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Annual Report


of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1953

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.



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BOROUGH OF NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME

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Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1953)

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

Alderman W. E. WELSBY (Chairman).

Councillor W. NIXON (Vice-Chairman).

Alderman W. EVANSON.

Councillor J. BOWLER.

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 A. RYLES.

Councillor Miss E. SHAW.

Councillor F. W. SHEPLEY.

Councillor L. SKERRETT.

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. (Resigned February 1953).

AGNES D. DONALDSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy School Medical Officer. (Appointed February 1953).

(Resigned September 1953).

I. ASH, M.D. Rome, D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy School Medical Officer. (Appointed September 1953).

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.

Clerical—

Miss M. E. WHITE, Chief Clerk.

Mr. A. GUMBLEY, Wages and Costing Clerk.

Mrs. D. WARRILLOW, Senior Shorthand Typist.

Mrs. E. PLANT, Miss M. COX, Miss S. KIRKHAM, Miss Z. COOPER, General Clerks and Shorthand Typists.

Mr. B. SIMCOCK, Junior Clerk.

Miss T. DALE, Miss S. HARPER, Junior Clerks.

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

17th August, 1954.

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report on the health of the Borough for 1953 as required by the Ministry of Health under the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935 and the Sanitary Officers Order, 1926.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population for the year under review shows an increase of 420 over the previous year's figure of 69,810 with an increase in the number of inhabited houses at the end of the year of 551 ; a most gratifying improvement over the previous year's increase of 319.

The total number of live births in the Borough during the year was 1,105, giving a live birth rate of 15.70 and thus maintaining the lead over the birth rate for the rest of England and Wales which is 15.5. The still birth rate for the Borough unfortunately shows a slight increase from the previous year when it was 0.34, but is nevertheless better than the figures for 1951 of 0.42 and 1950 of 0.52. The death rate of infants under one year of age per thousand live births shows a very gratifying decrease over the previous year's figure of 42.04 and is the lowest so far recorded for the Borough. In spite of this fact it continues to be greater than the figure for England and Wales as a whole.

Under the heading of Causes of Deaths listed in Table I towards the end of the report, I would draw attention to the decrease in deaths recorded from all forms of tuberculosis, which

this year totals 12 compared to 21 for 1952. However, ten more deaths have been recorded in 1953 from malignant diseases in various parts of the body than in 1952, the largest increase being in tumours of the lung and bronchus.

1953 was remarkably free from any large outbreaks of notifiable infectious diseases for, although there were more cases of whooping cough during that year than in the previous year, all other diseases show a considerable decrease.

During the year 214 members of the Corporation Clerical Staff were x-rayed at the Mass Radiography Unit and no case of active tuberculosis was found to be present.

On 1st November, 1953 under an Order of the Ministry of Food, the Borough became part of a "specified area" in which only "specially designated milk" can be sold. This Order permits bottled milk only to be retailed and requires also all milk other than Tuberculin Tested to be heat treated.

The need for a disinfecting and disinfesting centre for the Borough, upon which I have commented in every Annual Report on the Health of the Borough I have so far prepared, still exists. As the County Council and the Home Office have now decided that Froghall is no longer required for Civil Defence purposes the Borough may use the building. It would seem possible, therefore, that in the not too far distant future this Centre can come into operation.

As is usual, I wish to record my grateful thanks to the members of the Council who have shown an interest in public health during the year and for the co-operation of my colleagues in other departments with particular mention of the staff attached to this department.

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 1953 is 70,230.

Population according to 1951 Census (corrected), 70,036.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1953 was 21,137.

Rateable Value, etc.

The rateable value of the Borough is £342,442 and one penny rate in the £ (General Rate) produces £1,297.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

	Total	Male	Female	Rate	England & Wales	
Live Births—	1105	559	546	15.70	15.5	{ per 1,000 estimated population
Legitimate	1072	544	528	—	—	
Illegitimate	33	15	18	—	—	
Stillbirths	28	10	18	0.39	0.35	{ per 1,000 estimated population
				24.71	22.4	
						{ per 1,000 total live and still-births
Deaths	664	324	340	9.45	11.4	{ 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	1.76

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

		England & Wales
Total	.. .. .	34.38
Legitimate	.. .. .	33.48
Illegitimate	.. .. .	0.91

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 one case was removed to the City General Hospital, Stoke-on-Trent, under the provisions of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

National Assistance Act, 1948 Section 50

BURIAL OF DESTITUTE PERSONS.

Three destitute persons were buried by the Council under the powers conferred on it under the above mentioned Act.

Borough Mortuary—

During 1953, 36 cases were admitted to the Mortuary and 24 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 Analyst at Stafford. Specimens for bacteriological and pathological examination are dealt with by the Public Health Laboratory Service at Martin Street, Stafford. Results of the examinations of the samples and specimens investigated during the year are given in the appropriate sections.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION FOR SUPERANNUATION AND SICK PAY PURPOSES

During 1953, 120 Corporation Employees were medically examined for suitability for admission to the Corporation Superannuation Scheme. The examinations were carried out by the medical staff of the Public Health Department.

Arrangements were made with one of the local General Practitioners for 29 employees to be medically examined for suitability for admission to the Corporation's Sick Pay Scheme.

The following table gives details of the numbers of employees and staff examined and the Departments concerned :—

Department	Superannuation Scheme		Sick Pay Scheme	
	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
Borough Surveyors	33	8	11	1
Borough Treasurers	7	—	—	—
Cemeteries	2	3	2	2
Cleansing	23	4	6	2
Estate Office	4	—	—	—
Libraries	2	—	—	—
Parks	16	7	4	—
Public Baths	—	1	1	—
Public Health	5	—	—	—
Town Clerks	4	—	—	—
Weights and Measures	1	—	—	—

X-RAY OF STAFF

Arrangements were made with the Director of the Miniature X-Ray Unit at Hartshill to survey the clerical staff of the Corporation. In all 105 males and 109 females were examined, and it is pleasing to note that no case of active tuberculosis was found.

In addition, arrangements were made for the x-ray of 132 members of the staffs of the Ministry of National Insurance, Ministry of Food and Midland Electricity Board. Again all proved to be free from pulmonary tuberculous infection.

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 at each station :—

MONTH	Rainfall in inches	Total solids in tons per square mile	SO ² MG/DAY/100 SQ. CMS.
PITFIELD HOUSE :			
January	0.71	7.54	1.59
February	2.68	20.81	1.45
March	1.30	16.94	1.45
April	2.94	14.00	0.98
May	2.45	15.15	0.69
June	3.94	20.26	0.65
July	3.31	17.63	0.45
August	3.35	9.68	0.45
September	2.68	12.27	0.76
October	1.92	13.55	1.39
November	2.60	12.61	0.99
December	1.66	9.16	2.27
1953 Average	2.46	14.13	1.09
1952 Average	2.62	16.86	1.21
1951 Average	3.44	14.97	0.86
1950 Average	2.53	22.14	—
ROE LANE :			
January	0.63	3.68	1.61
February	2.05	9.63	1.20
March	1.22	8.89	1.11
April	2.77	8.49	0.50
May	2.26	11.92	0.56
June	4.37	14.94	0.91
July	3.19	9.39	0.37
August	3.51	—	0.36
September	2.76	12.57	0.56
October	1.90	7.27	1.11
November	2.17	7.63	0.50
December	1.49	5.81	1.40
1953 Average	2.36	9.11	0.85
1952 Average	2.63	9.08	0.92
1951 Average	3.19	10.64	0.80
1950 Average	2.73	8.39	—

MONTH	Rainfall in inches	Total solids in tons per square mile	SO ² MG/DAY/100 SQ. CMS.
CHESTERTON :			
January	2.67	8.36	1.44
February	2.09	11.90	1.83
March	2.02	15.67	1.62
April	2.63	18.22	0.91
May	2.05	17.82	0.84
June	3.94	23.76	1.29
July	2.80	18.55	0.64
August	3.51	10.91	0.63
September	2.32	8.74	0.95
October	1.86	12.03	1.71
November	2.32	8.12	1.49
December	1.58	8.63	2.16
1953 Average	2.23	13.56	1.29
1952 Average	2.45	19.26	1.48
1951 Average	3.22	17.34	1.26
1950 Average	2.8	13.43	—

The problem of smoke and grit emissions from collieries has been given special attention and schemes for improvement are in hand.

Manufacturers generally continue to introduce improved methods of firing which considerably reduces the risk of atmospheric pollution, but increased use of smokeless 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 20,122 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. Fifteen 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."

(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 1953 bacteriological examinations were made of 127 samples ; 58 being of the untreated waters at the sources and 69 of the treated waters in supply. All were 100% free from Faecal Coli and Clostridium Welchii organisms.

"Fourteen samples were analysed for chemical quality. The water supplied is moderately hard, of moderate mineral and saline constituents, neutral in reaction and free from metals. It is not softened, and is not plumbo-solvent.

"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 1953 averaged 25.38 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.

During the year 22.55 miles of new sewers were laid and seven hundred and ninety yards relaid. Nine hundred and sixty-two inspections regarding sewers, street gullies, etc., were made and fifty-one 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.

Fourteen 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	425	1322	1317	2037
Other Nuisances	106	12	45	37
Water Supply	7	9	20	10
Overcrowding	59	—	5	—
Drains—Inspected	531	68	221	68
Tested	107	—	10	—
Sewers, Street Gullies, etc...	962	17	28	10
Sanitary Accommodation ..	121	3	19	3
Ashes Accommodation ..	1715	1662	—	1662
Accumulations	119	119	19	119
Swine, Fowl or other Animals	90	4	18	7
Rivers Pollutions Acts ..	14	—	1	—
Rats and Mice Infestations	1232	17	1948	10
(Visits by Inspectors)				
Houses let in Lodgings ..	5	16	3	—

Other visits :—

Respecting Infectious Diseases	89
Respecting Verminous Conditions	83
Respecting Disinfection	4
Respecting Schools, Public Buildings, Cinemas, etc.	42
Miscellaneous Visits	2060
Interviews—owners and tradesmen ..	833

Notices served and complied with

	Notices served		Notices complied with	
	Prelim.	Statutory	Prelim.	Statutory
P.H.A.—Housing Defects ..	344	72	426	113
Nuisances	23	2	44	4
Smoke Nuisance ..	7	—	4	—
Housing Acts	—	—	—	29
Factories Acts	9	—	4	—
Food and Drugs Act ..	16	—	12	—
Bye-Laws and Local Acts ..	3	—	8	—
Shops Acts	4	—	—	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	4	—	2	—
Milk and Dairies Act, 1950 ..	—	—	—	—

Inspection of Factories

(a) Inspections.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers' Prosecuted
Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	48	71	—	—
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	178	141	12	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	21	24	10	—
Total	247	236	22	—

(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) ..	7	8	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient ..	8	6	—	6	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	11	11	—	6	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	2	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ..	1	1	—	—	—
Total	28	28	—	12	—

(c) Outworkers' premises.

Business carried on	No. of Premises	No. of Visits
Making of Wearing Apparel	9	3
Furniture and Upholstery	2	1
Plastics (make-up)	24	5
Watch Repairs	1	1
Total	36	10

HOUSING

General

Housing Census :—

(1) Total number of inhabited houses in the Borough	21,137
(2) Number of new houses erected during the year :—	
(a) by Private Enterprise 47	} 561
(b) by Local Authority 514	

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

Inspections :—	Primary	Re-visits
(a) Part 1—Clearance Areas ..	—	8
(b) Part 2—Section 9—Reconditioning	—	31
Sections 11/12—Demolition or closure ..	24	144

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)	368
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	487
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1952	24
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	24
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ..	24
(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	344

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	426
---	-----

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	29
(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	72
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) by Owners	111
(b) by Local Authority in default of owners	2

(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 ..	17
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ..	10
(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in anticipation of formal procedure ..	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling-houses closed on undertakings (not demolished) ..	5
(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 | 2 |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements 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 77.*

*In the absence of a census it is impossible accurately to assess the present position with regard to overcrowding. Five new cases brought to notice were recorded and sixty-eight 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	11	—	—	—
Dairies and Milkshops ..	88	1	1	—
Ice Cream Premises	161	14	2	2
Food Preparing Premises ..	154	17	57	61
Bakehouses	93	26	1	16
Slaughterhouses & Butcher's Shops	90	15	—	1
General Food Premises ..	389	26	18	29
Meat and Food Inspections ..	263	—	—	—
Market Inspections	364	—	6	2

(a) **Milk Supply.**

Number of Dairy Farms in the Borough (including 9 Producer/Retailers)	..	..	..	33
Producers of graded milk	..	..	..	5
Number of Retail Purveyors of milk	..	..	..	259
(a) Resident	..	..	..	240
(b) Non-Resident	..	..	..	19

Several of these purveyors distribute both loose and bottled milk, but of the resident purveyors, 210 retail sterilised bottled milk only.

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

Forty-six 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	..	..	..	42
Pasteurised	..	..	..	46

Four bottling licences were issued during the year :—

Tuberculin Tested	..	..	..	2
Pasteurised	..	..	..	2

Two premises are licensed as pasteurising plants.

Number of Ice Cream premises registered under Private Act :—

Sale only	136	} 157
Manufacture and Sale	21	

Bacteriological Samples

Type	No. Submitted	No. failed Cleanliness Test	Examined for T.B.	
			No. Submitted	No. Positive
MILK :				
Heat Treated	*88	2	6	Nil
Ice Cream and Lollipops ..	37	8	Nil	Nil
Orange Juice	12	Nil	Nil	Nil

* All samples passed Heat-treatment Test

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

Number of butchers' shops registered under Private Act (including Market Stalls) ..	82
Number of Preserved Food preparing premises registered (including Fish Fryers, 41) ..	94

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 76 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) ..	—	—	—	—	25
Number Inspected	—	—	—	—	25
ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis	—	—	—	—	8%
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	—	—	—	—	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	4%

Total weight condemned, 10 lbs.

Surrenders of Other Food

	lbs.
Fresh Meat	33
Cooked Meats and Sausages ..	542
Bacon and Ham	69
Wet Fish	269
Cheese	99
Cooking fats and Margarine ..	73
Pickles and Sauces	24
Packet Powders	16
Preserves	146
Shelled Nuts	220
Tinned Meat	2,743
Tinned Fish	542
Tinned Vegetables	918
Tinned Milk	1,280
Tinned Soup	406
Tinned Fruit	6,450
Tinned Cream	117
Cordials and Beverages	1

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Total Number of Samples taken, 172.

Milk	127	Epsom Salts	1
Bread	2	Pure Coffee	1
Bicarbonate of Soda	2	Malt Vinegar	1
Liquid Paraffin	2	Olive Oil	1
Sauce	1	Custard Powder	1
Fish Paste	1	Patent Cornflour	2
Blancmange Powder	1	Pearl Barley	1
White Ground Pepper	2	Foam Crystals	1
Castor Oil	2	National Flour	1
Camphorated Oil	1	Pepper Flavoured Compound	1
Aspirin Tablets B.P.	1	Ground Ginger	1
Self-raising Flour	1	Sweetened Sponge Mixture	1
Gravy Powder	1	Compound Juniper Pills	1
Salmon Spread	1	Oil of Peppermint Tablets	1
Honey, lemon & glycerine	2	Ground Almonds	1
Powdered Gelatine	1	Liquorice Powder	1
Meat Paste	6	Apricot Jam	1

Observations

Two samples were adversely reported upon by the Public Analyst.

Sample No.	Description	Result of Analysis	Remarks
233	Meat Paste (ham and chicken) Informal	18·2% deficient of meat.	
277	Meat Paste (ham and chicken) Formal	14·9% deficient of meat.	Follow up sample to No. 233. A summons against the wholesalers was dismissed by the Magistrates Court.

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

The Rag, Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations, 1951

Two samples of rag flock satisfied the prescribed tests under the above Regulations.

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	..	22

Tents, Vans and Sheds

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

(a) 1 Permanent Site	..	..	..	..	22
(b) 14 Other Sites	..	..	..	..	34
Number of vans, etc., in possession of owner-occupiers	..	..	..	..	55
Number of vans, etc., known to be overcrowded	..	..	..	..	6
Number of vans, etc., unfit for habitation	..	..	..	..	5
Number of visits and inspections made	..	..	..	..	404
Nuisances or defects found	..	..	..	..	31
Nuisances or defects remedied	..	..	..	..	24

Smoke Abatement

Number of recorded observations made	..	..	23
Number of statutory notices served	..	..	—
Number of statutory notices complied with	..	..	—
Premises visited following observations	..	..	38

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
31	5	—	5	35	4	—	4

Shop Sanitation

Number of sanitary visits made to shops	..	19
Number of nuisances or defects found	..	9
Number of nuisances or defects remedied	..	4

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	..	24
Nuisances or defects found	..	—
Nuisances or defects remedied	..	—

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	20,638
No. of houses served by waste water closets	174
No. of houses served by hand-flushed water closets ..	88
No. of houses and premises served by privies(145) ..	126
No. of houses and premises served by pail closets (89) ..	70
No. of houses and premises served by standard dustbins	21,151
No. of houses and premises served by ash pits (2) ..	2

Particulars of conversions made during the year :—

Privies converted to water closets.. .. .	3
Pail closets converted to water closets	—
Waste water closets converted to flushed water closets..	15
Hand-flushed closets provided with cisterns	2
Privies converted to pail closets	—
Cesspools abolished and drains connected direct to public sewers	—
New or additional water closets provided	4
Standard dustbins replaced or provided through the Local Authority (excluding new houses erected) ..	1,662

PUBLIC CLEANSING

SERVICES :

The following is a summary of the cleansing services performed during the year ending 31st March, 1954 :

Refuse Collection :—

Number of houses and other premises receiving regular refuse collection service	21,500
Number of premises receiving special trade refuse collection service	265
Average number of ashbins cleansed per week ..	11,900

(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).

Number of separate Waste Food Bins in use ..	176
Average number of privies cleansed per week ..	128
Average number of pail closets cleansed per week ..	103

Number of cesspools cleansed during the year (excluding work undertaken outside the area) ..	66
Number of ashpits (emptied) still in use	2
Total refuse collected—Dry (estimated) ..	18,350 tons
Salvage (estimated) ..	1,587 tons
Wet (estimated) ..	900 tons
Weight collected per 1,000 population per day (Dry refuse and salvage)	14.3 cwts.

Refuse Disposal :—

Total estimated refuse dealt with at Depot Disposal Plant or Tips (excluding wet refuse, or covering material)	20,150 tons
(Incineration 5%, Tipped 87%, Salvage 8%)	

Street Cleansing :—

Number of Gullies	5,672
Total number of gulley cleansings	24,245
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	70.26 miles
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed less than once weekly	17.94 miles
Total miles — 90.42 miles	

Trunk Road, 4.36 miles. County Roads, 30.68 miles.
District Roads, 55.38 miles. (Unadopted Roads, 23.12 miles.)

The Staff employed in these services is as follows :—

	<i>Average</i>
Refuse collection and salvage	61
Refuse disposal	4
Street cleansing	24

In addition to the above there is one cleansing foreman and assistant foreman (all services) and a foreman mechanic and three 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	..	..	..	..	£29,549
Refuse Disposal Cr.	..	..	..	..	£13,000
(Salvage Income £8,665)					
					£28,249
Street Cleansing (all roads)	..	..	..	..	£10,654
Gully Cleansing	..	..	..	..	£ 1,247
Snow Removal	..	..	..	..	£ 1,455

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES :

The following conveniences are maintained and supervised:—

Newcastle :—

Pepper Street (Males and Females)
Marsh Street (Males and Females)
Stubbs Street Urinal (demolished in July)
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 £3,900.

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-seven annual contracts with traders affecting factory and business premises.

Sewer maintenance treatments carried out during April 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 931 sewer manholes were inspected and of these 891 were baited and 145 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.

3,404 visits were made by the operator and the number of rats destroyed were—

(a) Caught and trapped 566. (b) Estimated by baits 1,573.

The following is a copy of the table included in the annual return submitted to the Ministry :—

	Local Author- ity (1)	Dwelling houses (2)	Agri- cultural (3)	All other includ'g business premises (3)	Total (5)
Total number of properties in Local Authority's District	75	19,632	57	2,044	21,808
Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1952 as a result of (a) notification (b) survey or otherwise	(a) 14	165	4	16	199
	(b) 3	67	7	57	134
Number of properties inspected (see Section II) which were found to be infested by rats	Major —	—	—	2	2
	Minor 9	96	2	16	123
Number of properties inspected (see Section II) which were found to be seriously infested by mice ..	3	10	—	10	23
Number of infested properties (see Sections III and IV) treated by the Local Authority	13	184	—	37	234

The gross expenditure of rodent control during the year was £561

Table 1.
CAUSES OF DEATH

CAUSES OF DEATH	MALES	FEMALES
ALL CAUSES	324	340
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	5	6
2. Tuberculosis, other	—	1
3. Syphilitic disease	3	2
4. Diphtheria	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	2
6. Meningococcal infections	—	1
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
8. Measles	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ..	—	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	8	11
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	19	4
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	12
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	7
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neo- plasms	24	27
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	4	—
16. Diabetes	2	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	34	57
18. Coronary disease, angina	51	34
19. Hypertension with heart disease	6	5
20. Other heart disease	54	71
21. Other circulatory disease	8	18
22. Influenza	1	2
23. Pneumonia	9	12
24. Bronchitis	17	9
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ..	6	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	5	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	6
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	9	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	2
31. Congenital malformations	5	4
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ..	33	27
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	1
34. All other accidents	8	10
35. Suicide	4	4
36. Homicide and operations of war	1	—

Table 2.—Food Poisoning

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

Number of cases occurring	Number of deaths	Number of cases due to :	Foods involved
9	Nil	Staphylococcal Enterotoxin 6	Brawn Tongue Beef
		Salmonella infections 3	Unknown

Table 3.—Cases of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during 1953
(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 Croup)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	2	2	2	9	26	4	—	1	—	—	—	29	64.4
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	2	1	1	5	2	2	4	16	6	—	1	2.4
Pneumonia	45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pemphigus Neonatorum	41	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	100
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	60.0
Poliomyelitis and Polio-Encephalitis	4	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	100
Measles	282	14	35	35	44	135	15	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	301	43	47	43	57	85	2	—	2	—	1	—	1	0.3
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	6	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	33.3

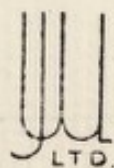
* Information not available.

Table 4.—Deaths from Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1953

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	TOTAL NUMBER OF DEATHS												
	AT ALL AGES	AT ALL AGES											
		Under 1	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 years and over
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	21	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	8	—
Whooping Cough ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Table 5.—Notification of and Deaths from Tuberculosis during 1953

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	—	—	—	—	—
5 and under 15	5	6	—	2	—	—	—	—
15 and under 25	1	4	—	2	—	—	—	—
25 and under 35	4	10	—	1	1	3	—	—
35 and under 45	2	4	—	—	1	—	—	—
45 and under 55	9	2	—	—	1	2	—	—
55 and under 65	6	4	—	—	1	1	—	1
65 and upwards	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
TOTAL	30	31	2	5	5	6	—	1



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