| Nett Cost—Collection and Disposal | ... | | <hr/> £30,241 <hr/> |

UNIT COSTS.

(Income from Salvage, excluding Kitchen Waste, is credited to Disposal).

| | <i>Collection.</i> | | <i>Disposal.</i> | | <i>Total.</i> | |
|---|--------------------|----|------------------|----|---------------|------|
| | s. | d. | s. | d. | s. | d. |
| Gross cost per ton, labour only | 16 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 19 | 1 |
| Gross cost per ton, transport only | 10 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 11 | 1 |
| Nett cost (all expenditure) | 25 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 26 | 9 |
| | £ | | £ | | £ | |
| Nett cost per 1,000 population | 633 | | 30 | | 663 | |
| Nett cost per 1,000 premises | 2,030 | | 97 | | 2,127 | |
| | | | £ | | s. | d. |
| Average cost per establishment | | | 2 | | 2 | 6 |
| Average cost per head population | | | | | 13 | 0 |
| Cost on the rates in the £ | | | | | 1 | 5.8 |
| Average cost for emptying one bin | | | | | | 7.06 |

DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

The whole of the refuse, and that of Gosforth, has been tipped under strict controlled tipping lines in the Benton Quarry. The tip was sprayed with an insecticide at frequent intervals so as to prevent the spread of flies, cockroaches, crickets, etc., and is examined periodically for rat infestation.

TRADE REFUSE.

Contracts have been made with shopkeepers for an annual charge, payable in advance, of 13/- per bin. Traders invariably object to paying for the removal of trade refuse but, generally, this system works satisfactorily.

SALVAGE.

The table shows the amount of salvage sold during the year. It is noted that we have been able to increase the waste paper from 520 tons to 572 tons. This increase has been possible owing to our better facilities for baling paper.

| <i>Waste Paper</i> | | | <i>Rags</i> | | <i>Scrap Metal</i> | | |
|--------------------|--------------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>Tons</i> | <i>cwts.</i> | <i>Value</i> | <i>cwts.</i> | <i>Value</i> | <i>Tons</i> | <i>cwts.</i> | <i>Value</i> |
| 572 | 14 | £4,899 17s. 9d. | 13 | £4 1s. 3d. | 3 | 1 | £13 14s. 3d. |

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Regular inspections and treatment were made to the refuse tip and sewerage disposal works. Allotments and smallholdings in the district are kept under strict observation. Inspections are made by the Council's rodent operator and co-operation has been obtained with the respective owners where any infestation of rats has been found. We have contracts with a number of farmers and their premises are given four regular services per year, although the treatments necessary are comparatively small, the farmers seem to be quite satisfied in that we are keeping the premises free from large infestations. Sewers in the area have been test baited where necessary, although very little evidence of infestation has been found.

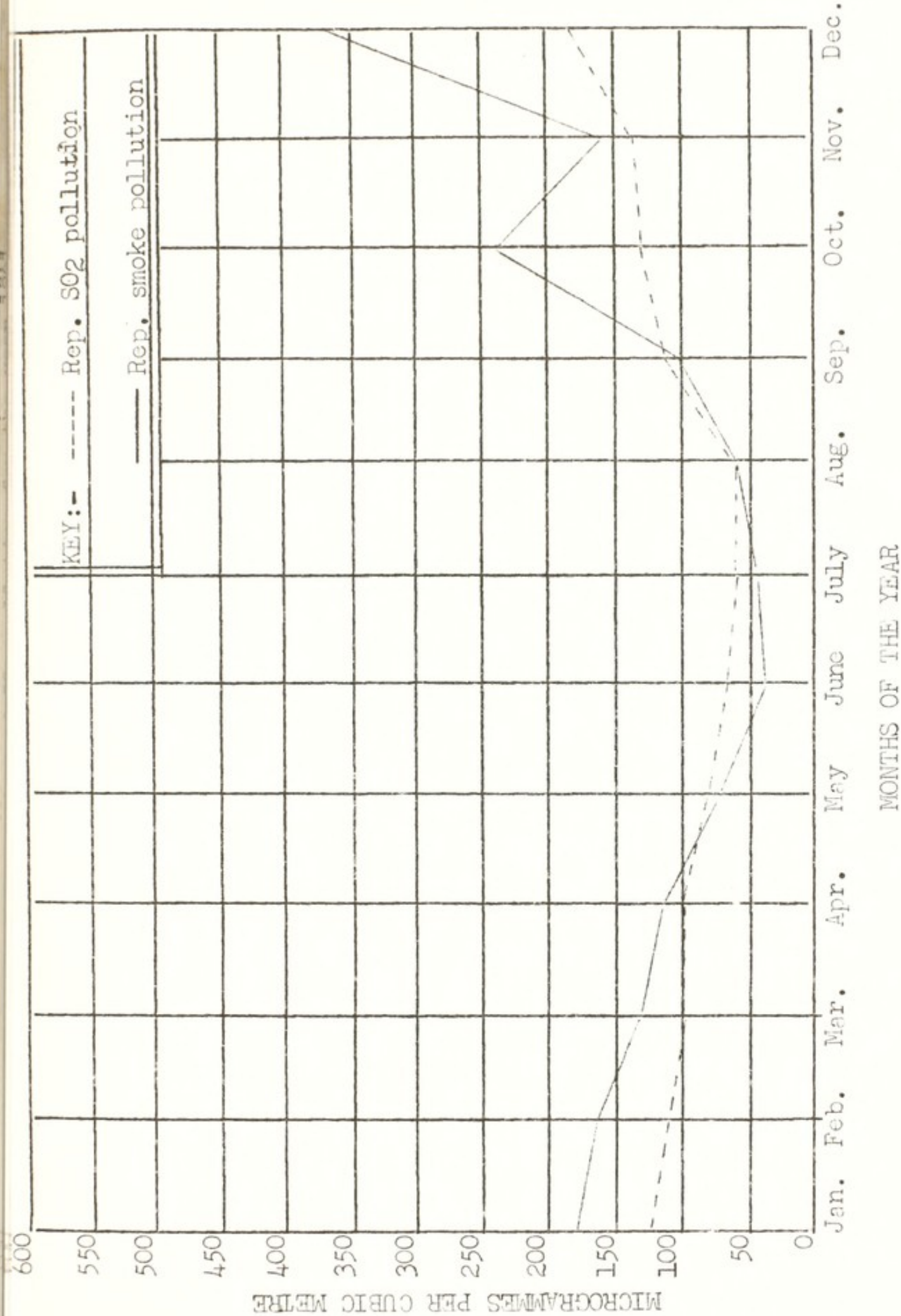
The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year :—

| Type of Property | | No. of Properties in District | No. of Properties Surveyed (Inc. Re-surveys) | No. of Inspections Made | No. treated by L.A. |
|---------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|--|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Local Authority ... | | 24 | 40 | 63 | 9 |
| Business ... | | 1130 | 73 | 191 | 35 |
| HOUSES | L.A. ... | 3395 10665 | 224 | 350 | 58 |
| | Private ... | | 357 | 599 | 125 |
| Agri-cultural | Allotments ... | 360 approx | 257 | 315 | 25 |
| | Others ... | 28 | 22 | 81 | 18 |
| Totals... .. | | 15602 | 973 | 1599 | 270 |

Bodies recovered : 138 Rats and 30 Mice.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The figures produced below, obtained from our Volumetric Atmospheric Pollution Gauge and SO² Recorder, shows that the heaviest pollution was from October to March in each year. Both the smoke and the sulphur dioxide figures show the same curve of reduction, falling in March and rising again in October. This does portray that the pollution of this district is mostly from domestic fires. The total deposits for the year are the lowest ever recorded since records were first kept in 1951, the soluble deposits have been reduced by 10 tons per square mile.



ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION, 1961.

| MONTH | SMOKE | | | SULPHUR DIOXIDE | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| | Micrograms per cubic metre. | | | Micrograms per cubic metre. | | |
| | Monthly Average. | Highest daily Average. | Lowest daily Average. | Monthly Average. | Highest daily Average. | Lowest daily Average. |
| January ... | 190 | 530 | 20 | 126 | 300 | 77 |
| February ... | 170 | 530 | 30 | 160 | 424 | 47 |
| March ... | 130 | 530 | 0 | 94 | 243 | 26 |
| April ... | 115 | 250 | 35 | 98 | 260 | 46 |
| May ... | 69 | 160 | 10 | 78 | 172 | 14 |
| June ... | 35 | 140 | 0 | 65 | 255 | 6 |
| July ... | 40 | 90 | 0 | 55 | 106 | 20 |
| August ... | 54 | 140 | 20 | 57 | 137 | 9 |
| September ... | 101 | 180 | 50 | 114 | 197 | 60 |
| October ... | 238 | 380 | 60 | 132 | 197 | 34 |
| November ... | 156 | 370 | 0 | 136 | 257 | 43 |
| December ... | 369 | 960 | 40 | 183 | 785 | 37 |

The record of deposits for the year ended December 31st, 1961, taken by the Scientific Department, National Coal Board, at their Headquarters have been supplied by the courtesy of Dr. J. Gibson, Divisional Chief Scientist, and the table set out below shows the total deposits since 1951 and other data for 1961.

| Year | 1951 | 1952 | 1953 | 1954 | 1955 | 1956 | 1957 | 1958 | 1959 | 1960 | 1961 |
|---------------------|------|------|------|------|------|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Tons per sq. mile | 236 | 208 | 197 | 146 | 191 | 185 | 177 | 196 | 159 | 141 | 130 |
| Rainfall | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 24.7 inches. | | | | | |
| Insoluble Deposit | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 78 tons per sq. mile. | | | | | |
| Soluble Deposit | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 52 tons per sq. mile. | | | | | |
| Total Solid Deposit | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 130 | | | | | |

CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.

The attention of the Council was drawn to Circular 4/62 which asked authorities on the list of 'black areas' who, for any other reason, had not prepared programmes to consider again most carefully whether their present policy was consistent with the health and well-being of their communities. The Council resolved, as per Minute 920, that the formation of Smoke Control Areas, under the provisions of the Clean Air Act, be deferred until such time as action is taken by the Government in respect of the Tyneside as a whole and the district declared a 'black area.'

In conclusion I would like to pay tribute to the inspect-
orial staff, Mr. R. P. Bruce and Mr. N. W. Crosby, Mr. Atkinson
for work in connection with rodent and pest control and Mr.
A. G. Lister for work in the refuse collection service and the
clerical staff of the department for their loyalty and co-
operation throughout the year.

Yours faithfully,

W. N. LOCKEY,

Senior Public Health Inspector.



