

**[Report 1948] / Medical Officer of Health, Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough.**

**Contributors**

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

**Publication/Creation**

1948

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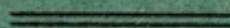
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**Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme**



**Annual Report**  
on the  
**Health of the Borough**  
for the Year 1948

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**

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## **Health of the Borough**

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

1st JULY, 1949.

*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 1948. Owing to the coming into force of the National Health Service Act on July 5th, 1948, on that date the Council ceased to be a Maternity and Child Welfare Authority, the Ambulance Service passed from the control of the Borough Council, the work formerly done by the voluntary District Nursing Association was taken over by the County Council, Joint Hospital Boards ceased to exist and all hospitals came under the control of the Regional Hospital Board. Therefore, no allusion is made in this report to Maternity and Child Welfare, Ambulance, District Nursing and Hospital Services. The position in the matter of these services up to July 4th was as set out in the Annual Report for 1947 and, therefore, there is no good object to be served by restating them in this report.

The birth-rate for the year (18.28 per thousand of the population) is below the average rate for the district in recent years but it is higher than the corresponding rate for England and Wales as a whole.

The death-rate (9.90) is below 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 (31.57 per thousand births) is much below the average rate for the Borough in recent years 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 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.

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 1948 is 69,310.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1948 was 19,668.

#### Rateable Value, etc.

The rateable value of the Borough is £314,522 and one penny rate in the £ (General Rate) produces £1,204.

#### 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 25,000)
Wholly unemployed ..	514	2.056
Temporarily unemployed	13	.052

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%	1947	..	5.775%

## Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

		Total	Male	Female	Rate	
Live Births	—Legitimate ..	1200	587	613	18.28	{ per 1,000 estimated population
	—Illegitimate	67	26	41		
Stillbirths	.. ..	36	18	18	27.63	{ per 1,000 total live and still births
Deaths	.. ..	686	367	319	9.90	{ per 1,000 estimated population

Deaths and death-rates from puerperal causes :—

	Deaths	Rate per 1000 total live & still births
Puerperal and Post-abortive sepsis	1	.77
Other maternal causes .. ..	2	1.53
Total .. ..	3	2.30

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

Total .. ..	31.57
Legitimate .. ..	30.00
Illegitimate .. ..	59.70
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .. ..	119
Deaths from measles (all ages) .. ..	—
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	1
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	2



Table 1.

## CAUSES OF DEATH.

CAUSES OF DEATH						Males	Females
ALL CAUSES	..	..	..	..	..	367	319
1. Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers	..				..	—	—
2. Cerebro-spinal fever		..	..	..	..	—	—
3. Scarlet fever	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
4. Whooping Cough	..	..	..	..	..	—	1
5. Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	—	2
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	..				..	17	9
7. Other forms of tuberculosis	..		..	..	..	1	3
8. Syphilitic diseases	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
9. Influenza	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
10. Measles	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
11. Acute poliomyelitis and polio-encephalitis					..	—	—
12. Acute inf. encephalitis	..	..	..	..	..	—	—
13. Cancer of buc : cav : and oesoph : (M.)							
Uterus (F.)	..	..	..	..	..	2	1
14. Cancer of stomach and duodenum	..				..	18	8
15. Cancer of breast	..	..	..	..	..	—	11
16. Cancer of all other sites	..	..	..	..	..	51	28
17. Diabetes	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
18. Intracranial vascular lesions	..		..	..	..	37	45
19. Heart disease	..	..	..	..	..	102	82
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	..				..	6	22
21. Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	22	15
22. Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	13	11
23. Other respiratory diseases	..		..	..	..	5	2
24. Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	..		..	..	..	2	—
25. Diarrhoea — under 2 years	..		..	..	..	—	2
26. Appendicitis	..	..	..	..	..	1	—
27. Other digestive diseases	..	..	..	..	..	12	8
28. Nephritis	..	..	..	..	..	13	11
29. Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	..				..	—	1
30. Other maternal causes	..	..	..	..	..	—	2
31. Premature birth	..	..	..	..	..	5	8
32. Congenital malformation, birth injury,							
infant diseases	..	..	..	..	..	9	6
33. Suicide	..	..	..	..	..	4	2
34. Road traffic accidents	..	..	..	..	..	2	—
35. Other violent causes	..	..	..	..	..	17	7
36. All other causes	..	..	..	..	..	27	29

## SECTION B.

### General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

#### Public Health Officers of the Authority.

##### (a) *Medical.*

1. The Medical Officer of Health, who is also School Medical Officer.
2. The Deputy Medical Officer of Health who is also Deputy School Medical Officer.

##### (b) *Others.*

1. The Chief Sanitary Inspector, who is also Cleansing Superintendent.
2. 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. The Public Analyst is a part-time officer, and a Veterinary Surgeon is available for consultation.
6. 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 examinations of the samples and specimens investigated during the year are stated in the appropriate sections.



## 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. Houses in 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. Of the 19,647 houses in the Borough which are supplied with water either by the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board or by the Newcastle Rural District Council all, with the exception of two which are supplied by a common stand pipe, are served with water direct to the houses. Twenty-one outlying 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 water from one of these wells was found on chemical examination to show, in the opinion of the County Analyst, sewage pollution and to be unfit for drinking. This matter is receiving attention

With regard to the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board's supply, the following is a report thereon which I have received from the Engineer and Manager of the Board :—

“ The water supplied by the Board to the Newcastle area, though coming from several sources, is derived from deep wells sunk in the new red sandstone. All the water is treated, that from two sources being chloraminated and from the third chlorinated. During 1948, bacteriological examinations were made of 114 samples, 28 being of raw waters, and 86 of treated waters. None of these samples showed Faecal Coli reaction, while 100% of the raw samples and 99% of the treated samples showed absence of *Clostridium Welchii*. All were certified by the analyst as conforming to the highest standards of bacterial purity indicative of a water which is pure and wholesome and suitable for purposes of public supply.



"Eleven samples were submitted for chemical analysis and from the chemical aspect, these too were certified as pure and wholesome and suitable for purposes of public supply. The water is described as of medium hardness ; the saline and mineral constituents in solution are not excessive and is free from metals apart from a minute trace of iron. The water is not plumbo-solvent and the organic quality is of the highest standard. Softening of the water is not undertaken.

"The consumption under the heading of domestic purposes, unmetered trade and waste, for the year 1948 was 25.05 gallons per head per day."

The following appeared in a report of a Meeting of the Board contained in the *Staffordshire Evening Sentinel* on 29th June, 1949 :—

"If the people of North Staffordshire were considerate and intelligent in their use of water, they could be assured of an unfailing supply, said Alderman J. A. Dale (Chairman), at a meeting of the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board, yesterday in the Ash Hall Hotel.

"But, he cautioned, there had been occasions in the present period of peak demand when a pumping capacity of 14,500,000 gallons a day had been called upon to supply 16,000,000 gallons.

"This rate of use — or, rather, rate of waste, since it was obvious that some people must be squandering water — must lead inevitably to a cut-off in areas where there were no hospitals or important industries. . . ."

### **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. A scheme for improving the disposal of sewage from this area has been adopted by the Council and is in its early stages.



Three thousand two hundred and ten lineal yards of new sewers were laid during the year. One hundred and twenty inspections regarding sewers, street gullies, etc., were made, and twenty-eight nuisances in connection with complaints 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.

Twenty-six 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	..	19,128
No. of houses served by waste water closets	..	233
No. of houses served by hand-flushed water closets		99
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 dust-bins	.. .. .	19,500
No. of houses and premises served by ashpits (7)	..	9

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	3
Hand-flushed closets provided with cisterns ..	1
Privies converted to pail closets .. .. .	—
Cesspools abolished and drains connected direct to public sewers .. .. .	—
New or additional water closets provided .. ..	4
No. of dry ashpits abolished in favour of bins ..	1
Standard dustbins replaced or provided through the Local Authority .. .. .	1,507

### Public Cleansing.

#### SERVICES :

The following is a summary of the cleansing services performed during the year ending 31st March, 1949 :—

#### *Refuse Collection :—*

Number of houses and other premises receiving regular refuse collection service .. .. .	19,528
Number of premises receiving special trade refuse collection service .. .. .	254
Average number of ashbins cleansed per week .. .. .	10,492
(The system of alternate weekly refuse and salvage collections commenced in 1940 still operates.)	
Average number of privies cleansed per week ..	136
Average number of pail closets cleansed per week .. .. .	95
Number of cesspools cleansed during the year (excluding work undertaken in the New- castle Rural District area) .. .. .	64
Number of ashpits (emptied) still in use ..	7



Total refuse collected — Dry (estimated)	..	11,931 tons
Salvage	„ ..	2,113 „
Wet	„ ..	850 „
Weight collected per 1,000 population per day (Dry refuse and salvage)	.. ..	13.58 cwts

*Refuse Disposal :—*

Total estimated refuse dealt with at the Disposal Plant or Tips (excluding wet refuse, salvage or covering material)	..	13,800 tons
(Incineration 8%, Tipped 77%, Salvage 15%)		

*Street Cleansing :—*

Number of Gullies	.. .. .	5,367
Total number of gully cleansings	.. ..	15,305
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed daily (including Sunday)	.. .. .	1.05 miles
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed three times weekly	.. .. .	3.25 „
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed twice weekly	.. .. .	7.50 „
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed once weekly	.. .. .	60.68 „
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed less than once weekly	.. .. .	10.75 „
Total miles	..	<u>83.23</u> „

Trunk Road, 4.36 miles. County Roads, 30.68 miles.  
District Roads, 48.19 miles. Unadopted Roads, 23.37 miles.

The staff employed in these services is as follows :—

	Average
Refuse collection and salvage	.. 56
Refuse disposal	.. .. 5
Street cleansing	.. .. 24

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

# COSTS :—

The following figures show the estimated total costs for all services, with salvage income shown separately.

## ALL SERVICES

Expenditure .. ..	£32,804	
Income .. ..	£10,405	(Salvage £8,798).
Net Expenditure ..	<u>£22,399</u>	

# Public Conveniences :—

The following conveniences are maintained and supervised :—

Newcastle :	Pepper Street	(Males and Females)
"	Marsh Street	(Males and Females)
"	Smithfield	Urinal (closed October, 1948)
"	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)	..	6
	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 .. ..	609	2525	1015	1703
Other Nuisances .. ..	103	139	111	159
Water Supply .. ..	9	6	14	7
Overcrowding .. ..	116	27	2	57
Drains — Inspected .. ..	411	83	218	68
Tested .. ..	112	1	12	1
Sewers, Street Gullies, &c. ..	478	22	56	28
Sanitary Accommodation .. ..	68	6	9	—
Ashes Accommodation .. ..	51	—	2	—
Accumulations .. ..	81	5	23	8
Swine, Fowl or other Animals ..	69	3	6	1
Rivers Pollutions Acts .. ..	14	4	12	4
Rats and Mice Act .. ..	683	—	1357	—
(Visits by Inspectors)				

### Other visits :—

Respecting Infectious Diseases .. ..	253
„ Verminous Conditions .. ..	354
„ Disinfection .. ..	220
„ Schools, Public Buildings .. ..	
Cinemas, etc. .. ..	17
Miscellaneous Visits .. ..	1,605
Interviews — owners and tradesmen ..	563

### Notices served and complied with.

	Notices Served		Notices Complied with	
	Prelim.	Statutory	Prelim.	Statutory
P.H.A. — Housing Defects .. ..	442	48	327	23
Nuisances .. ..	27	10	42	8
Smoke Nuisance .. ..	4	—	4	—
Housing Acts .. ..	—	—	—	—
Factories Act .. ..	13	—	14	—
Food and Drugs Act .. ..	20	—	22	—
Byelaws and Local Acts .. ..	—	—	1	—
Shops Act .. ..	—	—	—	—
Water Act, 1945 .. ..	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 .. .. .	39	14	3	—
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. .. .	178	52	10	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) ..	19	17	—	—
TOTAL ..	236	83	13	—

### (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. In-spector	By H.M. In-spector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) .. ..	2	2	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient .. ..	7	9	—	2	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ..	18	18	—	9	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ..	1	1	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ..	28	30	—	13	—

### (c) Outworkers premises.

Business carried on	No. of Premises	No. of Visits
Making of wearing apparel ..	7	4
Furniture and upholstery ..	2	1
Plastics (make up) .. ..	24	28
Watch repairs .. ..	2	3
TOTAL	35	36



## 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-two annual contracts with traders affecting business premises.

A third sewer maintenance treatment was carried out during May, with an operating squad consisting of an inspector, a rodent operator, two sewer men and the use of a 30 cwt. van. A total of 589 sewer manholes were inspected and of these 570 were baited and 153 showed pre-bait takes. According to the Ministry formula this shows that the "intensity of infestation" is small and the "extent of infestation" limited.

Records show the following work undertaken:—

Rat complaints received	..	..	76	
Visits made by operator	..	..	4,001	
Premises treated	..	..	185	
Water-courses treated	..	..	32	
Number of rats destroyed:—				
(a) Estimated by baits	..	..	791	} Total 1,332
(b) Caught and trapped	..	..	541	

The gross expenditure of rodent control during the year was £483.

## Shop Sanitation.

Number of sanitary visits made to shops	..	9
Number of nuisances or defects found	..	5
Number of nuisances or defects remedied	..	4

## Offensive Trades.

Number recorded as being within the Borough		19
Fat Melters, etc.	..	6
Tripe Boilers	..	8
Rag and Bone Dealers		4
Bone Boiler	..	1
Number of new offensive trades established		—
Number of inspections made	..	22
Nuisances or defects found	..	2
Nuisances of defects remedied	..	2

## 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.

Number of inspections made ..	8
Nuisances or defects found ..	4
Nuisances or defects remedied ..	4

## Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Total number of semi-permanent vans, etc., existing at the end of the year .. ..	13
Number of vans, etc., in possession of owner-occupiers .. .. .	13
Number of vans, etc., known to be overcrowded .. .. .	6
Number of vans, etc., unfit for habitation ..	8
Number of visits and inspections made ..	178
Nuisances or defects found .. .. .	16
Nuisances or defects remedied .. .. .	14

## Smoke Abatement.

Number of recorded observations made ..	23
Number of statutory notices served .. ..	—
Number of statutory notices complied with ..	—
Premises visited following observations ..	15

## Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Particulars of action taken is as follows :—

COUNCIL HOUSES				PRIVATE HOUSES			
Inspections	Infested	De-infested		Inspections	Infested	De-infested	
		HCN	Other Insecticides			HCN	Other Insecticides
123	4	—	4	231	13	—	13



## SECTION D.

### Housing.

#### General.

##### *Housing Census :—*

(1) Total number of inhabited houses in the Borough .. .. .	19,668
(2) Number of new houses erected during the year :—	
(a) by Private Enterprise ..	2
(b) by Local Authority :—	
Traditional Permanent ..	216
Prefabricated ..	164
Temporary bungalows ..	25
	407

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

##### *Inspections :—*

	Primary	Re-visits
(a) Part 1 — Clearance Areas .. .. .	—	66
(b) Part 2 — Section 9 — Reconditioning .. .. .	87	22
Sections 11/12 — Demolition or closure ..	5	24

#### 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) .. .. .	524
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. .. .	725
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 .. .. .	66
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. .. .	66
(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 .. ..	510
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 .. ..	327
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 .. .. .	61
(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 .. ..	48
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by Owners .. .. .	23
(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 .. ..	4
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. ..	nil
(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in anticipation of formal procedure .. ..	4
(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 213\*

\*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. Twenty-seven new cases brought to notice were recorded and fifty-seven removed from register, having been rehoused by the local authority.

## SECTION E.

### Inspection and Supervision of Food.

#### (a) Milk Supply.

Number of Dairy Farms in the Borough (including 19 Producer/Retailers) .. ..	40
The number of milch cows kept approximate to	855
Producers of graded milk .. ..	9
Number of Retail Purveyors of milk .. ..	275
(a) Resident .. ..	238
(b) Non-Resident .. ..	37

Several of these purveyors distribute both loose and bottled milk, but of the resident purveyors, 193 retail bottled milk only.

Number of Dairy Milkshops .. ..	20
---------------------------------	----

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

Tuberculin Tested	..	13
Accredited	.. ..	—
Pasteurised	.. ..	9

Four bottling licenses 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	..	3
Number of Cowsheds discontinued	.. ..	—
Number of new Cowsheds erected	.. ..	1
Number of new or improved Dairies	.. ..	7

	Inspections	Re-Inspections	Nuisances or defects	
			Found	Abated
Cowsheds .. ..	78	5	8	9
Dairies and Milkshops ..	137	13	12	12
Ice Cream Premises ..	55	65	3	3

Number of Ice Cream premises registered under Private Act :—

Sale only .. ..	48	} 79
Manufacture and Sale ..	31	

#### Bacteriological Samples.

Type	No. Submitted	No. failed Cleanliness Test.	Examined for T.B.	
			No. Submitted	No. Positive
<b>Milk :</b>				
(a) Heat Treated ..	x 65	5	nil	nil
(b) Other Grades ..	32	2	7	1
(c) Ordinary .. ..	30	10	18	nil <sup>z</sup>
<b>Ice Cream :</b> .. ..	19	6	nil	nil

x All samples passed Heat-treatment Test.

z Two samples indicated Brucella abortus.

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

Number of butchers' shops registered under Private Act (including Market Stalls) .. ..	85
Number of Preserved Food preparing premises registered (including Fish Fryers, 45) ..	98



There is no public slaughter-house in the Borough. There are 7 registered and 6 licensed slaughter-houses in the Borough, the use of which has been suspended since 1939, except that five of these are occasionally used for slaughter of pigs for home consumption.

The number of men licensed to slaughter animals in accordance with the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, is 42.

### Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle exclud'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed (if known)	—	—	—	—	196
Number Inspected .. ..	1	1	—	—	196
<b>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</b>					
Whole Carcases Condemned	—	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—	9
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis .. .. .	—	—	—	—	5.1%
<b>Tuberculosis Only</b>					
Whole Carcases Condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	1	—	—	17
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis .. .. .	—	—	—	—	8.67%

### Surrenders of Other Food.

	lbs.
Cooked meats .. .. .	64
Bacon and ham .. .. .	49
Fish and shellfish .. .. .	1,489
Butter, margarine and cooking fats .. .. .	61
Cheese .. .. .	125
Flour and cake .. .. .	94
Pickles and sauces .. .. .	600
Vinegar .. .. .	104

## SURRENDERS OF OTHER FOOD—*contd.*

Creaming compound	..	..	..	..	240
Preserves and fruit pulp	..	..	..	..	786
Dried fruits	..	..	..	..	463
Tinned meat	..	..	..	..	576
Tinned fish	..	..	..	..	458
Tinned vegetables	..	..	..	..	3,082
Tinned milk	..	..	..	..	1,443
Tinned soup	..	..	..	..	139
Tinned fruit and fruit juices	..	..	..	..	2,112
Rabbits and chickens	..	..	..	..	504
Fresh vegetables	..	..	..	..	376

The following is a record of the inspections made :—

Meat and food inspections	..	..	245
Slaughterhouses and butchers' shops	..	..	179
General food premises	..	..	149
Bakehouses	..	..	30
Food preparing premises	..	..	135
Market inspections	..	..	79

### Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Total number of samples taken				..	173			
Milk	..	..	..	142	Pure coffee	..	..	1
Sausages		..	..	3	Pineapple crush	..	..	1
Malt vinegar	..		..	2	Rum essence	..	..	1
Powdered gelatine			..	3	Glycerine	..	..	1
Cocoa	..	..	..	1	Castor oil	..	..	1
Self-raising flour			..	3	Tonic wine	..	..	1
Baking powder			..	2	Friars balsam	..	..	1
Saccharin		..	..	2	Indian brandee	..	..	1
Honey	..	..	..	1	Bicarbonate of soda		..	1
Jam	..	..	..	1	Sulphur tablets	..	..	2
Meat paste	..		..	1	Boracic ointment		..	1



## Observations.

Fourteen samples were adversely reported upon by the Public Analyst.

Sample No.	Description	Result of Analysis	Remarks
586	Sulphur Tablets	No tartaric acid content	Follow-up sample from 1947 — Loss of tartaric acid attributed to chemical action during storage. Warning letter sent to retailer and manufacture. Stocks withdrawn from sale.
13	Milk	5.0% deficient in fat	Follow-up sample to No. 13 "Appeal to cow" samples, consequent on samples Nos. 13 and 21 above. Results show a natural deficiency from individual cows but adequate mixing would ensure a genuine bulk sample. Warning letters to farmer and dairyman to thoroughly mix bulk supplies. Subsequent samples satisfactory.
21	Milk	1.7% deficient in fat	
23	Milk	5.0% deficient in fat 0.9% deficient in solids not fat	
24	Milk	.4% deficient in fat	
25	Milk	5.7% deficient in fat	
26	Milk	Genuine	
27	Milk	Genuine	
28	Milk	0.9% deficient in solids not fat	
37	Milk	2.7% deficient in solids not fat 0.7% added water at least	Information passed to licencing authority of dairy concerned. Investigation revealed a defect in bottle washing plant which was remedied. Subsequent samples satisfactory.
60	Milk	6.7% deficient in fat	Warning letter sent to producer/retailer. "In course of delivery" samples genuine.
66	Milk	3.3% deficient in fat	Warning letter sent to producer.
96	Milk	1.5% deficient in solids not fat 1.3% added water.	Defective cooler replaced. Subsequent sample genuine.

## Observations—*contd.*

Sample No.	Description	Result of Analysis	Remarks
98	Self-raising flour. (Informal sample)	Excess acid content	Due to mechanical fault in mixer at packers. All affected stock withdrawn and warning letters sent to packers and retailers.
126	Beef Sausage	24.8% deficient in meat content	Warning letter sent to manufacture.
142	Sulphur Tablets	Not statement of sulphur content	Warning letter sent to retailer re labelling requirements.

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

Number of approved premises — Whole-  
sale dealers in margarine    ..    ..    5

## SECTION F.

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

#### Diphtheria Immunisation.

During the year 1948, a total of 945 children (726 under five and 219 five years and over) were immunised against diphtheria and 395 re-inforcement injections were given.

#### Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases			Vision unimpaired	Vision impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At Home	In Hospital				
6	4	2	6	—	—	—



## Food Poisoning.

The following table shows the position regarding the one instance of food poisoning which occurred in the Borough during the year :—

Total No. Of Out- breaks	Number of Cases	Number of Deaths	Organisms or other agents responsible with number of outbreaks of each	Foods involved with number of outbreaks of each
1	110	—	*undetermined	meat pie

\*The peccant food was examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Stafford, and cultures yielded no staphylococcus aureus or other pathogenic organisms but the Director of the Laboratory, who investigated the circumstances locally, stated his belief that the outbreak was probably due to the presence of a variety of organisms notably streptococci, paracoli, and proteus.

### National Assistance Act 1948, Section 47.

During the year, one case, a woman living alone, was dealt with under the above. The reason for the Council's action was that the person involved was infirm and living in insanitary conditions and that she was unable to devote to herself, and was not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention. The period named in the Order of the Court was three months and the type of accommodation to which the person was removed was a hospital.

Since the original Order two other Orders have been made by the Court, in each case for a further period of three months, and the second of these two Orders is still in force.

Table 2.—Cases of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during 1948  
(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	7	1	3	10	14	12	3	40	15	7	3	2	7	100	7	
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	175	1	3	10	14	12	71	40	15	7	3	2	157	89.71	157	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	13	2	2	66.66	2	
Scarlet Fever	26	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	6	3	2	*	33.33	2	
Purepera Pyrexia	6	6														
Pneumonia																
Ophthalmia Neonatorum																
Pemphigus Neonatorum																
Encephalitis Lethargica																
Cerebro Spinal Fever	1	1					1						1	100	1	
Erysipelas	1	1											*		*	
Polio myelitis	3	1	1	1	1						1		2	66.66	2	
Measles	265	15	31	32	29	43	102	7	5	1			*		*	
Whooping Cough	93	9	11	16	13	16	28						*		*	
Dysentery	1									1			1	100	1	

\* Information not available.



Table 3.—Deaths from Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1948.

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 Croup)	2					2							
Scarlet Fever													
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)													
Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis	1								1				
Ophthalmia Neonatorum													
Pneumonia	24	5							2		6	11	
Cerebro Spinal Fever													
Erysipelas													
Whooping Cough	1		1										
Measles													

Table 4.—Notification of and Deaths from Tuberculosis during 1948.

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	.....	.....	2	1	1	.....	1	.....
5 and under 15	1	3	.....	5	.....	1	.....	1
15 and under 25	9	10	1	3	3	4	.....	1
25 and under 35	8	7	.....	1	2	2	.....	.....
35 and under 45	6	2	.....	.....	3	2	.....	.....
45 and under 55	8	1	1	1	5	.....	.....	.....
55 and under 65	9	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	.....
65 and upwards	1	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
TOTAL .....	42	24	4	11	17	9	1	3

Of the 30 deaths from tuberculosis, 25 or 83.33% had been notified. Of the 26 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis, 22 or 84.61% had been notified and of the 4 deaths from other forms of tuberculosis 3 or 75% had been notified.



