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BOROUGH OF NELSON

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1953

R. E. ROBINSON,

Medical Officer of Health



BOROUGH OF NELSON

1901

Model of Nelson

1901

Model of Nelson



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REPORT

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BOROUGH OF NELSON.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

ALDERMAN R. BLAND (Chairman).

COUNCILLOR G. H. DUXBURY (Vice-Chairman).

THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR S. BATTY).

ALDERMAN W. BANNISTER.

„ S. SHAW.

COUNCILLOR MRS. E. M. BANNISTER.

„ J. W. BUTTERFIELD.

„ H. F. CHAMINGS.

„ P. S. COX.

„ H. INGHAM.

„ MRS. E. KAY.

„ F. MANSFIELD.

„ F. MULLIGAN.

„ K. SPENCE.

„ J. STEPHENSON.

„ K. SUTCLIFFE.

„ A. T. WELLS.

LIST OF LOCAL AND ADOPTED SANITARY ACTS ADMINISTERED BY THE COUNCIL.

- Nelson Water and Gas Act, 1866.
- Nelson Local Board Act, 1879.
- Nelson Improvement Act, 1886.
- Nelson Local Board Act, 1888.
- Nelson Corporation Act, 1903.
- Nelson Provisional Orders, 1871, 1873, 1876, 1890, 1895, 1897, 1899,
1904.
- Borough of Nelson (Extension) Order, 1897.
- The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890, adopted 1891.
- The Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890, adopted 1896.
- The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, parts adopted 1912.
- The Nelson Corporation Act, 1921.
- The Public Health Act, 1925, except Sections 15, 35 and 41.

LIST OF BYE-LAWS RELATING TO SANITARY MATTERS IN FORCE IN THE BOROUGH.

Dates of Adoption.

- 1890 Common Lodging Houses.
- 1897 Offensive trades: Blood Boiler, Blood Drier, Bone Boiler, Felmonger, Tanner, Leather Dresser, Soap Boiler, Tallow Melter, Fat Melter, Tripe Boiler, Glue Maker, Size Maker, Gut Scraper.
- 1897 Nuisances.
- 1897 and 1907 Slaughterhouses.
- 1911 Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Regulations.
- 1931 Sanitary Conveniences.
- 1939 Buildings.
- 1951 Clean Food Bye-laws.
- 1953 Regulating the emission of Black Smoke.

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health R. E. ROBINSON,
M.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector W. L. KAY, F.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.
Resigned 8th April.

G. PRITCHARD, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
Commenced 9th April.

Additional ~~Senior~~ Sanitary Inspectors G. PRITCHARD,
M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Appointed Senior Sanitary Inspector 9th April.

M. STOTT.

Resigned 28th February.

B. DUERDEN, M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.
Commenced duty 7th April.

Resigned 23rd August.

L. N. BRUNSKILL, M.S.I.A.,
Commenced duty 1st November.

Chief Clerk: N. GRIFFITHS.

Clerks: Miss M. P. SCOTT.

Miss P. M. HAWORTH.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
21, CARR ROAD,
NELSON.
1st July, 1954.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, •

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year 1953.

The various aspects are dealt with in detail in the appropriate sections of the report and it will be seen that there was a further decrease in the estimated population, but an increase in the number of live births registered which gave the highest Annual Live Birth Rate since 1948. The main causes of death remain the same as in recent years, but the number of deaths was an increase on the previous year, and the deaths from cancer increased by 0.41 per cent to the highest annual figure yet recorded. The Infantile Mortality Rate was nearly double that of the previous year and the number of Neo-Natal Deaths was the highest since 1948. The number of deaths again exceeded the number of births and there was an increase of 14.0 per cent in the deaths of persons over 70 years of age. The latter is to be expected on account of the age distribution of the population.

The notification of infectious diseases showed a marked increase, being double the average figure of recent years, and this was accounted for by the incidence of measles during the first six months, particularly during January and February, and the incidence of whooping cough during the first and last quarters of the year.

It is a comforting thought that the policy of the Borough of Nelson for the welfare of its aged people is now arousing national interest and action, and very many authorities are embarking on similar schemes.

I am indebted to the various officials who have supplied me with information relative to work outside my control which has assisted me in the preparation of this report, and I should like to thank the members of the staff of the department for their willing co-operation throughout the year.

In conclusion I would express my appreciation to you Mr. Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for your interest and assistance.

I have the honour to be,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

R. E. ROBINSON,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres, 1,400. Elevation, 350 feet. Ordinance level, lowest point, 350 feet. Ordinance level, highest point, 450 feet. Ordinance level, contour, 450 feet. Drainage of surface water, chiefly to Washington Stream. Soil, heavy, brown, and sandy. Water, 450 feet. Subsoil, clay with understratum of sandstone and outcroppings of coal. Population—Census, 1951, 1,400. Preliminary Census, 1951, 1,400. Registrar-General's estimate of home population, mid-year, 1951, 1,400. Number of inhabitants, 1,400. Census, 1951, 1,400. End of 1951 according to Rate Book, 1,400. Sum represented by a point, 1,400. The estimated cost of the local health service for the financial year 1951/52 was £4,475, which is equivalent to a rate of 4.5d. in the £.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the home population for mid-1951 is 1,400 less than the estimate for the previous year and 850 less than the Preliminary Census figure for 1951.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The principal industries of the town are cotton and silk weaving and various trades allied thereto. During the year employment was maintained at a high level, and there does not appear to have been any excessive mortality, cases of sickness or invalidity, nor does any condition of occupation or environment appear to have had any prejudicial effect on health.

CLIMATOLOGICAL CONDITIONS.

The Climatological Station, situated in the grounds of the County Council, is maintained by the Health Department and observations are taken at 0.5 m. C.M.T. throughout the year. The following statements with regard to the various aspects of the weather during 1951 are of interest.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres	3,466
Ordnance level, lowest point	350 feet
Ordnance level, highest point	1,100 feet
Ordnance level, centre of town	458 feet
Drainage of surface water—Natural, chiefly to Walverden Stream and Pendle Water.	
Subsoil—Clay with understratum of sandstone and outcroppings of coal.	
Population—Census, 1931	38,306
Preliminary Census, 1951	34,369
Registrar-General's estimate of home population, mid-year 1953	33,510
Number of inhabited houses—	
Census, 1931	11,128
End of 1953 according to Rate Books	12,365
Rateable Value	£251,680
General Rate, 1953/1954 (s./d. in the £)	22/-
Sum represented by a penny rate	£990

The estimated cost of the Local Health Service for the financial year 1953/54 was £4,479, which is equivalent to a rate of 4.52d. in the £.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the home population for mid-1953 is 390 less than the estimate for the previous year and 859 less than the Preliminary Census figure for 1951.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The principal industries of the town are cotton and silk weaving and various trades allied thereto.

During the year employment was maintained at a high level, and there does not appear to have been any excessive mortality, cause of sickness or invalidity, nor does any condition of occupation or environment appear to have had any prejudicial effect on health.

CLIMATOLOGICAL CONDITIONS.

The Climatological Station situate in the grounds of the Cemetery, Walton Lane, is maintained by the Health Department and observations are taken at 9.0 a.m. G.M.T. throughout the year.

The following comments with regard to the various aspects of the weather during 1953 are of interest.

RAINFALL.

Over the year as a whole the rainfall recorded was 99.0% of the average yearly amount, but a prominent feature was the frequency of dry weather in the first three and last three months of the year. It is during these months that a larger proportion of the year's rainfall normally occurs, but the months of January to March were particularly dry, only 67.2% of the average rainfall occurred. The summer months, April to September, were wetter than the average, 134.2% of the average amount of rain was measured over this period as a whole, but the year ended with a particularly dry quarter when only 72.4% of the average rain fell.

January was the driest since 1941 and December the driest since 1945, whereas June was the wettest since 1948, but the month with the heaviest rainfall was August, as in the previous year.

The heaviest fall in one day was 2.23" on the 26th June, and the greater part of that fell in about 20 minutes around 7-0 o'clock in the evening causing damage and serious flooding in parts of the town. The previous record rainfall since records were commenced was 3.0" in 20 hours on the 19th-20th September, 1946.

TEMPERATURE.

Although August was the wettest month it was also the warmest and the maximum temperature in the shade on the 12th reached 88.8°F. which was the highest recorded since 1926 when readings were commenced.

The coldest prolonged spell of weather was the first week in January, when the minimum temperature in the shade dropped to 21.7°F. Except during the months of January, April, June and July the mean temperatures were higher than the average over the previous 26 years.

SUNSHINE.

1953 was the sunniest year since 1949 and there was 108.9% more than the average annual amount of bright sunshine. Each month from March to October inclusive, with the exception of June, over the average amount of sunshine was recorded, but in June there was only 78.6% of the average. The sunniest month of the year

was May, with 209.0 hours, but the month with the greatest percentage of average was March with 136.5% or 115 hours. The sunniest day of the year was the 27th June, after the torrential rain-storm the previous evening.

Although November and December were particularly mild with mean temperatures much above the average the amount of bright sunshine during these months was only half the average.

Further more detailed information from the records is given in the following tables.

1. Barometric Pressure, Humidity and Rainfall.
2. Thermometers.
3. Bright Sunshine.
4. Rainfall and Sunshine, comparisons with average.
5. Rainfall at various points.

TEMPERATURE

Although August was the warmest month it was also the hottest and the maximum temperature in the shade on the 13th reached 88.8°F, which was the highest recorded since 1905 when readings were commenced.

The coldest prolonged spell of weather was the first week of January when the minimum temperature in the shade dropped to 21.5°F. Except during the months of January, April, June and July the mean temperatures were higher than the average over the previous 20 years.

BRIGHT SUNSHINE

August was the sunniest year since 1905 and there were 1057.5 hours of bright sunshine, which was 105% of the average. The months of June and July were also very sunny, with 1000.0 and 980.0 hours respectively, or 98% and 97% of the average. The months of November and December were the least sunny, with only 500.0 and 480.0 hours respectively, or 48% and 47% of the average.

BAROMETRIC PRESSURE, HUMIDITY AND RAINFALL.

Month	Barometer				Mean Relative Humid- ity %	Total Rainfall Inches	Mean Daily Rainfall Inches	Greatest fall in One Day		No. of days with rain	No. of days with- out rain
	Highest Reading Millibars	Day	Lowest Reading Millibars	Day				Inches	Day of month		
January	1033.0	18	998.3	31	1020.1	2.05	0.07	0.51	31	23	8
February	1040.3	28	968.6	10	1018.5	2.38	0.09	0.52	10	16	12
March...	1042.6	9	998.2	30	1029.6	2.27	0.07	1.58	28	9	22
April	1026.5	19	985.6	1	1010.7	3.59	0.12	0.45	27	14	16
May	1032.7	3	998.1	15	1017.5	1.75	0.06	0.46	25	11	20
June	1023.0	28	1002.4	15	1013.4	4.45	0.15	2.23	26	19	11
July	1021.9	4	922.7	13	1009.1	6.17	0.20	0.53	7, 16, 17	27	4
August...	1024.6	6	998.8	21	1014.6	6.38	0.26	1.57	31	20	11
September	1034.8	7	982.2	21	1011.9	4.62	0.15	1.37	21	16	14
October	1035.4	5	998.6	27	1017.7	1.91	0.06	0.45	26	11	20
November	1031.0	17	987.9	2	1015.9	5.85	0.19	1.24	1	23	7
December	1027.4	31	1004.0	3	1019.5	2.45	0.08	0.56	24	17	14
For 1953	1042.6	9th Mar.	968.0	10th Feb.	1016.5	43.87	0.12	2.23	26th June	206	159
For 1952	1038.0	5th Feb.	975.6	17th Dec.	1013.2	41.82	0.11	1.69	9th. Aug.	226	140

Height of Barometer above Sea Level: 546 feet.

THERMOMETERS.

Month	In Screen												On Grass			In Ground		
	Maximum						Minimum						Mean Range	Mean Min.	Lowest Temp.	Day of Month	Mean Temp.	
	Mean	Highest Temp.	Day of Month	Lowest Temp.	Day of Month	Mean	Highest Temp.	Day of Month	Lowest Temp.	Day of Month	Mean Temp.							
											1 ft.	4 ft.						
January	41.3	48.2	27	33.9	19	34.1	45.3	29	21.7	5	37.70	7.2	31.8	17.9	5	37.6	40.9	
February	43.3	55.8	27	32.1	11	34.2	46.1	24	20.9	8	38.75	9.1	31.9	16.8	8	37.4	40.5	
March	49.9	66.2	25	37.9	3	32.8	42.1	29	23.1	2	41.35	17.1	28.1	18.7	6	39.8	41.1	
April	49.7	63.0	23	43.3	27	35.6	43.1	24	28.1	10	42.65	14.1	30.4	20.0	8	43.1	42.6	
May	61.7	80.4	25	52.0	12	45.0	58.0	24	31.9	1	53.35	16.7	40.5	25.3	1	51.7	46.1	
June	62.9	75.4	26	47.0	2	49.5	57.6	22	37.4	6	56.20	13.4	46.4	31.7	6	55.9	50.3	
July	63.7	74.0	5	58.3	25	52.3	57.8	21	46.6	31	58.00	11.4	50.0	41.7	11	58.5	54.2	
August	65.3	88.8	12	59.4	28	53.0	60.2	13	47.0	1	59.15	12.3	48.2	38.0	1	58.8	55.3	
September... ..	61.5	71.0	7	55.0	28	49.8	59.2	6	36.5	24	55.65	11.7	45.5	29.6	24	55.9	55.5	
October	54.6	63.4	1	47.2	15	41.5	56.0	1	30.3	29	48.05	15.1	36.3	23.4	29	49.5	52.6	
November... ..	49.9	55.0	15	43.8	21	42.7	49.0	28	34.3	3	46.30	7.2	38.7	28.3	3,5	45.8	48.6	
December	46.9	55.6	3	38.6	31	39.5	50.0	3	26.9	31	43.20	7.4	35.3	18.6	31	43.5	47.1	
For 1953	54.2	88.8	12th Aug.	32.1	11th Feb.	42.5	60.2	13th Aug.	20.9	8th Feb.	48.35	11.7	38.6	16.8	8th Feb.	48.1	47.9	
For 1952	52.2	80.0	17th May	29.0	27th Jan.	40.6	59.8	30th June 25th July	12.0	27th Jan.	46.38	11.6	37.3	5.0	28th Jan.	47.0	47.5	

BRIGHT SUNSHINE.

Month	Total Bright Sunshine hours	Mean Daily Bright Sunshine hours	Highest in one day		No. of days with Bright Sunshine	No. of days without Bright Sunshine
			Amount hours	Day of month		
January ...	22.0	0.7	6.5	25	10	21
February ...	43.7	1.5	5.5	26	17	11
March... ...	115.8	3.7	8.7	24	28	3
April	163.6	5.4	12.0	21,22	27	3
May	209.0	6.7	12.8	2	30	1
June	139.4	4.6	13.6	27	25	5
July	164.7	5.3	13.4	4	31	-
August... ..	153.7	4.9	12.5	3	29	2
September ...	113.1	3.8	10.6	12	25	5
October	93.0	3.0	8.1	18	27	4
November ...	18.8	0.6	4.9	4	15	15
December ...	8.8	0.3	2.4	19,31	7	24
For 1953 ...	1245.6	3.41	13.6	27 June	271	94
For 1952 ...	1158.7	3.1	14.6	5 July	285	81

TABLES SHOWING COMPARISON OF RAINFALL AND SUNSHINE FIGURES FOR 1953 WITH
AVERAGE AMOUNTS, AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF AVERAGE.

RAINFALL.

MONTH	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Amount in Inches	2.05	2.38	2.27	3.59	1.75	4.45	6.17	6.38	4.62	1.91	5.85	2.46	43.87*
% of Average	43.6	66.6	91.5	145.3	75.7	147.8	168.1	150.4	118.1	39.9	118.1	59.4	99.0%
Average 26 years	4.70	3.57	2.48	2.47	2.31	3.01	3.67	4.24	3.91	4.78	4.95	4.14	44.31*
Group % of Average	67.2%						134.2%		145.5%		72.4%		

SUNSHINE.

MONTH	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total.
Amount in Hours	22.0	43.7	115.8	163.6	209.0	139.4	164.7	153.7	113.1	93.0	18.8	8.8	1245.6 hrs.
% of Average	87.3	99.7	136.5	132.7	123.0	78.6	112.5	108.7	110.9	125.5	50.1	47.0	108.9%
Average 26 years	25.2	43.8	84.8	123.2	169.8	177.2	146.3	141.3	101.9	74.1	37.5	18.7	1143.8 hrs.
Group % of average ...	107.8%						111.0%		110.7%		74.2%		

RAINFALL.

Comparative Table showing amount measured at various points during the year.

Month	Ogden (inches)	Sewage Works (inches)	Coldwell (inches)	Meteorological Station (Cemetery) (inches)
January	2.72	2.10	2.15	2.05
February	3.57	2.70	3.53	2.38
March	2.40	2.17	2.05	2.27
April	3.77	3.98	3.73	3.59
May	2.47	2.01	2.20	1.75
June	2.32	3.22	3.78	4.45
July	7.45	5.93	6.56	6.17
August	7.42	6.38	6.49	6.38
September	5.48	4.57	5.04	4.62
October	2.21	1.88	2.26	1.91
November	7.46	6.00	6.32	5.85
December	3.36	2.47	2.50	2.45
Totals	50.63	43.41	46.61	43.87

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births :	Males	Females	Total	Rate
Legitimate	247	219	466	
Illegitimate	14	7	21	
Total	261	226	487	Crude : 14.5 per 1,000 of population. Adjusted : 15.4 per 1,000.
Still Births :				
Legitimate	4	5	9	
Illegitimate	—	1	1	
Total	4	6	10	20.1 per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.
Deaths :				
Total	272	254	526	Crude : 15.7 per 1,000 of population. Adjusted : 13.8 per 1,000.
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :				
Legitimate	8	8	16	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
Total	8	8	16	33 per 1,000 Live Births.
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age :				
Legitimate	7	5	12	
Illegitimate	—	—	—	
Total	7	5	12	25 per 1,000 Live Births.
Maternal Deaths	—	1	1	2.01 per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.
Excess of Deaths over Live Births	—	—	39	

The estimated population for the middle of the year, on which the birth and death rates are calculated, is given by the Registrar General as 33,510 which is a decrease of 390 on the estimated figure for the previous year.

BIRTHS.

The total of 487 live births is the highest annual figure since 1950, gives the highest annual live birth rate per 1,000 population since 1948, is an increase of 1.1 per 1,000 on the rate for the previous year, and exceeds the average rate for the previous 5 years by 0.3 per 1,000.

The live birth rate for England and Wales for 1953 is 15.5 per 1,000 so that the Nelson Crude rate adjusted (comparability factor 1.06) to allow for age and sex distribution of the population is 15.4 and compares favourably with the country as a whole and with a group of 160 towns with resident population 25-50,000 at 1951 census, whose combined rate is given as 15.7.

The illegitimate live births for the year numbered 21, an increase of 6 on the previous year and giving an Illegitimate Live Birth Rate of 43.1 per 1,000 live births and 0.62 per 1,000 of population.

During the year 428 live births were registered as having occurred in Nelson and 283 of these or 66.12% took place in the Maternity Home, but 40 of these births or 9.34% of the total, all of which occurred in the Maternity Home, were relative to parents living outside the Borough. In addition 99 births or 20.33% of the nett births for the year took place outside the Borough.

STILL BIRTHS.

There were 10 Still Births registered during the year which was the same number as the previous year. These give a Still Birth Rate of 20.1 per 1,000 total births and 0.28 per 1,000 population, compared with 22.4 and 0.35 respectively for England and Wales as a whole.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered during 1953, was 526, (272 males and 254 females) an increase of 61 (29 males and 32 females) on the previous year, although 9 less than the average figure for the previous five years 1948-1952 inclusive.

The Death Rate of 15.7 per 1,000 population for the year was an increase of 2.0 on the previous year but only 0.2 greater than the average death rate for the previous five years.

The adjusted death rate (comparability factor 0.88) which allows for age and sex distribution of population and is used for external comparative purposes, is 13.8 per 1,000 of population, or 1.7 per 1,000 higher than last year.

Compared with the death rate for England and Wales this figure is 2.4 per 1,000 greater, and is also greater than the rate for 160 towns with a resident population of 25-50,000, by 2.5 per 1,000.

The main causes of death were the same as in recent years, namely, Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System; Coronary Disease, Angina; and Other Heart Diseases, and these causes accounted for 48.1% of the total deaths. Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms (Cancer) showed an increase of 14.1% on the previous year and the number of deaths is the highest figure yet recorded.

The age group 75-80 years again accounts for the largest number of deaths, 16.16% of the total, and 52.6% were of persons over the age of 70 years which was an increase of 14.0% on the previous year. The latter is, of course, only to be expected due to the higher proportion of aged persons in the population.

The highest number of deaths occurred in February and the least in May.

I have included an extra table this year giving information relative to deaths in hospital or institutions and it is interesting to note that 19.3% of all deaths occurring in Nelson took place in hospital or institution, but 10.7% of the total deaths were of persons from outside the Borough and 93.6% of these outward transfers died in hospital in Nelson. Inward transfer deaths accounted for 30.5% of the nett deaths and 93.3% of these Nelson residents who died outside the Borough died in hospital or institutions. Of the nett deaths for the year 31.5% died in hospitals or institutions.

There were 39 more deaths than births during the year.

INFANT DEATHS.

There were 16 infant deaths during 1953, an increase of 8 on the previous year and 3 more than the average per year for the five previous years 1948-1952.

The Infantile Mortality Rate of 33 per 1,000 Live births is an increase of 15 per 1,000 on the previous year, and is greater than the average for the previous five years by 7 per 1,000. This figure is in excess of the figure for England and Wales, and for that of the 160 towns with a population of 25-50,000, which are 26.8 and 24.3 per 1,000 respectively.

With one exception all these infant deaths took place in hospital or Maternity Home.

Prematurity was the main cause of death and 12 took place within one month of birth.

NEO-NATAL DEATHS.

The 12 neo-natal deaths registered during the year was the highest number since 1948, was double the number for the previous year, and 3 more than the average per year for the previous five years.

One death occurred within 2 days of birth and the remainder within 24 hours.

MATERNAL DEATHS.

One maternal death took place which gives a Maternal Mortality Rate of 2.01 per 1,000 total (live and still) births. The cause of death was Toxæmia of Pregnancy and the death rate from this cause compares unfavourably with that for England and Wales as a whole, but this is an example of where often when dealing with small figures in this case the comparatively small number of births for the borough, an exaggerated rate is obtained.

DEATHS FROM MALIGNANT NEOPLASM (CANCER).

An analysis of the deaths from this cause according to the location of the primary growth and age and sex of the patient is shown in one of the following tables and the figures for the previous year have been added for comparison.

This year I have included an extra table dealing with the subject, and this gives numerical and graphical information covering the period of the previous 40 years, 1913-1952 inclusive.

The number of deaths from cancer is an increase of 13 or 0.41 per 1,000 of population on the figure for the previous year. The cancer death rate of 2.74 per 1,000 of population for 1953 is the highest yet recorded. Taken over quinquennial periods to obtain a more accurate interpretation, the average percentage of cancer deaths to total deaths has doubled over the 40 years period, and the cancer death rate has risen from 0.861 to 2.178 per 1,000 of the population, an increase of 1.317 per 1,000. This is often regarded as a disease of the aged, but 37 or 40% of the total deaths this year were of persons under the age of 65 years (normal working age) compared with 30 or 38% in the previous year.

On the basis of current knowledge of diagnosis and treatment evidence is available to show that there is no doubt that a good proportion of those who died of cancer could be saved providing the

condition is recognised and dealt with at an early stage. Some cancers are more accessible for diagnostic purposes and treatment than others, but the essential thing is early diagnosis.

In recent years medical and scientific knowledge has increased considerably, although the dramatic achievement of penicillin and anti-biotics would appear to have overshadowed much other progress, new aids to diagnosis and the development of laboratory technique have made early diagnosis possible in many diseases, and such as cancer can now be diagnosed early.

There is no doubt that a cancer phobia does exist, but people are more pessimistic about cancer than the facts warrant. If the public could be made more aware of these medical advances then better co-operation might follow in reporting symptoms to their medical advisers, instead of living in fear, and failing to take advantage of the facilities available for early diagnosis and treatment, whereby their fears might be replaced by astonishment and hope.

The following Tables and Graphs show :—

TABLES :

1. Various Nelson Rates for the years 1948-1953 and the average of the 5 years, 1948-1952.
2. Comparison of Birth Rates, Death Rates and Analysis of Mortality for 1953 with figures for England and Wales and subdivisions of the country.
3. Deaths from Various Causes during 1953, with equivalent Death Rates.
4. Deaths from Various Causes with equivalent Death Rates for 1951-1953.
5. Summary of Ages at Death.
6. Monthly Analysis of Deaths showing Monthly Death Rates.
7. Monthly Analysis of Deaths in Wards.
8. Deaths occurring in Hospitals and Institutions in relation to total deaths.
9. Analysis of Neo-natal and Infant Deaths according to the International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death.
10. Maternal Mortality with comparative figures for England and Wales.
11. Analysis of Deaths from Malignant Neoplasms according to site of primary growth, with figures for previous year.

GRAPHS :

1. Annual Birth and Death Rates per 1,000 of population from 1924.
2. Actual Number of Births and Infant Deaths per year from 1924.
3. Infantile Death Rate per 1,000 births.
4. Cancer Death Rates over period of 40 years, 1913-1952.

VARIOUS NELSON RATES FOR THE YEARS 1948-1953 AND THE AVERAGE OF THE 5 YEARS 1948-1952.

Year	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Stillbirths		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality			
	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 pop'n.	No. regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 total births	Total		Neo-natal	
									No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births	No. of deaths regis- tered	Rate per 1,000 live births
Year 1953	487	*14.5	526	*15.7	10	20	1	2.01	16	33	12	25
Year 1952	455	13.4	465	13.7	10	22	1	2.15	8	18	6	13
Year 1951	464	13.6	580	16.9	13	27	1	2.10	13	28	10	22
Year 1950	490	14.1	564	16.3	5	10	2	4.04	6	12	5	10
Year 1949	478	13.8	548	15.9	14	28	—	—	17	36	8	16
Year 1948	567	16.4	520	15.0	15	25	—	—	23	40	16	28
Average 5 years— 1948-1952	493	14.2	535	15.5	11	22	1	1.65	13	26	9	17

* Adjusted—Live Birth Rate (Comparability factor: 1.06) = 15.4 per 1,000

Death Rate (Comparability factor: 0.88) = 13.8 per 1,000

COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING BIRTH RATES, DEATH RATES AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY FOR 1953.

(Provisional figures based on quarterly returns and supplied by the Registrar-General with Nelson figures added).

	England and Wales	160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	160 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000—50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County	Nelson
RATES PER 1,000 HOME POPULATION					
Births :					
Live Births	15.5	17.0	15.7	17.5	*14.5
Still Births	0.35	0.43	0.34	0.38	0.28
	22.4 (a)	24.8 (a)	21.4 (a)	21.0 (a)	20.1 (a)
Deaths :					
All causes	11.4	12.2	11.3	12.5	+15.7
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.20	0.24	0.19	0.24	0.21
Influenza	0.16	0.15	0.17	0.15	0.06
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polio-encephalitis)	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia	0.55	0.59	0.52	0.64	0.27
RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS.					
Deaths :					
All causes under 1 year of age ...	26.8 (b)	30.8	24.3	24.8	32.8
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1.1	1.3	0.9	1.1	0.0

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

(b) Per 1,000 related Live Births.

* Adjusted Rate 15.4 per 1,000—Comparability Factor 1.06.

+ Adjusted Rate 13.8 per 1,000—Comparability Factor 0.88.

DEATHS FROM VARIOUS CAUSES DURING 1953
WITH EQUIVALENT DEATH RATES.

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total	Death Rate per 1,000 population
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	5	1	6	0.18
2. Tuberculosis, other forms	1	—	1	0.13
3. Syphilitic disease	1	1	2	0.06
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1	2	0.06
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ...	5	11	16	0.48
11. " " lung, bronchus	15	—	15	0.44
12. " " breast	—	9	9	0.27
13. " " uterus	—	4	4	0.12
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	25	23	48	1.43
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	3	4	7	0.21
16. Diabetes	1	1	2	0.06
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	34	46	80	2.39
18. Coronary disease, angina	50	29	79	2.36
19. Hypertension with heart disease	11	6	17	0.51
20. Other heart disease	49	45	94	2.80
21. Other circulatory diseases	8	13	21	0.62
22. Influenza	—	2	2	0.06
23. Pneumonia	5	4	9	0.27
24. Bronchitis	14	10	24	0.71
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	4	2	6	0.18
26. Ulcers of stomach or duodenum...	1	—	1	0.03
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	—	1	0.03
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	7	10	0.30
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	5	—	5	0.15
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	—	1	1	0.03
31. Congenital malformations	—	2	2	0.06
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	20	24	44	1.31
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	—	1	0.03
34. All other accidents	5	6	11	0.33
35. Suicide	4	2	6	0.18
36. Homicide and operations of war...	—	—	—	—
All Causes	272	254	526	15.69

**COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING DEATHS FROM
VARIOUS CAUSES AND EQUIVALENT DEATH RATES
FOR 1953, 1952 AND 1951.**

Cause of Death	1953		1952		1951	
	Total Deaths	Death Rate per 1000 pop'n.	Total Deaths	Death Rate per 1000 pop'n.	Total Deaths	Death Rate per 1000 pop'n.
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory.....	6	00·18	11	00·32	6	00·17
2. Tuberculosis, other forms	1	00·03	—	—	2	00·06
3. Syphilitic disease	2	00·06	4	00·12	2	00·06
4. Diphtheria.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough.....	—	—	—	—	1	00·03
6. Meningococcal infections.....	—	—	—	—	1	00·03
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	2	00·06	1	00·03	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	16	00·48	31	00·91	14	00·41
11. „ „ lung, bronchus	15	00·44	12	00·35	10	00·29
12. „ „ breast	9	00·27	4	00·12	8	00·23
13. „ „ uterus	4	00·12	3	00·09	2	00·06
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	48	01·43	29	00·86	39	01·14
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	7	00·21	—	—	1	00·03
16. Diabetes.....	2	00·06	2	00·06	3	00·09
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	80	02·39	78	02·30	81	02·36
18. Coronary disease, angina	79	02·36	66	01·95	65	01·90
19. Hypertension with heart disease	17	00·51	9	00·26	23	00·67
20. Other heart disease	94	02·80	81	02·39	114	03·33
21. Other circulatory diseases	21	00·62	30	00·88	25	00·73
22. Influenza	2	00·06	—	—	17	00·50
23. Pneumonia	9	00·27	10	00·29	21	00·61
24. Bronchitis	24	00·71	30	00·88	41	01·20
25. Other diseases of the respiratory system	6	00·18	1	00·03	9	00·26
26. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	1	00·03	6	00·18	9	00·26
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	00·03	—	—	1	00·03
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis.....	10	00·30	6	00·18	14	00·41
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	5	00·15	3	00·09	3	00·09
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	1	00·03	1	00·03	1	00·03
31. Congenital malformations	2	00·06	4	00·12	1	00·03
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	44	01·31	33	00·97	39	01·14
33. Motor vehicle accidents.....	1	00·03	—	—	5	00·15
34. All other accidents	11	00·33	4	00·12	14	00·41
35. Suicide	6	00·18	6	00·18	8	00·23
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—	—	—
All Causes	526	15·69	465	13·71	580	16·94

Estimated population: 1953—33,510.
1952—33,900.
1951—34,240.

SUMMARY OF AGES AT DEATH.

Age Groups		Deaths in Nelson		Outward Transfers		Inward Transfers		Total Deaths Allocated to Nelson			% of each group to Total Deaths
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	Total	
Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years										
Over 2	5	4	2	1	—	5	7	8	9	17	3.23
" 5	10	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	0.19
" 10	15	2	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	2	0.38
" 15	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	0.38
" 20	25	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	0.38
" 25	30	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	0.19
" 30	35	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	3	0.38
" 35	40	3	4	2	—	—	1	3	—	5	0.19
" 40	45	4	1	—	1	—	1	2	1	3	1.52
" 45	50	3	2	—	—	3	—	6	2	8	0.57
" 50	55	9	6	—	1	1	2	10	7	17	1.52
" 55	60	10	9	2	1	2	7	10	15	25	3.23
" 60	65	25	11	2	2	11	4	10	13	47	4.75
" 65	70	21	16	2	2	8	5	34	19	46	8.94
" 70	75	27	27	2	3	8	10	27	34	67	8.75
" 75	80	26	40	2	2	11	11	33	49	84	12.74
" 80	85	46	36	6	7	9	7	35	36	85	15.97
" 85	90	24	39	1	6	8	3	49	36	85	16.16
" 90	95	10	13	—	—	4	5	31	36	67	12.74
" 95		4	5	—	—	—	—	14	18	32	6.08
TOTALS		224	215	22	25	70	64	272	254	526	100.00

**MONTHLY ANALYSIS OF DEATHS SHOWING RATES
PER 1,000 POPULATION.**

Month	Actual Deaths in Nelson		Outward Transfers		Inward Transfers		Net Deaths for Nelson			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	Number		Total	Rate per 1000 pop'n.
							M	F		
January... ..	24	18	1	2	10	4	33	20	53	1.58
February	28	25	3	1	8	7	33	31	64	1.90
March	25	21	5	2	8	4	28	23	51	1.52
April	23	23	3	6	10	4	30	21	51	1.52
May	21	8	3	1	3	2	21	9	30	0.89
June	11	16	-	4	4	4	15	16	31	0.92
July	13	14	1	1	4	6	16	19	35	1.04
August	22	20	1	1	9	4	30	23	53	1.58
September	9	18	1	-	3	7	11	25	36	1.07
October... ..	16	20	3	2	7	5	20	23	43	1.28
November	21	18	1	5	4	6	24	19	43	1.28
December	11	14	-	-	-	11	11	25	36	1.07
Totals	224	215	22	25	70	64	272	254	526	15.69

MONTHLY ANALYSIS OF DEATHS IN WARDS IN 1953.

Month	Bradley			Central			Clover Hill			Marsden			Netherfield			Southfield			Walverden			Whitefield			Total		
	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T	Deaths in Nelson	Out T	In T
Jan.	11	3	6	—	—	—	6	—	3	5	—	—	4	—	—	5	—	1	7	—	3	4	—	1	42	3	14
Feb.	13	3	3	2	—	3	5	—	3	7	—	2	8	—	3	4	—	1	11	1	—	3	—	1	53	4	15
Mar.	13	7	2	4	—	—	5	—	1	1	—	2	4	—	3	4	—	2	8	—	2	7	—	—	46	7	12
Apr.	13	9	4	5	—	—	6	—	2	5	—	1	5	—	2	2	—	2	6	—	1	4	—	2	46	9	14
May	5	4	—	2	—	1	1	—	1	3	—	1	2	—	1	4	—	1	8	—	—	4	—	—	29	4	5
June	9	3	3	5	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	2	—	1	2	—	2	3	—	1	4	—	—	27	4	8
July	7	2	4	1	—	—	3	—	2	2	—	—	4	—	2	4	—	1	4	—	1	2	—	—	27	2	10
Aug.	14	2	1	1	—	3	6	—	—	3	—	3	5	—	2	2	—	2	7	—	—	4	—	2	42	2	13
Sept.	8	1	2	—	—	1	3	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	1	2	—	1	9	—	4	2	—	1	27	1	10
Oct.	11	5	2	2	—	1	5	—	1	3	—	—	4	—	1	2	—	1	6	—	4	3	—	2	36	5	12
Nov.	12	6	1	4	—	2	5	—	2	3	—	1	2	—	1	1	—	1	7	—	1	5	—	1	39	6	10
Dec.	4	—	—	5	—	1	2	—	—	4	—	1	4	—	2	2	—	1	3	—	3	1	—	3	25	—	11
Totals	120	45	28	31	1	11	47	—	15	39	—	12	46	—	19	34	—	16	79	1	20	43	—	13	439	47	134
Nett Deaths	103			41			62			51			65			50			98			56			526		

**DEATHS OCCURRING IN HOSPITALS OR INSTITUTIONS
DURING THE YEAR IN RELATION TO TOTAL DEATHS.**

QUARTER ENDING	Deaths in Nelson		Outward Transfers		Inward Transfers		Net Deaths	
	Total M. F.	In Hosp. or Inst. M. F.	Total M. F.	In Hosp. or Inst. M. F.	Total M. F.	In Hosp. or Inst. M. F.	Total M. F.	In Hosp. or Inst. M. F.
31st March	77 64 141	12 14 26 or 18.4%	9 5 14	9 5 14 or 100.0%	26 15 41	24 11 35 or 85.3%	94 74 168	27 20 47 or 27.9%
30th June	55 47 102	11 12 23 or 22.5%	6 11 17	5 9 14 or 82.3%	17 10 27	16 9 25 or 92.5%	66 46 112	22 12 34 or 30.3%
30th September	44 52 96	7 6 13 or 13.5%	3 2 5	3 2 5 or 100.0%	16 17 33	15 17 32 or 96.9%	57 67 124	19 21 40 or 32.2%
31st December	48 52 100	7 16 23 or 23.0%	4 7 11	4 7 11 or 100.0%	11 22 33	11 22 33 or 100.0%	55 67 122	14 31 45 or 36.8%
Totals for the Year	224 215 439	37 48 85 or 19.3%	22 25 47	21 23 44 or 93.6%	70 64 134	66 59 125 or 93.3%	272 254 526	82 84 166 or 31.5%

COMPARATIVE TABLE SHOWING MATERNAL MORTALITY FOR 1953

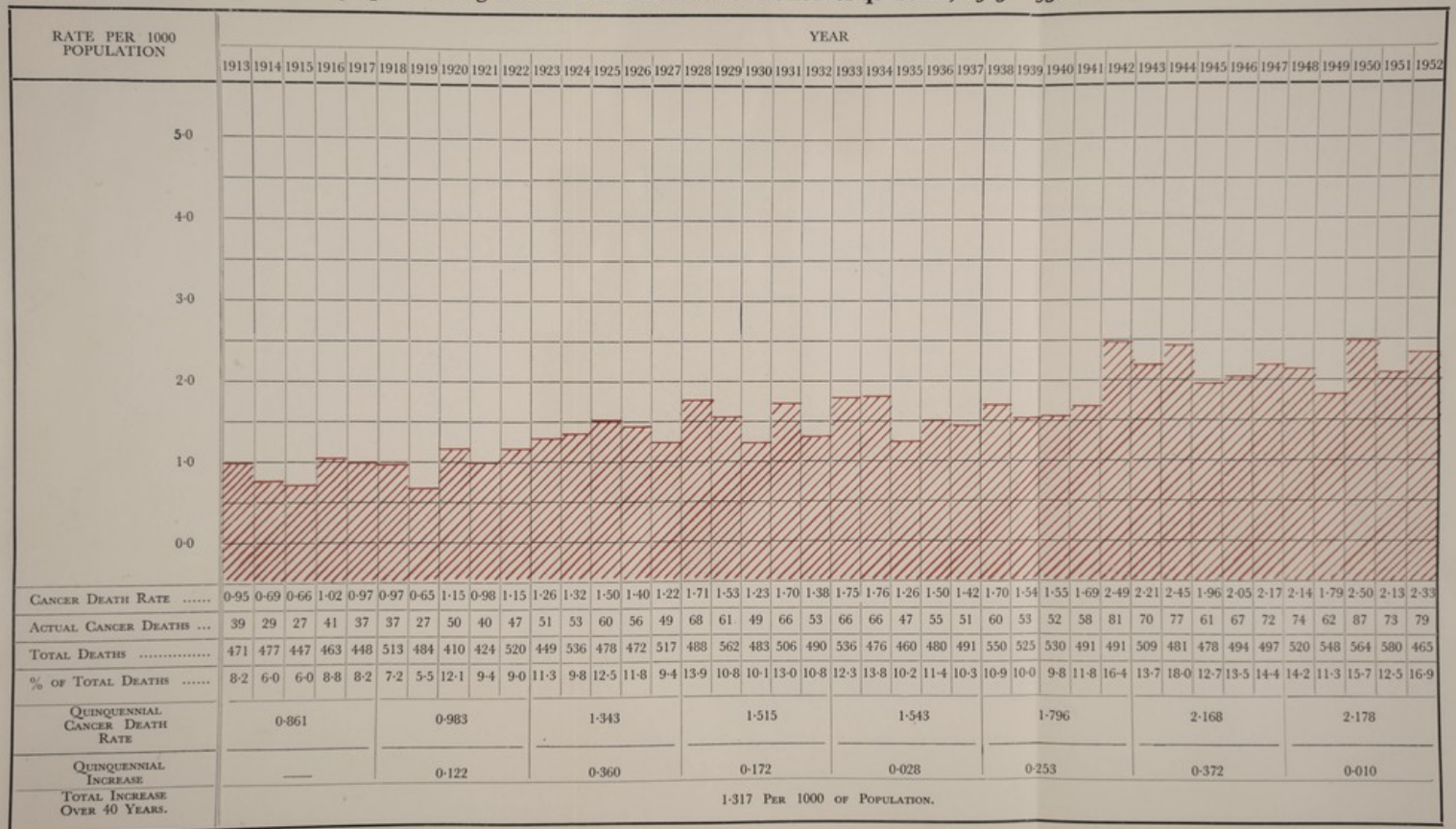
(Provisional Figures based on quarterly returns and supplied by the Registrar General with Nelson figures added).

Cause of death	England and Wales		Nelson	
	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Total (Live & Still) Births	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 Total (Live & Still) Births
Sepsis of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	68	0.10	—	—
Abortion with toxæmia	7	0.01	—	—
Other toxæmias of pregnancy and the puerperium	166	0.24	1	2.01
Hæmorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	90	0.13	—	—
Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia	30	0.04	—	—
Abortion with sepsis	39	0.06	—	—
Other complications of pregnancy, childbirth and the puerperium	125	0.18	—	—

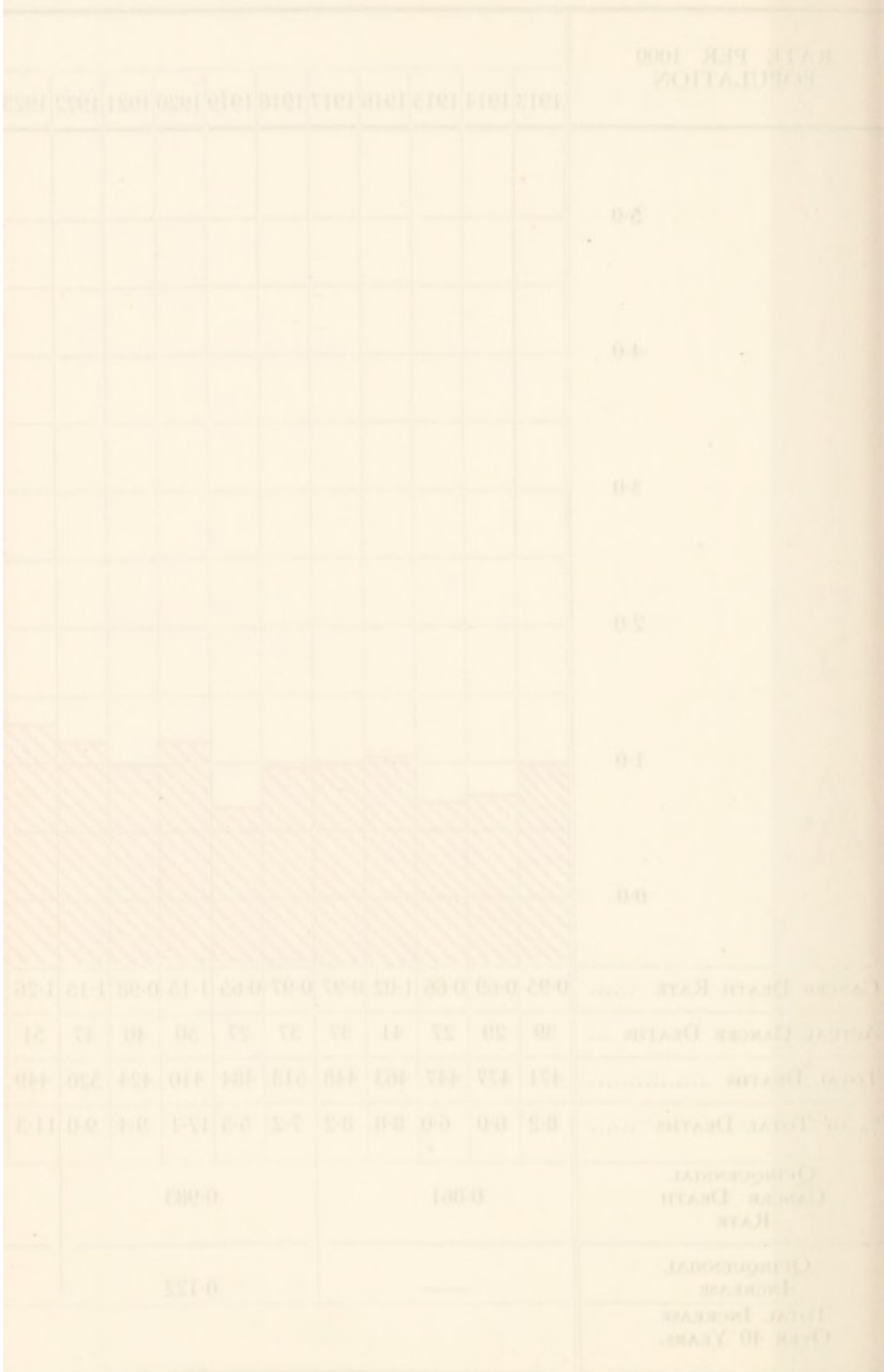
ANALYSIS OF DEATHS OF NELSON RESIDENTS FROM MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS DURING 1953 WITH 1952 FIGURES ADDED FOR COMPARISON.

LOCATION OF GROWTH	AGE OF PATIENT																Total M. F.		1953		1952							
	30-35		35-40		40-45		45-50		50-55		55-60		60-65		65-70				70-75		75-80		80-85		85-90		Total	Rate per 1000 pop.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.						
Buccal Cavity and Pharynx:																												
Tongue																												
Pharynx																												
Digestive organs and Peritoneum:																												
Oesophagus																												
Stomach																												
Small intestine incl. duodenum																												
Large intestine																												
Rectum																												
Pancreas																												
Peritoneum																												
Respiratory System:																												
Larynx																												
Trachea & bronchus of lung																												
Lung																												
Mediastinum																												
Breast and Genito-Urinary Organs:																												
Breast																												
Cervix uteri																												
Corpus uteri																												
Other pts. of uterus																												
Uterus																												
Ovary																												
Other female gen. organs																												
Prostate																												
Other male gen. organs																												
Kidney																												
Bladder and other urinary organs																												
Other and Unspecified Organs:																												
Skin																												
Brain and other parts of nervous system																												
Lymph Nodes																												
Totals ...	1	1			1		2	4	1	4	8	4	5	6	8	9	6	11	10	4	4	2	1	45	47	79	2.33	
	2				1		6		5		12		11		17		17		14		6		1	92				

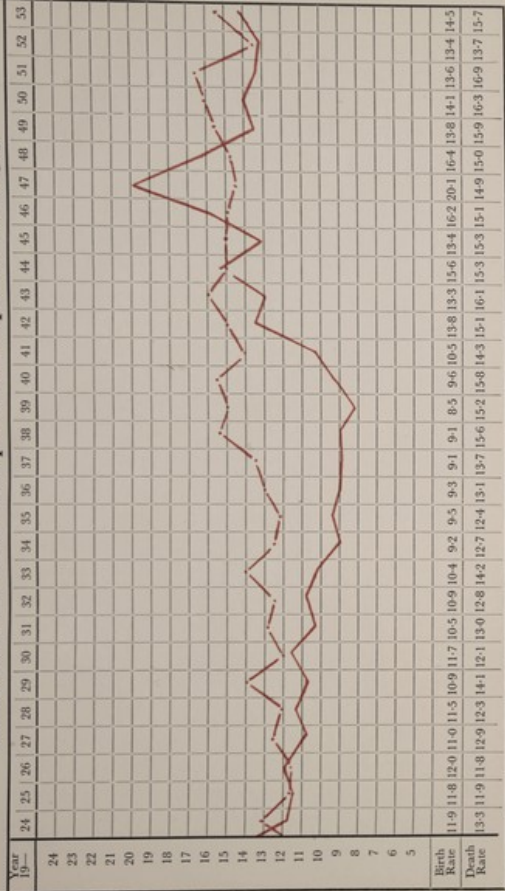
Histogram showing Cancer Death Rates over Period of 40 Years, 1913—1952 Inclusive.



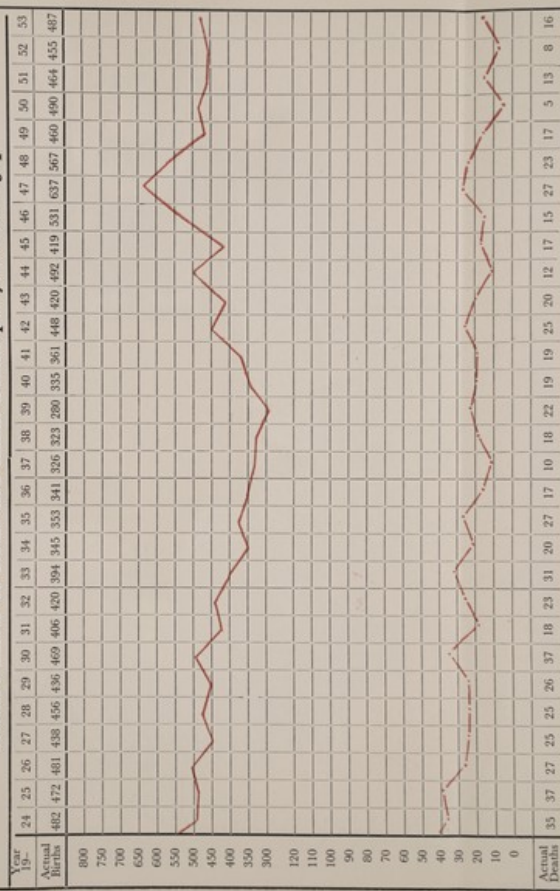
Histogram showing Cancer



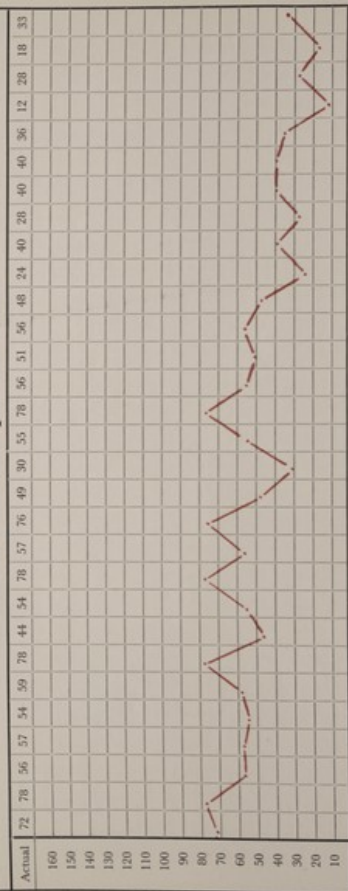
Annual Birth and Death Rates per 1000 of Population from 1924.



Actual Number of Births and Infant Deaths per year from 1924.



Infantile Death Rate per 1000 Births.



Group

Year

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100



After most countries in our region have been drilled, the

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

Particulars of the staff of the Health Department are given on page five of this report.

HOSPITALS.

The Hospital Services for the Borough are provided by the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee of the North-West Regional Hospital Board.

VENEREAL DISEASES CLINICS.

This service is also provided by the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee and separate clinics are held twice a week for both male and female patients at the Victoria Hospital, Burnley, as follows:—

Males	-	Tuesday	2-0 p.m. — 4-0 p.m.
		Friday	5-0 p.m. — 7-0 p.m.
Females	-	Tuesday	5-0 p.m. — 7-0 p.m.
		Friday	2-0 p.m. — 4-0 p.m.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The services of the Central Pathological Laboratory, Salus Street, Burnley, are available for the use of this department and samples of milk and ice-cream were submitted for examination during the year, the results of which are given in the appropriate sections of this report.

In addition to the above, for the assistance of general medical practitioners of the town following the closing down of the laboratory at this office, specimens are received for transmission to the Burnley Laboratory, and during the year the following specimens were submitted which were mainly from this source.

Faeces	20
Urine—general examination	11
pregnancy test	17
bacteriological examination	1
Swabs—throat	12
urethral	2
vaginal	1
Blood—Wasserman test	6
Sputum	5
Urethral smears	3
Pus smears	2
Total	80

TUBERCULOSIS SERVICE.

The Chest Clinic for the area is situate at Reedyford Hospital, Nelson.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 AND 1951, SECTION 47.

No action was found to be necessary under this section during the year.

OTHER SERVICES.

The Lancashire County Council provide and maintain the following services which are administered from the Divisional Health Office, Reedley, Nr. Burnley.

AMBULANCE SERVICE:

The Borough is serviced by ambulances from the Divisional Ambulance Station at Reedley and both ambulances and sitting-case cars are available.

CHILD WELFARE SERVICE:

The Infant Welfare Centre for the Borough is at 9-11 Carr Road and sessions are held twice weekly on Wednesday and Friday afternoons. Special infant foods are sold at reduced prices.

CLINICS:

Ante-natal, dental, minor ailments, orthopædic and ophthalmic clinics are held at 9-11 Carr Road, Nelson.

DAY NURSERIES:

There is one Day Nursery in the Borough and this is in Barkerhouse Road.

HOME HELP SERVICE:

This service now includes a scheme of night and evening help, which is particularly valuable in assisting chronic sick patients awaiting admission to hospital.

HOME NURSING SERVICE:

District nurses of the Divisional Health Staff are assigned to the borough for this service and normally there are 2 female and 1 male (full-time) and 2 female (part-time) nurses,

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE:

The duties of the County Council under Section 51 of the National Health Services Act, 1946, are delegated to the Divisional Health Committee and the work is carried on by the Duly Authorised Officer and the Mental Health Worker.

MIDWIFERY SERVICE:

There are two district midwives of the Divisional staff assigned to Nelson and both are resident within the Borough.

Further information regarding these services may be obtained from my report as Divisional Medical Officer.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER SUPPLY.

The sources of the public water supply remain the same, being collected in the two gathering grounds situate to the east and west sides of the town, supplying respectively Coldwell and Ogden Reservoirs. In both cases, upland surface water and springs form the sources of supply. Pressure filters and chlorination plant are installed at both groups of reservoirs.

Routine inspection of the catchment area is made by the Water Engineer to ensure freedom from pollution, and in addition samples of the raw water and the treated water going into supply are taken regularly.

Bacteriological examinations were made on 56 samples of raw water, of which just one half were reported upon satisfactorily; 58 of the 60 bacteriological examinations made of the water going into supply were returned as satisfactory, and following the receipt of the two adverse sample reports, steps were immediately taken to remedy this by increasing the chlorine dosage. Chemical analyses were made on eight occasions, divided equally between the raw and the treated water; in each case the result was satisfactory, the water being reported to be of good quality and to have no plumbo-solvent properties. No action was found to be necessary in respect of any form of contamination.

In addition to supplying adjoining districts, water is supplied direct from public mains to an estimated population of 33,510 in 12,511 dwellinghouses in the Borough. No dwellinghouses are supplied by means of standpipes.

The extension to the water mains on the Marsden Park Housing Scheme continued during the year, as did the replacement of joint service pipes, and a total of 433 yards of new mains were provided. It is estimated that 220 houses are not provided with an adequate internal water supply, but 3 rows of property embracing 55 houses have had joint service pipe replacements during the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The whole of the town, with the exception of the more rural parts of the district to the east of the town, is sewered, principally by high level gravitating sewers, to the Sewage Works at Lindred. The sewerage system from the low-lying district of Lomeshaye, however, is of the low-level type, and is raised at the Sewage Works by automatic ejectors.

Treatment is by screening, detritus tanks, storm water overflow, primary and secondary settling tanks, and humus tanks, the effluent being discharged into Pendle Water. Sludge from the settling tanks is digested during the summer months, and spread on grassland during the winter. The estimated dry weather flow of sewage is 2,000,000 gallons per day.

In connection with the Marsden Park Housing Scheme the extension of sewers was carried out to include houses being erected here, and 111 houses were connected to the sewer.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The responsibility for dealing with rivers and streams in the district is that of the Lancashire Rivers Board.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Number of middens	10
Number of closets attached to these middens	10
Number of pail closets	20
Number of dry ashpits (excluding middens)	Nil
Number of movable ashbins	12,807
Number of trough closets	Nil
Number of waste water closets	6,809
Number of fresh water closets	6,246
Number of houses on water carriage system	12,427

Conversions during the year:

Number of waste water closets to fresh water closets ...	153
Number of premises at which movable ashbins were substituted for fixed receptacles	3

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The removal and disposal of house and trade refuse, and street cleansing, are the responsibility of the Cleansing Department, under the control of Mr. V. Robinson. A weekly collection is made at approximately 12,750 premises, the refuse being conveyed in covered vehicles to the Corporation's incineration plant at Charles Street. Towards the latter part of the year the communal bins for food waste were withdrawn from the streets, and this service was discontinued. Bi-weekly collections continue to be made to food premises for the collection of fish waste, etc.

Refuse disposal is by screening, separation and incineration.

Cesspool cleansing, carried out at intervals of two to four weeks, is by manual emptying into a trailer tank.

Street cleansing and street gully emptying are done by vehicles designed for that purpose.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

The number of inspections made during the year is naturally lower than that of the previous year, since the Department had a full complement of staff for only two months of the year, being one and, for one period, two Sanitary Inspectors under strength during the remainder of the period. With an establishment of only three inspectors, it will be appreciated that any deficiency in staff has serious repercussions on the number of visits that are made. Since the work necessary in connection with housing defects remained at the level of the previous year, it was found necessary to curtail the number of routine inspections of other premises. The main exception to this was the time devoted to smoke abatement, the number of observations showing an increase of 80 over that of the previous year.

ANALYTICAL TABLE OF INSPECTIONS.

Bakehouses	140
Boiler Plants Inspected	54
Butchers' Shops	91
Closets—Waste Water	4
Complaints Received	292
Complaints Confirmed	239
Dairies, Milkshops and Milkstores	28
Drains Inspected	81
Drains Smoke Test	15
Drains Olfactory Test	4
Drains Colour Test	47
Entertainment Houses	2
Farms	2
Fish Frying Establishments	39
Food (Preserved) Manufacturers	30
Food Catering Establishments	72
Food Shops and Warehouses	129
Factories (A) Power	120
Factories (B) Non-Power	13
Houses Defective	41

Houses Detailed Inspection	7
Houses Dirty	7
Houses Overcrowding	5
Ice-Cream Manufacturers	15
Ice-Cream Retailers	22
Infectious Diseases	124
Interviews	491
Licensed Premises	5
Markets	32
Meat and Food Inspections	136
Meat and Food Condemnations	124
Meetings With Owners	42
Meetings With Contractors	19
Miscellaneous	160
Notices served:	
Verbal	98
Informal	171
Statutory P.H.A.	8
Offensive Accumulations	10
Pet Stores	11
Piggeries	1
Public Houses	4
Rag Flock Premises	9
Rats and Mice	16
Samples Submitted:	
Ice-Cream	54
Milk Biological Test	123
Milk Methylene Blue Test	125
Milk Phosphatase Test	4
Milk Turbidity Test	3
Rag Flock	2
Water, etc.	21
Schools	6
Smoke Observations	589
Stables	2
Verminous Premises	8
Verminous Articles	2
Water Supply	3
Watercourses	3
Workplaces	1
Re-Inspections and Re-Visits	954

SHOPS ACT.

Duties under this Act are carried out by the Shops and Markets Inspector, Mr. F. Clegg.

CAMPING SITES AND MOVABLE DWELLINGS.

There are no licensed sites within the Borough, and no application has been received during the year.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The number of smoke observations of industrial chimneys was again increased this year to 589, as compared with 509 observations made during 1952. It is very gratifying to note that the number of excessive emissions of black smoke from the 46 factory chimneys dropped to the record low figure of 4.4% of the total recorded. The continual education of industrialists and their boilerhouse staff on the negative economics of black smoke seems at last to be giving "light to them that sit in darkness."

A table of comparison for the last three years is set out below:

	1953	1952	1951
No. of observations, each of 30 minutes' duration	589	509	343
Emissions of black smoke:			
Full 30 minutes	—	1	—
Over 25 minutes but less than 30 minutes ...	1	—	2
Over 20 minutes but less than 25 minutes ...	1	2	2
Over 15 minutes but less than 20 minutes ...	2	1	5
Over 10 minutes but less than 15 minutes ...	—	3	10
Over 5 minutes but less than 10 minutes ...	3	12	30
Over 2 minutes but less than 5 minutes ...	19	15	55
Totals	26	34	104

Percentage of observations showing black smoke

emission of over 2 minutes 4.4% 6.6% 30.3%

The Byelaw for regulating the emission of smoke made by the Council in October, 1952, was later confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government, and came into operation on the first day of April, 1953. In the Byelaw it is laid down that the emission of black smoke from a chimney of any building, other than a private house, for more than two minutes in any period of thirty minutes, shall, until the contrary is proved, be deemed to be

a statutory nuisance and a smoke nuisance under the Public Health Act, 1936. It has not been found necessary to invoke the Byelaw during the year.

In the last quarter of the year a new boiler was fitted in the boilerhouse of one of the more persistent smoke offenders, since when there has been, apart from occasional lapses, a considerable improvement. Prior to the installation of the new boiler, 14 observations gave an average of 6 minutes 4 seconds black smoke per observation; an average of only 22 seconds emissions of black smoke were recorded in the 11 observations taken after the installation of the new boiler.

The atmospheric pollution recordings, which were started in March, 1952, were continued during the year. These show the deposited matter and the sulphur compounds present in the air. The deposited matter is expressed in terms of soluble and insoluble deposits, and the figures show the rate of deposition in tons per square mile. Since there is only one recording station, situate on the north eastern outskirts of the town, it will be appreciated that the figures obtained will not give a general picture of the atmospheric pollution of the town, but an insight into that part of the borough. Weather factors, such as a change in wind direction, a variation in wind velocity, will also have their effect upon the figures obtained.

The picture presented by a comparison of the two years' figures, within the limitations described in the preceding paragraph upholds the previous statement that the incidence of atmospheric pollution is, albeit slowly, decreasing.

During 1953, the results of analyses of the deposited matter are given as 61.38 tons of insoluble deposit, and 64.32 tons of soluble deposit, giving a total deposit of 125.70 tons per square mile during the year. An average of 10.475 tons total solids per square mile per month during the year, the highest figure was 13.85 tons in July, the lowest 7.29 tons during October. This apparent contradiction, since one might have expected to find these figures reversed, the lower figure being in the summer month, may possibly have been brought about by deviations from normal in wind drift. The sulphur content of the atmosphere does not show this anomaly, being highest in the winter months, when more domestic fires are adding to the

airborne noxious effluvia. The figure varies from 0.87 in June to 4.36 in January, the amounts representing milligrams of sulphur trioxide fixed per day per 100 square centimeters of lead peroxide. The mean figure for the year was 2.174 milligrams.

A comparison of the period of operation of the recordings during 1952 with the corresponding period last year, namely March to December inclusive, shows that during 1952 the solid deposits were 48.52 tons insoluble deposits, 70.23 tons soluble deposits, a total of 11.87 tons per square mile per month, whilst the 1953 figures were 49.35 tons insoluble deposits, 54.44 tons soluble deposits, giving a total average of 10.37 tons per month. The highest figure shown in 1952 was 20.68 tons in December, and the lowest in November, at 6.79 tons per square mile.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

The Corporation maintain a Public Baths situate in Bradley Road, and an Open Air Swimming Pool in Marsden Park. Swimming baths and slipper baths for males and females are provided in the Public Baths.

At both premises water filtration and purification plants are installed.

DISINFESTATION.

Fourteen houses, two of them Corporation Requisitioned Houses, were disinfested during the year. Action was taken against five infestations of bed bugs, and nine other types of infestation, such as lice and cockroaches.

This work, which is carried out by the Department's staff, employs powder, smoke generation, and residual spray methods, the agents used being D.D.T. and "Gammexane."

RODENT CONTROL.

The responsibility for rodent control remains with the Director of Cleansing, under whose direction the Rodent Operative inspected some 719 properties. Of these there were found to be 176 rat infestations, with 173 properties infested with mice. A total of 334 infested properties were treated by the local authority.

SCHOOLS.

Certain improvements have been carried out at five of the twenty four schools—these included the provision of hot water over the wash basins at one infants' school, the provision of three wash-

hand basins and a sink (in place of enamel bowls), with hot water, at another infants' school, the renewal of 21 water closets each with separate flushing arrangements at three schools, and the replacement of a block of unsuitable water closets by a block of urinal stalls and the re-laying of a defective yard surface at another school.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no offensive trades established in the Borough.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health:

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Number of :	
			Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	40	13	1	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	316	120	15	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—	—	—
Total	356	133	16	—

2. Cases in which defects were found:

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred Inspector to H.M.	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted	
				Referred by H.M.	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(b) Unsuitable or defective...	13	9	—	3	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	1	—	—	1	—
Total	14	9	—	5	—

3. Outwork: No notification of outworkers has been received.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES, HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS AND UNDERGROUND SLEEPING ROOMS.

There are no such premises within the Borough.

CANAL BOATS.

Visits were made from time to time to the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, but on no occasion was it possible to intercept a canal boat,

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

There are seven registered premises on which rag flock or other filling materials are used in the manufacture of furniture, etc., and nine visits were made to these premises.

Samples of filling materials were taken on two occasions, with results as shown below:

Type of material	Result of analysis
Wool flocks (dyed)	Satisfactory.
Cotton flocks	Unsatisfactory. Trash, average content 20.7% (Legal maximum of trash 15%). Warning issued to vendor, who had already used the remaining small amount of flocks.

CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE DISTRICT.

This remains the conversion of waste water closets to fresh water closets, more than half the closets being of the former type, 6,809 as against 6,246 fresh water closets.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

There are four premises registered for the sale of pet animals, to which eleven visits were made during the year. No contraventions of the Act were observed.

Housing.

On the whole the general standard of housing is good, there being a large proportion of owner-occupied houses in the town. Defects found are in the main due to lack of repairs and maintenance, largely due to uneconomic rentals.

During the year 123 informal notices, and 7 formal notices were served upon the owners of dwellinghouses for the abatement of the 426 defects found. At the end of the year 55 informal and 4 formal notices had been complied with, and 118 defects remedied. In addition 192 defects found during 1952 were abated, making a total of 310 defects remedied during 1953. 759 inspections and re-inspections were made, and 59 dwellinghouses were rendered fit as a result of action taken during the year. Due to various changes in circumstances, 5 notices, covering 12 defects were cancelled during this period.

The following tables give details of repairs carried out during the year:

	Found During 1953	Remedied		Remedied in 1953 Found in 1952
Defective roof	29	8	...	22
Defective rainwater gutterings	41	21	...	14
Defective rainwater pipe	21	10	...	5
Defective chimney stacks and and pots	3	1	...	3
Defective chimney flashings ...	7	1	...	6
Defective chimney flues	3	3	...	—
Defective walls	2	—	...	1
Defective wall pointing	13	7	...	17
Damp walls	8	—	...	—
Defective ceiling plaster	32	5	...	16
Defective wallplaster	45	6	...	27
Defective windows / window frames	36	3	...	14
Defective pointing to windows	18	3	...	12
Defective sashcords	24	3	...	16
Defective doors	8	—	...	2
Defective stairs	2	—	...	2
Defective handrails	2	—	...	—
Absence of handrail	4	—	...	—
Defective wood floors	10	1	...	6
Defective stone floors	2	—	...	1

	Found Remedied During 1953		Remedied in 1952 Found in 1952	
Defective fireplaces	14	6	...	3
Defective firebacks	7	1	...	—
Defective firebottoms	2	—	...	—
Defective sinks	7	3	...	1
Defective sink waste pipes	10	—	...	1
Defective bath waste pipes	3	—	...	—
Defective hot water cisterns	1	1	...	—
Defective fresh water closets ...	2	2	...	2
Defective fresh water closet cistern	1	—	...	—
Defective waste water closets ...	3	3	...	—
Defective water closet com- partments	1	—	...	1
Defective w.c. compartment floors	3	—	...	—
Defective w.c. compartment doors/frames	6	5	...	4
Defective w.c. compartment roofs	9	4	...	5
Defective w.c. compartment walls	6	2	...	6
Defective waste water closet seats	1	—	...	1
Defective drains	21	14	...	1
Defective tippler	1	1	...	—
Defective soil pipe	1	—	...	—
Defective vent pipe	—	—	...	1
Defective yard surfaces	4	—	...	2
Defective yard wall	1	—	...	—
Defective yard gate	1	—	...	—
Defective coal store door	1	—	...	—
Dirty premises	3	1	...	—
Accumulations of rubbish	4	1	...	—
Rodent infestations	3	2	...	—
Totals	426	118	...	192

Number of new houses erected during the year:

	Houses	Flats
(i) By the local authority	39	—
(ii) By other local authorities	—	—
(iii) By other bodies or persons	6	—

1. Inspections of dwellinghouses during the year:—

(i) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected formally or informally for housing defects	123
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	759
(ii) (a) Number of dwellinghouses included above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
(iii) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	Nil
(iv) Number of dwellinghouses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	123

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices:—

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority	55
--	----

3. Action under statutory powers during the year:—

(a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses which, after service of formal notices, were rendered fit:	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil
(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	7
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By owners	4
(b) By local authority in default of owners	Nil

	Houses	Flats
(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 (Demolition)		Nil
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 (Underground rooms)		Nil
4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding:		
(a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of year	... Not known	
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year		4
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year		—
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases		—
5. Housing Act, 1949—Part II—Improvement Grants, etc.:		
(a) (i) Number of schemes submitted:		
(a) by private individuals to local authority ...		Nil
(b) by local authority to Ministry		Nil
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses or other buildings affected		Nil
(b) (i) Number of schemes approved by Ministry		Nil
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses or other buildings affected		Nil
(iii) Number of additional separate dwellings to be provided under these approved schemes		Nil
(c) Number of additional separate dwellings actually completed during the year		Nil
(d) Any other action taken under the Act		Nil

SUFFICIENCY OF SUPPLY OF HOUSES.

It is estimated that the following types and numbers of houses are required to meet the shortage in the district:

3 bedroom type houses	125
2 bedroom type houses	130
Aged Persons' Bungalows	50
Spinsters' Flats	20

The erection of 69 houses on the Marsden Park and Hodge House Estates was in hand at the end of the year, and the provision of a further 49 houses was contemplated.

OVERCROWDING.

Five cases were investigated during the year, four of which were cases of statutory overcrowding. Two of these, found during December, were recommended to the Corporation Housing Department for priority in re-housing.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

MILK SUPPLY.

There are produced or sold within the district 63 different milks, which are contained in the following categories:

Tuberculin Tested	30
Accredited	2
Non-designated	20
Pasteurised	4
T.T. Pasteurised	4
Sterilised	3

Of this number 23 milks, of which nine are T.T. and 14 non-designated, are produced within the borough, and are disposed of as follows:

Wholesale to one of four pasteurising plants outside the district (2 T.T. milks, 12 non-designated milks)	14
Part wholesale to a pasteurising plant and part direct retail (T.T.milk)	1
Wholesale to retail distributors (T.T. milk)	3
Producer-retailers (3 T.T. milks, 2 non-designated milks)	5

The sources of supply of the grades of milk sold retail within the district are as follows:—

	Produced in district	Produced outside district	Total
Tuberculin Tested	7	21	28
Accredited	—	2	2
Non-designated	2	6	8
Pasteurised	—	4	4
T.T. Pasteurised	—	4	4
Sterilised	—	3	3
Total	9	40	49

No of registered distributors operating from:

Dairies in the district	7
Dairy farms in the district	
(registered by the local authority)	nil
(registered by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries) ...	6
Shops in the district other than dairies	104
Premises outside the district	22

Under the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, 23 licences to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" in relation to milk sold by them were issued to dealers, and under the

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk Regulations, 1949, licences were issued to 24 retail distributors of Pasteurised Milk and 106 retail distributors of Sterilised Milk.

The emphasis on milk sampling was continued, and all supplies of raw milk produced within and brought into the Borough for retail sale were submitted to bacteriological and biological examination at least twice during the year. A total of 236 samples of such milks were sampled, an increase of 42 over the previous year. The sample results are given below.

Tuberculin Tested Milk	No. of samples.	Results.
Tuberculosis-biological test	60 ...	59 negative, 1 positive.
Methylene Blue reduction test	70 ...	56 satisfactory. 14 unsatisfactory.
Accredited Milk		
Tuberculosis-biological test	10 ...	10 negative
Methylene Blue reduction test	10 ...	8 satisfactory. 2 unsatisfactory.
Non-designated Milk		
Tuberculosis-biological test	42 ...	39 negative, 3 positive.
Methylene Blue reduction test	44 ...	26 satisfactory. 18 unsatisfactory.

Of the 14 Tuberculin Tested Milks found unsatisfactory on the Methylene Blue Test, 13 were obtained from retailers and 1 from a wholesaler, whilst a similar comparison between the 18 unsatisfactory results of non-designated milks show that only 3 of these were obtained from retailers, the remaining 15 being from farmers who wholesale their milk. It may be that, knowing the milk was later to be heat treated, these farmers neglected to practice clean milk production. One such sample failed the methylene blue test by decolourising in 1 hour, when a satisfactory milk would not have discoloured in 5½ hours — this on a winter's morning when the temperature was two degrees below freezing, and it was a sample of that morning's milking. Since the sample bottles are sterile, it can best be left to the imagination as to what happened in the cowshed that morning.

In addition to the samples of raw milk referred to above, 8 samples of heat treated milks were taken, with results as follows:

Pasteurised Milk :	No. of samples.	Result.
Phosphatase test	3 ...	2 satisfactory 1 unsatisfactory
Methylene Blue reduction test	1 ...	1 satisfactory
T.T. Pasteurised Milk :		
Methylene Blue reduction test	1 ...	1 satisfactory
Sterilised Milk :		
Turbidity test	3 ...	3 satisfactory

Upon receipt of an adverse Methylene Blue sample report, further samples are taken, and where the duties of the Department allow, advice given.

Following notification that 4 samples of milk had been proved by biological tests to contain tubercle bacilli, the information was immediately passed on to the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. These were all samples of milk produced and obtained within the district, three samples being non-designated milks, and one Tuberculin Tested milk. Two of the non-designated milks and the Tuberculin Tested milk were retailed direct to the public, whilst the remaining non-designated milk was wholesaled for subsequent heat treatment.

Results of Ministry investigations by the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries within the district arising from notification of tuberculous milk:

No. of veterinary inspections	6
No. of cases where animals seized under Tuberculosis Order, 1938	3
No. of animals seized	3
No. of cases reported negative where animals had been sold prior to investigation	Nil
No. of cases reported negative, no animals seized	1

The case reported as negative, where no animals were seized, concerned the Tuberculin Tested milk, and two subsequent samples of this milk were both reported as giving a negative result to the biological test.

Action was taken under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, on four occasions.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

The following foods were found unfit for human consumption, and were destroyed under supervision after being surrendered voluntarily:

Product.	Containers.	Tons.	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Apples	38			2	4	2
Apricots	16				22	13½
Beans	45			1	3	7½
Beef Loaf, Minced	59			2	6	5
Beef, Pressed	—				12	4

Product.	Containers.	Tons.	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Beef Steak	2				14	0
Bilberries	4				3	8
Blackcurrants	23				20	11
Blancmange Powder	6			2	14	0
Brisling	16				21	10
Broth, Chicken	1					15
Cabbage	5				3	12
Carrots	5				5	5
Cheese	6				1	8
Cheese Spread	2					8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cherries	102			3	17	12
Chicken	—				13	12
Chicken, Minced	2					2 $\frac{3}{4}$
Coffee	1					4
Compound Fat	—		1	2	0	0
Crawfish	4				1	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Cream	5				1	10
Damsons	80			3	10	12
Egg Powder, Dried	—				2	2
Fruit Salad	14				7	14 $\frac{1}{2}$
Grapes	9				11	4
Grapefruit	18				16	3
Grapefruit Juice	2				2	3
Greengages	20			1	9	2
Ham, Cooked	21		1	2	5	12
Ham, Boiled	53			3	12	1
Hake	—				14	0
Jam	1				1	0
Kidney	1					12
Lard	—				5	0
Lobster, Rock	1					3 $\frac{1}{2}$
Luncheon Meat	72			2	2	5
Margarine	—		1	2	0	0
Meat Loaf	14				11	0
Milk	202		1	3	5	10 $\frac{1}{2}$
Oranges	3				3	4
Pastry, Puff	12				12	0
Peaches	103		1	1	4	4 $\frac{1}{2}$
Pears	85			3	5	1 $\frac{1}{2}$
Peas	290		1	2	17	5 $\frac{1}{2}$

Product.	Containers.	Tons.	Cwts.	Qtrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Pilchards	4				2	7
Pineapple	32				26	8
Plums	170	1		3	12	6½
Pork	3				2	10
Pork, Jellied	2				12	0
Prunes	91	6		2	9	1¼
Pudding, Custard	1					4½
Rabbits	2	1		0	8	0
Raspberries	7				5	7½
Rice	4	1		0	6	0
Salad	3				2	14½
Salmon	30				6	11
Sardines	75				21	0¾
Sausages	—			2	22	0
Shrimps	2					7½
Soup	28				19	1
Spaghetti	1				1	0
Steak	71			2	27	4
Strawberries	17				22	0½
Sugar	6				9	8
Sweet Fat	—	1		2	0	0
Syrup	1				1	14
Tomatoes	77			2	21	6
Tongue	99	3		2	17	2½
Tripe	—				14	0
Veal, Jellied	15			3	6	0
Vegetables, Mixed	2				1	10
Totals	2086	1	17	0	20	3¼

The number of pigs slaughtered under the self-suppliers of meat scheme dropped considerably, from 33 in 1952 to only 8 this year. All were found to be fit for human consumption.

FOOD PREMISES.

A total of 501 inspections was made of premises where food is prepared or sold for human consumption. These were divided between the various types of business as shown below:

Type of business.	Number.	Visits.
Baker and Confectioner	96	140
Butcher	60	91
Cafes and Canteens	42	72
Fried Fish and Fishmongers ...	33	39
Other foodshops	137	159

The number of food premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the preparation of preserved food and the manufacture or sale of ice-cream, and the number of inspections of these premises is detailed below.

Type of business.	No. registered.	No. of inspections.
Baker and Confectioner ...	84	72
Bakery and Catering	4	8
Butchers	37	25
Cooked Meats, etc.	3	6
Fish frier	1	—
Mixed and Grocery	3	—

DEFECTS FOUND IN FOOD PREMISES.

Informal action, either in the form of written or verbal notice, was taken on 113 occasions against the owners or occupiers of various food premises. The total number of defects found was 202, of which 75 were remedied. In addition, 76 defects found in 1952 were abated, making a total of 151 improvements carried out during the year.

NOTICES ISSUED AND RESULTS AT YEAR END.

Type of premises.	Written notices.	Completed.	Verbal notices.	Completed
Food preparation ...	13	4	46	16
Food shop	16	5	24	11
Catering	1	—	13	10
Totals	30	9	83	37

DEFECTS FOUND AND RESULTS AT YEAR END.

Type of premises.	Written notices.	Completed.	Verbal notices.	Completed.
Food preparation ...	35	8	76	30
Food shop	47	14	43	23
Catering	1	—	—	—
Totals	83	22	119	53

The following table analyses the defects found during the year, the number of those abated, and the number of defects found during 1952 but remedied in 1953.

	Found During 1953	Abated During 1953	Abated in 1952 Found in 1952
Defective roof	1	—	—
Defective rainwater pipes	2	—	—
Defective rainwater gutterings ...	1	—	1
Defective ceilings	13	4	3
Defective wall surfaces	24	7	9
Defective window frame	1	—	—
Defective sashcord	—	—	1
Defective floors, wooden	7	2	3
Defective floors, stone	4	1	4
Defective yard surfaces	2	—	—
Defective w.c. compartments	8	2	—
Insufficient ventilation to w.c. compartment	—	—	1
Defective water closets	1	1	1
Defective drains	1	1	1
Defective sinks	11	3	1
Defective sink waste pipes	2	2	—
Absence of waste receptacles	3	—	—
Insufficient waste receptacles	5	3	6
Insufficient ventilation	—	—	2
Insufficient storage for outdoor clothing	—	—	1
Insufficient fuel storage	2	2	2
Defective refrigerator	2	—	1
Defective equipment	—	—	2
Unsuitable equipment	4	2	—
Defective food storage	1	1	—
Insufficient food storage	14	7	5

	Found During 1953	Abated	Abated in 1953 Found in 1952
Improper use of room	7	...	5
Use of basement for food preparation room	1	...	1
Absence of, or insufficiency of, hot water	16	...	4
Absence of suitable washing facilities	2	...	—
Absence of towel, nailbrush, etc.	4	...	2
Accumulations of rubbish	6	...	5
Dirty rooms	3	...	2
Dirty walls and ceilings	37	...	9
Dirty floors	7	...	2
Dirty utensils, etc.	4	...	1
Dirty waste receptacles	1	...	1
Dirty w.c. accommodation	—	...	—
Mice infestation	4	...	4
Fly infestation	1	...	1
Totals.....	202	75	76

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS.

The Lancashire County Council are responsible for the chemical sampling of milk and other foods within the Borough, and I am indebted to Dr. S. C. Gawne, County Medical Officer of Health, for the following details of samples procured during the year.

A total of 170 samples was obtained; of these 113 were of milk and the 57 others comprised:—

1 Pork Sausage	3 Coffee
3 Beef Sausage	1 Milk condensed special full cream, sweetened
5 Meat Pies	1 Milk condensed full cream, unsweetened
2 Custard Powder	1 Fruit, canned
1 Drinking Chocolate	2 Soup, canned
1 Dripping	1 Tomato Ketchup
2 Aspirin Tablets	1 Syrup
2 Sodium Bicarbonate	2 Semolina
2 Sweets	2 Sauce
2 Gelatine	1 Pepper
2 Flour	2 Sulphur Ointment
1 Stewed Steak, canned	1 South African Sherry
1 Steak Pudding, canned	1 Port
1 Curry Powder	1 Bacon
1 Mustard Compound	2 Cheese Spread
2 Dried Herbs	1 Ground Almonds
2 Malt, Milk and Cocoa Beverage	1 Self Raising Flour
2 Mincemeat	

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following:—

Sample.	Result of Analysis.	Action taken.
1 Pork Sausage	Deficient 10% of the minimum percentage of meat	Vendor cautioned.
1 informal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 1.4% of extraneous water	Vendor cautioned and further sample obtained.
1 formal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 0.6% of extraneous water	Vendor cautioned.
1 formal milk	Freezing point indicated the presence of 2% of extraneous water	Vendor notified and further sample obtained.
1 Sulphur ointment ...	Contained only 8.6% sulphur. B.P. limits 9.5%—10.5%	Vendor interviewed and stock withdrawn from sale.
1 formal milk	Deficient 5% fat	Vendor notified.

ICE-CREAM.

There are 129 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream, including five premises at which ice-cream is manufactured. At three of these, ice-cream is manufactured by the cold mix method, whilst the remaining two manufacturers employ heat treatment methods. The products of 15 manufacturers are on sale within the district, and samples were taken of each and subjected to a Methylene Blue reduction test, with results as shown below:

Grade 1 (satisfactory)	31
Grade 2	9
Grade 3	7
Grade 4	4
Inconclusive results	3

HEALTH EDUCATION.

Whilst it was not possible to organise a series of lectures on Food Hygiene to persons employed in the various food trades, opportunity was taken on visiting premises where food was prepared or sold to instruct the staff on the hygienic measures necessary for that particular business. It is found that, by explaining the reasons for requiring precautions to be taken in the handling of food, personnel appreciate our point of view, and are much more willing to co-operate.

Prevalence of, and Control over Infectious Diseases

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS).

There was a marked increase in the number of notifications during 1953, a total of 834 being received against 330 the previous year, and almost double the average number per year over the previous five years. This was due to the number of cases of measles and whooping cough.

Comments on the various diseases are as follows:

SCARLET FEVER.

A decrease of 23 cases on the previous year and about the average per year over the 5 years previous. Most of the cases were during the first and last quarters of the year and occurred amongst schoolchildren. The disease was of a very mild type but 18 cases were removed to hospital on account of the inadequacy of isolation facilities. The incidence rate per 1000 of population was 0.54 higher than that for the whole of England and Wales.

MEASLES.

There was a very marked increase in these cases, 576 against 118 during 1952 and over double the yearly average over the five previous years. Almost all the cases occurred during the first six months of the year, particularly January and February and more than half were children under the age of five years, five cases with complications being removed to hospital. The incidence rate was 17.18 per 1000 of population compared with 12.36 per 1000 for the country as a whole.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Almost double the cases notified the previous year and well over the average per year for the previous five years, giving an incidence rate of 4.29 per 1000 of population compared with 3.58 per 1000 for the whole of the country, and mainly occurred during the first and last quarters of the year. Most of the cases were amongst pre-school children. Three cases were removed to hospital.

PNEUMONIA.

A decrease of 7 cases on the previous year. Half the cases were persons of 45 years of age or over, and there were 9 deaths during the year.

MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION.

One case, an adult, notified during August and removed to hospital.

ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS.

Four cases notified and confirmed, 3 paralytic cases and 1 non-paralytic. The incidence rate is comparable with the country as a whole and sub-divisions thereof.

ERYSIPELAS.

Six notifications were received, an increase of 5 on the previous year, and 3 cases were removed to hospital. The incidence rate is slightly higher than the rest of the country.

MALARIA.

One case was notified in August and this was a malarial relapse following infection contracted abroad.

FOOD POISONING.

Of 11 cases notified only 3 were confirmed by laboratory examination of specimens, as cases of Salmonella Food Poisoning, and 2 of these were children of one family, no other member of which was affected. Five of the other cases were in one family, but samples of suspected food were not obtainable, and although eight of the total cases occurred in June around the same date, there was no common factor applicable and in only one case was the diagnosis confirmed bacteriologically.

No other notifications were received during the year but there are two points I would like to make with regard to Smallpox and Diphtheria, as follows:

SMALLPOX.

We have had no cases for many years now, but the risk of an outbreak is ever present and possibly increased due to the speed of contemporary travel, although great care is taken by the port and airport authorities to prevent the entry of the disease into the country.

Our main protection against this disease is in vaccination or re-vaccination to maintain immunity, but this is one of those things about which the general public are apathetic until an outbreak

occurs, when a serious state of affairs can then develop and a heavy unnecessary burden be thrown on the already heavily strained medical services. I must, therefore, stress the importance of vaccination, particularly of infants, and strongly recommend this to all parents.

DIPHTHERIA.

There has been no case of diphtheria in Nelson since 1948. For the whole of England and Wales the notifications dropped from over 40,000 in the year 1942 to less than 400 in 1952, and during the same period the deaths from diphtheria decreased from 1807 to 32.

This remarkable reduction in the incidence of the disease and the number of deaths, is, of course, due to the extensive immunisation against the disease which has been carried out during the period but the disease does still occur.

Whilst immunisation is maintained at a fairly high level locally, it still falls short of the target for it is considered by the Ministry of Health that the protection rate should be at least 75% of the child population. No doubt the reason is that the fear of diphtheria has decreased with the reduced incidence and most parents have never seen a case of the disease.

If we are to continue to enjoy this freedom from diphtheria we must effectively use the weapon of immunisation, and I strongly recommend all parents to avail themselves of the opportunity of having their children immunised. Immunisation is simple, practically painless, and provided free, by most private medical practitioners or by the County Medical staff at the Infant Welfare Centres.

HOSPITAL ACCOMMODATION FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

This accommodation with the exception of that for smallpox, is provided by the Burnley and District Hospital Management Committee at Marsden Hospital, Burnley, and almost all cases requiring hospitalisation are admitted thereto. There are, however, occasions when accommodation is not available and arrangements are then made through the Bed Bureau.

During the year 36 patients, 21 less than in the previous year, were admitted to Infectious Diseases Hospitals.

The following Tables show:—

1. Analysis, according to disease and age of patient of cases notified during 1953.
2. Comparison of Infectious Diseases figures for 1953 with those of the previous year.
3. Comparison of Infectious Diseases figures for 1953 with those of the previous 5 years and average.
4. Monthly Incidence of notified cases.
5. Ward Analysis of notifications.
6. Comparison of case rates for certain infectious diseases with figures for England and Wales and sub-divisions of the country.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)
NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.

Notifiable Disease	Total Cases	AGE PERIODS								Number removed to hosp'l.	Deaths
		Under 1	1 —	3 —	5 —	10 —	15 —	25 —	45 —	65 and over	
Scarlet Fever ...	65	—	5	16	40	4	—	—	—	18	—
Enteric or typhoid fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	576	11	124	186	252	3	—	—	—	5	—
Whooping Cough ...	144	7	41	44	49	2	—	1	—	3	—
Pneumonia ...	26	—	—	—	3	—	1	8	10	4	9
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis:—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Paralytic ...	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	3	—
Non-Paralytic ...	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	3	—
Malaria ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	11	—	4	—	2	1	—	3	1	2	—
TOTALS ...	834	19	175	246	346	10	2	17	15	4	9

COMPARISON OF FIGURES FOR 1952 WITH THOSE OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

Notifiable disease	Cases		Cases removed to Hospital		Deaths	
	Notified 1953	1952	1953	1952	1953	1952
Scarlet Fever	65	88	18	44	—	—
Enteric or typhoid fever	—	1	—	1	—	—
Measles	576	118	5	2	—	—
Whooping Cough	144	76	3	2	—	—
Pneumonia	26	33	—	—	9	10
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection	1	—	1	—	—	—
Acute poliomyelitis-paralytic...	3	4	3	4	—	—
non-paralytic	1	—	1	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	1	—	1	—	—
Erysipelas	6	1	3	1	—	—
Malaria	1	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	11	8	2	2	—	—
Totals	834	330	36	57	9	10

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFICATIONS (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS).

COMPARISON OF 1952 FIGURES WITH FIGURES FOR PREVIOUS
5 YEARS AND AVERAGE.

Notifiable disease	Notifications received during:					Total for 5 yrs.	Average number per yr.	Notifi- cations 1953
	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952			
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	69	47	52	61	88	317	63.4	65
Diphtheria	1	—	—	—	—	1	0.2	—
Enteric or typhoid fever ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	0.2	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	406	79	577	190	118	1370	274.0	576
Whooping Cough	113	9	247	45	76	490	98.0	144
Pneumonia	6	21	10	36	33	106	21.2	26
Puerperal pyrexia	3	2	1	2	—	8	1.6	—
Meningococcal infection.....	1	—	—	1	—	2	0.4	1
Acute poliomyelitis								
Paralytic	—	1	—	2	4	7	1.4	3
Non-paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Encephalitis								
Infective	1	—	—	—	—	1	0.2	—
Post Infectious.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	4	—	2	18	1	25	5.0	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	2	1	1	—	—	4	0.8	—
Erysipelas	4	5	2	—	1	12	2.4	6
Malaria.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning*	—	—	—	13	3	21	4.2	11
Totals	610	165	892	368	330	2365	473.0	834

*Notifiable from 1951.

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIED CASES.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Smallpox.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever.....	13	1	2	—	5	2	1	3	5	9	8	16	65
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	139	190	93	61	45	39	4	3	1	1	—	—	576
Whooping Cough ...	12	36	21	7	4	4	1	1	11	21	13	13	144
Acute Pneumonia ...	2	3	5	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	3	26
Puerperal Pyrexia...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis Paralytic	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	3
Non-paralytic ...	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Acute Encephalitis Infective	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post Infective ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	6
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	1	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	1	1	11
Totals	168	231	122	72	56	55	7	10	18	35	27	33	834

WARD ANALYSIS OF NOTIFICATIONS.

Disease	Bradley	Central	Clover Hill	Marsden	Netherfield	Southfield	Walverden	Whitefield	Total
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	7	2	12	12	8	7	14	3	65
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric or Typhoid Fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	121	38	53	88	68	74	82	52	576
Whooping Cough	26	16	12	26	16	9	22	17	144
Acute pneumonia	3	1	—	5	3	8	3	3	26
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paralytic	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	3
Non-paralytic	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Acute Encephalitis Infective	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Post Infective	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	1	6
Malaria.....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning	—	2	3	—	1	—	5	—	11
Totals	159	61	81	132	97	99	129	76	834

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

COMPARISON OF CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.

(NELSON FIGURES ADDED TO FIGURES SUPPLIED BY THE
REGISTRAR GENERAL).

Notifications (Corrected)	England and Wales	160 County boroughs and Great Towns including London	160 Smaller Towns Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1951 Census	London Adm. County	Nelson
RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION.					
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Meningococcal Infection...	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.02
Scarlet Fever	1.39	1.50	1.44	1.02	1.93
Whooping Cough	3.58	3.72	3.38	3.30	4.29
Diphtheria	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Erysipelas	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12	0.17
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
Measles	12.36	11.27	12.32	8.09	17.18
Pneumonia	0.84	0.92	0.76	0.73	0.77
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polio- encephalitis) :					
Paralytic	0.07	0.06	0.06	0.07	0.08
Non-paralytic	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.02
Food Poisoning	0.24	0.25	0.24	0.38	0.32
Puerperal Pyrexia	18.23 (a)	24.33 (a)	12.46 (a)	28.61 (a)	0.00 (a)

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births.

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 27 new cases notified, 23 respiratory cases (7 males and 16 females) and 4 non-respiratory cases (3 males and 1 female). This was a decrease of 4 cases (1 respiratory and 3 non-respiratory) on the total for the previous year, and gave an incidence rate of 0.80 per 100 of population (respiratory 0.68 and non-respiratory 0.12 per 1000) compared with 0.91 per 1000. Whilst the total respiratory cases was less than last year, the number of males was the lowest, but the number of females was the highest for many years.

The occupations of the new patients notified during the year are as follows:

Respiratory Cases.	M.	F.	Non-respiratory cases.	M.	F.
Cleaner	—	1	Fitter	1	—
Cotton Winder	—	3	Machinist	—	1
Domestic Servant	—	1	Weaver	1	—
H.M. Forces (Army) ...	1	—	No occupation	1	—
Housewife	—	4			
Metal Polisher	1	—			
Motor Driver	1	—			
Nurse (Student)	—	1			
Overlooker	1	—			
School Child	1	2			
School Teacher	—	1			
Shop Assistant	1	—			
Telephonist	—	1			
Waitress	—	1			
Weaver	1	1			

Seven deaths from tuberculosis were registered, 6 Respiratory cases (5 males and 1 female) and 1 Non-respiratory (a female) case, which gave a death rate of 0.21 per 1000 of population, respiratory 0.18 and non-respiratory 0.03 per 1000. The figure for England and Wales was 0.20 per 1000 of population.

Compared with the previous year, there were 4 less deaths in 1953, and the death rate was less by 0.11 per 1000 of population.

The following tables show:—

1. Analysis of new cases and deaths from the disease according to age groups and sex.
2. Number of new cases and deaths with rates per 1000 of population over a period of 16 years, 1938-1953.
3. Number of cases on Tuberculosis Register during the year.

Analysis of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from the disease according to age groups and sex.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 2 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2 to 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 10 years	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 15 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 20 years	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
20 to 25 years	2	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
25 to 35 years	1	4	—	—	1	1	—	—
35 to 45 years	1	3	2	—	—	—	1	—
45 to 55 years	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 to 65 years	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
65 to 75 years	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
75 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	7	16	3	1	5	1	1	—
	23		4		6		1	

TUBERCULOSIS.

PARTICULARS OF NEW CASES AND DEATHS OVER PERIOD OF 16 YEARS
1938 - 1953.

1. NEW CASES.

Year	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Total	Rate per 1,000 population			
	Male	Female	Male	Female					
1953 ...	7	16	...	3	1	...	27	...	0.80
1952 ...	12	12	...	5	2	...	31	...	0.91
1951 ...	14	8	...	6	7	...	35	...	1.02
1950 ...	13	4	...	6	7	...	30	...	0.86
1949 ...	24	15	...	4	9	...	52	...	1.50
1948 ...	22	10	...	4	7	...	43	...	1.24
1947 ...	12	9	...	2	4	...	27	...	0.79
1946 ...	25	6	...	3	9	...	43	...	1.31
1945 ...	16	9	...	4	10	...	39	...	1.25
1944 ...	18	9	...	3	11	...	41	...	1.30
1943 ...	19	5	..	11	7	...	42	...	1.32
1942 ...	20	8	...	6	9	...	43	...	1.31
1941 ...	15	11	...	10	2	...	38	...	1.10
1940 ...	16	10	...	9	7	...	42	...	0.95
1939 ...	10	6	...	6	13	...	35	...	1.01
1938 ...	11	11	...	14	13	...	49	...	1.39

2. DEATHS.

1953 ...	5	1	...	1	—	...	7	...	0.21
1952 ...	9	2	...	—	—	...	11	...	0.32
1951 ...	4	2	...	1	1	...	8	...	0.23
1950 ...	5	8	...	—	—	...	13	...	0.37
1949 ...	12	5	...	2	2	...	21	...	0.60
1948 ...	11	8	...	2	2	...	23	...	0.66
1947 ...	3	4	...	—	—	...	7	...	0.21
1946 ...	9	3	...	2	1	...	15	...	0.45
1945 ...	10	3	...	—	3	...	16	...	0.50
1944 ...	14	3	...	1	1	...	19	...	0.60
1943 ...	7	5	...	5	1	...	18	...	0.57
1942 ...	6	4	...	1	3	...	14	...	0.43
1941 ...	9	9	...	3	—	...	21	...	0.62
1940 ...	7	6	...	2	—	...	15	...	0.44
1939 ...	13	4	...	3	—	...	20	...	0.58
1938 ...	5	9	...	2	2	...	18	...	0.54

NUMBER OF CASES ON TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER DURING THE YEAR.

	Pulmonary			Non-pulmonary			Total		
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	M	F	Total
Number of cases on register at commencement of the year.....	84	52	136	28	34	62	112	86	198
Number of cases added to register during the year:—									
(a) New Cases	7	16	23	3	1	4			
(b) Inward transfers from other districts	2	2	4	—	—	—	12	19	31
Number of cases removed from register during the year:—									
(a) Died	6	2	8	1	1	2			
(b) Recovered	9	7	16	5	4	9	22	15	37
(c) Left district ...	1	—	1	—	1	1			
Number of cases on register at end of the year	77	61	138	25	29	54	102	90	192

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of, or mortality from, tuberculosis in any particular occupation in the district.

Notification of the disease is generally efficient and there has been no incidence of wilful neglect or refusal to notify.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT (PREVENTION OF TUBERCULOSIS) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action has been necessary under these Regulations for dealing with tuberculosis employees in the milk trade.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936—SECTION 172.

No action has been necessary under this section for the removal to hospital of infectious persons suffering from tuberculosis of the respiratory tract.

DISINFECTION AFTER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 89 dwellinghouses involving 107 rooms have been fumigated, and 1121 articles of bedding and wearing apparel, etc., have been disinfected.

Formalin spray and vapour is used for the fumigation of rooms and the disinfection of bedding, etc., is carried out by steam, the apparatus being situated at the Cleansing Department, Charles Street.

Disinfection and fumigation is also carried out on request following other illnesses or deaths, and during the year 1 room and 54 articles of bedding and wearing apparel were dealt with.

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