

**[Report 1925] / Medical Officer of Health, Morpeth R.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Morpeth (England). Rural District Council.

**Publication/Creation**

1925

**Persistent URL**

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/k9s7ssx8>

**License and attribution**

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722  
E [library@wellcomecollection.org](mailto:library@wellcomecollection.org)  
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

INTELL. LIBRARY

MORPETH  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

---

ANNUAL  
REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR 1925,

BY

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(J. P. PHILIP, O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.)

AND

THE SANITARY INSPECTORS

(J. ATKINSON, A.R.S.I. SENIOR

AND J. DILKS C.R.S.I. ASSISTANT.)

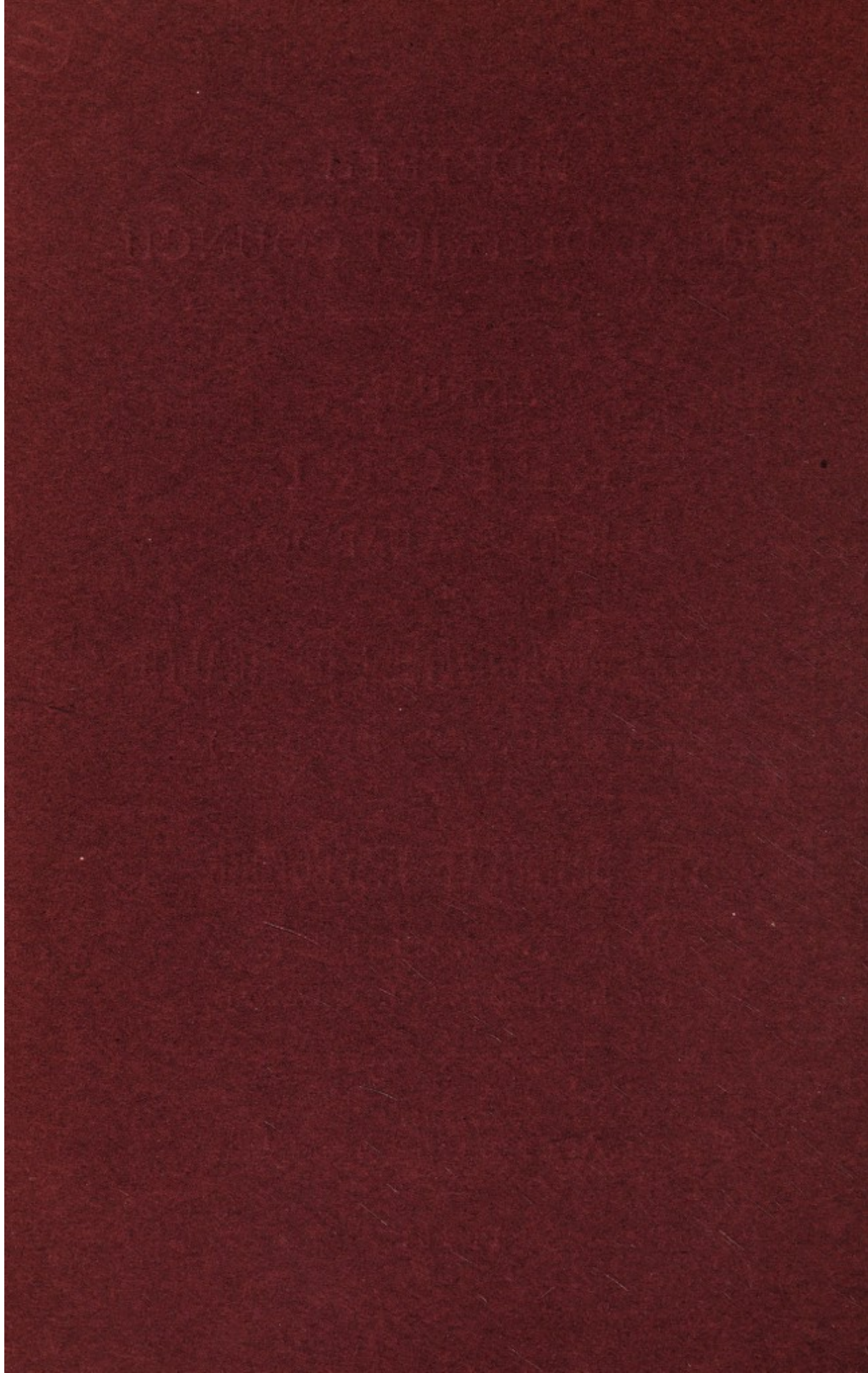
---

*Morpeth:*

Printed by C. B. TYRER, Wansbeck Printing Works

1926







MORPETH  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

---

ANNUAL  
REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR 1925,

BY

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(J. P. PHILIP, O.B.E., M.D., D.P.H.)

AND

THE SANITARY INSPECTORS

(J. ATKINSON, A.R.S.I. SENIOR  
AND J. DILKS C.R.S.I. ASSISTANT.)

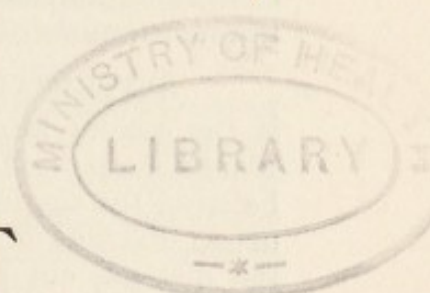
---

*Morpeth:*

Printed by C. R. TYRER, Wansbeck Printing Works.

---

1926.





# Morpeth Rural District Council.

---

*To the Chairman and Members of the Council.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS,

I have the honour to present to you my Report on the Sanitary conditions and Health of your district for the year 1925, according to the instructions of the Ministry of Health.

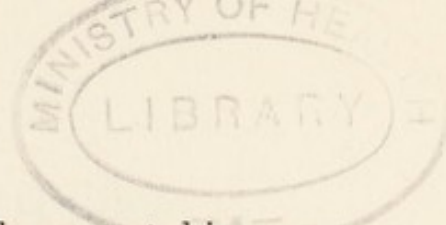
**PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE DISTRICT.**—The District is the second largest in Northumberland, and extends over an area of 74,748 acres, and runs from the sea 20 miles inland, almost entirely between the Coquet on the north and the Wansbeck on the south. The urban districts of Ashington and Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, once part of the district, cut into the eastern sea front. The district is flat except where the river beds cut the surface. Draining facilities are good excepting in the north which is very flat causing difficulty in planning the drainage system now in construction for that area. The Water Supply is good, being obtained for the greater part of the district from the Tynemouth and the Asylum supplies, the former of which is now being enlarged.

**DIVISIONS OF THE DISTRICT.**—The natural division of the district is into the Colliery and Agricultural. The former lies to the East and the latter to the West, and the line of division is well defined by the main road from Newcastle-on-Tyne to Felton. For statistical purposes the County Asylum forms a community by itself. There are no other industries of any importance. The old hand-loom woollen factories at Abbey Mills and Netherwitton which, at one time employed a number of workers are now carried on by two or three in each case.

**POPULATION.**—The Ministry of Health gave an estimated population of 19,200 which must be very near the mark. There were 404 births and 207 deaths during the year, which gives an increase for the whole year of 197, and for Statistical purposes 98 to the middle of the year. The number of new houses inhabited during the year was 125, and the average 5.5 per house—gives 687.5 increase of population for the year, and to the middle of the year 343 which +98 is equal to 441 increase which is 161 more than the Ministry credits the district with. The increase is chiefly in Lynemouth, where 100 new houses were occupied, and at Grangewood where 15 new houses were certified. So that the Agricultural area may still stand for a population of 4,500 and the Colliery at 14,700.

**HOUSING.**—During the year 125 new houses have been passed and occupied. In the previous year 184 were provided, and in 1923, 166 were occupied. This is a very good record for three years. In the year 1921, 82 new houses were added, and during the next four years 561 were built and occupied.





So that in the five past years 643 houses have been erected in your district. And these houses have been built mostly according to a very high standard as enforced by our new bye-laws, with water closets, baths, cemented foundations, and cemented yards and paths. 86 of those were built for the Council, the others by private contract. And the drainage is by water carriage system.

OVERCROWDING.—Although a good many houses have been built, and the overcrowding has been reduced, the building has not kept pace with the increasing population. Most of the new houses have been built by the Ashington Coal Company for their own workers at Linton and Lynemouth. There is still overcrowding at the following places:—Pegswood, North Seaton, Widdrington Colliery, Bus Row, Stobswood, Stone Row, North and South Broomhill, and at Chevington Drift. On the Woodhorn Links a great number of hutments has sprung up and increased. These, originally meant for summer huts as temporary bathing places, have been occupied permanently. The greater number of these are in the Newbiggin district, but 8 are in the Morpeth Rural District. I here insert the report on those huts as drawn up by your Sanitary Inspector and myself.

- No. 1. Size—12-ft. x 9-ft. x 6-ft. to eaves. No proper foundation. No convenience. No drainage. Window opens. Occupied by three adults and one child.
- No. 2. Size—12-ft. x 9-ft. x 7-ft. to eaves. Not occupied.
- No. 3. Size—11-ft. 8-in. x 8-ft. 3-in. x 7-ft. to eaves. No proper foundations. A pail closet provided at back. No drainage. Window opens and ventilated at top. Occupied by four persons.
- No. 4. Size—11-ft. x 11-ft. 7-in. x 6-ft. to eaves. No proper foundations. No convenience. No drainage. Occupied by two adults and two children.
- No. 5. Size—12-ft. x 12-ft. x 6-ft. to eaves. No proper foundations. No convenience. No drainage. Window opens. Occupied by one person only.
- No. 6. Size—12-ft. x 16-ft. x 7-ft. 6-in. to eaves. A pail closet is provided. The slops are thrown into a ditch near by. Occupied by two adults and two children. This is quite a good hut and is constructed of Asbestos Sheets, is very dry and comfortable.
- No. 7. Size—16-ft. x 10-ft. 6-in. x 8-ft. to eaves. This is divided into two small bedrooms and living room. A pail closet is provided. The slops are thrown into a ditch. Occupied by two adults and five children. This is quite a good hut, but is too small for the size of the family.
- No. 8. Size—15-ft. x 9-ft. 8-in. x 6-ft. 4-in. There is no drainage. No convenience. Occupied by two adults and one child. This hut is close to and is used in connection with Lyne Cottage.



REMARKS—The occupiers of these have to carry their water either from a spring near Lyne Cottage, or from Mr. Yellowley's farm which is about 300 to 400 yards.

There is no evidence of any nuisance existing at present which might be injurious to the health of the occupants.

The inspector has reported on these huts on three previous occasions, and the owners of five of the worst promised to have them removed, but as the occupiers failed to find other accommodation, this was not carried out.

In any case the owners of huts without closet accommodation should be asked to have same provided, without prejudice to any action the Council may take in the future.

WATER SUPPLIES—The District is well supplied with water since the Tynemouth water was carried to the north eastern parts, this supplies Ulgham and Widdrington. The same supply is now used at Sheepwash. But Broomhill, Red Row, and Chevington Drift are supplied by the Broomhill Colliery Company, who receive their water from the Amble Supply. Excellent water is also got from the Northumberland Mental Hospital Supply all along its line from Doe-hill to the Asylum.

POLLUTION OF RIVERS—This only occurs in the sea-board, as at Lady Burn, Steads Burn, and Chevington Burn. But when the new Sewerage scheme now in hand, is finished this pollution will be overcome. The pollution which was fouling the Linton Burn has been remedied by the provision of new Sewage Disposal Works. The old complaint of Pegswood's pollution of the Bothal Burn will be corrected when the new disposal system is completed. At Haydon Letch, where the burn receives drainage from Ashington, the nuisance will be abated when the sewers now under construction are completed.

SCAVENGING AND DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE—Scavenging done by contract requires constant attention and supervision. It has been fairly well carried out. At Pegswood the new system of drainage is not yet begun, owing partly to the heavy expense to the Parish. The large system from Hadstone, Chevington, Widdrington, and Ulgham is now under construction and will be a great benefit. The Colliery Districts of Lynemouth, Linton and North Seaton are now well drained. Almost all the new houses have the water carriage system. The Council carry out the scavenging at Ulgham, Widdrington, West Chevington, and Lynemouth. In the other mining districts the Colliery Companies are responsible.

FEVER HOSPITAL—We would have been in great difficulty if we had not had a Small-Pox Hospital, but it has been quite inadequate for the number of cases there have been, and many have had to be sent to other hospitals at great expense. If a general fever hospital is to be built, it should be by combination with other districts to save expense. The Ministry of Health visitors on inspection did not recommend enlarging the present hospital, which is not up-to-date in construction.



BYE-LAWS—These are very excellent and up-to-date.

REQUIREMENTS OF THE DISTRICT—The Sanitary work in the district, as in all districts, has been increasing year by year. One of the greatest benefits was the help of an assistant inspector, and that need has now been well supplied. The epidemic of Small-Pox increased the work very greatly. It filled our little hospital to overcrowding and overflowed into other three hospitals, so that another requirement is a larger hospital. With nearly 20,000 inhabitants a general fever hospital is required. But the great need is houses, and more houses. Five years ago I estimated that we required a thousand new houses, and we have only now got 643 in that time. Many of our workmen have to lodge outside the district, especially in North Seaton, Pegswood, and Broomhill. The new Sewerage system for Pegswood is long delayed, and badly wanted. I am pleased to say that the much needed drainage for the North East parishes is now well on the way. I should like to see more interest taken in child welfare centres. They have done much good, and should be encouraged in every parish. The inspection and instruction by welfare nurses has done good, and, if worked together, there should be great benefit to the district. Gradually the requirements I have mentioned as necessary in my annual reports during over twenty years, are being fulfilled, and the district is more healthy as our low death rate shows. A death rate of round about 10 per 1000 is for a district chiefly mining, an exceedingly low rate, and as good as any in the country.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTH RATE—The number of children born during the year was 404, of these 205 were males, and 199 females. There were 19 illegitimate children born. This gives an annual birth rate of 21 per 1000 children born. This is 4 higher than the previous year.

DEATH RATE—There were 207 deaths during the year; 115 males; and 92 females. This includes all residents whether they have died in the district or outside. This is equal to an annual rate of 10·7 per 1000. This is a little higher than the last year which was 9·09 per 1000.

During the past five years the figures are as follows:—

1920	...	Birth Rate	...	30	Death Rate	...	13·9*
1921	...	"	...	28·7	"	...	9·57
1922	...	"	...	18	"	...	10·4
1923	...	"	...	19·9	"	...	10·3
1924	...	"	...	20·6	"	...	9·09
1925	...	"	...	21	"	...	10·7

\* Underestimated population: should really be 10·2 per 1000.

In the year 1909 I reported that the lowest recorded death rate in your district was 10·8. Since then every year (excepting that of 1920 when the population was underestimated), has shown a death rate below that figure. This, I think, is very satisfactory as every year



the death rate has been below 11 per 1000. The birth rate however has been very low, inclining now to a gradual rise, but far below the average.

### INFANTILE DEATH RATE.

There were 404 children born during 1925 and of these 25 died before reaching 12 months. This gives an Infantile Death Rate per 1000 of 61.6 which is a little lower than in the former year when it was 63.9. These figures compare very favourably with the figures say 20 years ago when it was more than double.

SPECIAL DISEASES for five years with the number of cases and the rate per 1000.

DISEASES.	1921		1922		1923		1924		1925	
	Cases	Rate per 1000	Cases	Rate per 1000	Cases	Rate per 1000	Cases	Rate per 1000	Cases	Rate per 1000
Pulmonary Phthisis ...	10	0.5	15	.82	11	.60	11	.73	14	.72
All Tuberc. Diseases ...	11	0.5	22	.99	16	.87	19	.88	19	.98
All Respir. Diseases ...	35	1.9	46	2.25	33	1.8	43	2.9	49	2.5
Cancer ...	21	1.1	12	.71	19	1.03	9	.47	19	.98
Infectious Diseases ...	9	0.4	13	.66	3	.16	2	.10	14	.72
Diarrhoea (All) ...	11	0.5	0	.0	2	.10	1	.05	3	.15

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The number of Infectious Diseases during the year was 243, which still includes Chicken Pox, notifiable account of the presence of Small Pox.

Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Pneumonia ...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Other Tuberc. diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Enteric Fever (Typhoid) ...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Small Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Chicken Pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	98
Ophthalmia neonatorum ...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Encephalitis lethargica ...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	0
Total ...						243



There were 10 deaths amongst these, and as usual measles claimed the most, 8 are attributed to that disease. The others were one from Scarlatina, and one from Diphtheria. This last disease, which was at one time so fatal, is now well mastered by the use of its special serum. I have drawn out a table on the next page to show clearly the districts affected by the special diseases. What strikes one most is the absence of Small Pox at Pegswood, where the epidemic began, and in which were all the cases in 1923. Another point of interest is that so large a number of the Tubercular cases are in the agricultural district. Small Pox transferred its attention to the Chevington district, North Seaton and Woodhorn. In all there were 30 cases, but no deaths, and only 5 cases were severe in character. The disease has been much more typical in its symptoms.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. P. PHILIP.



Table I.

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN MORPETH R. D., 1925,—Civilians Only.

CAUSES OF DEATH.					M.	F.
ALL CAUSES. ... ..					115	92
1.	Enteric fever	...	...	...		
2.	Small-pox	...	...	...		
3.	Measles	...	...	...	6	2
4.	Scarlet fever	...	...	...	1	
5.	Whooping cough	...	...	...	1	1
6.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	1	
7.	Influenza	...	...	...	1	1
8.	Encephalitis lethargica	...	...	...		
9.	Meningococcal meningitis	...	...	...		
10.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	8	6
11.	Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	3	2
12.	Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	8	11
13.	Rheumatic fever	...	...	...	1	
14.	Diabetes	...	...	...		2
15.	Cerebral hæmorrhage, &c.	...	...	...	3	3
16.	Heart disease	...	...	...	10	11
17.	Arterio-sclerosis	...	...	...	11	3
18.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	10	6
19.	Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	4	7
20.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	2	1
21.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	1	4
22.	Diarrhœa, &c. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	2	1
23.	Appendicitis and typhlitis	...	...	...	1	1
24.	Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	1	
25.	Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...		4
26.	Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...		1
27.	Other accidents and diseases of pregnancy and parturition	...	...	...		
28.	Congenital debility and malformation, premature birth	...	...	...	8	4
29.	Suicide	...	...	...	1	
30.	Other deaths from violence	...	...	...	10	2
31.	Other defined diseases	...	...	...	21	19
32.	Causes ill-defined or unknown	...	...	...		
Special Causes (included above).						
	Poliomyelitis	...	...	...		
	Polioencephalitis	...	...	...		
Deaths of Infants { Total					15	8
under 1 year. { Illegitimate					1	1
TOTAL BIRTHS					205	199
Legitimate					194	191
Illegitimate					11	8
POPULATION					19,200	

GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE,  
SOMERSET HOUSE,  
LONDON, W.C. 2.



TABLE II.

TABLE X.—Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1925.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1925, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1924. The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.)

	BIRTH-RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULA- TION.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1000 POPULATION.								RATE PER 1000 BIRTHS		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS			
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever	Small-pox	Measles.	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two years).	Total Deaths under One year.	Causes of Death certi- fied by Registered Medical Practitioners.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.
England and Wales ... ..	18.3	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.13	0.03	0.15	0.07	0.32	0.47	8.4	75	92.1	6.9	1.0
105 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London.	18.8	12.2	0.01	0.00	0.17	0.03	0.18	0.09	0.30	0.43	10.8	79	92.1	7.3	0.6
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000-50,000).	18.3	11.2	0.01	0.00	0.15	0.02	0.14	0.06	0.31	0.38	7.6	74	93.0	5.9	1.1
London ... ..	18.0	11.7	0.01	0.00	0.08	0.02	0.19	0.11	0.23	0.46	10.6	67	91.1	8.9	0.0
Morpeth Rural District ... ..	21.0	10.7	0.00	0.00	0.41	0.05	0.10	0.05	0.10	0.67	0.15	25	93.7	6.2	0.0



TABLE III.

DISTRICT.	Scarlet Fever.	Diph- theria.	Chicken Pox.	Ery- sipelas.	Small- Pox.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Other Tubercular Diseases.
Pegswood .....	20	2	9	...	...	1	1
Stobswood .....	7	...	...	1	...	1	...
Ferrybeds .....	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Widdrington .....	12	1	2	...	1	1	1
Broomhill .....	8	1	23	2	3	...	...
Lynemouth.....	2	1	4	...	...	2	1
Red Row .....	6	...	11	2	9	3	...
East Chevington ...	3	...	42	...	12	2	2
Longhirst Colliery	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hepscott ... ..	3	...	...	...	...	...	...
North Gate .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tritlington .....	2	...	...	...	...	...	1
Meldon .....	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Amble Junction ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Linton .....	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
East Cottingwood...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
North Seaton .....	...	...	1	...	2	...	2
Cresswell .....	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Ellington.....	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Ulgham .....	...	...	3	...	...	...	...
Sheepwash .....	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Woodhorn .....	...	...	...	...	3	...	...
Netherwitton.....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Asylum .....	...	...	...	...	...	4	...
Lambert Hill.....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Lyneburn ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Mitford .....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
East Thirston.....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Angerton .....	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Causey Park .....	...	...	...	...	...	2	...
Old Moor Steads ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
TOTAL...	70	9	98	5	30	22	9



TABLE IV.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.								TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.		
	At all Ages.	At Ages--Years.						Colliery	Agricul- tural.	Asylum	
		Under 1 year.	1 and 5 years.	5 and 15 years.	15 and 25 years.	25 and 45 years.	45 and 65 years.				
Scarlet Fever .....	70	...	8	54	6	2	...	66	4	...	
Diphtheria .....	9	...	...	8	1	...	...	8	1	...	
Chicken Pox .....	98	3	20	74	...	1	...	98	...	...	
Erysipelas .....	5	...	...	...	...	2	3	5	...	...	
Small-pox .....	30	...	1	15	2	5	7	30	...	...	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	22	...	...	4	4	11	3	11	7	4	
Other tubercular diseases	9	...	2	5	...	2	...	8	1	...	
TOTALS...	243	3	31	160	21	23	13	226	13	4	



TABLE V.

**TUBERCULOSIS.**

## NEW CASES.

## DEATHS.

AGE PERIODS.	Pul-monary		Non-Pul-monary		Pul-monary.		Non-Pul-monary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	E.
0								
1								
5			1	1				1
10	2		2	1				
15		2	2					1
20	1				2			
25	1	2			3	1		
35	5	4		1	1	3		1
45	2		1		1		2	
55	3					3		
65								
& upwards								
TOTAL...	14	8	6	3	7	7	2	3



# Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for Year 1925

For the Rural District of Morpeth

on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901 in  
connection with

## FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, & WORKPLACES.

### 1.—*Inspection of Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.*

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances

PREMISES.	INSPECTIONS.	NUMBER OF	
		WRITTEN	NOTICES.
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	8	...	0
Workshops (including Workshop do.) ...	42	...	3
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers premises) ...	16	...	0
Total...		66	3

### 2.—*Defects found in Factories, Workshops, and Workplaces.*

PARTICULARS.		FOUND.		REMEDIED.	
Want of cleanliness	...	...	3	...	3

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF  
THE MORPETH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my report for year ending 31st Dec., 1925.

NEW BUILDINGS (Ordinary).

The following plans have been submitted to you and approved of:

LYNEMOUTH	...	...	New Institute and Hall. New Dwelling House. Business Premises.
FULBECK, MORPETH	...	...	3 New Dwelling Houses.
LINTON	...	...	Business Premises.
GRANGEWOOD, WIDDRINGTON	...	...	New House.
FERNEYBEDS	...	...	New House.
MORPETH	...	...	New Bungalow.
LANE END, MORPETH	...	...	New House.

HOUSING ACT, 1923.

Application has been made for the subsidy and plans submitted under the above Act and agreed to as follows:—

ELLINGTON	...	...	3 Parlour Houses.
SOUTH BROOMHILL	...	...	1-4 roomed Bungaow.
WEST THIRSTON	...	...	2 Parlour Houses.

CERTIFICATES OF OCCUPATION.

Habitation Certificates for New Houses have been issued as follows:

LYNEMOUTH	...	...	100
COTTINGWOOD ESTATE, MORPETH	...	...	2
FULBECK, MORPETH	...	...	2
MORPETH STATION	...	...	2
OLD MOOR, LONGHIRST	...	...	2
ELLINGTON VILLAGE	...	...	2
GRANGEWOOD, STOBWOOD	...	...	15
			<hr/> 125

STORAGE OF PETROLEUM SPIRIT.

Five applications for a Licence to store Petroleum Spirit were made, and after an inspection of proposed store, were granted.



DAIRIES, COWSHEDS, AND MILKSHOPS, AND MILK AND DAIRIES (Amendment) Act, 1922.—During the year eight persons have been registered under above orders making a total of 65. Notices have been given for the cleansing and lime-washing of byres, where found necessary. A committee has been appointed to consider the question of making new Regulations under above orders.

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL'S (SLAUGHTER HOUSES) ORDER, 1924.—Fourteen applications for registration of existing Slaughter Houses were made under the above Order, which came into force on January 1st, 1925. Two of these have been removed from the Register, one at the request of the owner, and the other having come into disuse.

PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.—These regulations came into operation on April 1st, 1925, and are being carried out as far as possible.

Frequent visits are paid to the Slaughter Houses during the process of slaughter, and I am pleased to state that very little disease is found, the butchers buy all young cattle, chiefly local produce, with the result that I find the meat supply very good.

SCAVENGING.—In the parishes of Ulgham, Widdrington, and Chevington West the Scavenging is let by contract by the Council and the work is done satisfactorily.

In the other parishes the scavenging is done privately.

At Pegswood Colliery Village the Coal Company is responsible for doing the scavenging, and at times the work has been neglected.

At North Seaton Colliery Village, Lynemouth, Linton and Broomhill the scavenging is carried out in a satisfactory manner by the respective Coal Companies.

WATER SUPPLIES.—During the year the water supply to Meldon Village was found to be in a very unsatisfactory condition.

The Owners carried out certain work at the spring head, and also laid new service pipes in the village.

The water is still unsatisfactory, and in my opinion the only remedy is to lay a new main between the spring head and service tank at Meldon Farm.

During the summer a shortage of water was experienced at Broomhill, Red Row, and Chevington Drift for a few days, this was due to the water being turned off for the purpose of cleaning out the Reservoir.

Owing to the very dry summer the Tynemouth Corporation gave

notice that the water supply to the parishes of Ulgham and Widdrington would be reduced by 25 per cent. This reduced supply continued for about seven weeks.

**DRAINAGE.**—During the year a commencement has been made with the out-fall sewer at East Chevington, this, when completed will receive the drainage from North and South Broomhill, Red Row, Chevington Drift, Chevington Crescent, Widdrington Colliery Village, Widdrington, Stobswood, Grangewood and the Council Houses near Widdrington Station.

An application has been made to the Ministry of Health for a loan and an Inquiry was held at Pegswood for the Purpose of laying down a main sewer and sewage disposal works for Pegswood Colliery Village.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Disinfections have been carried out after the following cases :—

Small Pox	...	...	...	30
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	70
Diphtheria	...	...	...	9
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	6
Other Disinfections...		...	...	2

Total...117

The Medical Officer's instructions were carried out with regard to the removal of Small Pox patients to Chevington Hospital, the tracing of contacts, and the disinfection of houses, bedding, etc.

I am,

Yours obediently,

JAS. ATKINSON.



## SHEET I.

(Sanitary Officers' Order 1922 Art. 19 (12)).

## Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report: Year ending Dec. 31st, 1925.

District: MORPETH RURAL Population 19,200 Inspector: JAS. ATKINSON.		Number of Inspections during year	Number of Defects or Contraventions of Bye-laws	Number out- standing from previous year	TOTAL	Number remedied after letter or interview	Number of INFORMAL Notices served	Defects remedied thereafter	Number of STATUTORY Notices served	Defects remedied thereafter	In progress or being dealt with	Legal Proceeding
HOUSING	Structural Defects...	1815	202	12	2029	30	59	39	nil	nil	nil	nil
	Dampness ...	111			111							
	Unfit for Habitation ...											
	Defective Spouting ...	31			31							
	Overcrowding ...	18			18							
	Nuisances ...	202			202							
WATER SUPPLY	Insufficient... ..	Temporary reduction in the Parishes of Ulgham and Widdrington for seven weeks during the summer.										
	Unsatisfactory ... ..											
DRAINAGE	Foul ... ..	There are a large number of open channel sewers in the district, which are inefficient and offensive. Many of these will be replaced by an underground sewer at an early date.										
	Untrapped or Defective ...											
	Insufficient ... ..											
SANITARY CON- VENIENCE	Structural Defects ... ..	4	8		124	8						
	Insufficient ... ..	2			2							
	Foul ... ..		135		135	135						
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops...		43	7		50	7						
Slaughter Houses ... ..		39	6		45	6						
Tents, Vans, &c. ... ..		7	2		9							
Offensive Trades ... ..												
Workshops and Workplaces ...		58	3		61		3					
Keeping of Animals... ..		4	1		1	1						
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles		27			27	27						
Ashpits improperly used ... ..			2		2	2						
Offensive accumulations ... ..		4	4		8	4						
Smoke Nuisances ... ..												
Petrol Stores ... ..		5	1		5	1						
Northumberland County Council Medical Officer's Department. TOTAL		2378	371		2768	221	62	39				

SHEET II.

YEAR 1925.

*District* : MORPETH RURAL.      *Inspector* : JAS. ATKINSON.

## SUMMARY OF WORK EFFECTED:—

		After letter or interview.	After informal Notice.	After Statutory Notice.	TOTAL
<b>Sanitary Conveniences</b>	Privies abolished ... ..				
	Privies repaired ... ..	23			23
	Privy ashpits abolished ... ..		45		45
	Privy ashpits roofed or repaired ...		8		8
	Pail-closets abolished ... ..				
	Water closets provided ... ..		37		37
	Water closets repaired ... ..		8		8
	Sanitary bins provided ... ..		37		37
	Sanitary bins renewed ... ..				
<b>Drainage.</b>	New drains constructed ... ..		37		37
	Drains repaired or reconstructed	4			4
	Additional gullies provided ... ..				
	Old gullies replaced ... ..				
	Scullery sinks provided ... ..				
	Scullery waste-pipes repaired ... ..				
	Scullery waste-pipes trapped ... ..				
<b>Water Supply.</b>	Yards repaired or reconstructed...				
	Sources closed or discontinued—	No. of houses affected			—
	New services provided ... 37	No. of houses affected...			37

**River Pollution :—**

Cases detected...3

Remedied

S.D. Works provided

Particulars. In the Lyneburn

do.

do.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....



SHEET III.

Year, 1925.

*Inspector: JAS. ATKINSON.***UNSOUND FOOD.****Surrendered.**

- |     |                            |        |                                   |
|-----|----------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|
| 1.  | Beef (Home-killed)         | ...    | { 1 carcase                       |
| 2.  | Beef (Imported)            | ...    | { 3 extensively, 55 very slightly |
| 3.  | Mutton (Home-killed)       | „      | 13 slightly                       |
| 4.  | „ (Imported)               |        |                                   |
| 5.  | Pork                       | ... .. | 8 slightly affected.              |
| 6.  | Game                       |        |                                   |
| 7.  | Poultry                    |        |                                   |
| 8.  | Fish                       |        |                                   |
| 9.  | Fruit, or                  |        |                                   |
| 10. | Canned Goods ; Tins, Cases |        |                                   |
| 11. | Bacon                      |        |                                   |
| 12. | Cheese                     |        |                                   |
| 13. | Butter                     |        |                                   |
| 14. | Lard                       |        |                                   |
| 15. | Other goods                |        |                                   |

Carcases examined—910 including Ox, Sheep and Pigs,  
only one was generally diseased, 3 extensively, and 76  
very slightly affected.

# Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910.

(Tabular Statement as required by Article V.)

Inspector : J. ATKINSON.		TOTAL.	SUB-DISTRICTS
(1) Number of dwelling houses inspected	...	370	Most of these are old wooden houses.
(2) Number considered "unfit for habitation"	...	31	
(3) Complaints as to { (a) Householders	...	Nil	
(4) "unfitness" by :— { (b) Parish Councils	...	"	
(5) No. of "Representations to L.A."	...	Nil	Outstanding.
(6) Closing Orders { No. of Orders made	...	42	
(7) { No. determined after repair	...	Nil	
(8) No. of houses { (a) After "informal Notice"	...	43	
(9) { (b) "Notice under Section 28"	...	Nil	
(10) made fit for { (c) "Closing Order made"	...	"	
(11) habitation { (d) By L.A. in default of owner	...	"	
(12) No. of houses closed { (a) After notice under Sect. 28	...	"	
(13) voluntarily { (b) Without "Notice"	...	2	
(14) No. of houses { (a) Under "Demolition Orders"	...	Nil	
(15) Demolished { (b) Voluntarily by owners	...	2	
General character of defects—The principal defects are : Dampness, untrapped drainage, defective windows, and spouting, internally many ceilings and partitions are defective.			
(a) No. of "Representations" as to Obstructive Buildings	...	Nil	
(b) No. of such buildings demolished	...	"	
(c) Representations as to Unhealthy areas	...	"	







