

[Report 1934] / Medical Officer of Health, Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough.

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Newcastle-under-Lyme (England). Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1934

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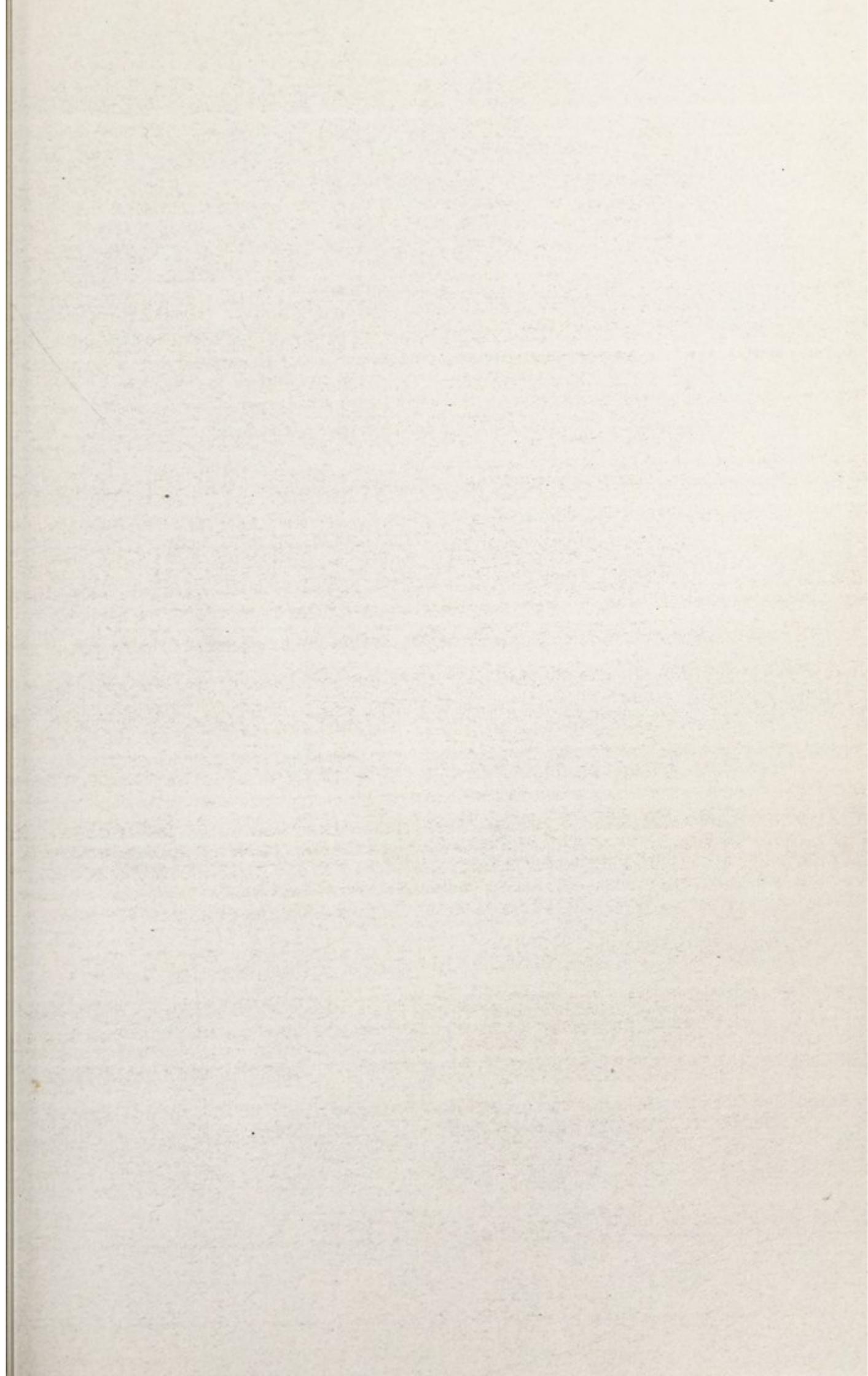
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Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme.

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH

FOR THE YEAR 1934

BY

ADAM WHITE, M.D., M.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H.,

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer and
Medical Superintendent of the Isolation Hospital.

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,

Ironmarket,

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME,

Staffs.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Public Health Committee.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the health of the Borough for the year 1934.

The birth-rate for the year (16.76 per thousand of the population) is higher than that for last year and it is also considerably higher than the corresponding rates last year for England and Wales as a whole and for the divisions into which the country is divided for statistical purposes.

The death-rate (11.44) is below the average rate for the Borough and it is also below the corresponding rate for England and Wales as a whole.

The infantile mortality rate (82.32 per thousand births) is above the average for the Borough in recent years and it is also higher than the corresponding rate for England and Wales as a whole.

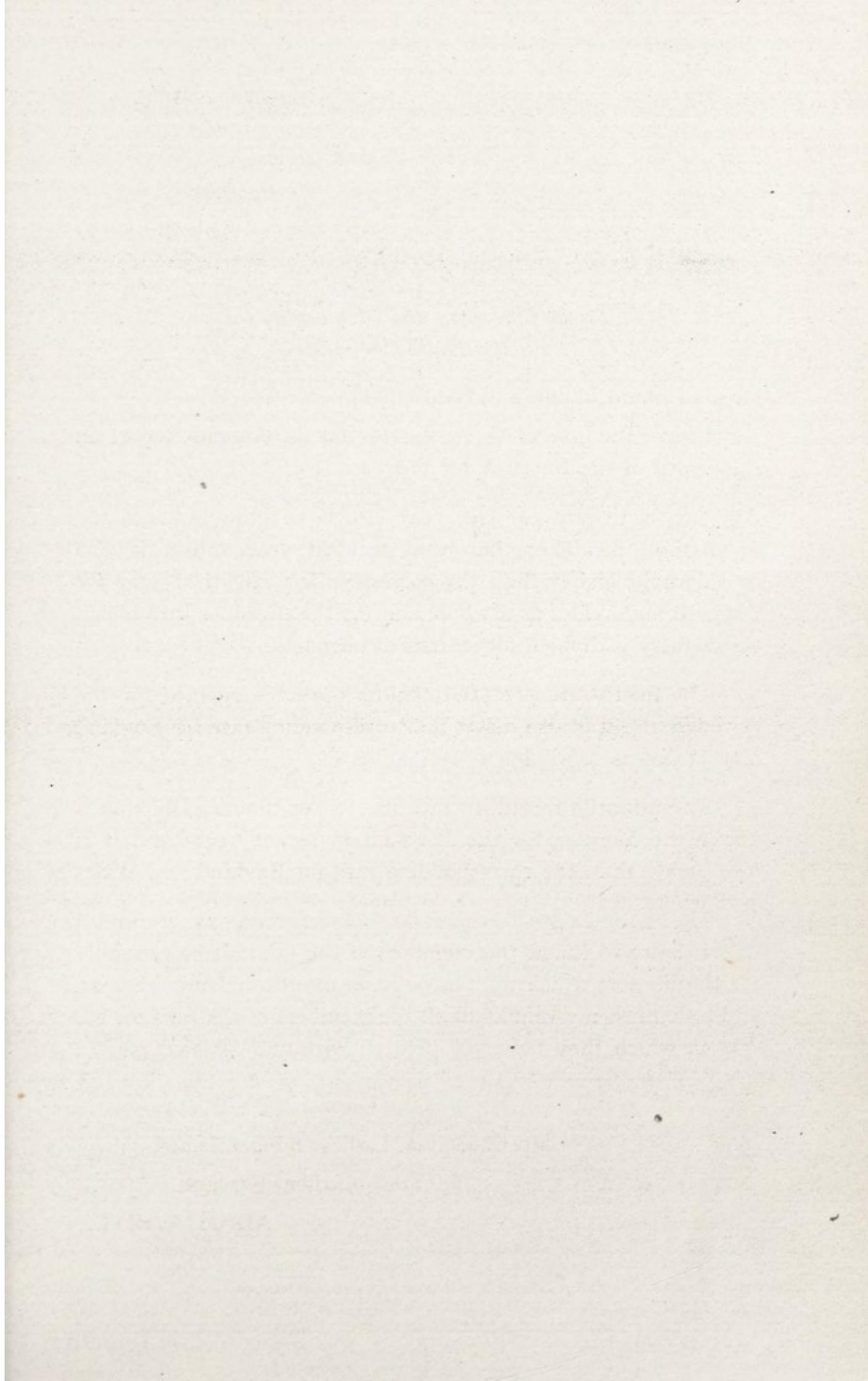
I desire to thank the members of the Committee generally for the support which they have given me throughout the year, and to express my thanks to all the members of the staff for the way in which they have co-operated with and assisted me.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ADAM WHITE.



SECTION A.

 Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area.

The area of the Borough is 8,882 acres.

Population, etc.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population for 1934 is 58,720.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1934 according to the rate books was 15,750.

Rateable Value, etc.

The rateable value of the Borough is £251,577 and one penny rate in the £ (General Rate) produces £900, exclusive of voids, etc.

Social Conditions.

The following industrial undertakings are situated within the district :—

Coal Mines	4
Ironstone Mines	1
Brick Yards	18
Chemical Works	3
Wagon Works	1
Colour Works	1
Engineering Works	1
Tar Macadam Works	3
Bone Works	1
Slag Works... ..	2
Cotton Factory	1
Clothing Factory	1
Fustian Mills	2
Paper Mills... ..	1
Saw Mills	1
Pottery	1
Laundries	2
Foundries	4

In addition, the town serves as a shopping centre for contiguous areas and accordingly we find in it shops, garages and such other business premises as one would expect to encounter in such a centre of population.

With regard to the extent of unemployment, I am indebted to the Manager of the Employment Exchange for the following information. The average weekly unemployment figure for the Newcastle-under-Lyme area during 1934 was 3,900, as compared with 4,500 for the year 1933. The present figure is approximately 22 per cent. of an insured population of 18,000 as against 25 per cent. of 16,000 insured population for the year 1933 and 37.5 per cent. for the year 1932. According to the Ministry of Labour Gazette for the year 1934, the average percentage of unemployment amongst insured workers throughout Great Britain as a whole during 1934 was 16.6 per cent., as compared with 19.8 in 1933. It will be noted that the insured population is now estimated to be 18,000, the increase being due to entry into insurance of juveniles at Statutory School Leaving age.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		Total	Male	Female	Rate	
Live Births	{ Legitimate	960	480	480	16.76	per 1000 population
	{ Illegitimate	24	16	8		
Stillbirths	... ..	52	26	26	50.2	{ per 1000 total live and still births
Deaths	... ..	672	367	305	11.44	per 1000 population

Deaths and death-rates from puerperal causes :—

	Deaths	Rate per 1000 total births
Puerperal sepsis	1	0.96
Other puerperal causes	3	2.9
Total	4	3.86

Death-rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births :—

Total	82.32
Legitimate	77.1
Illegitimate... ..	291.66
Deaths from measles (all ages)	14
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	6
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	8

Table 1.
CAUSES OF DEATH.

CAUSES OF DEATH						Males	Females
ALL CAUSES						367	305
1.	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers					—	—
2.	Measles					4	10
3.	Scarlet fever					—	1
4.	Whooping cough					3	3
5.	Diphtheria					2	2
6.	Influenza					8	1
7.	Encephalitis lethargica					—	—
8.	Cerebro-spinal fever					—	1
9.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system					16	16
10.	Other tuberculous diseases					6	4
11.	Syphilis					2	1
12.	General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis					—	—
13.	Cancer, malignant disease					38	32
14.	Diabetes					4	9
15.	Cerebral haemorrhage, etc.					23	22
16.	Heart disease... ..					64	62
17.	Aneurysm					1	—
18.	Other circulatory diseases					19	10
19.	Bronchitis					17	15
20.	Pneumonia (all forms)					38	19
21.	Other respiratory diseases					5	1
22.	Peptic ulcer					3	—
23.	Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)					6	2
24.	Appendicitis					1	1
25.	Cirrhosis of liver					1	—
26.	Other diseases of liver, etc.... ..					2	3
27.	Other digestive diseases					9	13
28.	Acute and chronic nephritis					10	11
29.	Puerperal sepsis					—	1
30.	Other puerperal causes					—	3
31.	Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.					22	18
32.	Senility					2	7
33.	Suicide					5	2
34.	Other violence					27	8
35.	Other defined diseases					29	27
36.	Causes ill-defined or unknown					—	—

Causes of Sickness.

The increased incidence of scarlatina experienced in the year 1933 was still more pronounced during the year 1934, but the disease was mild in type, there being only one death, representing a case mortality of 0.52 per cent.

There was also an increased incidence of measles, there being fourteen deaths ascribed to this cause, representing a death rate of 0.24 per thousand of the population.

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) *Medical.*

1. Medical Officer of Health who is also School Medical Officer.
2. The Deputy Medical Officer of Health, a part-time official.
3. Three part-time Medical Officers who attend the maternity and child welfare centres, and a part-time Medical Officer who attends at the ante-natal clinic.

(b) *Others.*

1. Chief Sanitary Inspector, who is also Cleansing Superintendent.
2. Deputy Sanitary Inspector, who is also an Inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, etc.
3. Three District Sanitary Inspectors.

All the Inspectors possess Royal Sanitary Institute Certificates as Sanitary Inspectors and Inspectors of Meat and other Foods.

In addition the Chief Inspector holds the Royal Sanitary Institute Certificates for Sanitary Science and as a Smoke Inspector, the Liverpool University Meat and other Foods Certificate, and the Testamur of the Institute of Public Cleansing.

4. Five nurses, all whole-time. One of these nurses devotes the whole of her time to maternity and child welfare work and in the case of the other four, fifty per cent. of their time is devoted to maternity and child welfare work and fifty per cent. to school work.

5. The Public Analyst is a part-time officer and a Veterinary Surgeon is available for consultation.
6. Three clerks.
7. The hospital porter carries out disinfections.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

A. *General.*

There are three District Nursing Associations working in the Borough, one in the southern portion of the area (old Newcastle) employing two nurses, one in Wolstanton employing one nurse and one in Chesterton also employing one nurse. The Corporation make an annual grant to each of these Associations amounting to £10 per nurse employed by them.

B. *For Infectious Diseases.*

An arrangement has been made between the Council and the Newcastle District Nursing Association for the home nursing of children suffering from complicated measles. The fee paid by the Council to the Association is 1/6 per visit made by a nurse.

Laboratory Facilities.

Specimens under the Food and Drugs Acts, and the Milk and Cream Regulations are dealt with by Mr. E. V. Jones, of the County Laboratory, Stafford, who is the Borough Analyst. Pathological specimens are dealt with at the County Laboratory at Stafford. The results of the examinations of the samples and specimens investigated during the year are stated in the appropriate section.

Legislation in Force.

ACTS.

- The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890.
- The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890.
- The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907.
- The Public Health Act, 1925
- Parts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8.

BYE-LAWS.

Relating to :—	Date of Adoption
Common Lodging Houses ...	1894
Slaughter Houses	1894
Offensive Trades ...	1894 and 1926
New Streets and Buildings ...	1926
Houses let in lodgings ...	1934

Hospitals.

A. (1) *Fever.*

The Newcastle Isolation Hospital, belonging to and situated in the Borough, is a 26 bed hospital. Cases from the old Newcastle area are admitted to this hospital.

The Bradwell Joint Isolation Hospital, also situated within the Borough, belonging to the Bradwell Joint Isolation Hospital Committee of which the Borough Council is a constituent Authority, is a 45 bed hospital, admitting infectious diseases from the portion of the Borough originally forming the old Wolstanton United Urban District and from the Newcastle Rural District and Kidsgrove Urban District.

(2) *Small-pox.*

The Newcastle Borough Council is one of the Authorities which form the North Staffordshire Joint Small-pox Hospital Board which administers the Small-pox Hospital, Bagnall, situated in the Leek Rural District.

B. (1) *Tuberculosis.*

The Tuberculosis Authority for the area is the Staffordshire, Wolverhampton and Dudley Joint Tuberculosis Committee, and sanatoria are provided by that Committee at Groundslow, Yarnfield, Himley, etc. All these institutions are situated outside the Borough. The total beds maintained number 456.

(2) *Maternity.*

There is no special maternity hospital in the Borough, but cases of the acute complications of pregnancy, labour and the puerperium are admitted to the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary or to the Longton Cottage Hospital (voluntary hospitals situated in the adjoining City of Stoke-on-Trent) with both of which institutions the Council have an arrangement under which cases are admitted at a charge of three guineas per week.

(3) *Children.*

The North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary and the Cripples' Guild Hospital, Hartshill (both situated in the adjoining City of Stoke-on-Trent), are voluntary hospitals which admit children. General medical and surgical cases are dealt with at the Royal Infirmary, while the Cripples' Hospital deals particularly with orthopaedic cases.

(4) *Other Hospitals.*

The North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary, the Longton Cottage Hospital and the Burslem Haywood Hospital, which are all situated in the adjoining City of Stoke-on-Trent, are general medical and surgical hospitals possessing the special departments usually found in such institutions.

St. John's Hospital, situated within the Borough, an institution taken over by the County Council under the Local Government Act, 1929, also provides for the admission of certain medical and surgical cases.

(5) *General Comments.*

The isolation hospital accommodation is adequate but the same cannot be said of the accommodation available for maternity and general cases. The Borough Council desire to provide a Maternity Hospital and at the present time the matter is under discussion with the Minister of Health. It is understood that the County Council intend to re-organise and enlarge St. John's Hospital, Keele Road, with the object of increasing the accommodation available for acute medical and surgical cases.

Ambulance Facilities.

The Bradwell Committee have two motor ambulances for the removal of cases to their institution and by an arrangement between the Committee and the Corporation those ambulances are also used for the transport of cases to the Newcastle Isolation Hospital. For the removal of non-infectious cases there are available two motor ambulances, one belonging to the corporation and the other loaned to the corporation by the St. John's Ambulance Association.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.(a) *Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.*

Of the five child welfare centres which are maintained by the Council, four are held in School Clinics: one at Ellison Street School, Wolstanton, one at Broadmeadow School,

Chesterton, one at the Senior Mixed School, Knutton and one at the Council School, Silverdale. The fifth and largest centre is held at the Ebenezer School, Marsh Street, Newcastle. An ante-natal centre is held at the school clinic No. 14, King Street, Newcastle. At all the Child Welfare Centres accommodation is provided for waiting, for consultations and for the parking of prams, etc. The Marsh Street Centre is open each Monday, the Broadmeadow Centre each Thursday, and the Ellison Street Centre each Wednesday; while the Silverdale Centre is open on alternate Wednesdays and the Knutton Centre on alternate Thursdays. The Ante-natal Centre is open on the second and fourth Tuesdays in each month. It is hoped that before the end of the present year the Wolstanton and Silverdale Centres and the Ante-natal Clinic will be in session each week.

(b) *School Clinics.*

There are five School Clinics in the Borough, particulars of which are given in the preceding paragraph.

(c) *Tuberculosis.*

A Tuberculosis Dispensary, maintained by the Staffordshire, Wolverhampton and Dudley Joint Tuberculosis Committee, is situated in Florence Street.

(d) *Venereal Disease.*

A Venereal Diseases Clinic provided and maintained under arrangements made between the County Council and the Governors of the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary is in operation at the Infirmary, which is situated in the adjoining City of Stoke-on-Trent.

Midwifery and Maternity Services.

There are twenty midwives practising in the area, of whom all are trained and none is subsidised by the Local Authority.

A gynaecologist is available for consultation in cases of complicated pregnancy, etc. The matter of hospital accommodation has already been dealt with, as also has the subject of the ante-natal clinic.

Health Visitors.

Four of the nurses employed by the Council devoted half of their time to maternity and child welfare work and one of them devotes the whole of her time to this service.

The visitation of children from birth till the attainment of school age is carried out by these nurses and during the year under review 9,360 visits were made in this connection.

Children Act, 1908, etc.

The arrangements for discharging the functions of the Local Authority under Part I of the Children Act, 1908, as amended by the Children and Young Persons Act, 1932, are in conformity with the Memorandum L.G.A. 28, issued by the Ministry of Health on 26th November, 1929. The obligations of persons receiving children for reward under the circumstances dealt with in the Act and outlined in the Memorandum have been made known to the general public, a register is kept and the health visitors of the Local Authority act as Infant Life Protection Visitors.

Orthopaedic Treatment.

Cases of orthopaedic disability are catered for by the Cripples' Guild Hospital, Hartshill, and the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary. The Education Committee have now an arrangement with the Cripples' Guild Hospital for the treatment of orthopaedic cases (both in-patients and out-patients) on an agreed scale of charges.

The health visitors undertake a certain amount of after-care and following up of cases dealt with by the Institutions named.

Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants, etc.

St. John's Hospital, an institution taken over by the County Council under the Local Government Act, 1929, provides for the reception of such cases.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

SECTIONS C, D AND E, DEALING WITH THE SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA, HOUSING, AND INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD EMBRACE THE SUBMISSION OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Water Supply.

Practically the whole of the area is served by a piped supply on the constant system through the Staffordshire Potteries

Water Board, the Borough Council being a Constituent Authority. A small hamlet at High Lane, Knutton, and a portion of the Red Street area are served by piped supplies taken from the Newcastle Rural District Council. Certain outlying isolated houses and farm premises derive their water supplies from wells and springs. Some of these sources received consideration, especially where supply was depleted in consequence of the continued drought. In a few instances where water is not reasonably accessible the houses involved have been scheduled for action under the quinquennial slum clearance programme.

The Staffordshire Potteries Water Board supply is derived from deep wells in the new red sandstone, the pumping stations being situated at Hatton and Mill Meece. The water is pumped to a Service Reservoir at Hanchurch which serves the whole of the District; a portion of the Borough served through a low pressure distribution system has the pressure broken by a small reservoir situated off Shelton New Road.

The following is an analysis of the water, kindly furnished by Mr. R. C. Frain, Water Board Engineer :—

Analysis.

Total solid matter dried at 212° F.	14.56 grains per gallon
Free and Saline Ammonia	... 0.000
Albuminoid Ammonia	... 0.001
Nitric Nitrogen	... 0.24
Combine Chlorine	... 0.84
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80° F.	... 0.000
Colour through 2 feet	... very pale bluish tinge
Appearance	... clear

Hardness.

Hardness before boiling	... 7.95
After boiling	... 5.40
Temporary	... 2.55

The water is of excellent quality for drinking, and domestic and industrial purposes.

The consumption in the district is at the rate of approximately 25 gallons per head per day.

Fifty-four special visits have been made to houses regarding water supplies. Ninety dwelling-houses have been given improved facilities for the usage of water including the provision of 31 additional taps and 38 additional sinks.

Twelve samples of water were submitted for chemical and bacteriological analysis, 11 of which were reported as unfit. Most of these were taken in the Seabridge area. A piped service for this area was under consideration at the end of the year.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The greater part of the district is sewered, one portion on the combined system, the remainder having a separate system for surface water purposes. At present there are six points of outfall to disposal works of different types, some of which are inadequate or unsuitable for this purpose. Agreement has been reached with the City of Stoke-on-Trent, whereby certain of these works will be discontinued, the sewage being conveyed by new outfall sewers to the recently constructed works at Strongford Bridge, which is to the south of the Borough. Some 15,300 yards of new sewers (including 10,000 yards of main outfall sewer) were laid during the year in the Clayton, Porthill, Hemstalls Lane and other housing areas. Portions of the area as yet unsewered include Audley Road (Part) and Springwood, High Lane and Black Bank, Ravensdale and Clayton Village. Building development in this latter area is increasing and a sewerage scheme is in hand.

One hundred-and-five inspections following complaints regarding sewers, etc., were made, and 33 nuisances therefrom have been abated.

Rivers and Streams.

The Lyme Brook flows through the area from north to south and then, crossing the southern boundary, discharges into the River Trent.

The Fowlea Brook runs in a general direction of from north to south on the east side of the area forming for part of its course the eastern boundary of the district. After passing through the City of Stoke-on-Trent it also discharges into the River Trent.

The effluents from the Holditch Sewage Farm, from Silverdale Sewage Farm and from the Cross Heath irrigation area are discharged into the Lyme Brook which also receives waste water from bye-product works, etc.

The Fowlea Brook receives the effluents from the Tunstall Sewage Works and from Basford Sewage Works and trade effluents from chemical works.

Both these streams are of small size and receive considerable quantities of sewage and trade effluents. The drought considerable taxed the cleansing capacity of these streams, and, although no unusual pollution gave cause for immediate action, improvement in conditions is anticipated when the new sewage disposal scheme, now well advanced, is operating.

Ten inspections regarding pollutions were made during the year.

Sanitary Accommodation.

The following is a summary of the various types of sanitary convenience existing in the Borough at the end of the year:—

No. of houses and premises served by flushed water closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,350
No. of houses and premises served by waste water closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	343
No. of houses and premises served by hand-flushed water closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	336
No. of houses and premises served by privies	...	...	...	...	...	...	312
No. of houses and premises served by pail closets	...	...	...	...	...	...	119
No. of houses and premises drained to cesspools (27)	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
No. of houses and premises served by standard dust-bins	...	...	...	...	...	...	15,378
No. of houses and premises served by ashpits (87)	...	...	...	...	...	...	105

Particulars of conversions made during the year:—

Privies converted to water closets	...	...	...	15
Pail closets converted to water closets	...	...	...	6
Waste water closets converted to flushed water closets	...	...	...	13
Hand-flushed closets provided with cisterns	...	...	...	15
Privies converted to pail closets	...	...	...	—

Water closets and cesspools connected direct to public sewers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of dry ashpits abolished in favour of bins	...						29
Standard dustbins replaced or provided through the Local Authority.	...	...	...	...	...	...	850

The Council's forward policy in contributing financial assistance to owners who voluntarily convert waste water and hand-flushed closets continues to give good results.

The Council's enlightened policy in providing free dustbins where ashpits have been voluntarily abolished, and maintaining them has almost eliminated ashpits. The drastic reduction in ashpits, coupled with the bin replacement scheme, has resulted in an efficient and expeditious refuse removal service.

Public Cleansing.

(I) GENERAL.

The Department controls the services in connection with house and trade refuse collection and disposal, street cleansing, and public conveniences, under the supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, who is the Cleansing Superintendent. The re-organisation of the services affected during the previous year enabled a proper costings scheme to be operated over the enlarged area during the current year. The information derived has been most valuable, resulting both in economies and in greater efficiency, and further developments can now more readily be planned.

During the year special consideration was given by the Cleansing Sub-Committee to the following features :—

1. The purchase of additional land to develop controlled tipping. The Minister held a Public Enquiry in connection therewith and the scheme was approved.
2. The policy of employing permanent labour only on street scavenging was approved. A scheme to employ aged temporary labour in connection with the cleansing of the Open Markets was inaugurated.
3. The purchase of an additional vehicle for refuse collection was approved.
4. A report on vehicle test trials resulted in the purchase of a 10 cube yard Moving Floor Freighter and a 750 gallon Dennis Gully Emptier.
5. Organisation of the services for snow removal purposes.

6. Consideration of schemes for additional Public Conveniences. (New Public Conveniences in the Chester-ton area were opened).
7. Provision of a new Cleansing Depot.

P.S.—Items 6 and 7 were still under consideration at the end of the financial year.

(2) SERVICES :

The following is a summary of the cleansing services performed during the year ending March 31st, 1935 :—

Refuse Collection :—

Number of houses and other premises receiving a refuse collection service ...	16,050
Number of premises receiving special trade refuse collection service	190
Average number of ashbins cleansed per week	15,442
Average number of privy middens cleansed per week	281
Average number of pail closets cleansed per week	110
Number of cesspools (27) cleansed during the year	122
Number of ashpits (emptied each month) still in use	87
Total refuse collected	13,238 tons
Weight collected per 1,000 population per day	12.4 cwts.

Refuse Disposal :—

Total refuse dealt with at the Disposal Plant or Tips (3)	15,288 tons
(Separation-incineration 25%, Tipped 75%)	

Street Cleansing :—

Total number of gullies cleansed	20,526
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed daily	7.42 miles
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed three times weekly	2.58 ,,

Approximate mileage of streets cleansed twice weekly	3.83 miles
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed once weekly	45.84 ..
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed less than once weekly	6.33 ..
Total miles ...	<u>66.00 ..</u>

Public Conveniences :—

The following conveniences are maintained and supervised :—

Newcastle :	Marsh Street	(Males and Females)
„	George Street	(Males)
„	Smithfield Road	(Males)
Wolstanton :	High Street	(Males and Females)
Silverdale :	Crown Street	(Males)
Chesterton :	Victoria Street	(Males)
„	Dragon Square	(Males and Females)

(3) COSTS :

The summary of costs for the year ending March 31st, 1935, will be approximately as follows :—

	Refuse Collection			Refuse Disposal		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Net cost (loans excluded) ...	5,706	0	0	1,707	0	0
Net cost per ton		8	7		2	3
Net cost per 1000 population	97	3	6	29	1	5
Net cost per 1000 premises	355	10	3	106	7	1
Net cost equivalent rate in £			6.1			1.8
	Street Cleansing			Gully Cleansing		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Net cost (loans excluded : Grants deducted) ...	1,309	0	0	480	0	0
Net cost per 10,000 square yard cleansed		3	6		—	
Net cost per 1,000 gullies cleansed		—		18	10	3
Net cost per 1,000 population	22	5	1	8	3	6
Net cost equivalent rate in £	1.9d.					

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.
Record of Inspections and Results.

Inspections made with respect to :	No. of Inspections	Nuisances or defects reported	Re-visits made re abatement	Nuisances or defects remedied
Houses under P.H.A. ...	419	469	365	490
Overcrowding	60	49	17	36
Water Supply	41	30	13	16
Drains—Inspected	269	137	271	117
Tested	30	4	4	4
Sewers, Street Gullies, &c. ...	85	33	20	33
Sanitary Accommodation ...	179	81	189	78
Ashes " ...	831	809	45	879
Accumulations " ...	65	48	14	40
Animals " ...	32	17	19	13
Rivers Pollution Acts... ..	9	9	1	2
Rats and Mice Act	41	38	29	18

Other visits :

Respecting Infectious Diseases	279
" Disinfection	217
" Schools	19
" Public Buildings, Cinemas, etc.	8
Miscellaneous Visits	328
Interviews—owners and tradesmen ...	585

Notices served and complied with.

	Notices Served		Notices Complied with	
	Prelim.	Statutory	Prelim.	Statutory
Public Health Acts	238	153	164	120
P.H. (Smoke Abatement) Act	2	—	2	—
Housing Acts	175	95	229	85
Factory and Workshops	19	—	20	—
Cowsheds, Dairies, &c.	19	—	18	—
Bye-laws and Local Acts	39	—	32	—

Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.
Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers prosecuted. (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	49	3	—
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	119	6	—
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' Premises)	98	10	—
Total	266	19	—

Defects found in Factories, Workshops & Workplaces.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found or brought forward. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—				
Want of Cleanliness ...	17	17	—	—
Want of Ventilation ...	—	1	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of Floors	2	3	—	—
Other Nuisances ...	26	26	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation :—				
Insufficient	9	9	—	—
Unsuitable or Defective ...	15	15	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	1	1	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—				
Illegal occupation of underground Bakehouses ...	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—
Total	70	72	—	—

Outworkers.

No return of Outworkers was submitted.

Registered Trades and Premises.

The existing records are incomplete in regard to the enlarged Borough and in consequence of pressure from other duties very little progress was made during the year in consolidating the registers. These registers show a record of 235 workshops.

Offensive Trades.

Number recorded as being within the Borough	...	79
Fish Fryers	... .. 61	
Tanners, etc.	... .. 5	
Tripe Boilers	... .. 7	
Rag and Bone dealers	... .. 6	
Number of new offensive trades established	...	3
Fish Fryers	... .. 2	
Rag and Bone dealer	... .. 1	

The standard of many of the fish frying premises is low, especially of those established prior to adoption of the Bye-laws.

The consideration of applications made during the year has been governed by modern requirements and the terms of the Byelaws.

Number of inspections made	... .. 51
Nuisances or defects found	... .. 17
Nuisances or defects remedied	... .. 17

Common Lodging Houses.

Number of registered houses in the Borough ... 6

The whole of these houses are of a very poor standard and four are included in Clearance Areas, 2 being situated in areas Orders regarding which are now confirmed. Alternative provision is made by a scheme for the erection of a municipal lodging house.

Number of inspections made (sanitary provisions) 16
--	-----------

(Regular inspection and control under the Bye-laws is undertaken by the Police).

Houses let in Lodgings.

In consequence of the number of applications made for Council houses from occupiers of this class of house, special consideration was given to these premises. Formal notices were served to enforce the provisions of the Bye-laws adopted during the year in order to ensure better control.

Notices served (affecting 22 houses)	31
Notices complied with	24
Premises approved for registration	5
Number of inspections made	91
Nuisances or defects found	147
Nuisances or defects remedied	105

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

During the year further consideration was given to the provision of permanent caravan colonies in the area, and although the question of adoption of Bye-laws was not proceeded with some steps were taken to enforce removal where sanitary conditions were unsatisfactory. A special report submitted to the local authority gave the following information :—

Total number of vans, etc., existing at the year end	52
Number of vans, etc., in possession of owner-occupiers	42
Number of vans, etc., found to be overcrowded	24
Number of vans, etc., found unfit for habitation	8

Following the service of notices the Department was successful in obtaining removal or demolition of 18 structures, but difficulty of control arises in the cases of temporary sites.

Number of visits and inspections made	95
Nuisances or defects found	70
Nuisances or defects remedied	38

Smoke Abatement.

Action to control industrial atmospheric pollution in the area is difficult, especially in the case of certain areas affected by smoke from brick and tile works where having regard to the type of kilns in use, the "best practicable means" clause is pleaded as an exemption from action. The matter received attention and search for a remedy was being made at the end of the year. Observations were made on certain other chimneys and advice was given where necessary, with some practical improvement.

Number of recorded observations made	...	8
Number of notices served (Section 1, Public Health Smoke Abatement Act)	... ..	2
Number of notices complied with	... ..	2
Visits to premises following observed nuisances		6

Schools.

Generally speaking, the hygienic conditions in the Council Schools are good and those obtaining in the recently erected schools are excellent. Means have been taken to effect sanitary improvements during the year at the following :—

- Orme Boys' Modern School.
- Wolstanton C. of E. School.
- Albert Street Schools (Junior Department).
- Broad Meadow School (Two Departments).
- Silverdale Council Junior Mixed School.
- Silverdale Council Infants' School.
- Watlands Infants' School.
- Hassell Street Council School.
- Ellison Street Schools (Two Departments).
- Knutton C. of E. School.
- May Bank Infants' School.
- Red Street C. of E. School.
- Clayton Council School.

SECTION D.

Housing.

General.

Housing Census :—

(1) Total number of inhabited houses in the Borough	15,750
(2) Estimated number of working class houses (included in the above)	13,000
(3) Number of new houses erected during the year :—	
(a) by Private Enterprise	560
(b) by Local Authority	240
	800

The principal work done under the Housing Acts, 1925-1930 can be summarised as follows :—

<i>Inspections :—</i>	Primary	Re-visits
(a) Part 1—Clearance Areas	309	678
do. other visits	114	18
(b) Part 2—Section 17—Reconditioning	221	1084
Sections 19/20—Demolition or closure	86	111

Five Year Programme.

The general survey of housing conditions rendered necessary to supply the Minister of Health with the local programme of slum clearance to be carried out has been given further consideration during the year and amended in the light of up-to-date circumstances. The work involved in the representation and development of this programme is much greater than perhaps is realised, and has materially taxed the resources of the Department's normal staff. The programme as amended is as follows :—

640 houses in 38 clearance areas, involving 659 families and a population of 2,938.

162 individual unfit houses, involving 168 families and a population of 735.

During the year six clearance areas (containing 95 houses, 103 families and a population of 410 persons) have been represented to the local authority. Eleven local Public Enquiries have been held. Confirmations of six Compulsory Purchase Orders and three Clearance Orders, involving 184 houses, have been received during the year.

In addition representations to the local authority have been made in respect of 46 individual unfit houses.

Statistics.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—

- | | |
|--|------|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 485 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | 3024 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925... .. | 348 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... | 1919 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 141 |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 294 |

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	220
--	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—

(a) Proceedings under sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930 :

- | | |
|--|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | 68 |
|--|----|

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	28
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	15
(b)—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	16
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	13
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	nil
(c)—Proceedings under sections 19 and 21 of the Housing Act, 1930 :	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	55
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	19
(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in anticipation of formal procedure	15
(4) Number of dwelling-houses closed on undertakings (not demolished)	5
(d)—Proceedings under section 20 of the Housing Act, 1930 :	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	1
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

SECTION E.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) Milk Supply.

Number of Dairy Farms in the Borough ...	49
The number of milch cows kept approximate to	1050
Producers of graded milk.	nil
Number of Retail Purveyors of milk... ..	129
(a) Resident	103
(b) Non-resident	26

Several of these purveyors distribute both loose and bottled milk.

Number of Dairy Milkshops	29
----------------------------------	----

Twelve retail purveyors hold licences for the sale of graded milk. The following licences were issued during the year:—

Certified milk	4
Grade A (T.T.)	7
Grade A	4
Pasteurised	1

During the year two samples of ordinary loose milk, on bacteriological examination, were found to contain tubercle bacilli. The source was traced and the affected animals slaughtered.

Dairies and Cowsheds.

Number of existing Cowsheds reconstructed ...	10
Number of new Cowsheds erected	—
Number of new Dairies provided	12

	Inspec- tions.	Re- Inspections.	Nuisances or defects	
			Found	Abated
Cowsheds	105	30	69	71
Dairies and Milkshops	98	21	38	38
Ice Cream Premises	29	19	18	18

(b) Meat and other Foods.

There is no public slaughter-house in the Borough. The following table shows the number of private slaughter-houses in use in the area at the dates mentioned :—

		In 1920	In 1932	Dec. 1934
Registered	...	25	20	18
Licensed	...	6	8	10
		—	—	—
		<u>31</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>28</u>

The number of men licensed to slaughter animals in accordance with the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, is 68.

On the whole, the slaughter-houses are in a satisfactory condition, but they possess the disadvantages which are inherent in private slaughterhouses. One registered slaughterhouse is scheduled for action in a slum clearance area.

The standard of meat slaughtered and sold in the area is high. Shops deriving their meat supply from sources outside the Borough are frequently inspected and kept under special observation.

The following are the numbers of animals slaughtered and inspected at private slaughterhouses :—

Beasts.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.	Total.
1,820	6,525	3,752	565	12,662

The following tables, giving particulars as to the extent of disease and causes of condemnation, are interesting as showing the necessity for meat inspection by competent officers :—

Surrenders of Unsound Meat.**(SLAUGHTERHOUSES).**

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.	Total.
Whole Carcases (including Organs)	8	1	2	—	11
Part Carcases	14	—	3	—	17
Heads	92	1	178	—	271
Lungs	180	7	176	—	363
Livers	76	27	138	1	242
Hearts	12	1	134	—	147
Kidneys	19	2	6	—	27
Spleens... ..	22	1	23	—	46
Stomachs	20	1	12	—	33
Omentum	26	1	26	—	53
Mesenteries (Intestines)	55	1	68	—	124
Udders	15	—	2	—	17

Causes of Condemnation and Weight
(SLAUGHTERHOUSES).

Disease	Beasts. lbs.	Sheep. lbs.	Pigs. lbs.	Calves. lbs.	Total lbs.
Tuberculosis	13,071	—	4,056	—	17,127
Distomatosis	203	102	—	—	305
Parasitical Cysts	127	16	14	—	157
Cirrhosis	93	—	4	—	97
Abscesses	168	—	15	4	187
Angiomatosis	111	—	—	—	111
Inflammatory Condition	112	3	90	—	205
Septicaemia... ..	—	100	—	—	100
	13,885	221	4,179	4	18,289

Tons cwts. qrs. lbs.
8 3 1 5

Surrenders of other Foods.

The following additional foodstuffs were condemned on account of contamination or decomposition:—

Tinned Foods	...	...	...	...	80 lbs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	196 „
Cooked Ham	...	...	...	...	9 „
					285 „

= 2 cwts., 2 qrs., 5 lbs.

Considerable attention is given to the inspection of meat, fish and general foodstuffs in the Borough, and the market shops and stalls receive regular visits on market days. Conditions as to cleanliness were found to be fairly good on the whole, but it has been necessary on several occasions to call attention to the lack of cleanliness at some premises. It is unfortunate that legislation is long overdue for controlling the exposure of general foodstuffs to contamination. Reference is made elsewhere to the supervision of Offensive Trades, Milk and Dairies work, etc.

The following is a record of the inspections made:—

Meat and Food Inspections	...	...	2632
Private Slaughterhouses	...	...	2862
General Food Premises	...	...	166
Bakehouses	...	...	73
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	32
Market Inspections	...	...	74

(c) Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928.

Total number of samples taken ... 103

Milk	...	...	63	Baking Powder	...	...	1
Butter	...	...	9	Mince-meat	...	...	1
Cheshire Cheese	...	...	8	Ground Almonds...	...	...	1
Coffee	...	...	2	Pearl Barley	...	...	1
Tea	...	...	2	Tinned Milk	...	...	1
Raspberry Jam	...	...	2	Orange Cream	...	...	1
Flour	...	...	1	Shrimp Paste	...	...	1
Lard	...	...	1	White Pepper	...	...	1
Mustard	...	...	1	Raspberry and Goose-			
Margarine...	...	...	1	berry Jam	...	...	1
Cocoa	...	...	1	Self-raising Flour	...	...	1
Salmon and Shrimp Paste			1	Arrowroot	...	...	1

Observations.

Six samples of milk were reported upon adversely by the Public Analyst.

Sample No.	Description	Result of Analysis	Remarks
325	Loose Milk	2.8% deficient in solids not fat	Warning letter sent to vendor
326	Bottled Milk	9.6% deficient in fat ...	Warning letters sent to vendor and wholesalers
346	Loose Milk	8.6% deficient in fat ...	Warning letter sent to vendor
348	do.	3% deficient in fat	do. do.
355	do.	4% deficient in fat ...	do. do.
370	do.	3.6% added water (8% deficient in solids not fat)	Accommodation milk. Faulty source untraceable

All the milk samples were reported by the Analyst to be free from preservatives and artificial colouring matter.

During the course of sampling, several opportunities arose for cautioning milk vendors regarding minor offences under the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act and Orders made thereunder.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

General.

The great majority of cases of scarlatina and diphtheria notified in the Borough are isolated in the Newcastle Isolation Hospital or in the Bradwell Joint Isolation Hospital. In addition, cases of erysipelas and cerebro spinal fever, and, in special circumstances, cases of measles, whooping cough, chicken pox, etc., are admitted to both hospitals. Fortunately, there have been no cases of typhoid in the Borough for some years, but should any occur they also would receive hospital treatment at one or other of the institutions. The Newcastle Hospital caters for patients coming from the old Borough of Newcastle while the Bradwell Hospital (which is administered by the Bradwell Joint Isolation Hospital Committee, of which the Borough Council is a constituent Authority) receives cases from the portion of the Borough formerly known as the Wolstanton United Urban District, from the Newcastle-under-Lyme Rural District and from the Kidsgrove Urban District.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)
during the year 1934.

Table 2 (page 33) shows the cases of infectious disease notified during the year.

Table 3 (page 34) shows the deaths from notifiable diseases during the year.

Tuberculosis.

Table 4 (page 35) shows the notifications of and the deaths from tuberculosis during the year.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

The following table shows particulars relating to cases of ophthalmia neonatorum notified during the year :—

Notified	Cases		Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	Treated					
	At Home	In Hospital				
4	3	1	4	—	—	—

Table 2.—Cases of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during 1934.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED													Total cases removed to Hospital	Percentage of Cases removed to Hospital		
	AT ALL AGES		AT ALL AGES														
	Under 1	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 years and over					
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhoid Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	20	2	2	3	6	4	2	2	2	14	1	1	20	100			
Scarlet Fever	191	6	11	7	10	62	59	21	14	176	1	1	176	92.15			
Puerperal Fever	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	100			
Puerperal Pyrexia	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	75			
Pneumonia	84	3	7	1	2	11	6	6	17	8	18	5	*	*			
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	25			
Pemphigus Neonatorum ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	100			
Erysipelas	31	1	2	1	1	...	...	3	5	5	10	3	8	25.8			
Poliomyelitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

* Information not available.

Table 4.—Notification of and Deaths from Tuberculosis.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1				1				1
1 and under 5	2		5	5			2	1
5 and under 15	9	7	6	6		1	3	
15 and under 25	5	13	1		4	5	1	
25 and under 35	11	15		1	3	5		
35 and under 45	5	2	2	1	1	1		1
45 and under 55	6	2			6	1		
55 and under 65	3	5			2	1		
65 and upwards				1		2		1
TOTAL	41	44	14	15	16	16	6	4

Of the 42 deaths from tuberculosis 33 or 78.6% had been notified, of the 32 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis 29 or 90.6% had been notified and of the 10 deaths from other forms of tuberculosis only 4 or 40% had been notified. The attention of general practitioners in the district should again be drawn to their obligations in the matter of the notification of cases of tuberculosis.