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Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme



# Annual Report

on the

## Health of the Borough

for the Year 1944

by

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

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer

A. J. BROWN, PRINTER.





PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICES,  
6 QUEEN STREET,  
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 1944.

It will be noted that Section B has been omitted from this report as its inclusion would have been merely a repetition of facts contained in previous recent reports.

The birth-rate for the year (21.88 per thousand of the population) is considerably above the average rate for the district in recent years and it is higher than the corresponding rate for England and Wales as a whole.

The death-rate (10.35) is below the average rate for the Borough in recent years and it is lower than the rate for England and Wales as a whole.

The infantile mortality rate (40.4 per thousand births) is the lowest ever recorded in the Borough and it is lower than the corresponding rate for England and Wales as a whole.

I desire to thank the members of the Committee for the keen support which they have given me throughout the year and to express my special appreciation of the manner in which all the members of the staff have whole-heartedly co-operated with and assisted me generally and more particularly in connection with the additional work thrown on the department owing to the war.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

**ADAM WHITE.**



## SECTION A.

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### 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 1944 is 63,360.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1944 was 18,978.

#### Rateable Value, etc.

The rateable value of the Borough is £308,411, and one penny rate in the £ (General Rate) produces £1,167 exclusive of voids, etc.

#### War-Time Nurseries.

In the Borough there are six War-Time Day Nurseries and one Residential Nursery organised by the Corporation under the aegis of the Ministry of Health. In these nurseries there is accommodation for 280 children.

#### Social Conditions—Unemployment.

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 1944 was 340, as compared with 181 for the year 1943. The present figure is approximately 1.7% of the insured population of 20,000 (estimated), as against .9% for 1943, .91% for 1942, 1.3% for 1941, 6.6% for 1940, 19.6% for 1939, 20% for 1938, 17% for 1937, 20% for 1936, 23% for 1935, 22% for 1934, 25% for 1933, and 37% for 1932.

# Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		Total	Male	Female	Rate	
Live Births	{ Legitimate	1311	679	632	21.88	per 1000 estimated population
	{ Illegitimate	75	43	32		
Stillbirths	... ..	59	28	31	40.83	{ per 1000 total live and still births
Deaths	... ..	656	343	313	10.35	per 1000 estimated population

Deaths and death-rates from puerperal causes :—

	Deaths	Rate per 1000 total live & still births
Puerperal and Post-abortion sepsis	3	2.076
Other maternal causes	...	—
Total	3	2.076

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

Total	...	40.4
Legitimate	...	38.14
Illegitimate	...	80.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	101
Deaths from measles (all ages)	...	2
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	...	2
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)		3



**Table 1.**  
**CAUSES OF DEATH.**

CAUSES OF DEATH						Males	Females
ALL CAUSES	...	...	...	...	...	343	313
1.	Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	...	...	...	...	—	1
2.	Cerebro-spinal fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
3.	Scarlet fever	...	...	...	...	—	—
4.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	2	—
5.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	1
6.	Tuberculosis of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	8	9
7.	Other forms of tuberculosis...	...	...	...	...	6	1
8.	Syphilitic diseases	...	...	...	...	2	1
9.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	2	1
10.	Measles	...	...	...	...	1	1
11.	Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
12.	Acute inf. encephalitis	...	...	...	...	1	2
13.	Cancer of buc : cav : and oesoph : (M.), Uterus (F)	...	...	...	...	5	3
14.	Cancer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	13	10
15.	Cancer of breast	...	...	...	...	—	10
16.	Cancer of all other sites	...	...	...	...	29	31
17.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	4	2
18.	Intracranial vascular lesions	...	...	...	...	24	38
19.	Heart disease	...	...	...	...	99	82
20.	Other diseases of circulatory system	...	...	...	...	4	8
21.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	22	13
22.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	14	13
23.	Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	6	2
24.	Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	...	...	...	...	6	—
25.	Diarrhoea—under 2 years	...	...	...	...	1	2
26.	Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	1	—
27.	Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	3	10
28.	Nephritis	...	...	...	...	7	9
29.	Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	...	...	...	...	—	3
30.	Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...	—	—
31.	Premature birth	...	...	...	...	9	8
32.	Congenital malformation, birth injury, in- fant diseases	...	...	...	...	9	9
33.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	2	2
34.	Road traffic accidents	...	...	...	...	4	2
35.	Other violent causes	...	...	...	...	13	6
36.	All other causes	...	...	...	...	46	33

## 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.

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#### 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 of that Board. 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. A few out-lying isolated houses and farm premises still derive their water supplies from wells and springs, one of which has been under consideration during the year. In a few instances where water is not reasonably accessible, the houses involved have been scheduled. The supply to the portion of Red Street mentioned above continues to be unsatisfactory in the matter of pressure. The question of this area being supplied by the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board has been under consideration.

The Staffordshire Potteries Water Board supply is derived from deep wells in the new red sandstone and is in the region of 20 gallons per head per day.

With regard to the quality of the water supplied by the Board, it is not plumbo-solvent, recent chemical and bacteriological examinations show that it is satisfactory, and it receives chloramine treatment.

In addition to what is said above with regard to the quality of the supply from the Board, two samples were taken from premises which still obtain their water supplies from private sources. Both these samples were satisfactory.

#### Drainage and Sewage.

One hundred and ten lineal yards of new sewers were laid during the year. Portions of the area as yet unsewered include Audley Road (part), Springwood, High Lane, Black Bank and Ravensdale.



Three-hundred and seventy-two inspections following complaints regarding sewers, street gullies, etc., were made, and 87 nuisances have been abated.

### Rivers and Streams.

Thirteen inspections regarding pollution were made during the year, pollution of the Lyme brook received attention.

### 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	...	...	...	...	...	18,570
No. of houses and premises served by waste water closets	...	...	...	...	...	252
No. of houses and premises served by hand-flushed water closets	...	...	...	...	...	107
No. of houses and premises served by privies (146)	...					112
No. of houses and premises (excluding air raid shelters) served by pail closets (90)	...					68
No. of houses and premises drained to cesspools (28)						28
No. of houses and premises served by standard dustbins	...	...	...	...	...	19,822
No. of houses and premises served by ashpits (10)	...					20

Particulars of conversions made during the year :—

Privies converted to water closets	...	...	...	—
Pail closets converted to water closets		...	...	—
Waste water closets converted to flushed water closets				2
Hand-flushed closets provided with cisterns			...	1
Privies converted to pail closets	...	...	...	—
Water closets and cesspools connected direct to public sewers	...	...	...	—
New or additional water-closets provided		...	...	—
No. of dry ashpits abolished in favour of bins...			...	—
Standard dustbins replaced or provided through the Local Authority	...	...	...	955

## Public Cleansing.

### SERVICES :

The following is a summary of the cleansing services performed during the year ending 31st March, 1945 :—

#### *Refuse Collection :—*

Number of houses and other premises receiving a refuse collection service ...	19,500
Number of premises receiving special trade refuse collection service ... ..	255
Average number of ashbins cleansed per week ... ..	10,278
(As from August, 1940, a system of alternate weekly refuse and salvage collections operated).	
Average number of privies cleansed per week	133
Average number of pail closets cleansed per week (including Civil Defence Shelter pails) ... ..	246
Number of cesspools cleansed during the year (including work for Newcastle Rural District Council) ... ..	247
Number of ashpits (emptied) still in use ...	10
Total refuse collected—Dry (estimated) ...	9,844 tons
Salvage „ ...	1,864 „
Wet „ ...	1,020 „
Weight collected per 1,000 population per day (Dry refuse and salvage) ... ..	10.12 cwts.

#### *Refuse Disposal :—*

Total estimated refuse dealt with at the Disposal Plant or Tips (excluding wet refuse, salvage or covering material) ...	11,708 tons
(Incineration 5%, Tipped 81%, Salvage 14%)	

#### *Street Cleansing :—*

Number of Gullies ... ..	5,095
Total number of gully cleansings ... ..	20,077
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed daily (each Sunday 7.62 miles) ..	5.32 miles
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed three times weekly ... ..	3.58 „



Approximate mileage of streets cleansed twice weekly ... ..	6.06 miles
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed once weekly ... ..	41.07 „
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed less than once weekly ... ..	19.33 „
Total miles ...	<u>75.36 „</u>

(Trunk Road, 4.36 miles. County Roads, 24.28 miles. District Roads, 46.72 miles).

The staff employed in these services is as follows :—

	Average
Refuse collection and salvage ...	61
Refuse disposal ... ..	5
Street cleansing... ..	17
One foreman (all services), foreman-mechanic, mechanic and storekeeper.	

#### COSTS :

Owing to the present emergency it has not been possible to give detailed costs for the various services. The following figures show the estimated total costs for all services, with salvage income and expenditure shown separately.

ALL SERVICES		SALVAGE	
Expenditure ...	£18,392	Income ...	£6,492
Income ...	£2,014	Expenditure ...	£4,439
Net Expenditure ...	<u>£16,378</u>	Net income ...	<u>£2,053</u>

#### Public Conveniences :—

The following conveniences are maintained and supervised :—

Newcastle :	Pepper Street	(Males and Females)
„	Marsh Street	(Males and Females)
„	Smithfield	Urinal
„	Hassell Street	„
„	Stubbs Street	„
„	Liverpool Road	„
Wolstanton :	High Street	(Males and Females)
„	Jubilee Road	Urinal
Silverdale :	Crown Street	(Males)
Chesterton :	Victoria Street	(Males)
„	Dragon Square	(Males and Females)

Since George Street Convenience was abolished in the autumn of 1938 for road improvement purposes, a temporary

agreement for the public of this vicinity to use facilities of an adjoining Billiard Hall have been instituted.

Staff employed : Males (full-time) ... 2  
 „ (part-time) ... 5  
 Females (full-time) 4  
 „ (part-time) 2

**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
P.H.A.—Housing .. ..	387	970	595	801
Other Nuisances .. ..	286	352	490	219
Water Supply .. ..	15	6	12	7
Overcrowding .. ..	33	13	10	6
Drains—Inspected .. ..	257	68	183	54
Tested .. ..	100	10	14	10
Sewers, Street Gullies, &c. ..	348	70	24	87
Sanitary Accommodation ..	69	27	20	23
Ashes Accommodation ..	55	1,110	48	955
Accumulations .. ..	57	35	54	50
Swine, Fowl or other Animals	43	12	7	10
Rivers Pollutions Acts ..	13	—	—	—
Rats and Mice Act .. ..	606	117	613	41
(Visits by Inspectors)				

**Other visits :**

Respecting Infectious Diseases ... .. 111  
 „ Verminous Conditions ... .. 99  
 „ Disinfection ... .. 125  
 „ Schools, Public Buildings,  
 Cinemas, etc. ... .. 117  
 Miscellaneous Visits ... .. 655  
 Public Cleansing visits ... .. 1,781  
 Air-Raid Precautions—Special Visits ... 518  
 Interviews—owners and tradesmen ... 788

**Notices served and complied with.**

	Notices Served		Notices Complied with	
	Prelim.	Statutory	Prelim.	Statutory
P.H.A.—Housing Defects ..	181	7	133	2
Nuisances .. ..	96	—	84	—
Smoke Nuisance .. ..	—	—	—	—
Housing Acts .. ..	—	—	—	—
Factory and Workshops ..	16	—	15	—
Cowsheds, Dairies, &c. ..	9	—	9	—
Byelaws and Local Acts ..	—	—	—	—
Shops Act .. ..	—	—	—	—



## 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 with mechanical power ..	91	8	—
Factories without mechanical power	21	2	—
Other Premises .. .. . (not including Outworkers Premises)	110	6	—
Total ..	222	16	—

### Defects found.

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)	
Want of cleanliness ..	10	10	—	—
Overcrowding .. ..	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ..	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floor	1	1	—	—
Sanitary Convenience—				
Insufficient .. ..	3	2	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	2	2	—	—
Not separate for sexes..	1	1	—	—
Other offences .. ..	3	3	—	—
	20	19	—	—

Premises of outworkers visited (wearing apparel) ... 3

### Rodent Control.

A full-time operator is employed to undertake treatment on Council properties and to give advice generally following receipt of complaint. In many cases minor treatment at private properties is given as a free service. In addition, systematic treatment is carried out in connection with the 42 annual contracts with traders affecting business premises. The Ministry of Food served direction to remedy rat infestation in sewers under the control of the Local Authority on 21st August, 1944. Work on sewer treatment commenced in the autumn, the operating squad consisting of an inspector, a rodent operator and two corporation sewer men, and this unit functioned successfully in the speedy treatment of manholes by using a 30 cwt. van. A total of 658 sewer manholes had received treatment by the end of the year.

Records show the following work undertaken :—

Rat complaints received	.. ..	351	
Visits made by operator	.. ..	3,460	
Premises baited	.. ..	1,548	
Sewers and water-courses baited	.. ..	947	
Estimated number of rats destroyed by poisoning and gassing	.. ..	5,575	} Total
Actual number of rats destroyed by dogs, ferrets and trapping	.. ..	2,067	
			7,642

### Shop Sanitation.

Number of sanitary visits made to shops	...	23
Number of nuisances or defects found	...	2
Number of nuisances or defects remedied	...	2

### Offensive Trades.

Number recorded as being within the Borough		64
Fish Fryers	... ..	38
Fat Melters, etc.	... ..	7
Tripe Boilers	... ..	14
Rag and Bone Dealers		5
Number of new offensive trades established	...	—
Number of inspections made	... ..	29
Nuisances or defects found	... ..	3
Nuisances or defects remedied	... ..	3



### Common Lodging Houses.

Number of registered houses in use at the end of the year ... 2

These provide the following accommodation :—

13 Lower Street, Newcastle ...	...	43 beds (males)
71/73 Lower Street, Newcastle ...	{	15 beds (males)
		6 beds (females)

Number of inspections made... ... 3

### Houses Let in Lodgings.

Notices served ... ..	3
Notices complied with ... ..	3
Premises approved for registration	—
Number of inspections made ...	19
Nuisances or defects found ...	8
Nuisances or defects remedied	7

### Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Total number of semi-permanent vans, etc. existing at the end of the year	9
Number of vans, etc., in possession of owner-occupiers ... ..	9
Number of vans, etc., found to be over- crowded ... ..	4
Number of vans, etc., found unfit for habitation ... ..	—
Number of visits and inspections made	25
Nuisances or defects found ... ..	8
Nuisances or defects remedied ... ..	9

### Smoke Abatement.

Number of recorded observations made...	2
Number of notices served (Section 1, Public Health Smoke Abatement Act)	—
Number of notices complied with ...	—

## Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Particulars of action taken is as follows :—

COUNCIL HOUSES				PRIVATE HOUSES			
Inspection	Infested	De-infested		Inspection	Infested	De-infested	
		HCN	Other Insecticides			HCN	Other Insecticides
33	22	—	3	66	27	—	4

## SECTION D.

### Housing.

#### General.

*Housing Census :—*

- (1) Total number of inhabited houses in the Borough ... .. 18,978
- (2) Estimated number of working class houses (separately occupied accommodation) ... 16,226
- (3) Number of new houses erected during the year :
 

(a) by Private Enterprise	...	—	}	—
(b) by Local Authority	...	—		

The principal work done under the Housing Act, 1936, can be summarized as follows :—

<i>Inspections :—</i>			Primary	Re-visits
(a)	Part 1—Clearance Areas	... ..	—	20
	do.	other visits	—	225
(b)	Part 2—Section 9—Reconditioning		—	5
	Sections 11/12—Demolition or closure	... ..	18	4



## 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) ... ..	405
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	1004
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925... ..	3
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	3
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	3
(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 ... ..	181

### 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 ... ..	133
--	-----

### 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—

#### (a)—Proceedings under sections 9 and 10 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs... ..	nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by Owners ... ..	nil
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	nil

#### (b)—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied... ..	7
--	---

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) by Owners ... .. 2

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners nil

(c)—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... .. 2

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... .. nil

(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in anticipation of formal procedure ... .. nil

(4) Number of dwelling-houses closed on undertakings (not demolished) ... .. nil

(5) Number of dwelling-houses reconditioned on undertakings ... .. nil

(d)—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... .. nil

(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

#### 4. Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.

The estimated number of families known to be living in overcrowded conditions at the commencement of 1941 was some 420 and due to movement of population the position has not improved since that date. No general action is possible, but special cases brought to notice are re-housed as opportunity arises.



## SECTION E.

### Inspection and Supervision of Food.

#### (a) Milk Supply.

Number of Dairy Farms in the Borough ...	37
The number of milch cows kept approximate to	780
Producers of graded milk ... ..	8
Number of Retail Purveyors of milk ...	294
(a) Resident ... ..	240
(b) Non-Resident ... ..	39

Several of these purveyors distribute both loose and bottled milk, but of the resident purveyors, 195 retail bottled milk only.

Number of Dairy Milkshops ... ..	25
----------------------------------	----

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

Tuberculin Tested...	7
Accredited ... ..	5
Pasteurised ... ..	7

Four bottling licences were issued during the year :—

Tuberculin Tested...	2
Accredited ... ..	1
Pasteurised ... ..	1

One premises is licensed as a pasteurising plant.

#### DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

Number of existing Cowsheds reconstructed ...	2
Number of Cowsheds discontinued ... ..	—
Number of new Cowsheds erected ... ..	—
Number of new or improved Dairies ... ..	5

	Inspection.	Re-Inspections.	Nuisances or defects	
			Found	Abated
Cowsheds ... ..	94	20	19	20
Dairies and Milkshops ... ..	213	30	38	26
Ice Cream Premises ... ..	8	4	2	2

No. of Ice Cream premises registered under Private Act (non-operative) ... ..	85
--	----

**(b) Meat and Other Foods.**

No. of Butchers' shops registered under Private Act (including Market Stalls) ... ..	89
---	----

No. of Preserved Food preparing premises regis- tered ... ..	48
---	----

There is no public slaughter-house in the Borough. There are 10 registered and 9 licensed slaughter-houses in the Borough, the use of which has been suspended during the war except for an occasional use under licence.

The number of men licensed to slaughter animals in accordance with the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, is 38.

**Carcases Inspected and Proportion Condemned for  
Tuberculosis and Other Conditions.**

	Cattle excl'ding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected ..	107	148	30	1377	154
<b>Surrenders of unsound Meat :</b>	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Diseases other than Tuber- culosis .. ..	55	150	28	174	440
Tuberculosis only .. ..	—	—	—	—	272
Total weight .. ..	55	150	28	174	712

**Surrenders of other Food.**

	lbs.
Bacon and ham .. ..	639
Fresh fruit .. ..	86
Dried fruit .. ..	289
Sausages .. ..	66
Hen eggs .. ..	188
Wet fish .. ..	1144
Dried fish .. ..	502
Tinned meat .. ..	1130
Tinned vegetables .. ..	387
Tinned milk .. ..	3789
Tinned fish .. ..	635
Tinned fruit .. ..	405
Tinned soups .. ..	121
Vegetable Extract .. ..	90
Fresh vegetables .. ..	4480



### Surrenders of other Food—contd.

	<i>lbs.</i>
Rice .. .. .	234
Custard powder .. .. .	174
Mustard .. .. .	5
Biscuits .. .. .	245
Chocolate .. .. .	8
Peanuts .. .. .	552
Dried vegetables .. .. .	16
Jam .. .. .	204
Sugar .. .. .	38
Cheese .. .. .	110
Lard .. .. .	21
Flour .. .. .	1036
Breakfast cereals .. .. .	15
Tea .. .. .	32
Pickles .. .. .	24
Dried eggs .. .. .	2
Butter .. .. .	2

The following is a record of the inspections made :—

Meat and food inspections .. .. .	574
Private slaughterhouses .. .. .	79
General food premises .. .. .	437
Bakehouses .. .. .	61
Food preparing premises .. .. .	311
Market inspections .. .. .	154

### Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Total number of samples taken .. 131

Milk .. .. . 106	Salmon and shrimp paste .. .. . 1
Butter .. .. . 1	Oatmeal .. .. . 1
Special Margarine .. .. . 1	Almond Substitute .. .. . 1
Lard .. .. . 1	Powdered Gelatine .. .. . 1
Empire Cheese .. .. . 1	Culinary Essence (Almond) .. .. . 1
Tea .. .. . 1	Cascara Sagrada tablets .. .. . 1
Coffee .. .. . 1	Cephos powders .. .. . 1
Sugar .. .. . 1	Seidlitz powders .. .. . 1
Malt Vinegar .. .. . 1	Alkaline stomach tablets .. .. . 1
Vinegar .. .. . 1	Steel and pennyroyal pills .. .. . 1
Sponge mixture .. .. . 1	Cream of magnesia tablets .. .. . 1
Sage and onion stuffing .. .. . 1	Iron tonic capsules (for women) .. .. . 1
Yorkshire pudding mixture .. .. . 1	
Chocolate semolina pudding .. .. . 1	

## Observations.

Thirteen samples were adversely reported upon by the Public Analyst.

Sample No.	Description	Result of Analysis	Remarks
84	Sponge Mixture	Contained 50 parts per million of Flourine against a maximum of five parts per million recommended by the Society of Public Analysts.	Retailer and Manufacturer notified.
94	Milk	5% deficient in fat.	Warning letter sent. Subsequent samples satisfactory
120	Milk	6.3% deficient in fat.	Warning letter sent to producer. Subsequent samples satisfactory.
113	Milk	2.1% added water.	Samples revealed defective cooler at Producer's premises accounting for added water. Producer warned. Fat deficiency present in "appeal to cow" samples. Producer advised to contact County Farm Institute <i>re</i> feeding problem. Subsequent samples satisfactory.
124	Milk	2.3% deficient in fat.	
132	Milk	Contained a trace of added water.	
133	Milk	Contained at least 1.1% added water.	
134	Milk	Contained at least 2.1% added water and was 1.7% deficient in fat.	
156	Milk	6% deficient in fat.	
129	Milk	1.7% deficient in fat.	
135	Milk	5% deficient in fat.	Subsequent samples satisfactory.
138	Milk	6.7% deficient in fat.	Warning letter to Producer Subsequent samples satisfactory.
175	Steel & Penny-royal Pills	Each pill contained only 0.1 gr. of Ferrous sulphate instead of 2 grs. stated.	Warning letter to Manufacturer.

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

Number of approved premises—Wholesale  
dealers in margarine      ...      5

## Civil Defence.

The organisation of Civil Defence has imposed onerous duties on the Local Authority and this has resulted in an inevitable reduction of normal public health activities. However, no essential service has been neglected.



## SECTION F.

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

#### Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the year 1944, a total of 718 children (455 under five and 263 five years and over) were immunised against diphtheria. Since the immunisation campaign began, approximately 54% of children under five and 62% of children between five and fifteen years have been immunised.

#### Scabies.

The measures required to be taken under the Statutory Rule and Order No. 1724 of 1941 and Circular 2517 of the Ministry of Health of 14th November, 1941, are being carried out. The examination of contacts is undertaken at St. John's First Aid Post, Liverpool Road, Newcastle, and the School Clinic, Ellison Street, Wolstanton, and the treatment of cases is undertaken at these two centres and at the School Clinics at Chesterton, Silverdale and Knutton. The treatment provided is in conformity with the Ministry of Health memorandum on the subject dated 30th April, 1942. During the year 1025 cases of scabies were treated.

#### Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases			Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At Home	In Hospital				
2	2	—	2	—	—	—

#### Steps Taken to Improve the General Standard of Cleanliness.

Every endeavour has been made to carry out the suggestions contained in Circular 2,831, of 2nd July, 1943. In particular, the Health Visitors have been instructed to give special attention to children between the ages of two and five years, and to concentrate largely in their visiting on the homes which they know to be the least satisfactory. As four of the Corporation Health Visitors are also School Nurses, a high degree of personal knowledge of the children and their homes is attained.

Table 2.—Cases of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during 1944.  
(Civilians only).

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED													Total cases removed to Hospital	Percentage of Cases removed to Hospital
	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 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	100.
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) .. .. .	..	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	17	100.
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	2	5	6	4	..	..	..	..	54	83.08
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	..	..	4	3	6	35	10	5	2	..	..	..	..	4	66.66
Puerperal Pyrexia .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	..	*	..
Pneumonia .. .. .	1	3	2	2	..	5	2	3	5	..	11	4	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .. .	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pemphigus Neonatorum .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Encephalitis Lethargica .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro Spinal Fever .. .. .	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	100.
Erysipelas .. .. .	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	1	..	..	..
Poliomyelitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	..	..	2	100.
Measles .. .. .	27	69	79	96	72	248	6	..	3	..	..	..	..	*	..
Whooping Cough .. .. .	11	10	15	13	12	33	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	*	..
Dysentery .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

\*Information not available.



Table 3.—Deaths from Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1944.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATHS													
	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	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ...	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Scarlet Fever . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Enteric Fever ... (including Paratyphoid)	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	
Puerperal and post- abortive sepsis ...	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Pneumonia ...	27	6	2	1	..	2	..	..	..	1	5	10	..	
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Erysipelas ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Whooping Cough ...	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	
Measles ...	2	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	

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	..	1	..	1	..	..	1	..
5 and under 15	3	2	5	1	..	..	1	..
15 and under 25	5	11	4	6	..	2	1	..
25 and under 35	7	8	1	..	1	5	..	..
35 and under 45	6	8	2	..	..	..	2	1
45 and under 55	3	4	..	1	3	1	..	..
55 and under 65	6	3	..	1	2	1	..	..
65 and upwards	..	..	..	..	2	..	..	..
TOTAL	30	37	13	10	8	9	6	1

Of the 24 deaths from tuberculosis, 22 or 91.66% had been notified and of the 17 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, 15 or 88.24% had been notified. All the deaths from other forms of tuberculosis had been notified.



