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Contributors

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL of MORPETH

ANNUAL REPORT

of the



Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the Year

1969



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

To the Chairman and Members of the Morpeth Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you the report of the Medical Officer of Health and that of the Chief Public Health Inspector for the year 1969.

The population of Morpeth Rural District fell slightly during the year from 17,400 in 1968, to 17050 in 1969. The adjusted birth rate also fell, from 15.12 to 14.6 per 1,000 of the population - lower than the national rate of 16.13. The number of stillbirths was reduced by 2, giving a fall in the stillbirth rate from 20 to 13 per 1,000 live and still births - equal to the national rate of 13. The number of infants who died before reaching the age of one year increased from 4 to 5, with a rise in the infantile mortality rate from 16 to 22 per 1,000 live births - slightly higher than the national rate of 18.

The number of deaths fell in the Rural District during 1969 from 243 in 1968 to 231 with a corresponding fall in the death rate from 12.32 to 11.4 - compared with the national figure of 11.9. The number of deaths from malignant neoplasms increased from 35 in 1968 to 36 in 1969 - 7 of these deaths were due to malignant neoplasms of the lung and bronchus. There were no deaths from tuberculosis during the year.

Three cases of food poisoning were notified, in the year under review; each was caused by a different type of salmonella organism. The first, due to salmonella typhimurium phage type 4, occurred in July. Following investigation of the case, it was ascertained that the patient had had a meal at an inn outside the rural district three days before the onset of symptoms. Ultimately it was confirmed that the chef at the inn was a carrier of salmonella typhimurium phage type 4. This organism is associated with ducks and chickens, and in this connection, the importance of thoroughly thawing-out frozen birds before cooking, must be emphasized. The sources of infection in the two remaining cases of food poisoning were not discovered.

One case of pulmonary tuberculosis was notified during 1969, in a 24 year old female; this case was found following a visit of the mass X-ray unit to her place of employment. A case of non-pulmonary tuberculosis occurred in a patient in an institution in the area.

In July, cases of sonne dysentery began to be notified from the institution once again, after freedom from the disease for a period of seven months. 26 of the 29 cases notified were patients in the children's ward where it is so difficult to maintain a high standard of personal hygiene in this type of hospital. No spread of cases to the outside adjacent area occurred.

Unfortunately, the measles vaccination campaign which got off to a good start in 1968 came to a temporary halt in March 1969, with the suspension of vaccine produced by one firm. As a result, only 419 children were vaccinated against measles in the whole of the Central Area of Northumberland during 1969, in comparison with 1096 in the previous year. It is hoped that when measles vaccine becomes readily available once again, vaccination against this disease will be accepted as a routine procedure to follow immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough tetanus and poliomyelitis in the second year of life.

The following table showing the numbers of notified cases of measles in Morpeth Rural District over the past ten years, illustrates the tendency to the two yearly cycle of occurrence of the disease.

<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>	<u>1966</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>
2	302	2	274	58	342	156	121	50	58

One would have expected 1969 to have been the biennial epidemic year for measles in the area, but the vaccination campaign carried out in 1968 undoubtedly controlled the number of cases.

An outbreak of infective hepatitis occurred in the district during the year and, in all, 115 cases were notified. The infection had spread from the neighbouring area to the north of the Rural District, where cases had been occurring from some considerable time.

This disease which is caused by an unidentified virus and which is world-wide in distribution, only became notifiable in this country in June 1968, and it was after that date that an estimate of the number of cases occurring locally in the area could be obtained.

The first case of infective hepatitis was notified in the Red Row area in July 1969 - a 28 year old male. No further cases were notified until the end of September, but in the final quarter of the year 115 cases were recorded. The majority of these lived in the Red Row area, although by November, cases had begun to occur in Lynemouth and Pegswood where 21 cases were notified in all.

School children were mainly affected and the illness, on the whole, was not of great severity. It must be pointed out, however, that some people especially adults, may be seriously ill following infection.

In infective hepatitis the incubation period may be as long as six weeks so that epidemics tend to be long and drawn-out. For every case in which jaundice develops, it is estimated that there may be ten cases in the community which do not develop jaundice, and since generally it is only when jaundice shows itself that the patient's doctor is consulted, it follows that the disease is much more wide-spread than the number of notified cases would indicate.

The virus is present in the faeces for two to three weeks before the occurrence of jaundice, and for about one week after, and the route of spread of infection is generally from infected hands to the mouth. From this brief account of infective hepatitis it will be obvious that isolation of patients helps very little in the spread of infection, for the patients are rarely isolated before they are jaundiced and they will have already been infectious for two to three weeks. Apart from these jaundiced cases, there must be many undiagnosed mild cases without jaundice occurring in the community and these patients will not be isolated. The only effective action to be taken in an effort to stem the spread of an epidemic, is strict attention to personal hygiene, but it must be emphasized that the provision of washing and other facilities may not always reduce the incidence of the disease; it is essential that these facilities be utilized.

It was considered, after consultation with the general practitioners in the area, that attempts to prevent the spread of infection should be confined to improving standards of personal hygiene in affected households and in the schools.

One case of malaria was notified in 1969. He had contracted his infection abroad.

Towards the end of September a report was received that a sample of ungraded milk had given positive ring and biological tests for *Brucella Abortus*. The veterinary surgeon of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries was consulted, and on his advice the Public Health Inspectors, the farmer, the farmer's veterinary surgeon and I met at the farm.

It was ascertained that the herd had been blood-tested for *Brucella Abortus*, but three cows had been bought into the herd and one of these had given a positive blood test. As a result of the test, this cow had been sent for slaughter.

Pasteurisation of the bulk milk supply was ordered, and the order remained in force until the milk was proved to be free from infection.

It was gratifying to see a group of purpose-built bungalows for old people at Ellington, by the end of 1969. But there are still many elderly people living in the older type of bungalow in Morpeth Rural District, where facilities do not help to make life easier for them.

The heating arrangements in many cases are inadequate, with obsolete cooking ranges which have as many as thirteen flues to be cleaned out regularly and very low-level ovens. Many of the old people are unable to use their baths which are too high and deep, and have no handles for support when the old people are getting in and out of them. Most of these older-type bungalows have gardens both at the back and front. The majority of the tenants are over 70 years of age and suffer from arthritis or some other physical disability, and they find it completely impossible to keep their gardens tidy; it would be of great benefit if the gardens could be seeded and maintained by the Council. These health hazards were reported to the members of the Public Health Committee during the year and I would ask the members to urge that improvements to the bungalows be commenced as soon as possible.

Finally, I should like once again to express my appreciation for the help which I have been given by Mrs. Hay during the year, for the co-operation of the Public Health Inspectors and other Council Officials, and for the continued interest and support of the members of the Council.

I am,
Mr. Chairman and Councillors,
Your obedient Servant,
K. Dick, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health,
Rural District of Morpeth.

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Chairman of the Public
Health Committee

COUNCILLOR T.P.H. SANDERSON

OFFICERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health	KATHLEEN DICK, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health Inspector (Housing & Meat)	W.G. WEBB, R.S.I., S.I.J.B., Meat Inspectors Certs.
Public Health Inspector	J.T. NICHOLSON, R.S.I., S.I.J.B., Meat Inspectors Certs.
Offices of the Medical Officer	156, Woodhorn Road, Ashington.
Clerk to the Medical Officer	Mrs. M. Hay.
Telephone	Ashington 2287/3442
Offices of the Public Health Inspector	Dacre Street, Morpeth.
Clerk to the Public Health Inspector	Miss D. Bowden.
Telephone	Morpeth 3255
Area in Acres	79,195
Registrar-General's Estimate of resident population mid-1969	17,050
Rateable Value	£557,403
One Penny Rate Produces	£2101
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1969)	5,836
Total number of houses owned by Local Authority	1,694

Commissioner T. R. SAMPSON

Chairman of the Public
Health Committee

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

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

Medical Officer of Health

W. G. WHEAT,
M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,
Health Inspector

Chief Public Health Inspector
(Housing & Hosts)

J. T. HICKSON,
M.B., B.S., D.P.H.,
Health Inspector

Public Health Inspector

156, Woodberry Road, London.

Offices of the Medical Officer

Mr. N. Bay

Clark to the Medical Officer

London 223V/242

Telephone

156, Woodberry Road, London.

Offices of the Public Health Inspector

Miss D. Bond

Clark to the Public Health Inspector

London 223V

Telephone

Area in acres 75,195
Registrar-General's Estimate of resident population mid-1962 17,030
Estimated Value 4,037,403
One Penny Rate Product 4,037,403
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1962) 8,036
Total number of houses owned by local authority 1,031

VITAL STATISTICS.

(The figures in brackets are for England and Wales)

Births

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	221	95	126
Illegitimate	10	9	1
	231	104	127

Crude Birth Rate per 1,00013.5
 Adjusted Birth Rate (Crude Birth Rate x Comparability Factor
 1.08 per 1,000)14.6 (16.3)
 Ratio of local adjusted birth rate to national rate 0.89
 Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births 4 (8)

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	3	3	-
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births13 (13)			

DEATHS

<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
173	98	75

Crude Death Rate 10.1
 Local Adjusted Death Rate (Crude Death Rate x Comparability Factor
 (1.13) per 1,000 ... 11.4 (11.9)
 Deaths from Puerperal Causes, Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion Nil
 Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 (live and still-births) Nil
 Ratio of local adjusted death rate to national rate 0.96

<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	4	3	1
Illegitimate	1	1	-
	5	4	1

All infants per 1,000 live births 22 (18)
 Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births 18 (17)
 Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births 100 (25)

<u>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	4	3	1
Illegitimate	1	1	-
	5	4	1

<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 week</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Legitimate	3	3	-
	3	3	-

Neonatal Mortality Rate (Deaths of infants under 4 weeks per 1,000
 live births)21.6 (12.0)
 Early Neonatal Mortality Rate(Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births).. 13 (10)
 Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths and Deaths under 1 week per 1,000
 live and still births).. 26 (23)

[illegible]

CAUSES OF DEATH IN AGE GROUPS cont./

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All Ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS							65- 75 years & over	
					1- 5-	5- 15-	15- 25-	25- 35-	35- 45-	45- 55-	55- 65-		
B43 Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, Etc.	M	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
B44 Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	M	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
B45 Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
BE48 All Other Accidents	M	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1	
	F	6	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	3	
BE49 Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	98	4	-	-	-	2	2	-	6	23	25	36
	F	75	1	-	2	-	1	1	3	10	12	12	33

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

	Under 1 week					Total under 4 wks.	1 - 3 months	4 - 6 months	7 - 9 months	10 - 11 months	Total under 1 year
	Under 1 day	1 - 6 days	1 week	2 weeks	3 weeks						
Prematurity	-	1	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	2
Scleroma	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Congenital Abnormality	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
TOTAL	-	3	1	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	5

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH IN MORPETH RURAL DISTRICT

	Total Number	% of Total Deaths
Diseases of the Heart and Circulatory System	62	35.8
Malignant Neoplasms	36	20.8
Cerebrovascular Disease	22	12.7
TOTAL	120	69.3

STATISTICS FOR THE RURAL DISTRICT OF MORPETH

Year	Population	Crude Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
1940	16,580	13.51	10.43	70.8
1945	15,550	18.52	10.35	55.56
1950	17,650	16.91	9.07	40.26
1955	17,860	15.01	11.2	26.12
1960	17,860	16.18	10.47	51.9
1961	17,120	15.71	10.11	14.87
1962	17,510	17.02	9.48	16.78
1963	17,570	16.22	12.46	38.6
1964	17,840	17.21	10.54	13.03
1965	17,950	15.15	10.97	7.35
1966	17,940	12.93	11.15	25.86
1967	17,910	13.8	9.4	8.0
1968	17,400	14.0	11.0	16
1969	17,050	13.5	10.1	22

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

TABLE SHOWING ANALYSIS OF NOTIFIED CASES OF
INFECTIOUS DISEASE UNDER AGE GROUPS.

	Under 1 year	1 - 2 years	3 - 4 years	5 - 9 years	10-14 years	15-24 years	25-34 years	35-44 years	45-54 years	55-64 years	65-74 years	75 years & over
Infective Hepatitis	-	1	11	55	37	7	3	1	-	-	-	115
Dysentery	-	2	3	13	7	3	-	-	-	1	-	29
Measles	2	10	19	26	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	58
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	3
Malaria	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
TOTAL	2	13	34	95	45	10	6	2	-	1	-	208

IMMUNISATIONS CARRIED OUT IN THE CENTRAL AREA OF NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY DURING 1969.

<u>DISEASE</u>	<u>PRIMARY IMMUNISATION</u>						Others under 16 years	<u>TOTAL</u>
<u>YEAR OF BIRTH</u>	1969	1968	1967	1966	1962-65			
Diphtheria	6	677	52	4	20	14	773	
Whooping Cough	6	670	49	2	10	-	737	
Tetanus	6	677	52	4	23	54	816	
Polio myelitis	7	666	54	7	20	5	759	
Measles	-	25	122	89	169	14	419	
	<u>RE-INFORCING DOSES</u>							
Diphtheria	-	3	641	67	950	14	1675	
Whooping Cough	-	3	613	52	36	-	704	
Tetanus	-	4	643	71	963	595	2276	
Polio myelitis	-	3	648	69	953	684	2357	
<u>Smallpox</u>	<u>No. of children vaccinated</u>						<u>No. revaccinated</u>	
<u>Age at date of vaccination.</u>								
Under 1 year	11						-	
1 year	88						-	
2 - 4 years	47						1	
5 - 15 years	18						24	
Total	164						25	

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1969.

	New Cases					Deaths				
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Tot.	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Tot.
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 4 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24 years	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 34 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 - 44 years	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 54 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 - 64 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 - 74 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
75 years & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-

Death rate from respiratory tuberculosis in Morpeth Rural District NIL
 Death rate from respiratory tuberculosis in England and Wales 0.022 per 1,000 pop.
 Death rate from other forms of tuberculosis in Morpeth Rural District NIL
 Death rate from other forms of tuberculosis in England and Wales 0.015 per 1,000 pop.

MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS

The Registrar-General's figures have been used in calculating the death-rates given below.

Malignant Neoplasms of the Lung and Bronchus.

Death Rate in Morpeth Rural District 0.410 per 1,000 pop.
 Death Rate in England and Wales 0.610 per 1,000 pop.

Malignant Neoplasms of All Other Sites

Death Rate in Morpeth Rural District 1.70 per 1,000 pop.
 Death Rate in England and Wales 1.740 per 1,000 pop.

Malignant Neoplasms of All Sites.

Death Rate in Morpeth Rural District 2.110 per 1,000 pop.
 Death Rate in England and Wales 2.350 per 1,000 pop.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

There were no changes in the general provisions of Health Services during the year.

Ambulance Service.

This is provided by Northumberland County Council with ambulances stationed at Broomhill, Morpeth and Ashington with 29 drivers and 3 station officers employed. A car service, with cars hired from local garage owners is used in the more isolated country areas.

Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

The County Council has purpose-built clinics at Broomhill and Widdrington where a full range of services is provided. Rented premises are used for certain services at Pegswood, Lynemouth and Hartburn.

Many residents in the Rural District are able to use the County's clinic in Morpeth Borough.

Meals on Wheels.

The Women's Royal Voluntary Service continued its work for the community during the year, with financial aid from the Old People's Voluntary Welfare Committee, Mor Rural District Council and the County Council. The total number of meals served to elderly citizens increased from 1,793 in 1968 to 1,913 in 1969.

Chiropody Service.

The chiropody service was organised by the Old People's Voluntary Welfare Committee in the Rural District.

TOTAL

Death rate from respiratory tuberculosis in Morpeth Rural District
0.022 per 1,000 pop.
Death rate from other forms of tuberculosis in Morpeth Rural District
0.015 per 1,000 pop.

MALPRACTICES

The Registrar-General's figures have been used in calculating the death rates given below.

Malpractice of the last two periods.
Death rate in Morpeth Rural District
0.410 per 1,000 pop.
Death rate in England and Wales
0.610 per 1,000 pop.
Malpractice of All Other Sites
Death rate in Morpeth Rural District
1.70 per 1,000 pop.
Death rate in England and Wales
1.740 per 1,000 pop.
Malpractice of All Sites
Death rate in Morpeth Rural District
2.110 per 1,000 pop.
Death rate in England and Wales
2.350 per 1,000 pop.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

There were no changes in the general provisions of health services during the year.

This is provided by Northumberland County Council with ambulances stationed at Broomfield, Morpeth and Lanchester with 24 drivers and 7 station officers employed. A car service, with cars hired from local garage owners is used in the more isolated country areas.

Maternity and Child Welfare Services.

The County Council has purpose-built clinics at Broomfield and Widdington where a full range of services is provided. Planned premises are used for certain services at Broomfield, Broomfield and Widdington.

Many residents in the Rural District are able to use the County's clinics at Morpeth Borough.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.YEAR ENDING 31st. December, 1969.Water Supplies.

Ninety-six point nine per cent of dwellings within the Rural District are supplied with water from the public mains of the Water Undertaking of the Tynemouth County Borough Council.

The supply is well maintained, adequate in quantity and of good quality. It is described as being:- "A moderate hard water with a natural flouride content varying from 0.1 to 0.2 parts per million and a lead solvency of 0.2 parts per million.

The remaining three point one per cent of dwellings in the rural district obtain their water from private sources, i.e. wells, boreholes, and springs.

The private supplies are adequate in quantity and, with few exceptions, in quality also.

A total of seventy three samples of water from all sources were collected and forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory service for bacteriological examination.

The following list shows the date and place of collection together with the examination result in each case for both public and private supplies respectively.

NOTE S = Satisfactory
US = Unsatisfactory.

Public Mains Water - Tynemouth Corporation Water Undertaking.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place of Collection</u>	<u>Result</u>
1.	7. 1.69.	5 Ravensworth Avenue, Ellington.	S
3.	"	2 Third Row, Ellington Colliery.	S
4.	"	1 Third Row, Linton Colliery.	S
5.	14. 1.69.	9 Oakford Scots Gap.	S
6.	"	2 North Row, Cambo.	S
10.	21. 1.69.	High Angerton Cottage.	S
13.	28. 1.69.	Agricultural Cottage, Pigdon.	S
16.	"	Agricultural Cottage, Netherwitton.	S
17.	4. 2.69.	No. 2 New Cottage, Mitford.	S
19.	"	Northside Cottage, Meldon.	S
20.	"	The Vicarage, Hartburn.	S
24.	4. 3.69.	Hedley Wood, Longhorsley.	S
27.	11. 3.69.	No. 2 High Farm, Ellington.	S
28.	"	"Welldene", Ellington.	S
34.	27. 5.69.	Oak Cottage, Hebron.	S
39.	15. 7.96.	Agricultural Cottages, East Thirston.	S
42.	12. 8.69.	11 Lyne Terrace, Lynemouth.	S
43.	"	32 Bridge Road, Lynemouth.	S
44.	"	Caravan Site, Cresswell.	S
46.	9. 9.69.	87 Hartside Terrace, East Chevington.	S
47.	"	23 Swarland Terrace, Red Row.	S
48.	"	5 Sixth Row, North Broomhill.	S
49.	"	Joiners Cottage, Widdrington.	S
54.	21.10.69.	"Gled Law", Ulgham.	S
55.	"	12 Grangewood Avenue, Stobswood.	S
56.	"	58 East Acres, Widdrington Station.	S
57.	"	3 Widdrington Colliery.	S
61.	14.10.69.	Oaklands, Longhorsley.	S
68.	11.11.69.	South View, Tritlington.	S
70.	18.11.69.	Lilliards Edge, Bullocks Hall.	S

<u>No.</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Place of Collection</u>	<u>Result</u>
71.	18.11.69.	12 Bondicar Road, Hadstone.	S
72.	"	Sawmill Cottage, Cresswell.	S

Private Supplies.

2.	7. 1.69.	Village Spring, Cresswell.	S
7.	14. 1.69.	Rugeley Walls, Cambo.	S
8.	"	Wallington Hall Cottage, Cambo.	US
9.	21. 1.69.	Angerton Steads, Hartburn.	S
11.	"	Wallington Hall Cottage.	S
12.	"	Wallington Hall Cottage.	S
14.	28. 1.69.	The Barnes, Netherwitton.	S
15.	"	Post Office, Netherwitton.	S
18.	4. 2.69.	Needless Hall Farm, Meldon.	US
21.	4. 3.69.	The Cottage, Whemleyburn, Longhorsley.	S
22.	"	Cottage, Linden Hillhead, Longhorsley.	US
23.	"	Bellamour, Longhorsley.	US
25.	11. 3.69.	The Cottage, Linden Hillhead, Longhorsley.	S
26.	"	Bellamour, Longhorsley.	S
29.	21. 4.69.	Park Head, Netherwitton.	S
30.	"	Longwitton Hall.	S
31.	"	Longwitton Hall.	S
32.	"	Northgate Hospital.	S
33.	27. 5.69.	Northgate Hospital.	S
35.	"	Fenrother Lane.	US
36.	15. 7.69.	Eshotheugh, Felton.	S
37.	"	Bockenfield.	S
38.	"	Blackbrook Farm, Felton.	S
40.	29. 7.69.	Abbey Mills Farm.	S
41.	"	Centre Cottage, Abbey Mills.	S
45.	12. 8.69.	Village Spring, Cresswell.	S
50.	16. 9.69.	High Southward Edge, Longhorsley.	S
51.	"	Linden Hall Supply, Longhorsley.	S
52.	"	Doehill Farm, Netherwitton.	US
53.	"	Doehill Farm, Netherwitton.	S
58.	14.10.69.	Horsley High Barns, Longhorsley.	S
59.	"	Horsley High Barns, Longhorsley.	S
60.	"	Longhorsley Village.	S
62.	4.11.69.	Brunton Burgham Farm Cottage.	S
63.	"	Brunton Burgham Farm House.	S
64.	"	The Helm, Eshott.	S
65.	"	Cottage, Eshott Village.	S
66.	11.11.69.	The Lodge, Lough House.	S
67.	"	Fenrother Lane.	S
69.	"	Thirston Mill, Felton.	S
73.	18.11.69.	Cresswell Village	S

Synopsis of Results.

	<u>Satisfactory</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory</u>
Public Supply	32	Nil
Private Supplies	41	6

The unsatisfactory results in all cases were further investigated and advice given to affect improvement. In most cases faulty storage conditions were the direct cause of poor results.

The following table indicates the numbers of dwellings and estimated populations within the respective parishes of the rural district supplied with water from public and private sources, including dwellings without an internal supply where water is obtained from standpipes or by other means.

WATER SUPPLIES.

1st. January, to 31st. December, 1969.

Parish	Total No. of Houses	Public Mains		Private Supplies		Standpipes	
		Houses	Est. Pop.	Houses	Est. Pop.	Houses	Est. Pop.
Cresswell	62	62	186	-	-	-	-
East Chevington	1284	1284	2808	-	-	-	-
Ellington	454	453	1329	1	2	1	1
Hartburn	59	53	159	1	2	-	-
Hebron	109	83	249	26	78	-	-
Hepscott	120	119	357	1	3	1	3
Longhorsley	200	170	480	30	90	1	2
Lynemouth	796	796	2338	-	-	-	-
Longhirst	138	138	384	-	-	-	-
Meldon	72	71	213	1	3	-	-
Mitford	119	111	333	8	24	2	4
Netherwitton	83	52	156	31	93	-	-
Pegswood	985	985	2917	-	-	-	-
Thirston	142	99	297	43	109	-	-
Tritlington	72	50	150	22	66	1	3
Ulgham	868	868	2554	-	-	-	-
Wallington	148	139	397	9	27	1	3
West Chevington	18	18	54	-	-	-	-
Widdrington	59	59	177	-	-	-	-
Totals	5788	5609	16538	173	497	7	16

Of those dwellings without internal piped supply, three obtain water from the public mains and the remainder from private sources.

Sewerage.

A proposed scheme for the sewerage of Ellington and Lynemouth at a cost of £189,000 was submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government at the end of January, 1969, but no further progress occurred throughout the year.

Works of improvement were commenced at the Pegswood sewage works towards the end of the year.

Drainage and Conversions.

Three applications under Section 47, Public Health Act, 1936, for grant aid toward the cost of converting conservancy type closets were received and dealt with during the year, two in Hepscott Village and the other at West Thirston.

Most works of this nature continue under the provision of the Housing Act, 1949/69 by way of standard or discretionary grants and another seven water closets were provided by these means.

At the end of the year it was estimated that only thirty-nine conservancy type closets remained in use, i.e. serving 0.67% of dwellings in the rural district.

Sludge Disposal.

The vehicle engaged on the septic tank emptying and disposal service, travelled a total of 11,324 miles during the year and 246 tanks serving 402 dwellings were provided with the free service. In addition the vehicle was engaged on other services involved with sewerage and rechargeable works and time spent on these various services by the operator was as follows:-

Free Service	28%
Sewerage and other Council Services .	9.5%
Rechargeable works (within and outside of the rural district)	52.7%
Out of Service (Holidays, sickness, etc.)	9.8%

Disposal of the sludge continued, where this was possible without risk of nuisance or pollution of water courses, over agricultural land in close proximity to the sources of collection. On the relatively few occasions when this was not possible, it was discharged together with household refuse at the nearest available disposal site.

Cost of Service.

	£	s.	d.
Expenditure	2324	16	4
Income	1775	13	8
NET CHARGE TO DISTRICT	549	2	8

Rechargeable works show an increase of 12.56% over the preceeding year due to a steady increase in demand from contractors engaged on new roadworks and industrial developments within and outside of the rural district and from neighbouring local authorities.

Public Cleansing.

The collection of household refuse was satisfactorily maintained throughout the nineteen parishes of the rural district during the year without any serious disruption from weather, labour or mechanical breakdown.

The demand for the collection and disposal of bulky household discards continued to grow and several large items of furniture and bedding etc. had to be catered for outside of normal refuse collection journeys.

In accordance with the provisions of the Civic Amenities Act, 1967, three abandoned motor vehicles were removed from separate areas of the district and disposed of without cost to the local authority.

Despite the very good collection service provided, indiscriminate dumping of litter on roadside verges and woodland areas persisted and punitive action for its prevention could not be enforced for lack of positive proof of the offending persons or parties.

Vehicles.

Collection vehicles in regular use, are specialist manufactured by Shelvoke and Drewry Ltd., and are as follows:-

WNL 141	Rear Loading, fore and aft tipping type	16/18 cu.yds.	1962
CJR 624B	" " Pakamatic	50	1964
HNL 654D	" " "	35	1966
RNL 629G	" " "	35	1969
TJR 55	" " fore and aft tipping type	12 cu.yds.	1961

The last mentioned vehicle is now too small and is retained and used as an auxiliary only and during repair and maintenance of the regular service vehicles.

In addition to the collection vehicles, a tractor mounted, hydraulically operated shovel, operates with good effect on the maintenance of the several disposal sites.

Refuse Disposal.

For economic reasons, collected refuse is disposed of by dumping on to sites as near as possible to the sources of production and existing sites at East Chevington, Causey Park, Lynemouth, Longhorsley, Pegswood and Widdrington continued to be used and maintained to the best possible standards within the limits imposed by plant and labour.

Informal action under Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936, resulted in the provision of, and/or renewal of, 76 standard dustbins and, in addition 98 dustbins were renewed to Council owned dwellings and 21 dustbins were supplied to private persons.

Visits for this purpose together with those for supervision of plant, tips, personnel and complaints were made on 411 separate occasions.

During the year, investigations were made into the provision of a new disposal site for the Pegswood area of the district and an area of land adjoining the existing site was eventually agreed upon and negotiations commenced for its purchase.

It becomes increasingly obvious that refuse disposal is a subject requiring early and serious consideration regionally if not nationally. The continuing increase in the volume of refuse together with the rapid filling of existing disposal sites and the difficulty of obtaining new sites, must result in the near future of a problem incapable financially, of local solution.

Cost of Service.

Total mileage travelled	29,544 Miles.
Estimated weight of refuse collected and disposed of	9,860 Tons.
Average weight of refuse per dwelling per annum.	1 ton 13.45 cwts.
Total cost of service	£26,941 13s. 8d.
Less sundry income	134 16 6
	<hr/>
Nett cost.	£26,806, 17 2
	<hr/>
Cost per ton	£2 15s. 5.87d.
Cost per dwelling per annum	4 12 9.62
Cost per annum per head of population	1 11 5.34
Cost to rates in the £1.	12.75d.

Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, and Caravan Sites Act, 1968.

The popularity of holiday caravan sites continued to grow and seventy-six visits were made to the four existing sites throughout the holiday season for purposes of site control and regulation in the interests of the users.

Two of these sites are close to the coast in Cresswell Village, one owned and controlled by the Council, accommodates 260 caravans and would be used by many more would space permit, is provided with all amenities to the standard required under the Act. During the year the site was provided with a sewage pumping plant and rising main to connect the site drainage system to the village sewer. The existing sea outfall pipe, subject to frequent stoppages, was thereby rendered obsolete.

Recordings of high water consumption from the site toward the end of the season led to an investigation which found that much of the existing cast and wrought iron site distribution mains were badly corroded resulting in the loss of many thousands of gallons of water.

Immediate steps were taken to rectify the situation and a contractor was employed to instal approximately 250 yards of 3" diameter polythene piping in readiness for the 1970 season.

The second site in Cresswell, although still only 50% developed, is up to the recommended standard in amenity for the members of chalets at present using the site. It continues to be popular during the principal holiday months.

The company controlling the site were making enquiries toward the end of the year into the possibility of developing the remainder of the site for use by trailer caravans as distinct from their own purpose built chalets with which the site is developed to date.

The two remaining sites situated at Ellington and West Chevington, cater for 46 and 56 trailer caravans respectively. Both are privately owned and well used and maintained.

A site at Longhorsley for which a site licence was issued following the receipt of Planning permission in 1968, to a proposal to site 100 caravans, was never developed.

Two applications for outline planning permission to proposals to development land at Bockenfield and Longhorsley respectively for use as caravan sites were received towards the end of the year but not resolved.

Demand for residential caravan sites within the district has never been great and, where individual applicants receive planning permission to their proposals which are usually for limited periods, a licence is issued under the provisions of Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936, to cover the period of the planning permission in each case.

At the end of the year only two such caravans continued in use for temporary periods. The following table indicates the caravan situation existing within the rural district.

	<u>Holiday</u>		<u>Residential</u>	
	<u>No. of Sites</u>	<u>No. of Caravans</u>	<u>No. of Sites</u>	<u>No. of Caravans</u>
(1) Council provided and controlled	1	260	-	-
(2) Existing licenced	5	335	-	-
(3) Renewed licences	8	11	1	1
(4) New licence	-	-	1	1
	14	606	2	2

Gypsies have never been a serious problem in the rural district but early in the year some two dozen families parked in a lay-by adjoining the A1 highway in a central, rural part of the district and created such a problem with litter that assistance from the police had to be obtained to move them on.

It is to be hoped that the Caravan Sites Act, 1968, will do much to prevent such indiscriminate parking by the anticipated provision of permanent sites in suitable situation throughout the country for the exclusive use of such families whether permanently or intermittently.

Prevention of Damager by Pests Act, 1949.

The Council's rodent operative continued his employment of regularly inspecting and treating, as found necessary, all Council's surface properties. This included refuse and sewage disposal sites together with a twice yearly test baiting of sewers in the several parishes provided with this amenity.

Householders are encouraged to notify infestations and are provided with a free treatment where infestation occurs.

Regular surveys are made of business and agricultural properties throughout the district in an attempt to minimise infestations and treatment is provided on a time and materials basis on demand.

The importance of proofing against infestations continued to be stressed and circulars indicating points requiring special attention were issued and available free of charge.

Assistance was provided on two occasions for the eradication of wasp nests, on four occasions for eradication of cockroaches and in one instance, against an infestation of pipistrelle bats.

The following table is a copy of the annual return for the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, on the rodent control work of the department during the year.

Type of Property

		<u>Non-Agricultural</u>	<u>Agricultural</u>
No. of properties in the district		5,836	619
Total number of properties (Including nearby premises) inspected following notification.		204	21
No. infested by	(1) Rats	95	19
	(11) Mice	44	3
Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification		147	13
	(1) Rats	12	4
	(11) Mice	4	nil

Sewers

No evidence of vermin infestation.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

There was a total of 67 premises within the area registered under the requirements of the factories Act, 1961. Six of those registered were without mechanical power.

There were no outworkers within the area.

INSPECTIONS.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	6	18	Nil	Nil
2. Factories not included in 1 in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	39	43	1	Nil
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	22	10	1	Nil
Total	67	86	2	Nil

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspector (4)	by H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness	3	3	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature	Nil			Nil	
Inadequate ventilation	Nil			Nil	
Ineffective drainage of floors	Nil			Nil	
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	Nil			Nil	
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	4		2	
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil				
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	Nil			Nil	
Total	5	7		2	Nil

The remedy of recorded defects was accomplished by informal action in each case.

TABULAR STATEMENT OF HOUSING FOR THE YEAR 1969.Number of Houses completed during the year.

a) By Local Authority	36
b) By any other Housing Authority	Nil
c) By Private Persons	49

Total Number of inhabited houses in Rural District	5836
Total Number of houses owned by Local Authority	1694

Closing and Demolition.

1. Houses demolished in Clearance Areas.	Nil
2. Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas.	28
3. Houses closed, not demolished.	1
4. Any other houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included above.	1

REPAIRS.Houses made fit by procedure under either Housing or Public Health Acts.

1. By informal action	91
2. By owners, following statutory notice.	Nil
3. By local authority in default of owners.	Nil
4. Demolition Orders revoked after reconstruction	Nil

Clearance Programme.

1. Number of unfit houses in clearance programme remaining to be dealt with at end of year.	140
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IMPROVEMENT GRANTS.No. of separate
houses.Discretionary Grants.

1. Applications submitted to L.A.	63
2. Applications rejected	Nil
3. Applications approved	63
4. Approximate average grant approved per house	
{ pre 1969 Act	£300
{ 1969 Act	£729
5. Total number of houses approved for grant in the area since inception of scheme	675

Standard Grants.

	During the Year.	Total Date
1. Number of separate houses for which grants have been made	7	99
2. Number of houses so provided with:-		
(a) Bath or shower	5	79
(b) Wash hand basin	5	81
(c) Hot water supply	5	69
(d) Water Closet	7	91
(e) Food store	5	54

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.Milk Supply.

Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960. Control of licensing and the use of Special Designations Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised and Sterilized remains with the Northumberland County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority and routine milk sampling within the district was undertaken by the County Health Inspector.as follows:-

From distributors within the Rural District,

Pasteurised	14
T. T. Untreated	2

From distributors outside of the Rural District,

Pasteurised	3
T. T. untreated	3

The twenty two samples collected all satisfied the prescribed standard tests.

Brucellosis.

As recommended by Ministry of Health circular 17/66, samples of milk from herds producing milk for retail sale in its raw or untreated state were collected and forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory.

During the year, a total of 29 samples were collected from five separate herds and the result of the test in each case was:-

Brucella Abortus - Negative.

Food Premises.

Food premises within the district number 120 made up by type of business as follows:-

General - Grocers etc.	53
School Kitchens and Dining Rooms etc.	16
Public Houses	12
Clubs	9
Butchers	6
Industrial Canteens	5
Fried Fish Shops	4
Hospitals and Institutions	2
Bakers and Confectioners	2
Slaughterhouses	3
Cafes	6
Chemists	2

Of these premises 39 are registered under the requirements of Section 16, Food and Drugs Act, 1955, as under:-

Sale of ice cream	32
Manufacture and sale of ice cream	1
Manufacture of sausages and preserved meats	6

Visits to food premises were made on 675 separate occasions and a satisfactory standard of hygiene was maintained.

Meat and Other Foods.

The three licensed private slaughterhouses within the district, all of which are improved to the standards required by the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958, continued to be used and well maintained throughout the year.

In accordance with the requirements of the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963, a one hundred per cent inspection of all animals slaughtered, was maintained.

Details of Animals Slaughtered and Examined.

	Cattle excl. Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	532	Nil	Nil	985	522
Number examined	532	Nil	Nil	985	522
<u>All Diseases, except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>					
Whole Carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1
Carcase of which some part or organ condemned	160	Nil	Nil	27	38
Percentage affected with disease other than Tuberculosis of Cysticerci	30.07	Nil	Nil	2.74	7.28
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ condemned.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
<u>Cysticercosis Only.</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

A total of 386 visits were made to the slaughterhouses for routine and meat inspection purposes and meat and offals to a total weight of 110 stones, was condemned and disposed of.

In addition the following canned goods were examined and surrendered to the Public Health Inspectors for disposal:-

Canned Meats	44lbs. 12½ ozs.
Other canned foods	287lbs. 6½ ozs.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1955.

Under Section 3 of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1955, 15 licences to slaughter animals for food were issued, 14 of which were renewals.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

The following table is a copy of the information supplied to H. M. Inspector of Factories for the year ending 31.12.69.

Number and type of Premises Registered.

Class of premises	Number of premises registered during year.	Total number of registered premises at end of year.	Number of Registered Premises Inspected During the year.
Offices	Nil	9	9
Retail shops	Nil	30	30
Wholesale shops, warehouses	Nil	1	1
Catering establishments, canteens	Nil	8	8
Fuel storage depots	Nil	1	1
Totals	Nil	49	49

Analysis of persons employed in Registered Premises.

Class of workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	35
Retail shops	164
Wholesale departments, warehouses	1
Catering establishments open to public, canteens	67
Fuel storage depots	1
Total	268
Total Males	107
Total Females	161

No application for exemptions regarding space, temperature, sanitary conveniences or washing facilities were received during the year. This is a repetition of the circumstances in the previous year.

Statutory action for infringements of the Act was unnecessary. Most were of a minor nature and remedied informally.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963.

An Act to secure for cats and dogs, certain minimum standards of comfort in boarding establishments, i.e. adequate housing with proper temperatures, lighting, ventilation, food and water supplies together with adequate provisions for isolation in the event of infectious or contagious disease.

There are no licenced boarding establishments in the rural district at the present time. Several enquiries regarding the standards required were received and dealt with.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964.

Only one application for registration was received making a total of 8 registrations in all at the end of the year.

Only one application for registration was received making a total of 8 registrations in all at the end of the year.



