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Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme



Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

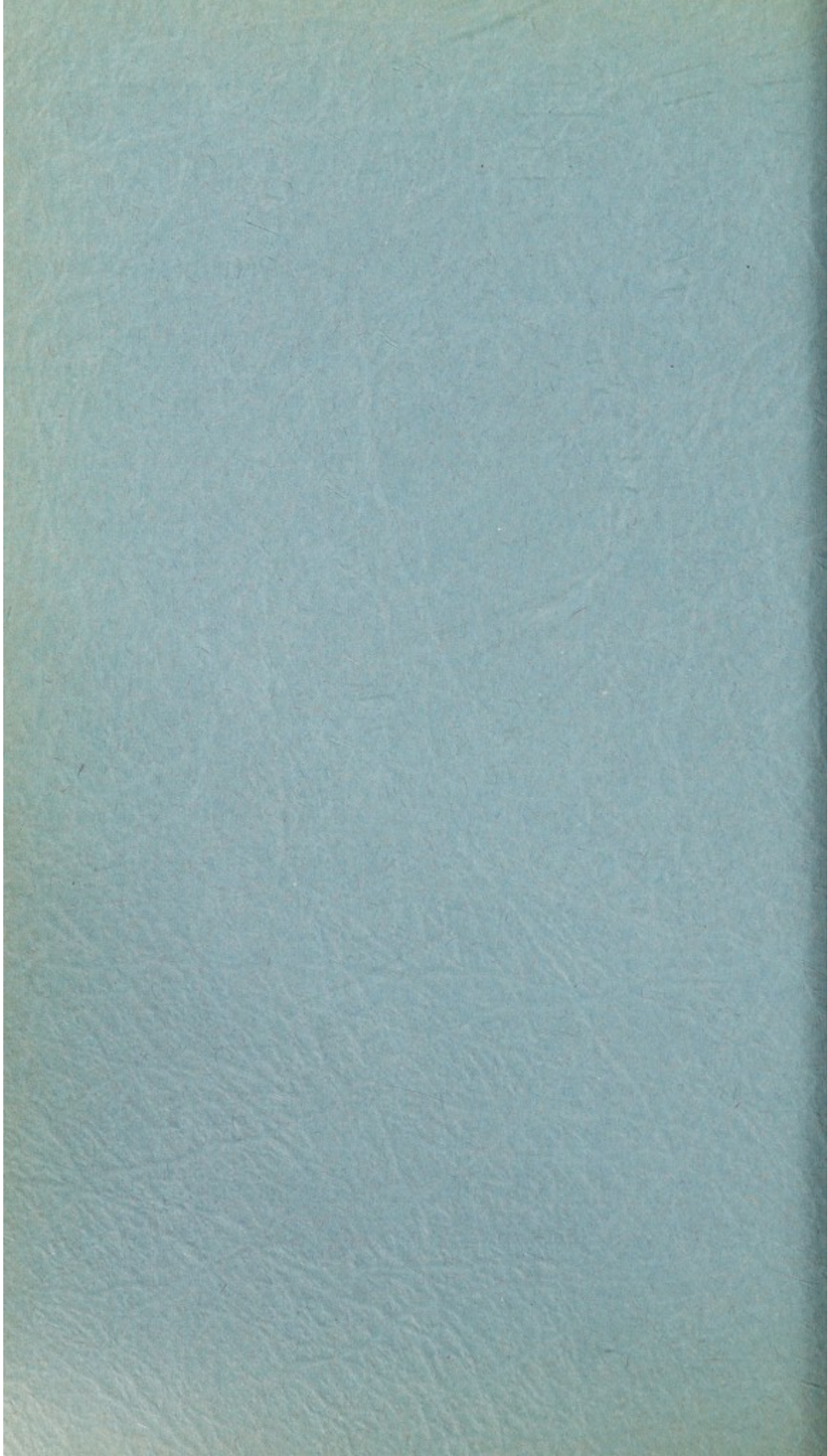
for the Year 1952

JOHN WARRACK, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

CHRISTOPHER A. WOOD, C.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.





BOROUGH OF NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME

CONTENTS

	Page
Members of Health Committee	2
Staff	3
Introduction	4
Statistics and Social conditions of the area	6
Public Health Services	7
Water Supply, Drainage and Sewerage	9
Sanitary Inspection of the area	11
Housing	13
Inspection and Supervision of food	15
Common Lodging Houses, Vans, etc., Smoke Abatement, Eradication of bed bugs, Shop Sanitation, Offensive Trades	20
Sanitary Accommodation	21
Public Cleansing	21
Rodent Control	24
Tables	25

Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1952)

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR, (*ex-officio*).

Alderman W. E. WELSBY, (Chairman).

Councillor Miss E. SHAW, (Vice-Chairman).

Alderman W. EVANSON.

Councillor J. W. BILLINGTON.

Councillor T. BETHELL.

Councillor N. F. BRADSHAW.

Councillor T. BYRNE.

Councillor Mrs. E. JONES.

Councillor T. LOWTHER.

Councillor R. MAYER.

Councillor W. NIXON.

Councillor W. A. POWNER.

Councillor A. RYLES.

Councillor L. SKERRETT.

Councillor W. H. TOMS.

Councillor C. S. WHALLEY.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF.

Medical—

JOHN WARRACK, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.
F. J. MURRAY, L.R.C.S. & P.I., D.P.H., L.M. (Dub.),
Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy School
Medical Officer

Sanitary Inspectors —

C. A. WOOD, M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C., Cert. Meat Insp.
Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.
T. H. EVANS, M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Insp.
Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector and Deputy Cleansing
Superintendent.
G. R. HALL, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I., Cert. Meat Insp.
District Sanitary Inspector.
J. W. MILLINGTON, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I., Cert. Meat Insp.
District Sanitary Inspector.
E. WARRILLOW, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I., Cert. Meat Insp.
District Sanitary Inspector.
K. W. WILLANS, M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Insp.
District Sanitary Inspector.

Consultants —

The Public Analyst is employed on a part-time basis.
A Veterinary Surgeon is available for consultation.

Clerical—

Miss M. E. WHITE, Chief Clerk.
Mr. A. GUMBLEY, Wages and Costing Clerk.
Mrs. D. WARRILLOW, Senior Shorthand Typist.
Mrs. E. PLANT, Mrs. E. BRAYFORD, Miss S. KIRKHAM, Miss Z.
M. COOPER, General Clerks and Shorthand Typists.
Mr. T. J. TAYLOR, Junior Clerk.
Miss D. ROE and Miss T. DALE, Junior Clerks.

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

30th, June, 1953.

His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

In introducing the report on the health of the Borough for 1952 I consider certain points might be brought to your notice as being of particular interest.

The Registrar's estimate of the population for 1952 shows a decrease of 10 over the estimate of the population for the previous year in spite of the fact that the number of inhabited houses at the end of the year had increased by 319 and the population of the Borough according to the 1951 census having been 70,028.

The total number of live births occurring in the Borough during the year under review was 1,094, giving a live birth rate of 16.67, compared with that of 15.41 for the previous year and thus once again returning the birth rate for Newcastle to a figure above that for England and Wales.

It is gratifying to know that this year the still birth rate of 0.34 is below that for England and Wales with a rate of 0.35 and compared very favourably with the rate for the Borough for 1951 of 0.42 and 1950 of 0.52.

The death rate of infants under one year of age per thousand live births has very considerably increased, the figure in 1950 having been 36.04, in 1951 36.24 and this year 42.04, whilst the comparable rate for England and Wales is only 27.6.

Turning to causes of deaths it is interesting to note that the total number of deaths registered from respiratory and other forms of tuberculosis were exactly similar in 1951 and 1952. There was, however, a marked increase of deaths from cancer of the stomach, which for 1952 totalled 30, compared with 20 in the previous year. Similar increases were apparent in deaths from other malignant growths with the exception of growths of the lung and bronchus. Comparable figures for 1951 being lungs and bronchus 19, breast 12, uterus 6.

During the year 1952 the outstanding occurrences as regards infectious diseases were an outbreak of measles which lasted from the middle of February until the end of June reaching its peak during the first week of May when 110 cases were notified in the one week, and a sharp outbreak of sonne dysentery occurring during the week commencing 8th March when 26 cases occurred in connection with the Dragon Square Nursery School.

The number of cases of scarlet fever notified continued to show an increase over the previous two years although, as has been the case in recent years the disease was of a mild type.

No cases of diphtheria occurred in the Borough during 1952 and it is also worthy to observe that only 1 case of infantile paralysis occurred compared with 4 cases in 1951, and 10 in 1950.

Further particulars regarding the infectious diseases already mentioned and the other notifiable infectious diseases will be found in the tables towards the end of this report.

As I reported in 1950 there is still urgent need for a disinfecting and disinfestation centre. Up to the end of 1952 no appreciable progress had been made in either the acquisition of the Froghall Cleansing Centre building for adaptation, or in the finding of alternative premises, and in consequence it has not been possible to make use of the plant which was purchased in 1951.

During 1952 the provision of a Corporation Caravan Site was proceeded with and it is hoped that in the near future with the completion of this site it will be possible for the persons now living in caravans owing to the housing shortage to be accommodated under ideal conditions of sewerage disposal and water supply, and also under the supervision of the Local Authority. It is perhaps as well to bear in mind that another site may be necessary in the near future to accommodate and control the other type of caravan dweller who lives in a caravan from choice and not from necessity, namely the gipsies.

In conclusion I express once again my appreciation of the interest which has been taken in the work of the Department by the members of the Council and also my grateful thanks to the other officials for their co-operation, and to my staff for their loyalty and assistance during the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN WARRACK.

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 1952 is 69,810.

Population according to 1951 Census, 70,028.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1952 was 20,586.

Rateable Value, etc.

The rateable value of the Borough is £332,368 and one penny rate in the £ (General Rate) produces £1,283.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

	Total	Male	Female	Rate	England & Wales	
Live Births—	1094	583	511	15.67	15.3	} per 1,000 estimated population
Legitimate	1050	559	491	—	—	
Illegitimate	44	24	20	—	—	
Stillbirths	24	13	11	0.34	0.35	} per 1,000 estimated population
				21.46	22.6		} per 1,000 total live and still-births
Deaths	752	376	376	10.77	11.3	} per 1,000 estimated population

Deaths and death-rates from puerperal causes :—

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...	2	1.78

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

		England & Wales
Total	... .. 42.04	27.6
Legitimate	... .. 41.13	—
Illegitimate	... .. 0.19	—

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

National Assistance Act, 1948 Section 47 and

National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951

REMOVAL TO SUITABLE PREMISES OF PERSONS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION.

The Local Authority is given power under the above Act to compulsorily remove to hospital or other similar premises persons suffering from grave chronic disease, or who being aged, infirm, or physically handicapped, are living in insanitary conditions and unable to devote to themselves and are not receiving from other people proper care and attention.

Under the Amendment Act power was given to a Local Authority to permit its Medical Officer of Health in urgent cases to take the necessary action for the removal of a person or persons without prior approval from the committee provided that the request for the removal was substantiated by a certificate from another medical practitioner. All cases must, however, be reported to the committee as soon as possible, such reports to be made not later than three weeks from the time of removal of the person or persons.

During the year 3 cases were removed under the provisions of the National Assistance Act, 1948, all 3 being removed to the City General Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent.

National Assistance Act, 1948 Section 50

BURIAL OF DESTITUTE PERSONS.

As in the previous year the number of destitute persons who were buried by the Council under the powers conferred on it under the above mentioned Act was 5.

Borough Mortuary—

The alterations and improvements referred to in the report for 1951 were carried out during 1952 when a small gas central heating plant was installed, in order to combat the dampness due to condensation which had caused so much damage to the building and fittings. New ventilators have also been fitted and the building redecorated throughout internally.

Arrangements were also made for the regular servicing of the refrigeration plant.

During the year 35 cases were admitted to the Mortuary and 31 post-mortems were carried out.

Laboratory Facilities—

As in previous years specimens under the Food and Drugs Acts and the Milk and Cream Regulations were dealt with by the County Laboratory Service at Stafford. Pathological specimens were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Martin Street, Stafford. Results of the examinations of the samples and specimens investigated during the year are given in the appropriate sections.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

A record on the rainfall and the pollution of the atmosphere is kept at three sites within the Borough. The following shows the rainfall and pollution in tons per square mile for the twelve months of the year : —

MONTH	Rainfall in inches	Total solids in tons per square mile	SO ₂ MG/DAY/100 SQ.CMS.
January	3.68	14.71	1.57
February	1.18	10.06	1.54
March	1.76	13.65	1.50
April	3.03	19.66	1.04
May	1.62	10.49	1.10
June	2.85	13.37	.56
July	1.40	10.78	.59
August	2.13	8.28	.53
September	2.32	19.11	.82
October	3.56	15.57	1.04
November	2.31	10.55	2.31
December	3.50	39.41	1.91
1952 Average	2.45	15.47	1.21
1951 Average	3.26	14.35	—
1950 Average	2.72	15.00	—

Manufacturers generally continue to introduce improved methods of firing which considerably reduces the risk of atmospheric pollution, but increased use of smokless fuels in domestic heating appliances would be even a greater step towards a cleaner and healthier atmosphere.

WATER SUPPLY

The following information on water supply has been supplied to me by (1) the Chief Sanitary Inspector and by (2) the Engineer and Manager of the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board.

(1) "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 the Apedale area are served by a piped supply previously taken from the Newcastle Rural District Council and at times is unsatisfactory due to condition of service main. Improvements obtained appear to be only temporary in character. Of the 20,570 houses in the Borough which are supplied with water by the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board, all, with the exception of nine which are supplied by two common stand pipes, are served with water direct to the houses. Sixteen outlying isolated houses and farm premises derived their water supplies from wells and springs, and in nine instances where water is not reasonably accessible, the houses involved have been scheduled. The water from three of these wells involving six houses was found on examination to be of doubtful quality. Three houses which previously were supplied from a well have been connected to a mains supply."

(2) "The water supplied by the Board to the Newcastle Borough area is derived from three sources, being deep wells and boreholes sunk in the New Red sandstone. All the water is treated with chlorine, being chloramination at two sources and chlorination at the third.

"During 1952 bacteriological examinations were made of 143 samples; 57 being of the raw water at the sources and 84 of the treated waters in supply. All were 100% free from Faecal Coli organisms and Clostridium Welchii reactions.

"14 samples were analysed chemically. The water may be described as moderately hard, of moderate saline and mineral constituents, neutral in reaction and free from metals. The water is not plumbosolvent and is not softened.

"All the waters were certified by the Board's Chemist as conforming to the highest standards of bacterial purity and organic quality, indicative of water pure, wholesome and suitable for purposes of public and domestic supply.

"The consumption of water for domestic purposes, unmetered trade and waste in the whole of the Board's area of supply for the year 1952 averaged 24.97 gallons per head per day."

The Chief Sanitary Inspector has reported to me as follows—

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. The scheme for improving the disposal of sewerage from Red Street area has now been implemented. Until local sewers have been improved the outstanding conversion of closet accommodation cannot be proceeded with.

Eleven thousand, five hundred and forty-four yards of new sewers were laid and one hundred and ninety-six yards relaid during the year. Three hundred and ninety-eight inspections regarding sewers, street gullies, etc., were made and thirty-nine 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 and a large factory.

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 and obstruction to its natural flow interfered with drainage in the Ravensdale area.

Five inspections of brooks were made during the year.

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 ...	426	1307	1291	1463
Other Nuisances ...	82	28	63	26
Water Supply ...	22	22	4	20
Overcrowding ...	276	13	20	37
Drains—Inspected ...	321	59	167	51
Tested ...		5	6	5
Sewers, Street Gullies, etc ...	398	56	45	9
Sanitary Accommodation ...	90	—	11	—
Ashes Accommodation ...	1207	1418	—	1418
Accumulations ...	80	5	14	6
Swine, Fowl or other Animals ...	115	6	5	6
Rivers Pollutions Acts ...	5	4	—	4
Rats and Mice Infestations... (Visits by Inspectors)	1138	15	1729	14
Houses let in Lodgings ...	4	1	2	1

Other visits :—

Respecting Infectious Diseases ...	1194
Respecting Verminous Conditions... ..	108
Respecting Disinfection	6
Respecting Schools, Public Buildings, Cinemas, etc.	42
Miscellaneous Visits	2030
Interviews—owners and tradesmen ...	807

Notices served and complied with.

	Notices served		Notices complied with	
	Prelim.	Statutory	Prelim.	Statutory
P.H.A.—Housing Defects ...	332	82	287	74
Nuisances ...	46	2	25	—
Smoke Nuisance ...	5	—	2	—
Housing Acts ...	—	—	—	13
Factories Acts ...	12	1	12	1
Food and Drugs Act ...	33	—	8	—
Bye-Laws and Local Acts ...	1	—	2	—
Shops Acts ...	2	—	2	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949 ...	3	—	2	—
Milk and Dairies Act, 1950...	2	—	2	—

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 the Local Authorities	43	108	1	—
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	176	168	17	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	21	28	—	—
Total	240	304	18	—

(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) ...	8	5	—	4	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7) --					
(a) Insufficient ...	2	4	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	8	—	8	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	3	2	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	2	2	—	—	—
Total	25	21	—	12	—

(c) Outworkers' premises.

Business carried on	No. of Premises	No. of Visits
Making of Wearing Apparel	9	4
Furniture and Upholstery ...	2	2
Plastics (make-up) ...	24	1
Watch Repairs ...	1	3
Total	36	10

HOUSING.

General.

Housing Census :—

(1) Total number of inhabited houses in the Borough	20,586
(2) Number of new houses erected during the year :—	
(a) by Private Enterprise	42
(b) by Local Authority	296
	338

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

Inspections :—	Primary	Re-visits
(a) Part 1—Clearance Areas	—	10
(b) Part 2—Section 9—Reconditioning	—	111
Sections 11/12—Demolition or closure ...	7	136

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)	339
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	467
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1952	7
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	7
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	7
(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 ...	332

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	387
--	-----

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	... ..	13
(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	... ..	82
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—		
(a) by Owners	... ..	70
(b) by Local Authority in default of Owners	... ..	4
(c) Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936, and Section 2 Housing Act, 1949 :—		
(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	...	19
(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
(6) Number of dwelling-houses where Demolition Order determined	... ..	Nil

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing

Act, 1936 :—

- (1) Number of separate tenements or under ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... Nil
- (2) Number of separate tenements or under-ground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or room having been re-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 140.*

*In the absence of a census it is impossible accurately to assess the present position with regard to overcrowding. Thirteen new cases brought to notice were recorded and thirty-seven removed from register, having been rehoused by the local authority.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Record of Inspections and Results.

	Inspections	Re- Inspections	Nuisances or defects	
			Found	Abated
Cowsheds ...	8	—	—	—
Dairies and Milkshops ...	98	11	7	6
Ice Cream Premises ...	115	7	7	5
Food Preparing Premises ...	144	43	103	31
Bakehouses ...	112	27	42	13
Slaughterhouses & Butcher's Shops ...	144	5	1	3
General Food Premises ...	377	32	16	17
Meat and Food Inspections...	306	—	—	—
Market Inspections ...	232	—	—	—

(a) **Milk Supply.**

Number of Dairy Farms in the Borough (including 14 Producer/Retailers)	39
Producers of graded milk	8
Number of Retail Purveyors of milk	234
(a) Resident	219
(b) Non-Resident	15

Several of these purveyors distribute both loose and bottled milk, but of the resident purveyors, 202 retail bottled milk only.

Number of Dairy Milkshops	13
----------------------------------	----

Thirty-two retail purveyors hold licences for the sale of graded milk. The following licences in connection with such grades were issued during the year :—

Tuberculin Tested	32
Accredited	—
Pasteurised	35

Four bottling licences were issued during the year :

Tuberculin Tested	2
Accredited	—
Pasteurised	2

Two premises are licensed as pasteurising plants.

Number of Ice Cream premises registered under Private Act :—

Sale only	121
Manufacture and Sale	30
	151

Bacteriological Samples.

Type	No. Submitted	No. failed Cleanliness Test	Examined for T.B.	
			No. Submitted	No. Positive
MILK:				
(a) Heat Treated ...	*100	4	8	Nil
(b) Ordinary ...	8	1	5	Nil
Ice Cream and Lollipops ..	23	2	Nil	Nil

* All except five samples passed Heat-treatment Test

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

Number of butchers' shops registered under Private Act (including Market Stalls)	83
Number of Preserved Food preparing premises registered (including Fish Fryers, 41)	93

There is no public slaughter-house in the Borough, and all slaughtering of animals for this area is undertaken in the City of Stoke-on-Trent area. Local inspectors assist at inspections, and 71 rota visits were undertaken. There are 12 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 35.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle exclud'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed (if known)	—	—	—	—	104
Number inspected	—	—	—	—	104
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	10
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis	—	—	—	—	9.5%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	14
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	14.4%

Total weight condemned, 3 cwts. 104 lbs.

Surrenders of Other Food.

	lbs.
Fresh Meat	176
Cereals and Flour	117
Cooked Meats and Sausages	338
Bacon and Ham	175
Wet Fish	56
Cheese	209
Cake and Biscuits	110
Pickles and Sauces	54
Meat and Fish Pastes	1
Packet Powders	33
Preserves	94
Dried Fruits	152
Tinned Meat	2,907
Tinned Fish	258
Tinned Vegetables	844
Tinned Milk	1,029
Tinned Soup	201
Tinned Fruit and Fruit Juices	5,691
Poultry	23
Essences	10
Cordials and Beverages	12
Fresh Fruit	88
Synthetic Cream	16

Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Total Number of Samples taken, 173.

Milk	124	Bicarbonate of Soda	1
Gravy Browning	1	Black Currant Juice	1
Flavouring Essence	1	Beef Suet	1
Flours	3	Olive Oil	2
Ground Almond	1	Coffee and Chicory	1
Strawberry Jam	1	Malt Vinegar	1
Sulphur Tablets	1	Corn Flour	1
Aspirins	2	Flowers of Sulphur	1
Meat and Fish Pastes	3	Indian Brandee	1
Jellies	3	Glycerine	1
Cake and Pudding Mixtures	5	Sauce-Horse Radish	1
Chicken Noodle Soup	1	Epsom Salts	1
White Pepper	1	Crab	1
Semolina	1	Mint	1
Tapioca	1	Glycerine, Lemon and Honey	1
Pearl Barley	1	Cough Mixture	1
Lemonade Crystals	1	College Pudding	1
Magnesia	2	Meringue Powder	2

Observations

Eight samples were adversely reported upon by the Public Analyst.

Sample No.	Description	Result of Analysis	Remarks
53	Milk	Contained at least 5.7% of added water	Wholesaler at whose dairy sample was taken fined £3 with £11/5/0 costs
60	Milk	Contained at least 1.7% of added water and 7.2% deficient in solids not fat	
62	Milk	Contained at least 3.0% of added water and 6.8% deficient in solids not fat	
63	Milk	Contained at least 2.7% of added water and 1.4% deficient in solids not fat	
64	Milk	Contained at least 2.8% of added water and 0.7% deficient in solids not fat	
73	Magnesia Informal Sample	Loses 32% of its weight on ignition	
109	Magnesia	Loses 34% of its weight on ignition	Follow up sample to No.73 Warning letters sent to retailer and manufacturing chemists
103	Table Jelly Crystals Informal Sample	3.7% deficient in sugar	Follow up sample genuine warning letter sent to manufacturers

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 ... 6

Common Lodging Houses.

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

These provided the following accommodation :—

13 Lower Street, Newcastle	...	39 beds (males)
71/73 Lower Street, Newcastle	...	16 beds (males)
Number of inspections made	...	20

Tents, Vans and Sheds.

Number of Vans existing at the end of the year :—

(a) 1 Permanent Site	...	...	...	14
(b) 17 Other Sites	...	...	...	33
Number of vans, etc., in possession of owner-occupiers	...	...	...	46
Number of vans, etc., known to be overcrowded	...	...	...	5
Number of vans, etc., unfit for habitation	...	...	...	5
Number of visits and inspections made	...	...	...	270
Nuisances or defects found	...	...	...	8
Nuisances or defects remedied	...	...	...	8

Smoke Abatement

Number of recorded observations made	...	...	19
Number of statutory notices served	...	...	—
Number of statutory notices compiled with	...	...	—
Premises visited following observations	...	...	18

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
43	2	—	2	33	11	—	7

Shop Sanitation.

Number of sanitary visits made to shops	...	...	20
Number of nuisances or defects found	...	...	10
Number of nuisances or defects remedied	...	...	5

Offensive Trades.

Number recorded as being within the Borough	18
Fat Melters, etc.	6
Tripe Boilers	7
Rag and Bone Dealers	4
Bone Boiler	1
Number of new offensive trades established	Nil
Number of inspections made	31
Nuisances or defects found	3
Nuisances or defects remedied	3

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	20,084
No. of houses served by waste water closets	189
No. of houses served by hand-flushed water closets ...	90
No. of houses and premises served by privies(148) ...	129
No. of houses and premises served by pail closets (89)	70
No. of houses and premises served by standard dustbins	20,600
No. of houses and premises served by ash pits (2)	2

Particulars of conversions made during the year :—

Privies converted to water closets	4
Pail closets converted to water closets	1
Waste water closets converted to flushed water closets ...	7
Hand-flushed closets provided with cisterns	6
Privies converted to pail closets	—
Cesspools abolished and drains connected direct to public sewers	—
New or additional water closets provided	3
Standard dustbins replaced or provided through the Local Authority	1,418

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

SERVICES :

The following is a summary of the cleansing services performed during the year ending 31st March, 1953:

Refuse Collection :—

Number of houses and other premises receiving regular refuse collection service	20,800
Number of premises receiving special trade refuse collection service	262
Average number of ashbins cleansed per week ...	11,650
<small>(The system of alternate weekly refuse collection from dwellings commenced in 1940 still operates in the majority of houses. A separate salvage collection service is maintained).</small>	
Number of separate Waste Food Bins in use ...	750
Average number of privies cleansed per week ...	136
Average number of pail closets cleansed per week ...	93

Number of cesspools cleansed during the year (excluding work undertaken outside the area)	64
Number of ashpits (emptied) still in use ...	2
Total refuse collected—Dry (estimated)	16,320 tons
Salvage (estimated)	1,565 tons
Wet (estimated)	950 tons
Weight collected per 1,000 population per day (Dry refuse and salvage)	14 cwts.

Refuse Disposal :—

Total estimated refuse dealt with at Depot Disposal Plant or Tips (excluding wet refuse, or covering material)	19,650 tons
(Incineration 5%, Tipped 87%, Salvage 8%)	

Street Cleansing

Number of Gullies	5,612
Total number of gully cleansings	29,374
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed daily (including Sunday)	1.05 miles
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed three times weekly	3.25 miles
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed twice weekly	7.50 miles
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed once weekly	60.68 miles
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed less than once weekly	17.08 miles
Total miles —	89.56 miles

Trunk Road, 4.36 miles. County Roads, 30.68 miles. District
Roads, 54.32 miles. Unadopted Roads, 23.18 miles.

The Staff employed in these services is as follows :—

	<i>Average</i>
Refuse collection and salvage	61
Refuse disposal	4
Street cleansing	23

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

Costs :—

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

Net Expenditure—

Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	£28,625
Refuse Disposal Cr. (Salvage Income £9,727)	...	...	...	...	£ 3,629
					£24,996
Street Cleansing (all roads)	...	...	...	...	£ 9,449
Gully Cleansing	...	...	...	...	£ 2,154
Snow Removal	...	...	...	...	£ 1,371

Public Conveniences :

The following conveniences are maintained and supervised:—

Newcastle :-

Pepper Street (Males and Females)
 Marsh Street (Males and Females)
 Stubbs Street Urinal
 Liverpool Road Urinal

Wolstanton :-

High Street (Males and Females)
 Jubilee Road Urinal
 Bradwell Lane (Males and Females)

Silverdale :-

Crown Street (Males)

Knutton :-

Cross Roads Urinal

Chesterton :-

Victoria Street (Males)
 Dragon Square (Males and Females)

The arrangement for the public to use facilities provided at a Billiard Hall in George Street in place of conveniences demolished in the locality still continue.

Nett Cost of Services £3,526.

RODENT CONTROL.

One full-time and two-part time operators are employed to undertake treatment on all Council and private properties and to give advice generally following receipt of complaint. In addition, systematic treatment is carried out in connection with the forty-nine annual contracts with traders affecting factory and business premises.

Sewer maintenance treatments carried out during May and September with an operating squad consisting of an inspector, a rodent operator, two sewer men and the use of a van. A total of 840 sewer manholes were inspected and of these 798 were baited and 155 showed pre-bait takes. The evidence as shown from the number of takes, is that infestation is limited to local areas, particularly in the older type of sewers.

3,245 visits were made by the operator and the number of rats destroyed were—

(a) Caught and trapped 581. (b) Estimated by baits 1,171.

The following table indicates work undertaken and is recorded for annual return to the Ministry.

	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling houses (2)	Agri-cultural (3)	All other (inclnd'g business premises) (4)	Total (5)
Total number of properties in Local Authority's District	75	19,327	57	2,000	21,459
Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1952 as a result of (a) notification (b) survey or otherwise ...	(a) 24	154	2	18	198
	(b) 4	73	45	49	171
Number of properties inspected (see Section II) which were found to be infested by rats ...	Major 1	—	1	6	8
	Minor 14	117	5	28	164
Number of properties inspected (see Section II) which were found to be seriously infested by mice ...	3	27	—	14	44
Number of infested properties (see Sections III and IV) treated by the Local Authority ...	25	176	2	53	256

The gross expenditure of rodent control during the year was £518

TABLE I—CAUSES OF DEATH.

CAUSES OF DEATH				MALES	FEMALES
ALL CAUSES				376	376
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	11	8
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	1	1
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	1	2
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	2	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	1	—
9.	Other infective and parastic diseases	...	...	2	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	12	18
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	12	1
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	—	17
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	—	8
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	...	...	26	28
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	3	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	1	2
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	33	63
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	49	27
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	7	8
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	55	82
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	17	19
22.	Influenza	...	...	—	3
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	17	11
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	23	10
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	6	—
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	5	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	4	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	5	7
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	9	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	—	2
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	4	4
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	49	39
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	2	2
34.	All other accidents	...	...	12	10
35.	Suicide	...	...	6	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	1	—

TABLE II—FOOD POISONING.

NO cases of food poisoning occurred in the Borough during the year.

Table 3.—Cases of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during 1952
(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 65	65 years and over						
Small-pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	1	18	—	44	—	59	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	106	79.1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pemphigus Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis and Polio-Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	27	200	—	350	—	416	5	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	8	20	—	39	—	42	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	12	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

* Information not available

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 Group)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Pregnancy, Childbirth Abortion	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmic Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	28	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	13	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table 5.—Notification of and Deaths from Tuberculosis during 1952

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES						DEATHS					
	Respiratory			Non-Respiratory			Respiratory			Non-Respiratory		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 and under 5	3	3	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 and under 15	1	7	1	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 and under 25	6	12	1	12	1	2	1	2	—	—	—	—
25 and under 35	11	4	1	4	1	1	2	2	—	—	—	—
35 and under 45	2	2	—	2	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—
45 and under 55	9	4	—	4	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—
55 and under 65	4	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	4	1	—	1	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	40	33	3	33	5	5	16	8	—	—	—	—