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Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme

Annual Report

on the

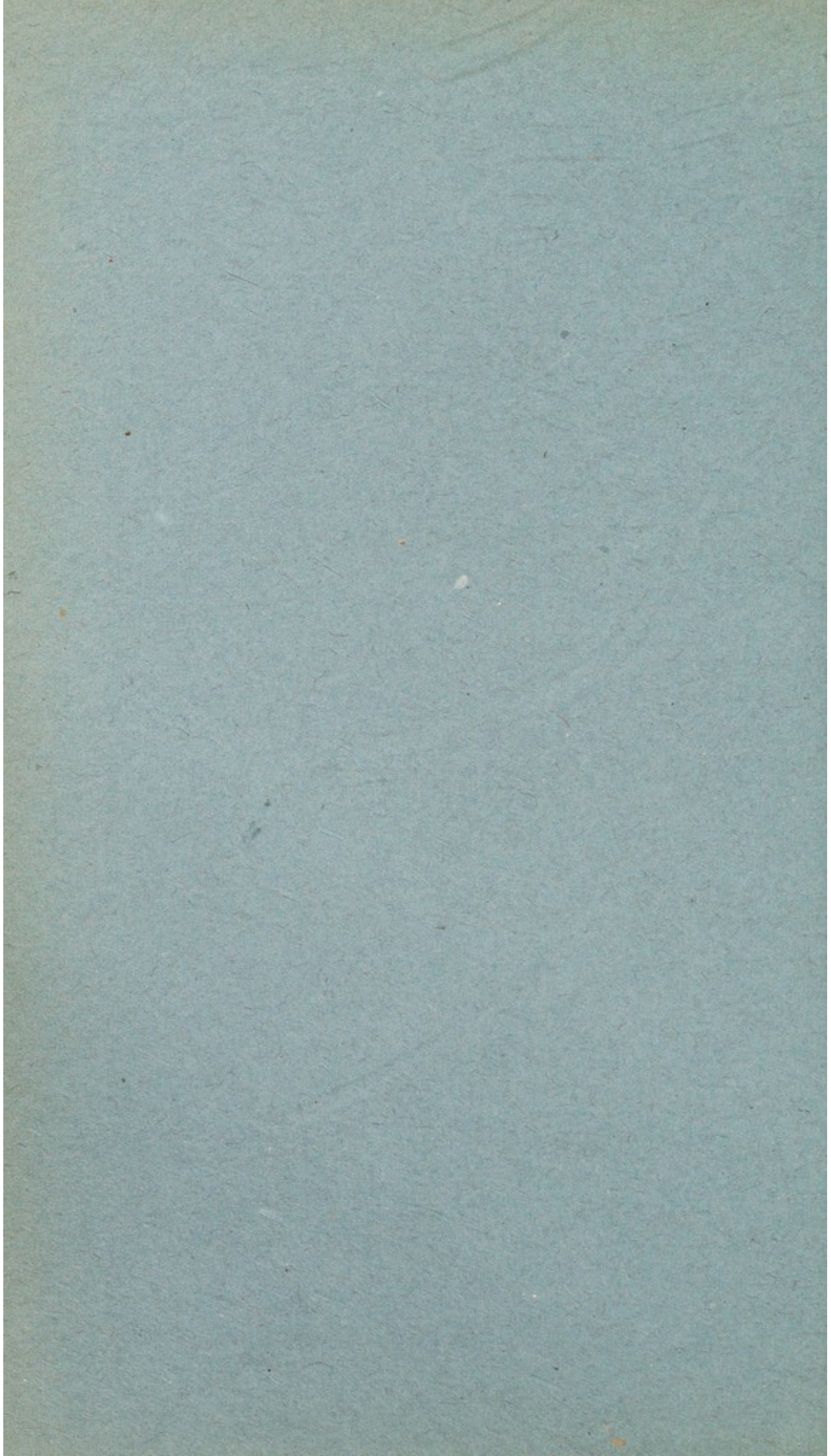
Health of the Borough

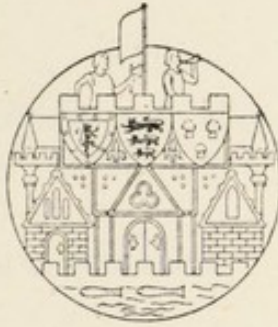
for the Year 1947

by

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

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer.






Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme

Annual Report
on the
Health of the Borough
for the Year 1947

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PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICE,
6, QUEEN STREET,
NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME,
STAFFS.

1st JULY, 1948.

*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 of the health of the Borough for the year 1947 which shows the state of affairs during that year but, of course, takes no account of the changes introduced by the National Health Service Act 1946 which did not take effect till July, 1948.

The birth-rate for the year (21.04 per thousand of the population) is 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 (11.19) is near the average rate for the Borough in recent years and it is slightly lower than the rate for England and Wales as a whole.

The infantile mortality rate (42.39 per thousand births) is below the average rate for the Borough in recent years but is slightly higher than the corresponding rate for England and Wales as a whole.

I desire to thank the members of the Committee for the support which they have given me throughout the year and to express my special appreciation of the manner in which the members of the staff have whole-heartedly 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 1947 is 68,390.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1947 was 19,582.

Rateable Value, etc.

The rateable value of the Borough is £314,841, and one penny rate in the £ (General Rate) produces £1,148.

Day Nurseries.

There are two day nurseries in the Borough, one situated at Liverpool Road, Cross Heath and the other at Crown Street, Silverdale. Each of these nurseries has accommodation for 40 children under five years of age, 15 under two years of age and 25 two and under five years.

Social Conditions—Unemployment.

With regard to the extent of unemployment during the year, I am indebted to the Manager of the Employment Exchange for the following information :—

	Average weekly figures	Percentage of insured Population (est. at 20,000)
Wholly unemployed	772	3.86
Temporarily unemployed	383	1.915

The percentage unemployment figure for previous years was as follows :—

1932	37%	1940	6.6%
1933	25%	1941	1.3%
1934	22%	1942 .....	.91%
1935	23%	1943 .....	.9%
1936	20%	1944	1.7%
1937	17%	1945	3.6%
1938	20%	1946	8.195%
1939	19.6%		

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		Total	Male	Female	Rate	
Live Births	Legitimate	1372	679	693	21.04	{ per 1000 estimated population
	Illegitimate	67	31	36		
Stillbirths	.....	45	25	20	30.32	{ per 1000 total live and still births
Deaths	.....	765	382	383	11.19	{ per 1000 estimated population

Deaths and death-rates from puerperal causes :—

	Deaths	Rate per 1000 total live & still births
Puerperal and Post-abortive sepsis	1	.67
Other maternal causes	1	.67
Total	2	1.35

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

Total	42.39
Legitimate	43.00
Illegitimate	29.85
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	110
Deaths from measles (all ages)	—
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	382	383
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever	—	1
3. Scarlet fever	—	1
4. Whooping Cough	—	2
5. Diphtheria	—	—
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	13	10
7. Other forms of tuberculosis	—	3
8. Syphilitic diseases	1	1
9. Influenza	1	1
10. Measles	—	—
11. Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis	—	—
12. Acute inf. encephalitis	—	1
13. Cancer of buc : cav : and oesoph : (M.), Uterus (F)	5	4
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	18	5
15. Cancer of breast	—	8
16. Cancer of all other sites	41	29
17. Diabetes	2	5
18. Intracranial vascular lesions	37	54
19. Heart disease	134	118
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	6	10
21. Bronchitis	22	17
22. Pneumonia	14	20
23. Other respiratory diseases	5	5
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	8	—
25. Diarrhoea—under 2 years	2	1
26. Appendicitis	1	1
27. Other digestive diseases	7	12
28. Nephritis	5	10
29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	—	1
30. Other maternal causes	—	1
31. Premature birth	6	6
32. Congenital malformation, birth injury, infant diseases	14	14
33. Suicide	10	1
34. Road traffic accidents	4	4
35. Other violent causes	10	7
36. All other causes	16	30

Premature Infants.

All hospitals in which infants belonging to the Borough are likely to be born have been requested to notify the Borough Health Office of the discharge to an address in the Borough of any infant prematurely born in the institution.

The health visitors have been instructed to give particular attention to premature infants and to take measures as far as practicable to secure a separate bedroom for the mother and infant and to ensure the provision of adequate and suitable equipment in the home. The services of a home help are available in suitable cases.

Unmarried Expectant Mothers and Illegitimate Children.

The Council have entered into an arrangement, through the Staffordshire County Council, with the Lichfield Diocesan Association for Moral Welfare with the object of carrying out the recommendations contained in Circular No. 2866 of the Ministry of Health, dated 1st October, 1943. This arrangement is working satisfactorily.

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.

(a) Medical.

The Medical Officer of Health, who is also School Medical Officer.

The Deputy Medical Officer of Health who is also Deputy School Medical Officer.

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 and post-natal clinics.

(b) Others.

The Chief Sanitary Inspector, who is also Cleansing Superintendent.

The Deputy Sanitary Inspector, who is also an Inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, etc.

3. Three District Sanitary Inspectors.
4. One Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

All the Inspectors possess Royal Sanitary Institute Certificates as Sanitary Inspectors and with the exception of the assistant Sanitary Inspector all hold the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute relating to the inspection 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.

5. Six nurses, all whole-time. Two of these nurses devote the whole of their 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.
6. The Public Analyst is a part-time officer, and a Veterinary Surgeon is available for consultation.
7. Seven clerks.

Laboratory Facilities.

Specimens under the Food and Drugs Acts, and the Milk and Cream Regulations are dealt with by Mr. A. Houlbrooke of the County Laboratory, Stafford, who is the Borough Analyst. Pathological specimens are dealt with at the Public Health Laboratory, Martin Street, Stafford which is part of the Public Health Laboratory Service. The results of the examination of the samples and specimens investigated during the year are stated in the appropriate sections.

Ambulance Facilities.

The Newcastle-under-Lyme Joint Hospital Board, of which the Corporation is a constituent authority, have three motor ambulances for the removal of cases of infectious disease. For the removal of non-infectious cases there are available three motor ambulances, one operated by the police and the other two by the health department.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

There are four District Nursing Associations working in the Borough, one in the southern portion of the area (old Newcastle) employing three nurses, one in Wolstanton employing one nurse, one in Chesterton employing one nurse, and one in Silverdale also employing one nurse.

Treatment Centres and Clinics.

e) *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 No. 9, King Street, Newcastle where there is also in operation an ante-natal and post-natal clinic. At all the child welfare centres accommodation is provided for waiting, for consultations and for the parking of prams, etc. The King Street centre is open each Monday, the Broadmeadow and Knutton centres each Thursday, the Ellison Street centre each Wednesday, and the Silverdale centre each Tuesday. The ante-natal centre is open each Monday and Friday afternoon. The post-natal centre is in operation on the second and fourth Tuesday in each month.

Plans have been got out for the improvement of the Broadmeadow clinic. The Lily Street (Wolstanton) and the Hill Street (Silverdale) clinics are in very bad condition. The site of the existing clinic at Lily Street is required for other school purposes and the site of the Silverdale Clinic will be required for a school extension in the near future. Accordingly, fresh sites for clinics at Wolstanton and Silverdale should be obtained.

f) *School Clinics.*

There are five School Clinics in the Borough, four of which are dealt with in the preceding paragraph and the fifth is situated at Friarswood House, Newcastle, and is used only for school clinic purposes.

g) *Tuberculosis.*

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

(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.

Hospitals.

A. (1) *Infectious Diseases.*

The Newcastle-under-Lyme Joint Hospital Board, of which the Borough Council is a constituent authority, came into being on October 1st, 1938, and subsequently took over the Newcastle and Bradwell Isolation Hospitals. The Joint Hospital Board is formed of representatives from six of the local authorities in North Staffordshire and is in possession of hospitals at Newcastle, Bradwell, Leek and Cheadle, containing 102 beds.

(2) *Smallpox.*

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

B. (1) *Tuberculosis.*

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

(2) *Maternity.*

The Fanny Deakin Maternity Home at Chesterton, containing sixteen beds, is now admitting patients but, owing to staffing difficulties, the maximum number of patients who can be catered for at any one time is not more than ten.

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.

(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.

Midwifery and Maternity Services.

There are in the Borough ten midwives employed by the Staffordshire County Nursing Association under the Midwives' Act, 1936, by arrangement with the Staffordshire County Council. In addition there are five midwives in the Borough in private practice.

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 devote half of their time to maternity and child welfare work and two of them devote the whole of their time to this service.

The visitation of children from birth to the age of five years is carried out by these nurses and during the year under review 9,412 visits were made in this connection.

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.

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 of that Board. Houses on High Lane and Black Bank Road, Knutton and at Burley Farm and Burley Cottage are served by piped supplies taken from the Newcastle Rural District Council. Twenty-three out-lying isolated houses and farm premises derive their water supplies from wells and springs, and in fifteen instances where water is not reasonably accessible, the houses involved have been scheduled.

The Staffordshire Potteries Water Board's supply is derived from deep wells in the new red sandstone and for domestic purposes is stated to be in the region of twenty-five gallons per head per day. At intervals during recent years appeals have been made by the Board through the Press, warning the public that the supply has been curtailed, and asking them to exercise economy in the use of water. The following quotation from the Staffordshire Evening Sentinel of March 15th, 1948 shows the position at that date :—

“The appeal to save water, which is being consumed at a rate above the safety line, has met with a disappointing response and the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board are now asking the public to save at least two gallons each per day out of 26—their average daily consumption.

The daily average consumed last week exceeded the normal safe yield from the wells by 500,000 gallons a day. The appeal resulted in a reduction of only just over 100,000 gallons a day.

POOR RESPONSE.

Mr. C. V. Brown, Engineer and Manager of the Water Board, told the *Sentinel* to-day :—

So far the response to the appeal has been frankly disappointing and it is absolutely necessary to reduce the present daily consumption to that of last January, which was 13,940,000 gallons. The pumping stations are at present flat out and we can only hope that there will be no breakdown on any pumping plant or main.

I am sure that consumers, without hardship, can save two gallons each per day out of the 26 gallons which are at present supplied to every domestic consumer and some of which are either misused or wasted. If this saving can be affected, there will be no need to curtail supplies. Water supplies to each consumer in 1938 was 22 gallons per day and over the intervening 10 years there has been an increase of four gallons per person.

After appealing to house-holders and trade consumers to report leakages, Mr. Brown said :—

Tremendous waste is going on at some works by not re-using water. Trade consumers can materially help by impressing on their staff the need for care in the use of water.

REASON FOR APPEALS.

Dealing with the reason for repeated appeals for water economy, Mr. Brown said the Board had not been able to construct any major capital works during the war to give a large addition to the yield of existing pumping stations. Water resources had remained practically the same for the last ten years.

On the other hand (he said) the water requirements of local industries have been increasing owing to the export drive ; Meaford Generating Station is now taking a larger supply of water, and 2,198 new houses have been supplied since the end of the war. While we are doing everything as quickly as possible to rectify the position, we are experiencing great difficulty in obtaining materials and labour for our water schemes because of lack of any priority such as is being given to mining, electricity and gas schemes."

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 chlorine treatment.

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. Portions of the area as yet unsewered include (a) Audley Road (part) and Springwood, (b) High Lane and Black Bank, (c) Ravensdale and (d) Seabridge. In the Wedgwood Street and Talke Road area of Red Street there is a sewer for all purposes, but the disposal of the sewage is unsatisfactory. I understand that a scheme, for improving the disposal of sewage from this area has been submitted to the Council.

Seven thousand three hundred and thirty-seven lineal yards of new sewers were laid during the year. Two hundred and twenty-five inspections following complaints regarding sewers, street gullies, etc., were made, and fifty-one nuisances in connection therewith were abated.

Rivers and Streams.

The Lyme Brook flows through the area from north to south and then, having crossed the southern boundary, discharges into the River Trent. This brook, which previously was much polluted, has shown marked improvement in recent years although it still receives some waste water notably from two collieries.

The Fowlea Brook runs in a general direction 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. This brook receives trade waste from tributary streams entering it from the City, from the Wolstanton Colliery and the Staffordshire Chemical Company Works at Ravensdale and the effluent from the Burslem and Tunstall Sewage Works. This stream is considerably polluted.

Thirty-one inspections of brooks 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 served by flushed water closets	.....	19,052
No. of houses served by waste water closets	.....	236
No. of houses served by hand-flushed water closets		100
No. of houses and premises served by privies (154)		137
No. of houses and premises served by pail closets (91)		71
No. of houses and premises served by standard dustbins	.....	19,580
No. of houses and premises served by ashpits (8)	.....	10

Particulars of conversions made during the year :—

Privies converted to water closets	.....	8
Pail closets converted to water closets	.....	6
Waste water closets converted to flushed water closets		3
Hand-flushed closets provided with cisterns	.....	—
Privies converted to pail closets	.....	—
Wesspools abolished and drains connected direct to public sewers	.....	1
New or additional water closets provided	.....	5
No. of dry ashpits abolished in favour of bins	.....	—
Standard dustbins replaced or provided through the Local Authority	.....	1,165

Public Cleansing.

SERVICES :

The following is a summary of the cleansing services performed during the year ending 31st March, 1948 :—

Refuse Collection :—

Number of houses and other premises receiving regular refuse collection service	.....	19,600
Number of premises receiving special trade refuse collection service	.....	240
Average number of ashbins cleansed per week	.....	9,950

(The system of alternate weekly refuse and salvage collections commenced in 1940 still operates.)

In addition to the above there is one cleansing foreman (all services) and a foreman mechanic and three mechanics for vehicle maintenance.

COSTS :

It is not yet possible to give detailed costs for the various services. The following figures show the estimated total costs for all services, with salvage income shown separately.

ALL SERVICES		
Expenditure	£31,581	
Income	£10,150	(Salvage £7,828).
Net Expenditure	£21,431	

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)
Knutton :	Cross Roads	Urinal
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	657	2011	2272	1626
Other Nuisances	199	215	224	163
Water Supply	29	25	43	13
Overcrowding	760	51	2	29
Drains—Inspected	321	133	395	120
Tested	86	—	133	—
Sewers, Street Gullies, &c.	180	24	45	31
Sanitary Accommodation	27	2	5	—
Ashes Accommodation	60	2	—	—
Accumulations	111	33	53	23
Swine, Fowl or other Animals	33	—	8	2
Rivers Pollutions Acts	31	—	—	—
Rats and Mice Act	100	10	235	9
(Visits by Inspectors)				

Other visits :

Respecting Infectious Diseases	285
,, Verminous Conditions	550
,, Disinfection	300
,, Schools, Public Buildings Cinemas, etc.	34
Miscellaneous Visits	1,147
Interviews—owners and tradesmen	710

Notices served and complied with.

	Notices Served		Notices Complied with	
	Prelim.	Statutory	Prelim	Statutory
P.H.A.—Housing Defects	482	14	402	24
Nuisances	125	5	115	1
Smoke Nuisance	3	—	1	—
Housing Acts	—	—	—	—
Factories Act	15	—	2	—
Food and Drugs Act	3	—	2	—
Byelaws and Local Acts	18	—	16	—
Shops Act	1	—	1	—

Inspection of Factories.

(a) Inspections.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	37	30	4	—
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	171	99	13	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	18	17	—	—
TOTAL	226	146	17	—

(b) Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were :—				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Re-medied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	5	1	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	11	8	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	21	14	—	2	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	37	23	—	2	—

(c) Outworkers premises.

Business carried on	No of Premises	No. of Visits
Making of wearing apparel	5	2
Furniture and upholstery	2	1
Plastics (make up)	24	26
Watch repairs	2	2
TOTAL	33	31

Rodent Control.

A full-time operator is employed to undertake treatment on all private properties and to give advice generally following receipt of complaint. In addition, systematic treatment is carried out in connection with the sixty-one annual contracts with traders affecting business premises.

In connection with L.A. Circular N.S. 12 Private Dwellings scheme, the systematic survey of the whole of the Borough with treatment where necessary, which was commenced during October 1946 was completed by March 31st. For the purpose of the survey the twelve wards were divided into ninety blocks and isolated areas of infestation were located in eight of the blocks.

Records show the following work undertaken :—

Rat complaints received	.....	.....	49	
Visits made by operator	.....	.....	3,946	
Premises treated	.....	.....	125	
Water-courses treated	.....	.....	23	
Number of rats destroyed :—				
(a) Estimated by baits	.....	.....	702	} Total 1,079
(b) Caught and trapped	.....	.....	377	

The gross expenditure of rodent control during the year was £402.

Shop Sanitation.

Number of sanitary visits made to shops	.....	18
Number of nuisances or defects found	.....	2
Number of nuisances or defects remedied	.....	2

Offensive Trades.

Number recorded as being within the Borough		20
Fat Melters, etc.	.....	6
Tripe Boilers	.....	8
Rag and Bone Dealers	.....	5
Bone Boiler	.....	1
Number of new offensive trades established		1
Number of inspections made	.....	15
Nuisances or defects found	.....	4
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	.....	20 beds (males)
Number of inspections made	.....	7

Houses Let in Lodgings.

Notices served	.....	2
Notices complied with	.....	2
Premises approved for registration	.....	—
Number of inspections made	.....	10
Nuisances or defects found	.....	7
Nuisances or defects remedied	.....	7

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Total number of semi-permanent vans, etc., existing at the end of the year	.....	10
Number of vans, etc., in possession of owner-occupiers	.....	10
Number of vans, etc., known to be overcrowded	.....	5
Number of vans, etc., unfit for habitation	.....	4
Number of visits and inspections made	.....	107
Nuisances or defects found	.....	5
Nuisances or defects remedied	.....	1

Smoke Abatement.

Number of recorded observations made	.....	25
Number of statutory notices served	.....	—
Number of statutory notices complied with	.....	—
Premises visited following observations	.....	8

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Particulars of action taken is as follows :—

Inspections	COUNCIL HOUSES			PRIVATE HOUSES			
	Infested	De-infested		Inspections	Infested	De-infested	
		HCN	Other Insecticides			HCN	Other Insecticides
140	—	—	—	410	17	—	17

SECTION D.

Housing.

General.

Housing Census :—

(1) Total number of inhabited houses in the Borough	19,582
(2) Number of new houses erected during the year :	
(a) by Private Enterprise	73
(b) by Local Authority	347
(c) by Government temporary bungalows	101
	521

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

<i>Inspections</i> :—	Primary	Re-visits
(a) Part 1—Clearance Areas	—	52
do. other visits	—	307
(b) Part 2—Section 9—Reconditioning	—	—
Sections 11/12—Demolition or closure	5	12

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)	518
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	701
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	5
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	5
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	5
(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	490

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	410
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 dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	14
	(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	5
	(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	10
	(3) Number of dwelling-nouses 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 cases recorded as legally overcrowded at the end of the year was 243*

*In the absence of a census it is impossible accurately to assess the present position with regard to overcrowding, particularly as population movement during the past few years is known to have been considerable. 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	.....	.....	.....	40
The number of milch cows kept approximate to	.....	.....	.....	860
Producers of graded milk	.....	.....	.....	9
Number of Retail Purveyors of milk	.....	.....	.....	272
(a) Resident	.....	.....	.....	236
(b) Non-Resident	.....	.....	.....	36

Several of these purveyors distribute both loose and bottled milk, but of the resident purveyors, 191 retail bottled milk only.

Number of Dairy Milkshops	37
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Eighteen retail purveyors hold licences for the sale of graded milk. The following licences were issued during the year :—

Tuberculin Tested	.....	.....	.....	13
Accredited	.....	.....	.....	—
Pasteurised	.....	.....	.....	8

Four bottling licences were issued during the year :—

Tuberculin Tested	.....	.....	.....	2
Accredited	.....	.....	.....	—
Pasteurised	.....	.....	.....	2

Two premises are licensed as pasteurising plants.

DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

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

	Inspections.	Re-Inspections.	Nuisances or defects	
			Found	Abated
Cowsheds	115	19	16	16
Dairies and Milkshops	209	14	14	12
Ice Cream Premises	149	78	13	37

No. of Ice Cream premises registered under Private Act (for sale only, 39) 74

(b) Meat and Other Foods.

No of butchers' shops registered under Private Act (including Market Stalls) 86

No. of Preserved Food preparing premises registered (including Fish Fryers, 46) 99

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 since outbreak of 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 40.

Carcases Inspected and Proportion Condemned for Tuberculosis and Other Conditions.

	Cattle excl'ding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number inspected	35	28	41	141	118
Surrenders of unsound Meat :	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Diseases other than Tuberculosis	208	120	—	—	38
Tuberculosis only	—	—	—	—	201
Total weight	208	120	—	—	239

Surrenders of Other Food.

	lbs.
Bacon and flesh meat	505
Fish and shell fish	470
Butter, margarine and cooking fats	10
Cheese	67
Cereals	428
Biscuits and cake	26
Pickles and sauces	286
Preserves	230
Dried fruits	375
Tinned meat	750
Tinned fish	733
Tinned vegetables	5,832
Tinned milk	1,893
Tinned soup	150
Tinned fruit	593
Tinned puddings	2
Potatoes	5 tons

The following is a record of the inspections made :—

Meat and food inspections	169
Private slaughterhouses	46
General food premises	178
Bakehouses	38
Food preparing premises	130
Market inspections	116

Food and Drugs Act 1938.

Total number of samples taken

165

Milk	127	Pure coffee	1
Condensed milk	2	White pepper	1
Sausages	9	Lime juice cordial	1
Malt vinegar	4	Orange flavour essence	1
Powdered gelatine	3	Glycerine	1
Cocoa	2	Castor oil	1
Self-raising flour	1	Cod liver oil	1
Baking powder	1	Blackcurrant syrup	1
Saccharin	1	Leomon Honey Ipec Comp.	1
Sweetening tablets	1	Bicarbonate of soda	1
Fish paste	1	Sulphur tablets	1
Meat paste	1	Boracic Ointment	1

Observations.

Seven samples were adversely reported upon by the Public Analyst.

Sample No.	Description	Result of Analysis	Remarks.
421	Beef sausage	25% deficient in meat content	Retailer fined £1. Wholesaler fined £20 and £3/14/6d. costs. Wholesalers Man- ager fined £5.
428	Beef sausage	29.2% " " "	
429	Beef sausage	30.4% " " "	
489	Milk	2.1% added water. 2.8% deficient in solids not fat.	Wholesaler Producer warned. Subsequent samples satisfactory
490	Milk	1.7% added water 10.7% deficient in fat. 9.1% deficient in solids not fat.	Wholesaler Producer warned. Subsequent samples satisfactory.
559	Sulphur Tablets (Informal)	Deficient in tartaric acid content	Subsequent formal samples taken in 1948.
566	Lime Juice Cordial (Informal)	16% deficient in sugar content 49% deficient in citric acid	Referred to Ministry of Food for action.

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

SECTION F.

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

Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the year 1947, a total of 649 children (469 under five and 180 five years and over) were immunised against diphtheria and 581 re-inforcement injections were given.

Scabies.

The measures required to be taken under Statutory Rule and Order No. 1724 of 1941 and Circular 2517 of the Ministry of Health of 14th November, 1941, were carried out during the year. The examination of contacts and the treatment of cases was undertaken at the Public Cleansing Station, Froghall, New-

castle. The treatment provided was in conformity with the Ministry of Health memorandum on the subject dated 30th April, 1942. During the year 133 cases of scabies were treated. Statutory Rule and Order No. 1724 ceased to be operative after 31st December, 1947 and consequently the Cleansing Station at Froghall ceased to operate as an anti-scabies centre from that date.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

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

Steps Taken to Improve the General Standard of Cleanliness.

Every endeavour has been made to carry out the suggestions contained in Circular 2831 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 1947
(Civilians only).

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	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	12	.....	1	.....	2	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11	91.66
Scarlet Fever	244	6	8	9	14	134	52	6	9	4	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	228	93.44
Purpura Pyrexia	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	100
Pneumonia	34	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pemphigus Neonatorum	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Encephalitis Lethargica	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Cerebro Spinal Fever	2	.....	2	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Erysipelas	7	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Poliomyelitis	14	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Measles	785	78	91	127	108	337	7	3	2	3	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Whooping Cough	61	7	10	10	5	19	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Dysentery	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

* Information not available.

Table 3.—Deaths from Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1947.

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 Membraneous Group) .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Scarlet Fever	1	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pneumonia	34	9	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	3	8	12	.....
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Erysipelas .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Whooping Cough	2	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

Table 4.—Notification of and Deaths from Tuberculosis during 1947.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1 and under 5	.....	.....	1	2	.....	.....	.....	2
5 and under 15	1	6	6	1	.....	.....	.....	.....
15 and under 25	6	10	1	.....	1	2	.....	.....
25 and under 35	6	6	1	1	4	2	.....	.....
35 and under 45	10	4	2	1	1	1	.....	1
45 and under 55	4	5	1	.....	.....	4	.....	.....
55 and under 65	3	3	.....	1	3	.....	.....	.....
65 and upwards	5	.....	.....	.....	4	1	.....	.....
TOTAL	35	34	12	6	13	10	.....	3

Of the 26 deaths from tuberculosis, 18 or 69.2% had been notified. Of the 23 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, 17 or 73.9% had been notified and of the 3 deaths from other forms of tuberculosis 1 or 33.33% had been notified.

