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NEWBURN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

(County of Northumberland)

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the Year 1960



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ANNUAL REPORT

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MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
for the Year 1960

HEALTH COMMITTEE MEMBERS
1960/61

—o—

Chairman :

Councillor Mrs. EVELYN WATSON

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor JOSEPH WILLIAM LEA

Councillor CHARLES ANDREW WOODS

„ JOHN CROSTHWAITE PATTERSON

„ THOMAS ROBERTSON

„ DAVID HODSON

„ Mrs. PEGGY WADDINGTON

„ JOSEPH WILLIAM BAIN

„ EDWIN STEVENS, J.P.

„ WILLIAM HENRY FERENS SHACKLETON

OFFICERS OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Newcastle upon Tyne, 5.

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T. J. W. ROBSON, M.B., B.S.,

Senior Public Health Inspector :

JOHN CORNEY, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspector :

CHARLES RAND, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Pupil Public Health Inspector :

GEORGE GRAHAM.

Clerk :

Miss P. E. HETHERINGTON (Appointed March, 1960).

To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council of Newburn :

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you the Annual Report concerning the health and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District in 1960.

The steady rise in population of the previous five years continued, by another slight increase, to 27,620. An increase in population of just about 5,000 has taken place since 1955.

There was a slight but not significant decrease in both the birth and death rates for the year.

A welcome feature was the drop in the infant mortality rate to 26.7 from 41.8 per 1,000 live births the previous year, the number of infant deaths decreasing from 21, in 1959 to 13, in 1960. Certainly, a matter for congratulation, though the number of deaths of infants from infective causes showed an appreciable rise and gives no cause for undue complacency in the fields of maternal and child care.

In the individual causes of death, there were two features of interest. Deaths from malignant disease of all forms, showed a slight decrease of six in the two years, but those from cancer of the stomach, which had risen to 11, in 1959 from a previous average of four to five a year, remained at ten in 1960. Deaths from malignant diseases of the lungs and bronchi also rose considerably from 11, in 1959 to 14, in 1960. The increase of deaths from malignant neoplasm of the lungs and bronchi has been apparent during the last few years.

An encouraging feature of the vital statistics was a marked decline in the number of deaths from accidents of all kinds. Fatal road accidents were reduced by one and deaths from all other accidents by seven. There was only one fatal home accident this year ; a stimulus to further efforts in the prevention of accidents.

The death rate for tuberculosis continued its steady decline, though there was one death in the year. The incidence however, showed an increase to 13 notified cases of pulmonary tuberculosis from nine in 1959.

The special survey undertaken by the Mobile Unit of the Mass Radiography Service, in operating house to house visiting in the village of Newburn, in which the Health Department co-operated, brought to light three cases of active tuberculosis. Three hundred

and thirty four persons, who had never been chest X-rayed before, attended during the week the unit was functioning. The influx of inward transfers of tuberculosis to the district lessened to seven from 12, in 1959.

The total number of notifications of infectious disease was small, only 63, the lowest annual figure ever recorded for the Urban District. The number of notifications of Measles was low after the outbreak in 1959. Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Sonne Dysentery and Primary Pneumonia also showed a lowered incidence.

Particulars are given in the text of the investigation of an outbreak of diarrhoea and sickness at one of our larger schools, found to be due to Sonne Dysentery. The amount of work was considerable, and very satisfactorily done.

This year, three graphs which I hope you will find of interest, are incorporated in the report. One graph clearly shows the drop in the incidence of whooping cough, coincident with the yearly rise in the number of children vaccinated against whooping cough each year. The fall in incidence is quite dramatic.

Another graph shows the annual death rates from Bronchitis during the last twenty years. There is a small gradual decline with occasional remissions, but, in view of the introduction and improvement in the antibiotics in more recent years, the decrease is small.

It has now been possible, as the deposit gauges have been in operation since 1955, to give the average monthly deposits in graph form, indicating a very slight but encouraging decrease in all four.

A large amount of work was done by the Senior Public Health Inspector in forwarding the Council's policy towards the establishment of Smoke Control Areas, and taking into account the problems involved, with considerable success.

No formal action was, fortunately, necessary under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, the cases investigated being brought to a more satisfactory standard by informal measures.

The other activities of the Health Department continued smoothly during the year with various increased activities such as the school outbreak of Dysentery, the Special Survey of the Mass Radiography Unit, and the Clean Air Exhibition at the Co-operative Hall, Throckley, from 29th March, 1960, to 1st April, 1960, the background work of which was done with much enthusiasm by the staff of the department.

I would like to thank the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their uniform interest in the work of the department during the year and to my colleagues in other departments for their co-operation.

I would also like to express my appreciation of the excellent work of Mr. Corney, Senior Public Health Inspector, all through the year, and of Mr. Rand, Additional Public Health Inspector, Mr. Graham, Pupil Public Health Inspector and Miss Hetherington, Clerk Typist to the department.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

M. HOPPER,

Medical Officer of Health.

I. VITAL STATISTICS

Population :

As has been the case for some years there was again a slight increase in the population. The Registrar General's mid-year estimate was 27,620 from 27,330 the previous year. Since 1955, the population has shown a small but steady increase each year mainly due to the rehousing of overspill population from the city of Newcastle upon Tyne, and more recently some private building. There has been an increase of 4,930 during the last six years.

Births :

A total of 487, (268 male and 219 female) births was registered in the year, a decrease of 15 on those registered in 1959. The decrease was mainly in the number of male births, there being 12 less in 1960. The birth rate (corrected for age and sex distribution) for the Urban District was 16.04 per 1,000 population, and that for England and Wales was 17.1.

In 1959, the birth rate of 16.7 per 1,000 population was slightly higher than the national rate of 16.5. The rate has usually remained at a fairly steady level slightly above the national rate, but this year, the rate for the Urban District is slightly lower. Twelve illegitimate births were registered compared with seven in 1959.

The number of still births showed a decline to 13 from 16 in the previous year. The still birth rate was 26.7 per 1,000 live and still births compared with 30.9 in 1959 ; the still birth rate for England and Wales was 19.7.

Deaths :

A decrease was shown in the total number of deaths registered in 1960 to 308 from 320, in 1959, 34 of these deaths occurred in the Lemington Hospital, whereas there were 25 in 1959. This gave a total of 274 deaths of residents of the district for 1960, compared with 295 in the previous year. The death rate (corrected for age and sex distribution) for the Urban District was 14.6 per 1,000 population, and for England and Wales it was 11.5. In the year before the comparative figures were 15.5 for the Urban District and 11.6 deaths per 1,000 population nationally.

The total number of deaths from respiratory diseases generally was similar in both years, being 25 in 1960 and 26, in 1959. There was a slight decrease from five to three, in the number of deaths

from pneumonia of residents after exclusion of deaths in the Hospital, and an increase of two in the number of deaths from bronchitis. A graph showing the number of deaths from bronchitis during the last 20 years has been incorporated in the report. It shows a very slight gradual decline over the 20 years with several peaks, especially in 1942, 1947 and 1949, and again a smaller peak in 1956.

One death from influenza was registered ; there was none the previous year. There was one death from Leukaemia, a woman of 43 years, and deaths from diabetes decreased from four to two.

A very welcome decrease took place in deaths from accidents of all forms. Those from motor vehicle accidents were reduced to two from three the previous year and from four in both 1958 and 1957. Both these deaths were of males, one a man of 23, died when the car in which he was travelling as a passenger collided with a trolley pole, and the other, a boy of 16, was in a collision with a lorry while riding a motor cycle. The other accidents numbered four, two were mining accidents of men aged 64 and 54.

There was one home accident, a female aged 89, a fall, resulting in a fractured femur. The other accidental death was of a boy of eight years, from asphyxia due to drowning. The drop in deaths from accidents both home and industrial from 11, in 1959 to four is an encouraging feature of the year. Only one of these deaths can be regarded as a home accident, compared with six the previous year, when the number was exceptionally high. Perhaps the increased propaganda both national and local and increased consciousness of the hazards in the home and on the road is having some effect. Continued efforts towards the prevention of accidents are, of course, needed, but there does seem to be an increased awareness of the possibility of preventing accidents in the home. Lectures, particularly if illustrated by suitable films, are always received with great interest by the home helps and women's voluntary organisations. An increase in propaganda on these lines and also to the young, should definitely continue.

Deaths from suicide decreased to one, a woman of 64 years, from coal gas poisoning. Unfortunately, in the previous year the number of suicides had risen to four.

Natural Increase of Population :

The number of births in excess of deaths during the year was 179, a slight decrease on the figures for previous years.

Infant Mortality :

It is pleasing to report that the number of deaths of infants under one year of age dropped to 13, compared with the unusually high number of 21 the previous year.

The infantile mortality rate for the district was 26.7 per 1,000 live births and the national rate was 21.7. In 1959, the infantile mortality rate for the district was 41.8 and that for the country 22.0. The rate this year more nearly approximates the national rate.

The decrease was evident in all three groups of infant mortality ; the number of peri-natal deaths (i.e. in the first week of life) decreased from 13 to nine, the number of neo-natal deaths (i.e. in the first month of life) from 16 to ten, and the number of deaths after one month and up to one year of age, from five to three. Deaths from prematurity were four compared with six in 1959, and those from congenital abnormalities and peri-natal causes were five from eight the previous year, giving a reduction of five deaths in two years in these groups. There was no death due to accident or misadventure.

Deaths of infants from infective causes rose to four in 1960 from three, in 1959, two of the deaths this year were from acute bronchitis, both of babies at one month old, another was from broncho-pneumonia at one month and one from enteritis at six months. A further lesson is thus given that even with the armamentum of the antibiotics, infection as a cause of infant death is, as yet, by no means eradicated. Efforts in child care and the promotion of child health in all its facets, including the relevant branches of preventive medicine such as housing, atmospheric pollution etc., must be continued and reinforced. These four deaths from infective causes occurred in a year when there was the smallest number of infectious diseases ever notified in the Urban District.

Maternal Mortality :

For the second year in succession no death attributable to pregnancy or child birth occurred. The maternal mortality rate for England and Wales was 0.39 per 1,000 live births.

Individual Causes of Death :

Deaths in the group of heart and circulatory diseases were, of course, the largest number, a total of 113 being notified compared with 111 the previous year. On exclusion of the Hospital deaths the number of deaths of residents in this group was 107 in each year.

Deaths from vascular lesions of the nervous system showed a slight increase to 71 in 1960 from 61, in 1959, subtracting deaths in the Lemington Hospital this leaves 53 deaths of residents in the classification compared with 49, the previous year.

A decrease in the total number of deaths from malignant neoplasm took place, 53 being registered in 1960, compared with 59 in 1959. During the last two years, deaths from cancer of the stomach have remained at a high level, being 11 in 1959 and 10, in 1960. In the two years before this, the numbers had been three and six. There was an increase of three deaths from malignant neoplasm of the lungs and bronchi to 14 from 11, in 1959. There has been a steady increase in deaths from cancer of the lungs and bronchi during the last four years from nine in 1957 and 1958, to the present figures.

Of the 14 deaths from malignant disease of the lungs and bronchi 13 were male and one female. Four deaths occurred at between 50 and 60 years of age and eight between 60 and 70. There was one death at 43 and one at 75 years.

Nine male deaths occurred in persons employed in mining and heavy industry. Of the 13 male deaths, three persons were heavy smokers and six were moderate cigarette smokers. Information regarding the smoking habits of the other four was not available.

II. TUBERCULOSIS

One death from pulmonary Tuberculosis occurred, a male of 60 years. The death rate for the disease for the Urban District was 0.0036 per 1,000 population and that for England and Wales 0.07. No death from tuberculosis occurred in 1959, but there were four in 1958.

There was a rise in the incidence of pulmonary tubercle to 13 (7 male and 6 female) from nine (6 male and 3 female), in 1959. In 1958, there had been 23 notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis. The rise in incidence this year was in both sexes particularly in the age group 25-40 years, four males and four females being notified. In the previous year, three cases were notified (1 male and 2 females) in this age group. There was a decrease in the number of notifications in the 15-24 years age group from four notifications (female) in 1959 to one male and one female in 1960. There was one notification of a male in the 5-14 years age group.

Three cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified compared with two in the previous year.

A disturbing feature was that there were two notifications of children, both male, between the ages of nine and 15, one of pulmonary and one of non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

The number of inward transfers decreased to a total of seven from 12, in 1959. Since 1953, there have been 129 inward transfers of pulmonary tuberculosis and seven of non-pulmonary tuberculosis to the district, making a total of 136. In the same period, there were 170 primary notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis in the district and 30 of non-pulmonary tuberculosis, a total of 200. The ratio of transfers into the district and primary notifications within the district still remains at around two thirds.

As in former years, particular attention was given by the Council to the housing needs of persons suffering from tuberculosis. Five families with a history of tuberculosis, were rehoused during the year, making a total of 86 families rehoused during the past nine years. The best use of all services, both environmental and curative, is essential. The close liaison between the services of the Regional Hospital Board, such as the Chest Clinics and Mass Radiography Units on the one hand and the Local Authority Services, both of the County and of the District Councils, should continue and increase.

Mass Radiography :

A special survey by the mobile unit from the General Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne, was arranged to take place in the village of Newburn, whereby every house would be canvassed by volunteers recruited from various voluntary organisations. A card was left and collected two or three days later for sorting by clerical staff. Facilities for the sorting were provided by this Council and assistance given by the staff of the Health Department. Appointment cards for those wishing to be X-rayed were delivered by the volunteers. One unit operated for $3\frac{1}{2}$ days and two units for $3\frac{1}{2}$ days, from the period 28th April to 6th May. The units were stationed at salient points in Newburn.

The results were as follows :—

- 840 persons X-rayed.
- 13 recalled for large film.
- 26 referred to Chest Clinic.

560 residents (18.7% of the estimated potential) were X-rayed, but there was good reason to believe that a great many others

had been previously X-rayed within the past year, as the Unit visited Throckley, Lemington and three major factories in the area during that period.

The total number of persons X-rayed, i.e. residents and non-residents, showed an increase of approximately 420% over the highest number previously X-rayed in Newburn. One particularly pleasing feature of the survey was the attendance of 343 persons who had never been X-rayed before (41% of total attendance) and a second, the number of examinees in the important 45 plus age group, 316 (38% of total attendance).

Three cases of active tuberculosis were discovered and one case of bronchogenic carcinoma.

III. GENERAL EPIDEMIOLOGY

In the Annual Report of 1958, it was noted that the total of 104 notified cases of infectious disease was the smallest number ever reported in the Urban District in the course of a year. This was superseded in 1960, by a total of 63 notified cases of infectious disease throughout the year.

Measles has become the main source of infectious disease notification during the years of biennial increase. As younger children become at risk, the total number of infectious disease notifications rises steeply. The incidence of the other notifiable diseases is decreasing, with occasional remissions.

Measles :

The years of biennial increase of Measles were 1959, when 627 cases were notified and in 1957, when 508 cases were notified. In 1960, the incidence was small, nine cases being notified, these occurred sporadically in single cases during the year.

Scarlet Fever :

A slight decrease in incidence also showed in the notifications of Scarlet Fever to a total of ten from 13, the previous year. Seven of these cases occurred in February and were scattered in different parts of the district in separate families ; all cases were of the mild type which has been prevelant in recent years.

Whooping Cough :

Prophylaxis against Whooping Cough has risen with considerable impetus in the last four to five years, the number of children receiving this protection being about trebled. The incidence of

Whooping Cough has correspondingly dropped to a total of 11 in 1960 from 49, in the previous year and 32, in 1958. The incidence in 1960 is more in keeping with the general trend throughout the country, that of 1959 being somewhat high.

Sonne Dysentery :

Sixteen cases of Sonne Dysentery were notified compared with 23 in 1959 and 28, in 1958. In the first three months of the year, seven cases were notified and in three families there were multiple cases. It was found that a number of the nearest family contacts were positive excretors and this took some time to clear.

At the end of March, investigations were made into cases of diarrhoea and sickness occurring among young children attending a large school at West Denton. Stool specimens from several children proved positive and the staff of the department, together with the health visitors, investigated the outbreak at the school. This entailed a considerable amount of detailed work, as in the majority of cases, the symptoms had been of short duration and in many families considered insufficient for the parents to call in the family practitioner.

Twenty seven cases and 16 positive contacts were discovered in 24 families ; three of these contacts were teachers at the school.

The general practitioners of the district were informed of the situation and gave treatment as required. The families were kept under surveillance and a close watch kept at the school. At the end of April, ten cases and eight families were clear and the remainder were being kept under close supervision.

Investigation and treatment continued in May and by the end of the month, the remaining positive contacts and families were clear. A total of 581 stool specimens were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, of which, 230 were positive and 351 negative. A feature of the outbreak was the very short duration of the symptoms, which in many cases lasted only for a few hours. This tended, at first, to make the illness seem trivial to the parents.

Six cases were notified during the summer months, but after that the remainder of the year was clear.

Food Poisoning :

No case of food poisoning has been notified in this district during the last three years.

One case of Salmonellosis, found to be due to *S. bareilly*

occurred while the patient was on holiday in Italy. She was admitted to a hospital in London on arrival in this country. On returning home, the clinical symptoms had cleared but the stools were still positive. Further treatment was instituted and surveillance continued until the stools were clear. This patient was a teacher at a school situated in a neighbouring authority.

Pneumonia :

Notifications of primary Pneumonia were 16 compared with 28 in 1959 and 24, in 1958. As was to be expected they were mainly in the spring and winter months.

Influenza :

An outbreak of Influenza, particularly in Lemington and Throckley, had occurred in the early months of 1959, when the claims for sickness benefit rose to a peak of 240 new claims in the third week of February. In 1960, Influenza was not prevalent and the Ministry of National Insurance did not notify any abnormal rise in the number of claims. As has been the practice for many years, the general practitioners of the district kept watch for prevalence of Influenza, as distinct from the common cold and its complications.

Acute Poliomyelitis :

It is again very pleasing to report that no case of poliomyelitis was notified during the year and, indeed, during the last three years. There were three cases notified in 1957, one of which was, unfortunately, fatal. The very vigorous vaccination campaign against poliomyelitis which has continued apace since its inception, has had a good response in the Urban District, especially among parents who have had their children vaccinated. Response in the older age groups has not been so good.

Anthrax Regulations :

These regulations, which came into force on 1st December, 1960, provide notification by medical practitioners to Medical Officers of Health of cases of anthrax in addition to the already existing notification by medical practitioners under Section 65 of the Factories Act, 1937, of cases of anthrax contracted in any factory to the Chief Inspector of Factories.

The lack of notification to the Medical Officer of Health has always been an anomaly and the new regulations rectify this.

IV. HOUSING

Rehousing of families from slum clearance property continued during the year, 25 families were rehoused compared with 44, the previous year. Eighty six families were rehoused in the course of the year and at the 31st December, 1960, there were 1,033 applicants for Council houses, 445 tenants, 425 sub-tenants and 163 aged persons. The Housing Welfare Officer has kindly supplied these figures.

V. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

Section 47 :

Several cases were investigated by officers of the department under this section, but in no case was formal action necessary. One or two cases were reported by the home helps and investigations made, but adjustments in the domiciliary services only were required.

Section 50 :

No formal action was necessary under this section. There was one burial the previous year.

VI. FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955. AND HEALTH EDUCATION

One hundred and fifteen visits were paid by inspectors of the Health Department to the 117 food shops in the district. This was a slight increase in the number of visits paid the previous year, when sickness and depletion of staff prevented more visiting. An increase took place in the number of ice-cream premises registered from 66 to 69. Four samples of ice-cream, three in Grade 1 and one in Grade 2 were taken during the year. Formal action was taken under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, when a retailer was fined £10 with costs, for selling food infested with the Australian Spider Beetle.

Several lectures on health subjects including food poisoning, kitchen hygiene, clean air and accidents in the home were given to various women's organisations in the district. Parties of school children visited the Clean Air Exhibition held in the Co-operative Hall, Throckley, during the week of 28th March to 1st April, 1960. A feature of the exhibition was a display of posters submitted by pupils attending the ten schools in the district. Prizes were awarded by the Council to pupils submitting the best posters.

VII. ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The four deposit gauges have been in operation since 1955 and it is now possible to give the results in graph form.

This shows a slight overall reduction of 1.55 tons per square mile in the average monthly deposits for the four sites, and 19 tons per square mile in the average annual deposit. The gauge at the Newburn Sub-station showed the biggest reduction of 2.56 tons per square mile in average monthly deposit, and the other three gauges showed a slight reduction.

Admittedly, the decreases are slight but they are certainly a step in the right direction.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION - AVERAGE MONTHLY DEPOSITS

Tons per square mile

	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Newburn Sub Station ..	28.0	30.35	21.96	21.82	18.05	15.48
Walbottle School ..	12.2	11.8	14.46	14.52	11.79	10.35
Lemington Hospital ..	10.6	12.66	13.31	18.8	11.94	11.29
Lemington Cemetery ..	13.25	15.12	12.63	14.37	13.59	12.04

Readings taken at the Council Offices and at Westerhope by the daily smoke and sulphur dioxide volumetric apparatus during 1959 and 1960 are appended below, and show a slight reduction in the amount of sulphur dioxide, but a slight increase in the amount of smoke emitted.

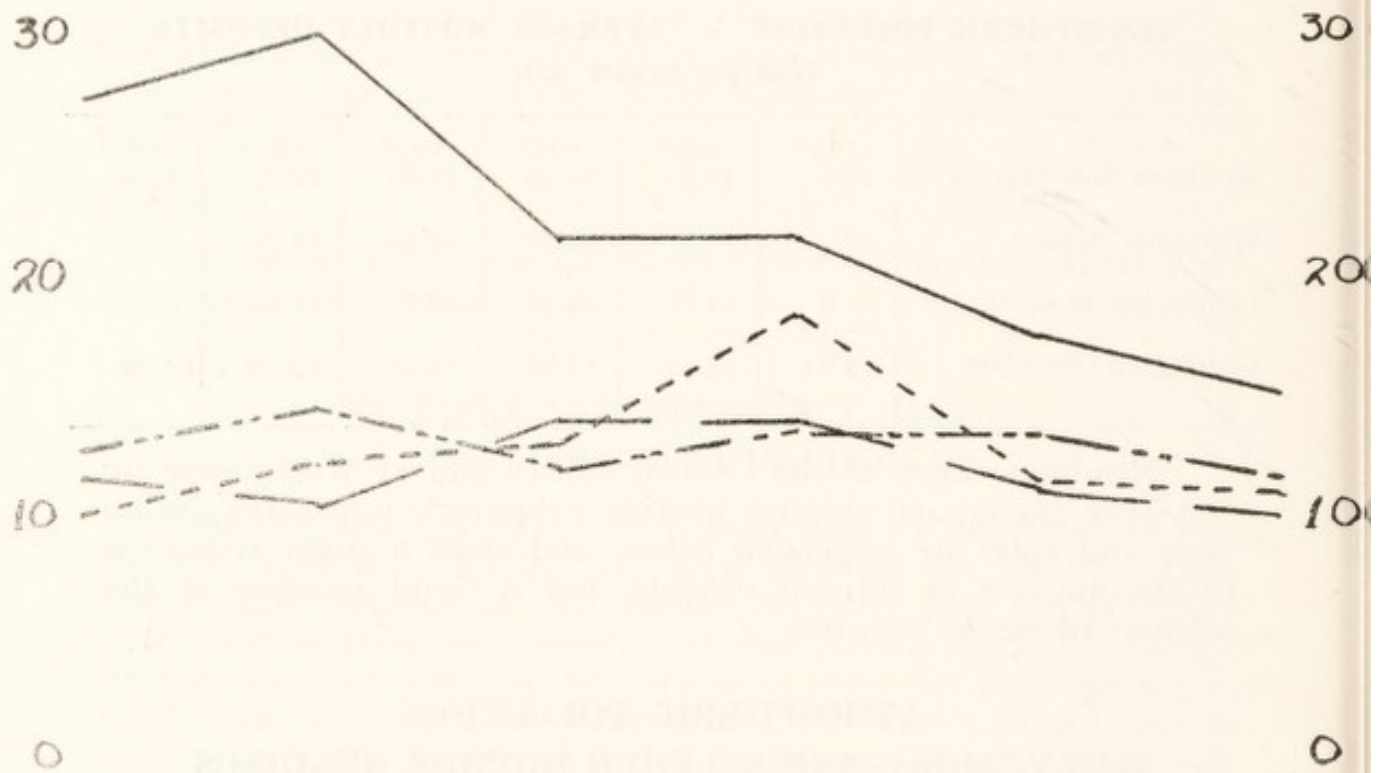
ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

DAILY SMOKE AND SULPHUR DIOXIDE READINGS

	<i>Smoke Milligrams per 100 cubic metres</i>	<i>S.O.₂ Parts per million</i>
	1959	1959
Council Offices	20	3.825
Westerhope	17.97	3.65
	1960	1960
Council Offices	21.66	2.258
Westerhope	18.5	2.516

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION AVERAGE MONTHLY DEPOSITS TONS PER SQUARE MILE

1955 1956 1957 1958 1959 1960



NEWBURN SUB STATION —————
 ST. CUTHBERT'S SCHOOL, WALBOTTLE ——— ———
 LEMINGTON HOSPITAL - - - - -
 LEMINGTON CEMETERY — - - - -

Considerable work took place during the year in connection with the proposed Smoke Control Areas and in October the Newburn No. 1 (Throckley) and Newburn No. 2 (Chapel House Estate) Smoke Control Orders were made to become operative in 1961. Discussions continued to take place with representatives of the National Union of Mineworkers regarding the difficulties of concessionary coal. Later in the year, it was shown that unemployment need not be feared and that a national agreement was being worked out regarding concessionary coal.

VIII. WELFARE OF THE AGED

The Newburn Urban District Central Committee for the welfare of the aged, which functions under the Northumberland Old People's Voluntary Welfare Committee, continued active work during the year. The Chiropody Service received a grant from the Northumberland County Council and from the Newburn Urban District Council and also from the social clubs in the district. This enabled the Committee to expand their already extensive chiropody service to 66 sessions, 594 aged persons receiving treatment, compared with 531, in 1959. A table appended below shows the rapid increase in this service which has taken place since its inception in 1956. There was also an increase in the number of domiciliary visits.

Year	No. of sessions	No. of patients
December 1956-57	21	189
December 1957-58	54	486
December 1958-59	59	531
December 1959-60	66	594

The trolley shop service, which was commenced in 1957, continued to visit patients in the Lemington Hospital, the small profit from the shop being used to give each patient a small gift at the festive season. The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospital Management Committee has expressed its appreciation and thanks to helpers of this service, which is particularly valuable as the patients are all elderly females.

The eight over 60's clubs continued to function actively.

The Committee are considering the organising of a visiting service for lonely and homebound elderly people. The above particulars have been kindly supplied by Mrs. Henson, Honorary Secretary of the Old People's Welfare Committee.

IX. MORTUARY

The new mortuary, which was completed in 1959, continued its useful function for both the reception of bodies and also post-mortems as required.

X. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

The details under this section have been compiled by Mr. J. Corney, Senior Public Health Inspector.

HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

(a) Regional Hospital Board

The Regional Hospital Board has one hospital at Lemington which admits elderly female patients suffering from chronic diseases from the Newcastle General Hospital.

Patients from this district are admitted to the Newcastle and Hexham groups of hospitals and cases of infectious disease to the Walker Gate Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne.

(b) Tuberculosis Service

Patients attend the Chest Clinic, Elswick Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, under the care of the Senior Chest Physician, Dr. G. Hurrell. When admission to hospital or sanatorium is required, there is no delay.

Investigation of contacts is done at the Chest Clinic and B.C.G. vaccination is given to children at risk, either at the clinic or at the schools, with the parents consent. Home visiting is carried out by the health visitors. As in former years, the close co-operation of these services with the Public Health Department continued, especially as regards housing. An important link is with the Newburn and Prudhoe Care and After-care Sub-Committee of the county.

(c) Local Authority Services

Sections (3) and (5) and the care of the buildings under section (2) are administered by the South Area Health Sub-Committee of the Northumberland County Council.

(1) Domiciliary Nursing and Midwifery

There are six nurse-midwives resident in various parts of the district as follows :

Miss E. Collinson,
26 Northcote Avenue,
West Denton.
Telephone No. 674742.

Mrs. M. Teasdale,
15 Orchard Terrace,
Lemington.
Telephone No. 674764.

Miss C. Turnbull,
31 Aquilla Drive,
Heddon.
Telephone No. Wylam 2213.

Mrs. Dixon,
20 Hillhead Drive,
West Denton.
Telephone No. 675568.

Mrs. Craven,
21 The Causeway,
Throckley.
Telephone No. 674697.

Miss M. K. Durham,
2 Beaumont Terrace,
Westerhope.
Telephone No. 869283.

(2) Maternity and Child Welfare Service.

Four maternity and child welfare centres serve the district. The Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic, Mayfield Avenue, Throckley.

The West Denton Association Hall, Middle Gate, West Denton.

The Methodist School Hall, Algernon Road, Lemington.

'Lindisfarne,' Stamfordham Road, Westerhope.

There are regular sessions for the routine care of babies, children and expectant mothers, and special sessions for orthopaedic treatment, dental treatment, eye and immunisation sessions and speech therapy.

(3) Immunisation and Vaccination

Diphtheria Immunisation :

Immunisation against diphtheria continued steadily and indeed, had an added impetus, compared with the previous two years, when vaccination against poliomyelitis was in full swing. The immunisations are carried out at the Child Welfare Centres, at the schools and by the General Practitioners. A total of 453 primary courses, comprising 404 children of 0-4 years and 49, children of 5-14 years were completed, compared with 526 in 1959. In addition, 558 reinforcing injections were given compared with 460 the previous year.

At the 31st December, 1960, a total of 90% (90%) of the child population of the district had been immunised at some time in their lives. These figures included 74% (73%) children, 0-4 years

and 98% (98%) children, 5-15 years (the figures in brackets are those of the previous year).

The Immunity Index for the year, which showed the number of children immunised against diphtheria during the last five years was 62% (61%) of all children under 15. In age groups, the Index was, 33% (31%) children under one year, 85% (83%) children, 1-4 years and 56% (55%) children, 5-14 years.

It is worthy of note that there was only a very slight decrease in the years of extensive poliomyelitis vaccination. In 1960, there was a slight increase in the Immunity Index figures of all the age groups.

The advice given to parents at the Child Welfare Centres and by their own Doctors, guiding them on suitable times for spacing injections has been successful and it is now almost a matter of routine. There are few parents who do not really wish their children to be protected, but sometimes other factors, such as illness, change of district and even apathy tend to upset or postpone the routine of injections and this is when sound advice is of paramount importance.

The aim of the immunisation campaign still remains as before to obtain the greatest possible percentage of immunised children among the child population, so that should infection occur, and it does occur, unexpectedly at times, in different parts of the country, the great majority of the children have some protection.

Whooping Cough Prophylaxis :

Four hundred children (498) received prophylactic injections against whooping cough, all the injections being given with combined or triple antigen. As mentioned in the infectious disease section of the report, the number of notified cases of whooping cough dropped very considerably to 11 from 49, in 1959 and 32, in 1958. A graph showing the decrease in the incidence of whooping cough compared with the increase in the number of children receiving protection since 1951 is set out on page 24.

Tetanus :

A total of 314 (267) children, 261 under one year of age, 51, 1-4 years and 2, 5-14 years received protection against tetanus in the course of the year. Since 1956, there has been a decided increase in the number of children receiving this protection and it is a very wise precaution for parents to take.

Smallpox :

There was a decrease in the number of primary vaccinations against smallpox to 207, from 310, in 1959, and there were 43 revaccinations compared with 35, in the previous year. There has usually been a slight increase in the number of children vaccinated in recent years, but there are still a considerable number of children who have no protection. Continual efforts are made, both at the clinics and by the family Doctors, to persuade parents to have their young children vaccinated, for, in this era of increasingly rapid transport, the barriers of geography are broken down.

Poliomyelitis :

The campaign of vaccination against poliomyelitis proceeded with energy throughout the year. In February, the age was extended to 40 years, together with certain other groups. At the 31st December, 1960, in the whole of the South Area, 21,304 children, aged 6 months to 15 years, 1,312 expectant mothers, 410 persons in other groups, such as doctors, nurses, hospital staff and ambulance drivers, 3,376 young persons, aged 15-25 years and 1,389 persons, aged 26 to 40 years ; a total of 27,791 persons had received two injections. In addition 22,254 persons had received three injections.

(4) Ambulance Service.

The three bay extension to the Throckley Depot was completed in 1960 to cope with the increased population in the district served by this station, which covers the Urban District and the surrounding parts of Castle Ward, and also partially covers Prudhoe and the villages on the north side of the river. The service, which is radio controlled, operates from the depot at West Way, Throckley. After 4 p.m. until 8 a.m. on weekdays and from Saturday noon to 8 a.m. on Mondays, all calls are received at the Wide-open Depot and relayed to the Throckley station and vehicles.

In 1960, ambulances of this station made 3,906 (3,858) journeys, carried 13,644 (12,657) patients including 734 (799) accidents and emergency cases and 2,031 (1,928) stretcher cases and did a total of 116,032 (109,850) miles. The figures show an appreciable increase on those of the previous year.

(5) Home Help Service.

A total of 255 patients received the services of a home help for various periods, in the previous year, 264 patients had been

served. The cases included 218 (225) aged and infirm persons, 15 (22) confinements, nine (2) of acute illness, ten (9) blind persons and three (6) cases of tuberculosis. There was an increase in the number of cases of acute illness and a slight decrease in the number of old people served and of confinement cases.

(6) Care and After Care

The two monthly meetings of the Newburn and Prudhoe After Care Sub-Committee continued as in former years. The assistance given to patients suffering from tuberculosis and other chest and cardiac diseases was of benefit, as was the help given to relatives travelling to hospital and also aid in convalescence and rehabilitation. The Sub-Committee fulfills a useful function in supplying additional aid and, at times, items of comfort not available from official sources.

(7) Nursing Care Committee

The Throckley and Heddon, Westerhope and Lemington Nursing Care Committees continued their useful voluntary work, in loaning articles of nursing equipment to patients being nursed at home. More specialised articles of nursing equipment are provided by the South Area Health Sub-Committee.

(8) Chiropody

In July 1960, arrangements were made to provide a Chiropody Service throughout the administrative County for the handicapped and for expectant mothers. This service is available to the elderly in districts where facilities are not being provided by the Old People's Voluntary Welfare Committees, arrangements can be made for domiciliary visits where necessary and appointments can be made through the health visitor.

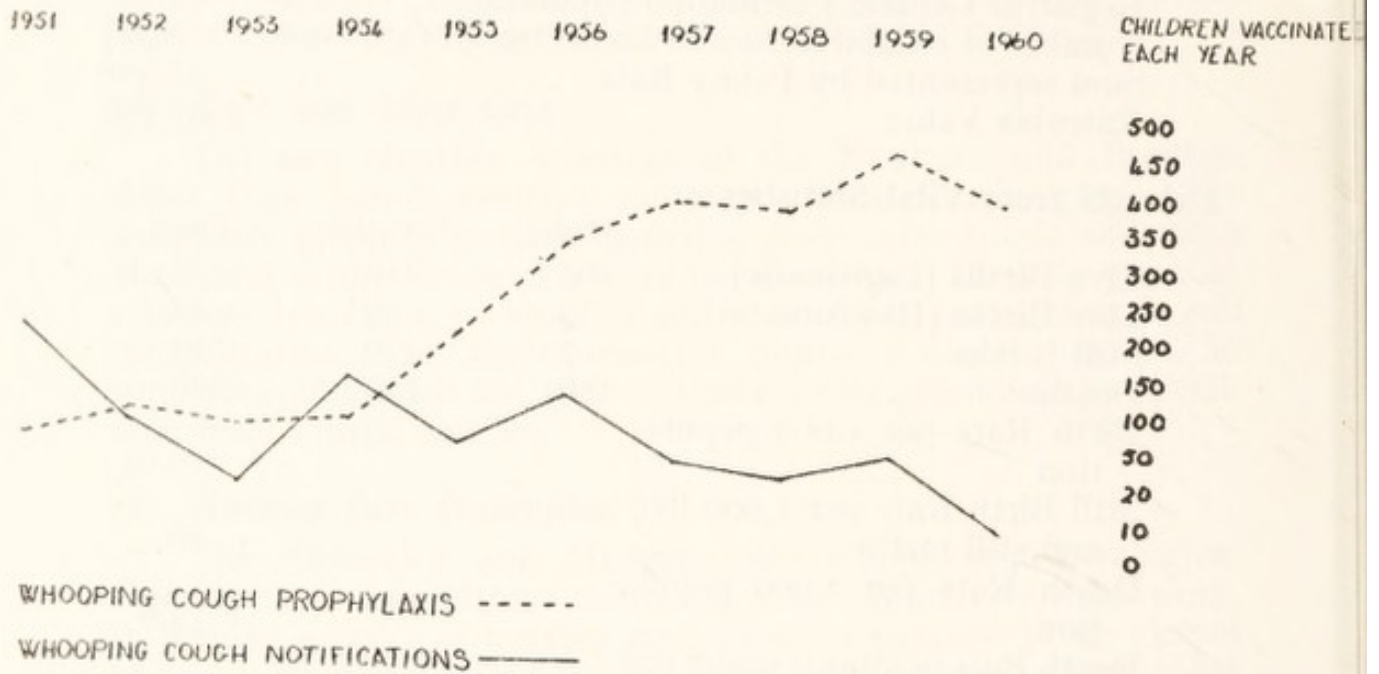
STATISTICAL SUMMARY AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Particulars of District :

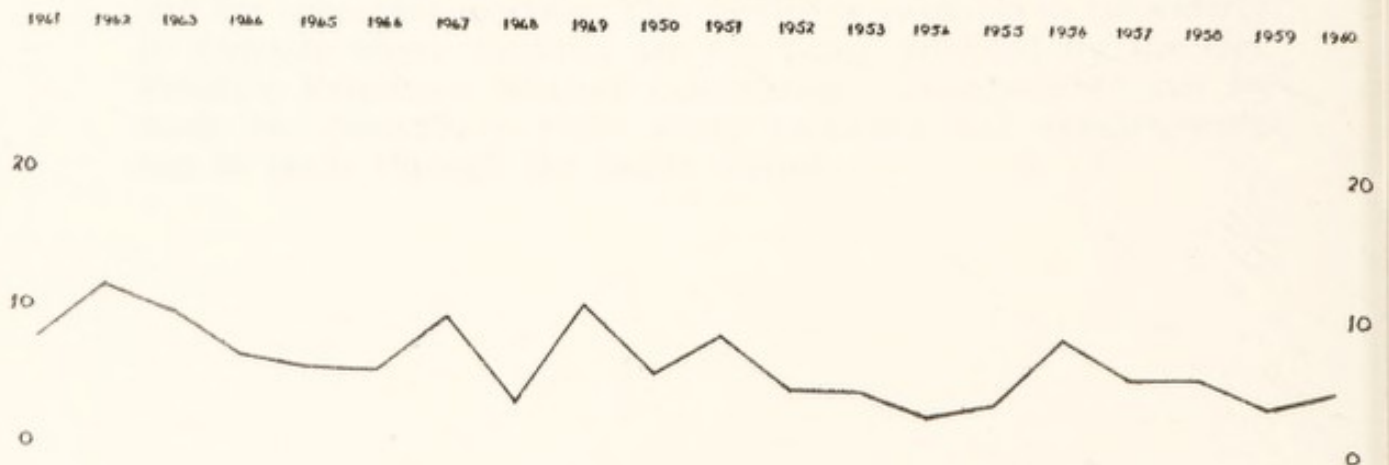
Area (in Acres)		4,648
Registrar General's estimated population		27,620
Number of inhabited houses according to rate book		8,717
Sum represented by Penny Rate		£1,400
Rateable Value		£347,791

Extracts from Vital Statistics :

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births (Legitimate)	.. 265	210	475
Live Births (Illegitimate)	.. 3	9	12
Still Births	 7	6	13
Deaths	 156	152	308
Birth Rate per 1,000 population			16.04
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births			26
Death Rate per 1,000 population			14.6
Death Rate of infants under one year, all infants per 1,000 live births			26.7



COMPARATIVE DEATH RATES OF BRONCHITIS
PER 10,000 POPULATION



CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE NEWBURN AREA, 1960.

(REGISTRAR GENERAL'S RETURN)

Figures in parenthesis indicate deaths in the Lemington Hospital.

ALL CAUSES.	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis respiratory	1	—	1
2. Tuberculosis others	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and Parasitic disease ..	—	—	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	5	5	10
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung and Bronchus..	13	1	14
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	4 (1)	4
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	1	1
14. Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	14	10	24
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	1	1
16. Diabetes	—	2	2
17. Vascular-lesions of nervous system ..	25	46 (18)	71
18. Coronary disease, angina	38	28 (4)	66
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	2 (1)	6
20. Other heart disease	10	19 (2)	29
21. Other circulatory disease	6	6	12
22. Influenza	1	—	1
23. Pneumonia	3	7 (7)	10
24. Bronchitis	7	6	13
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ..	2	—	2
26. Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum ..	1	—	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	3	2	5
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	2 (1)	2
29. Hyperplasia of Prostrate	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	—	—	—
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	16	9	25
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	—	2
34. All other accidents	3	1	4
35. Suicide	1	—	1
36. Homicide and operations of war ..	—	—	—

**BIRTH AND DEATH RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION AND
INFANT MORTALITY RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS**

YEAR	BIRTHS		DEATHS		INFANT MORTALITY	
	<i>Newborn</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>	<i>Newborn</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>	<i>Newborn</i>	<i>England & Wales</i>
1944	21.29	18.1	10.46	11.6	56.51	46.0
1945	19.69	16.5	12.83	11.4	48.52	46.0
1946	21.14	19.6	11.43	11.5	53.63	43.0
1947	23.27	21.0	10.9	12.0	43.48	41.0
1948	19.62	18.3	11.2	10.8	28.64	34.0
1949	18.11	16.7	11.32	11.7	30.8	32.0
1950	17.9	15.8	12.9	11.6	48.7	29.8
1951	17.2	15.5	10.05	12.5	34.5	29.6
1952	15.7	15.3	10.03	11.3	29.1	27.6
1953	15.9	15.5	11.01	11.4	43.2	26.8
1954	16.4	15.2	13.3	11.3	46.8	25.5
1955	16.7	15.0	13.2	11.7	25.5	24.9
1956	17.1	15.7	10.9	11.7	39.7	23.8
1957	16.9	16.1	13.5	11.5	23.5	23.0
1958	16.7	16.4	13.4	11.7	36.3	22.5
1959	16.7	16.5	15.5	11.6	41.8	22.0
1960	16.04	17.1	14.6	11.5	26.7	21.7

Number of infant deaths in 1960 — 13

Causes of Death :

Prematurity	..	..	..	..	3
Acute Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	2
Broncho Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	1
Haemolytic disease of the new born	..	..	..	..	1
Hydrops foetalis	..	..	..	..	1
Icterus gravis neonatorum	..	..	..	..	1
Anoxia, Breech	..	..	..	..	1
Gastro enteritis	..	..	..	..	1
Intra ventricular haemorrhage	..	..	..	..	1
Multiple Abnormalities	..	..	..	..	1

INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES — YEAR, 1960
NUMBER OF CASES

DISEASE	0—	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—9	10—14	15—24	25 & over	Age unknown		Total
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	5
Whooping Cough ..	1	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	6
Measles ..	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Dysentery ..	—	—	1	—	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	7
												9

27

DISEASE	Under 5	5—14	15—44	45—64	65 & over	Age unknown		Total
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
Pneumonia ..	2	—	1	5	1	—	—	9
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

Appended is a summary of Bacteriological Reports received from the Public Health Laboratory Service, Newcastle General Hospital on specimens submitted by Local Medical Practitioners and by the Public Health Department.

	<i>Positive</i>	<i>Negative</i>
Faeces specimens Salmonella ..	8	9
Faeces specimens Sonne Dysentery	230	351
Throat Swab Haemolytic Streptococci	1	5
Sputum Test Tuberculosis ..	3	—

FOOD POISONING RETURN - 1960

(a) Food Poisoning Notifications (Corrected as Returned to Registrar General)	—	Nil.
(b) Cases Otherwise Ascertained ..	—	Nil.
(c) Fatal Cases	—	Nil.
Particulars of Outbreaks	—	Nil.
Single Cases	—	Nil.

SALMONELLA INFECTIONS, NOT FOOD-BORNE ;

Salmonella (Type)	Outbreaks		No. of cases (outbreaks)	Single cases	Total No. of cases (outbreaks and single cases).
	Family	Other			
Bareilly ..	—	—	—	1	1

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER, 1960

Quarter Ended	Number of cases on register at commencement of Quarter		Number of cases notified for the first time.		Inward Transfers		Number of cases removed from register in a preceding quarter which have been restored to the register during the quarter.		Number of cases removed from Register		Number of cases remaining on register at end of quarter.	
	Pul. N.-Pul.		Pul. N.-Pul.		Pul. N.-Pul.		Pul. N.-Pul.		Pul. N.-Pul.		Pul. N.-Pul.	
March 31st, 1960												
Males ..	144	13	2	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	142	13
Females ..	149	24	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	147	24
June 30th, 1960												
Males ..	142	13	6	1	2	—	—	—	8	—	140	14
Females ..	147	24	4	—	1	—	—	—	4	—	147	24
Sept. 30th, 1960												
Males ..	140	14	2	—	1	—	—	—	5	—	137	14
Females ..	147	24	2	1	—	—	—	—	11	1	138	24
Dec. 31st, 1960												
Males ..	137	14	3	—	3	—	—	—	7	—	133	14
Females ..	138	24	—	1	—	—	—	—	7	—	131	25

TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS.	NEW CASES NOTIFIED.				INWARD TRANSFERS				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—14 years	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—24 years	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—44 years	4	4	—	2	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—64 years	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 years and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	7	6	1	2	6	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
	13		3		7		7		1		1	
	16											

TABLE OF DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

Year	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Total
1943	14	3	17
1944	12	1	13
1945	7	4	11
1946	12	4	16
1947	15	2	17
1948	12	2	14
1949	9	1	10
1950	9	1	10
1951	5	1	6
1952	6	2	8
1953	1	—	1
1954	4	—	4
1955	4	—	4
1956	3	—	3
1957	—	—	—
1958	4	—	4
1959	—	—	—
1960	1	—	1

TABLE OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS

Year	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1943	22	13	5	5	45
1944	8	11	4	2	25
1945	12	7	2	3	24
1946	16	12	7	2	37
1947	18	12	8	3	41
1948	15	13	1	4	33
1949	17	13	7	3	40
1950	21	16	1	3	41
1951	21	14	3	7	45
1952	22	16	2	1	41
1953	15	9	3	3	30
1954	11	9	1	2	23
1955	15	9	1	3	28
1956	7	9	2	5	23
1957	14	7	1	1	23
1958	9	14	1	2	26
1959	3	6	1	1	11
1960	7	6	1	2	16

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the Year 1960.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council :

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting to you my Report for the year ended 31st December, 1960.

The operation of the Clean Air Act, 1956, continued to provide plenty of work for the department and as will be seen from the statistical section of the report, some 900 visits were made mostly to houses in the proposed Throckley No. 1, Smoke Control Area. Meetings with the National Coal Board and representatives of the National Union of Mineworkers Lodges were held to resolve difficulties regarding the effects of the operation of the smoke control area on possible unemployment and the supply of concessionary coal. It was shown that unemployment need not be feared and that a National agreement regarding concessionary coal was being worked out.

In October, the Council made the Newburn No. 1 (Throckley) and Newburn No. 2 (Chapel House Estate) Smoke Control Orders to become operative from 1st August, 1961, but at the end of the year confirmation had not been received from the Minister of Housing and Local Government.

Under the industrial provisions of the Act, legal proceedings were considered in a case where repeated contraventions of the Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations had been observed, but circumstances made it inadvisable to pursue this course. Plans for renewal of the steam-raising plant had not been implemented by the end of the year.

The number of visits made under the Food and Drugs Act was almost the same as in the previous year and conditions were found to be reasonably satisfactory. Formal action was necessary in only one case where a retailer was fined £10 with £5 7s. 6d. costs for selling Rusks infested with Australian Spider Beetle.

Four samples of mussels submitted for bacteriological examination were found to be satisfactory and of four ice-cream samples three were placed in Provisional Grade 1, and one in Provisional Grade 2.

Sonne Dysentery once more caused a great deal of work, most of the visits, 564, in connection with infectious disease being due to this cause. It is apparent that there is still need for education in personal hygiene and food handling.

Under the provisions of the Slaughterhouses Act 1958, a Slaughterhouse Report was prepared and submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food. Opportunity was taken to recommend that one Slaughterhouse could not be brought up to standard and should be closed and that another could continue to operate subject to compliance with the 'construction' regulations. All the other butchers in the district signified their wish to buy 'off the hook' rather than operate a slaughterhouse.

There was a slight increase in the number of cattle inspected and a substantial reduction in the number of sheep. It is pleasing to record that no complete carcass had to be condemned as unfit for human consumption and that the presence of tuberculosis lesions is becoming a rarity.

The refuse collection and salvage service continued to operate smoothly and a regular weekly collection was maintained throughout the year with an adjustment of collection days only at Bank Holiday periods.

Check weighings of refuse showed lighter and bulkier material being handled and the estimated annual tonnage as shown in the Public Cleansing Costing Return was reduced by 1,500 compared with the previous year. This naturally increased the cost per ton. A more reliable method of comparison, however, is the cost per 1,000 population or 1,000 premises and here the net cost shows a reduction on the 1959 figures.

It is interesting to note that because of increased income from salvage, which for costing purposes is credited to disposal in the above mentioned Return, and to reduced costs on the tip since mechanical means were introduced, there is a small credit balance shown for the first time. Mr. Gray, the foreman, and the men concerned, are to be complimented on this satisfactory

situation. The tonnage of salvage collected was higher than in the previous year and the indications are that it will continue to increase.

An innovation by the Northern Centre of the Association of Public Health Inspectors was the holding of a week-end school at Lambton Castle in May. The course was well attended and found to be most instructive. Mr. Rand and I were grateful to the Council for enabling us to attend the school.

I wish to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their interest and support, to Dr. Hopper and other officials of the Council and to Mr. Rand, Mr. Graham and Miss Hetherington for cheerfully carrying out the varied duties placed upon them.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. CORNEY,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF DISTRICT

NATURE OF INSPECTION :						<i>Visits</i>
Clean Air Act	..	..	..	..	..	900
Disinfection	..	..	..	..	..	5
Disinfestation	..	..	..	..	..	30
Factories Act	..	..	..	..	..	75
Food and Drugs	..	..	..	..	..	115
Housing	..	..	..	..	..	345
Infectious Disease	..	..	..	..	..	564
Ice Cream Samples	..	..	..	..	..	4
Meat Inspection	..	..	..	..	..	132
Moveable Dwellings	..	..	..	..	..	9
National Assistance Act, 1948.				Section 47	..	4
				Section 50	..	2
Nuisances	..	..	..	..	..	27
Public Health Propaganda	..	..	..	..	..	1
Refuse Collection	..	..	..	..	..	137
Rodent Control	..	..	..	..	..	4
Shops Act	..	..	..	..	..	7
Miscellaneous	..	..	..	..	..	106
Total Visits for 1960						2467

DEFECTS REMEDIED :

Brickwork repointed or rebuilt	..	..	..	..	3
Burst pipes repaired	..	..	..	..	4
Choked drains cleared	..	..	..	..	15
Dampness remedied	..	..	..	..	12
Doors repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	7
Dustbins provided	..	..	..	..	29
Eaves gutters repaired	..	..	..	..	2
Fireplaces repaired	..	..	..	..	2
Plasterwork repaired	..	..	..	..	6
Rain water pipes repaired	..	..	..	..	6
Roofs repaired	..	..	..	..	9
Sink benches renewed	..	..	..	..	2
Smoke nuisances remedied	..	..	..	..	2
Waste pipes repaired	..	..	..	..	3
W.C. apparatus overhauled	..	..	..	..	4
Windows overhauled	..	..	..	..	7
Window cords renewed	..	..	..	..	3
Woodwork repaired or renewed	..	..	..	..	14

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR YEAR 1960

<i>Houses completed during the year</i>	<i>With state assistance</i>	<i>Unaided</i>	<i>Total</i>
(a) By Local Authority	30	—	30
(b) By any other Housing Authority	—	—	—
(c) By Private Persons	—	104	104

Total number of inhabited houses in District .. 8,717

Total number of houses owned by Local Authority 2,780

CLOSING AND DEMOLITION :

(a) Houses demolished in Clearance Areas ..	—
(b) Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas ..	39
(c) Houses closed not demolished	24
(d) Any other houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included in above..	—

REPAIRS :

Houses made fit by proceedings either Housing or Public Health Acts.

(a) By informal action	60
(b) By owners, following statutory action ..	5
(c) By local authority in default of owners ..	—
(d) Demolition Order revoked after reconstruction ..	—
(e) Houses in clearance areas patched for temporary accommodation	—

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS :

(1) Discretionary

*Number of
Separate Houses*

(a) Applications submitted to local authority during year	9
(b) Applications rejected	—
(c) Applications approved	9
(d) Approximate average grant approved per house	£206
(e) Total number of houses approved for grant in area since inception of scheme.. ..	200

(2) Standard	<i>During the year</i>	<i>Total to date</i>
(a) Number of separate houses for which grants have been made	19	28
(b) Number of houses so provided with		
(1) Bath or shower ..	18	26
(2) Wash hand basin ..	18	26
(3) Hot water supply ..	14	21
(4) Water Closet	16	22
(5) Food Store	9	16
Number of outstanding applications for Council Houses on Authority's list at end of year		1,033

CLEARANCE AREA PROGRAMME — 1956

YEAR 1960

<i>First five years.</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>No. of Houses to be demolished.</i>		<i>Remarks</i>
1st Year	Bank Top, Throckley ..	29	Rehoused	1957/58
	Fireman's Row, Newburn ..	12	„	1957/58
	Chapel Row, North Walbottle ..	11	„	1956/57
	Laurel Street, Throckley ..	20	„	1958
2nd Year	Maple Street, Throckley ..	26	„	1959/60
	Sycamore Street, Throckley ..	26	„	1958/59
	Beech Street, Throckley ..	19	„	1960
3rd Year	Ash Street East, Throckley ..	5	„	1960
	Elm Street, Throckley ..	26		
	Ash Street, Throckley ..	15		
	Coronation Row, North Walbottle ..	10		
4th Year	The Green, Low Square, School Bank, and Queen's Road, Walbottle ..	21		
	Northumberland Terrace, Newburn ..	11		
	Pit Bank and Paper Mill, Scotswood ..	12	10 Rehoused	
5th Year	Albert Terrace, Newburn ..	19		
	Victoria Terrace, Newburn ..	17		
	Pit Cottages, Throckley ..	26		
<i>Second five years</i>				
6th Year	Mount Pleasant, Throckley ..	68		
7th Year	Union Street, Lemington ..	43		
8th Year	Stanley Street, Lemington ..	41		
	Lloyd Street, Lemington ..	24		
9th Year	Dene Terrace, Walbottle ..	31		
	North View, North Walbottle ..	18		

Individual Unfit Houses Dealt With

<i>Number</i>	<i>Year</i>
6	1957
2	1958
5	1959
3	1960

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1959.

Part I of the Act.

I.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health

PREMISES (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	9	6	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	42	65	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	2	4	—	—
TOTAL	53	75	—	—

II.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found

PARTICULARS (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	Referred By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S. 1.)	1	1	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S. 2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S. 3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S. 4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S. 6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S. 7)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	3	3	—	2	—

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work.	No. of workers in August list required by Section 110 (I) (c)
Wearing apparel (making etc.)	Nil.
Carding, etc. of buttons, etc.	Nil.
Paper bags	Nil.
TOTAL	Nil.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The following return was forwarded to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food relating to action taken during the year ended 31st ~~March~~ ^{December}, 1960. This form will be forwarded each Calendar Year.

DEC 27 1968

	TYPE OF PROPERTY.				Totals.	Agri-cultural
	Non-Agricultural			All other including Business premises		
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses including Council houses				
1. Number of Properties in Local Authorities District ..	19	8813	600	9432	26	
2. Number of properties inspected as a result of :—						
(a) Notification	—	64	9	73	3	
(b) Survey under the Act	7	4	—	11	1	
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose)	12	287	185	484	—	
3. Number of properties inspected in Section 2 which were found to be infested by :—						
(a) Rats Major	1	5	3	9	1	
Minor	3	44	4	51	2	
(b) Mice Major	—	4	2	6	—	
Minor	—	8	—	8	—	
Number of infested properties treated by Local Authority..	4	61	9	74	3	
5. Number of notices served under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—	
6. Number of 'Block' control schemes carried out	—	6	—	6	—	

FOOD INSPECTIONS

<i>Unsound food :</i>		<i>Surrendered</i>
Tins of meat products	249 tins	
Tins of peas, beans, fruit etc	914 tins	
Beef	212 lbs.	

MILK REGULATIONS, 1949-53

Number of Registered Dairies	6
Number of Registered Distributors	39

ICE-CREAM PREMISES

Number on Register at commencement of year	66
Number on Register at end of year	69

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Number of Registered Slaughterhouses	3
--	---

FOOD PREMISES

Number of shops where food is handled	117
Number of premises registered under section 16 Food and Drugs Act, 1955	
Butcher	13
Fried Fish	15
Ice-cream	69
Mussels	1
	—
	98
	—

WATER SUPPLY

Water is supplied by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company and continues to be satisfactory as regards quality and quantity.

MEAT INSPECTION

Number of carcasses inspected :		
<i>Cattle</i>	<i>Sheep</i>	<i>Pigs</i>
342	1587	42

Small quantities of condemned meat are disposed of on the Council's refuse tip under the supervision of the foreman. Larger quantities after staining are removed by a firm of chemical manufacturers for treatment.

PUBLIC CLEANSING COSTING RETURN 1960-61

<i>Particulars</i>	<i>Collection</i>	<i>Disposal</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Gross Expenditure</i>	£	£	£
Labour	10,127	184	10,311
Transport	4,253	2,295	6,548
Plant equipment, land and buildings	—	—	—
Total Gross Expenditure ..	14,380	2,479	16,859
Gross Income	142	2,510	2,652
Net Cost	14,238	(Cr.)31	14,207
Capital expenditure met from revenue			

Unit Costs :

	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Gross cost per ton, labour only	23	3		5	23	8
Gross cost per ton transport only	9	9	5	4	15	1
Net cost (all expenditure) per ton	32	8	1Cr.		32	7
	£		£		£	
Net cost per 1,000 population	516		1Cr.		515	
Net cost per 1,000 premises..	1,510		3Cr.		1,507	

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Area (statute acres) — land and inland water	4,648 acres
Population at 30th June, 1960	27,620 persons
Total Refuse collected	8,700 tons
Weight (cwts.) per 1,000 population per day ..	17.3 cwts.
Number of premises from which refuse is collected	9,432 premises
Premises from which collections are made at least one weekly intervals	100% of total
Average haul, single journey, to final disposal point	2 miles
Kerbside collection (if practised)	Nil
Total refuse disposed of	8,700 tons
Methods of disposal (salvage excluded)	
(a) Crude tipping	Nil
(b) Controlled tipping	100%
(c) Direct incineration	Nil
(d) Separation and incineration	Nil
(e) Other methods (state nature)	Nil

Salvage. Analysis of income and tonnage :—

		<i>Income</i> £	<i>Tonnage</i> Collected Tons
(a) Raw kitchen waste			
(b) Scrap Metal		200	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
(c) Waste Paper		2,257	244 $\frac{1}{2}$
(d) Other salvage		53	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
		2,510	258 $\frac{1}{4}$

Trade refuse :—

(a) Income	Nil
(b) Tonnage	Nil

