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Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme.



Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1955

JOHN WARRACK, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

CHRISTOPHER A. WOOD, M.S.I.A., M.Inst.P.C.
Chief Sanitary Inspector.





BOROUGH OF NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME

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Borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(AS AT 31ST DECEMBER, 1955)

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

Alderman W. E. Welsby (Chairman).

Councillor W. Nixon (Vice-Chairman).

Alderman W. Evanson.

Councillor T. Bethell.

Councillor J. W. Billington.

Councillor J. Bowler.

Councillor T. Byrne.

Councillor Mrs. E. Jones.

Councillor T. Lowther.

Councillor B. Parry.

Councillor G. A. Poole.

Councillor E. Roberts.

Councillor A. Ryles.

Councillor Miss E. Shaw.

Councillor C. S. Whalley.

Councillor F. Woosey.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical—

John Warrack, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.

I. Ash, M.D. Rome, D.P.H.
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.S.H., Cert. Meat Insp.
District Sanitary Inspector.

J. W. Millington, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.H., Cert. Meat Insp.
District Sanitary Inspector.

E. Warrillow, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.H., Cert. Meat Insp.
District Sanitary Inspector.

K. W. Willans, M.S.I.A. Cert. Meat Insp.
District Sanitary Inspector. (Resigned 19/1/55)

R. P. Tabbinor, M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Insp.
District Sanitary Inspector. (Appointed 21/3/55)

D. B. Morris, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.H., Cert. Meat Insp.
District Sanitary Inspector. (Appointed 21/3/55)

T. J. Taylor, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.H.
District Sanitary Inspector. (Appointed 17/10/55)

Sanitary Assistants—

C. C. Wood. (Appointed 17/1/55)

J. Murphy. (Appointed 17/1/55) (Resigned 31/12/55)

Clerical—

Miss M. E. White, Chief Clerk.

Mr. A. Gumbley, Wages and Costing Clerk.

Mrs. D. Warrillow, Senior Shorthand Typist.

Mrs. E. Plant, Mrs. M. Tilstone, Miss K. G. Brett,
Miss N. Evans, Miss Z. Cooper, General Clerks and
Shorthand Typists.

Mr. B. Simcock, Junior Clerk.

Miss T. Dale, Miss S. Harper, Miss A. Johnson, Junior
Clerks.

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

August, 1956.

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 1955 as required by the Ministry of Health under the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935 and the Sanitary Officers Order, 1926.

The report has been compiled in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 17/55. Under this circular many of the particulars regarding housing conditions within the area, which it has been customary for many years to include in the annual report, have now been omitted but the most important details, including particulars of slum clearance areas dealt with, are retained.

The population of the Borough continues to rise steadily for the estimate for 1955 of 72,220, as given by the Registrar General, shows an increase of 1,250 over the previous year and is 2,184 greater than the 1951 census figure.

Under "Causes of Death" listed towards the end of the report it is interesting to note that both malignant disease of the stomach and breast have caused considerably less deaths than last year, when the corresponding figures were 38 for cancer of the stomach and 20 for breast cancer. Malignant disease of the lungs and bronchus has caused the death of exactly the same number of persons in 1955 as in 1954 and no marked change has occurred in the number of deaths due to "Coronary Disease, Angina" which total 103 for 1955 and 111 for 1954.

The table dealing with cases of notifiable disease shows that the number of cases of scarlet fever and measles occurring during 1955 were less than those for 1954 but the number of cases of dysentery had increased by 44 over the previous year's total. This continuance of cases of dysentery is an indication that there is still much to be required in personal hygiene for it is by deficiency in this type of cleanliness that this disease is conveyed from person to person. Furthermore, not only is an unnecessary strain placed upon the staff of this Department in investigating and controlling the disease, but also much valuable working time is lost by the persons affected.

During 1955 the Council commenced its five-year slum clearance programme and particulars of areas which were both represented by me to the Authority and confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government during the year are given under the housing section of the report.

In July a "Public Health Brochure" was completed and circularized to the members of the Council, Corporation Departments, schools, libraries, etc., etc. It is hoped that this booklet will not only be a means of providing health education for the people who receive it but also will be a handy means of reference, giving particulars of the public health and allied services available to the public.

In November, following increasing difficulty in maintaining a satisfactory level of cleanliness in the Borough Mortuary, arrangements were completed with the Local Hospital Management Committee for the provision of post-mortem facilities at the City General Hospital. As from the completion of these arrangements the Borough Mortuary will be used only for the temporary accommodation of bodies which do not require post-mortem examination. All bodies requiring such examination will be taken directly to the City General Hospital.

Froghall Cleansing Station was completed during 1955 and came into operation in June of that year. During the remainder of the year it was made use of on many occasions not only for the disinfection or disinfection of bedding and other articles but also for the disinfection of persons in some cases.

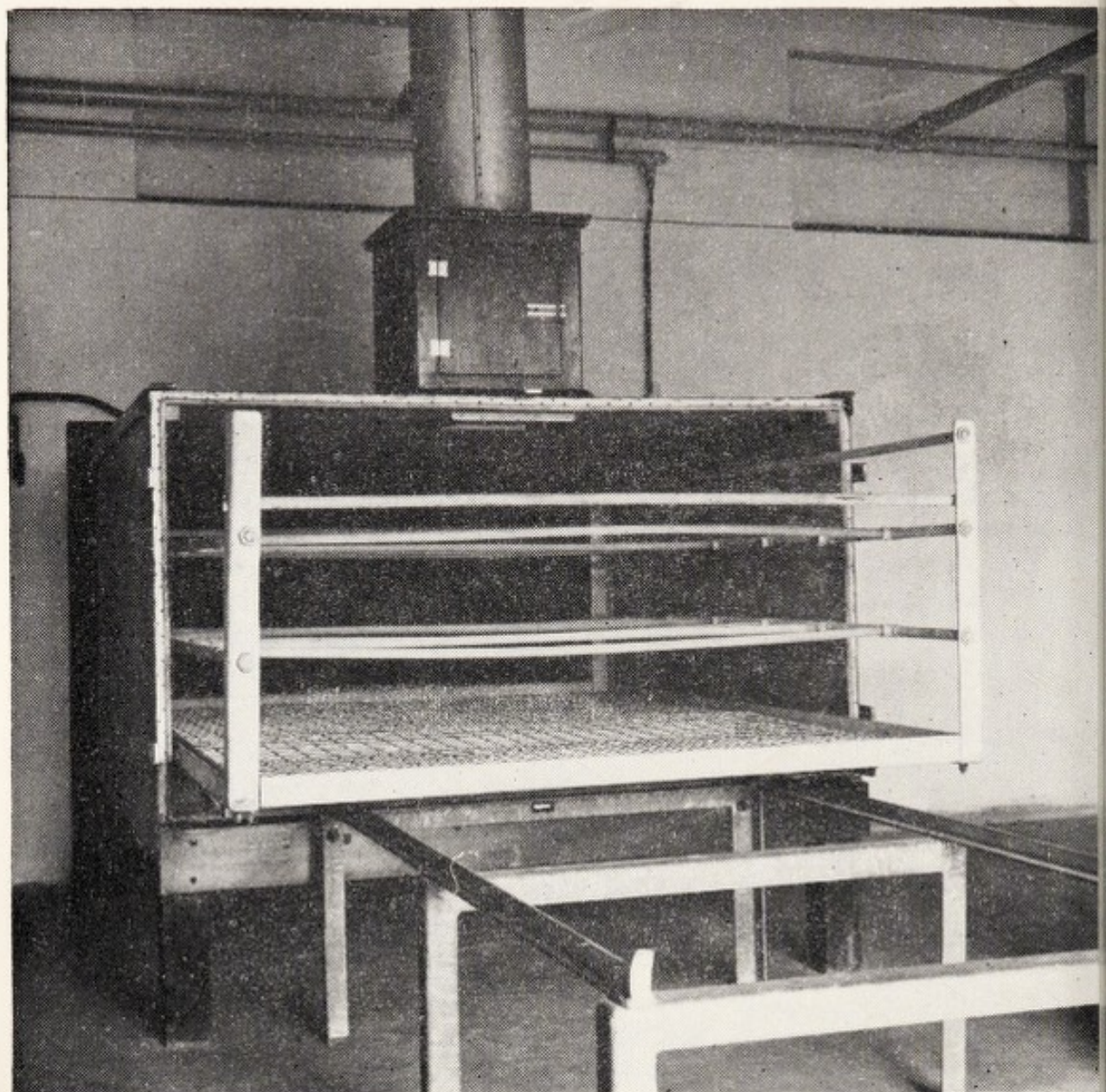
In conclusion I wish to record my appreciation of the continued interest of members of the Council in the work of the Public Health Department. I wish also to thank the other officials of the Corporation and their staffs for their continued co-operation and assistance, and with especial mention of the members of the staff of my department for their loyal support during the year.

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

JOHN WARRACK.



FROGHALL DISINFECTION AND
DISINFESTATION UNIT

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 1955 is 72,220.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1955 was 23,300.

Rateable Value, etc.

The rateable value of the Borough is £379,103 and one penny rate in the £ (General Rate) produces £1,420.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

	Total	Male	Female	Rate	England & Wales	
Live Births—	1187	605	582	16.43	15.0	per 1,000
Legitimate	1161	598	563	—	—	estimated
Illegitimate	26	7	19	—	—	population
Stillbirths	40	23	17	32.59	23.1	per 1,000 total live and still-births
Deaths	714	375	339	9.88	11.7	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 ..	Nil	Nil

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

			Male	Female		England & Wales
Total ..	..	..	18	14	26.95	24.9
Legitimate ..	..	..	18	11	24.43	—
Illegitimate ..	..	..	—	3	2.52	—

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

National Assistance Act, 1948 and

National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951

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

Section 47 of the 1948 Act states,

"The following provisions of this section shall have effect for the purposes of securing the necessary care and attention for persons who—

- (a) are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and
- (b) are unable to devote to themselves and are not receiving from other persons proper care and attention."

During 1955, 2 cases were removed under these powers. One was that of a man 80 years of age in a very poor physical condition, confined to bed and suffering from a fractured arm. He was removed to Leek Moorlands Hospital on March 21st under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, for an initial period of three weeks with an extension for three months from 11th April, 1955. Unfortunately, the patient died on the 26th of that month. The other case was of a woman 75 years old who was living in filthy and squalid conditions. She was removed to the Westcliff Hospital, Tunstall, on 6th September for an initial period of three weeks with extensions of three months each from 27th September.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 50

BURIAL OF DESTITUTE PERSONS.

This Section of the Act enables a local authority to arrange for the burial or cremation of "the body of any person who has died or been found dead in their area, in any case where it appears to the authority that no suitable arrangements for the disposal of the body have been or are being made."

During the year the bodies of 2 destitute persons have been buried and the cost borne by the Council.

Borough Mortuary—

During 1955, 33 bodies were admitted to the Borough Mortuary and on these 24 post-mortems were carried out.

Laboratory Facilities—

Specimens under the Food and Drugs Acts and the Milk and Cream Regulations are examined by the County Analyst at Stafford. Bacteriological and pathological examinations are dealt with by the Public Health Laboratory Service, at Martin Street, Stafford. The number of specimens sent to the Public Health Laboratory has continued on a high level owing to the protracted sonne dysentery infection prevalent within the Borough during the year. 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 1955, 98 Corporation Employees were medically examined for fitness 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 14 employees to be medically examined for suitability for inclusion in 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	25	5	7	1
Borough Treasurers	11	—	—	—
Cemeteries	7	1	—	—
Cleansing	14	4	3	—
Estate Office	6	—	—	—
Libraries	2	—	1	—
Parks	5	1	1	—
Public Baths	1	—	1	—
Public Health	7	—	—	—
Town Clerks	6	3	—	—
Weights and Measures	—	—	—	—

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 ₃ MG/DAY/100 SQ. CMS.	
PITFIELD HOUSE :				1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
January	..	..	..	1.73	2.88	12.13	15.18	2.39	2.57
February	..	..	..	3.04	1.81	19.05	20.88	2.74	2.86
March	..	..	..	2.58	2.67	13.86	34.37	1.85	2.52
April ..	..	..	..	0.96	1.77	17.18	12.64	1.29	1.31
May ..	..	..	..	2.88	3.27	17.14	15.94	1.25	1.33
June ..	..	..	..	4.53	3.69	—	18.39	0.78	1.10
July ..	..	..	..	4.22	0.59	12.83	5.05	0.59	1.00
August	..	..	..	5.55	1.46	19.97	22.44	0.63	0.79
September	..	..	..	3.86	2.09	12.93	28.59	0.71	0.71
October	..	..	..	5.72	1.85	15.86	13.62	1.35	1.15
November	..	..	..	5.75	1.97	22.32	14.45	1.67	2.49
December	..	..	..	4.06	2.72	16.53	20.81	1.23	1.94
1955 Average	..	..	..	2.23		18.53		1.65	
1954 Average	..	..	..	3.74		16.35		1.37	
1953 Average	..	..	..	2.46		14.13		1.09	
1952 Average	..	..	..	2.62		16.86		1.21	
1951 Average	..	..	..	3.44		14.97		0.86	
ROE LANE :									
January	..	..	..	1.73	2.46	8.16	10.78	2.20	1.88
February	..	..	..	2.82	1.65	26.49	6.14	1.79	2.48
March	..	..	..	2.17	2.45	8.70	21.55	1.11	2.79
April ..	..	..	..	0.87	1.69	6.77	8.50	1.16	1.02
May ..	..	..	..	2.52	3.39	13.87	10.22	1.59	0.78
June ..	..	..	..	4.61	3.59	12.44	13.91	0.58	0.86
July ..	..	..	..	3.43	0.55	8.23	3.82	0.56	1.19
August	..	..	..	5.03	1.34	14.47	8.83	0.68	1.06
September	..	..	..	3.74	2.84	7.94	14.64	0.59	0.60
October	..	..	..	5.48	1.85	6.57	9.57	0.49	1.14
November	..	..	..	5.59	1.89	16.59	9.06	1.10	2.14
December	..	..	..	3.59	2.17	13.81	10.32	1.07	1.75
1955 Average	..	..	..	2.16		10.61		1.47	
1954 Average	..	..	..	3.47		12.00		1.08	
1953 Average	..	..	..	2.36		9.11		0.85	
1952 Average	..	..	..	2.63		9.08		0.92	
1951 Average	..	..	..	3.19		10.64		0.80	

MONTH	Rainfall in inches		Total solids in tons per square mile		SO ₃ MG/DAY/100 SQ. CMS.	
	1954	1955	1954	1955	1954	1955
CHESTERTON :						
January	1.58	2.47	8.43	15.16	2.75	3.37
February	3.04	1.77	16.83	11.08	3.07	3.49
March	2.10	2.42	7.68	16.74	2.18	3.23
April	0.68	1.46	4.11	13.32	1.55	2.06
May	2.01	2.88	17.54	15.60	1.87	1.62
June	4.77	3.36	18.15	23.19	2.14	1.22
July	3.74	0.67	12.99	13.26	1.06	1.15
August	5.36	1.06	21.41	19.38	1.05	0.94
September	3.14	2.64	13.57	14.86	1.02	1.35
October	5.48	1.58	18.63	10.13	1.57	2.19
November	5.24	2.01	23.93	13.36	2.09	3.88
December	3.66	2.36	17.95	20.37	1.66	3.45
1955 Average	2.06		15.54		2.33	
1954 Average	3.40		15.10		1.83	
1953 Average	2.23		13.56		1.29	
1952 Average	2.45		19.26		1.48	
1951 Average	3.22		17.34		1.26	

The nuisance from the emission of smoke and grit at Silverdale and Holditch Collieries has been minimised by the installation of additional mechanical stokers.

The remaining hand-fired boilers at each colliery, retained for emergency purposes in case of mechanical failure, still remain a source of nuisance.

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. Of the 23,282 houses in the Borough which are supplied with water by the Staffordshire Potteries Water Board, all, with the exception of eight 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 six instances where water is not reasonably accessible, the houses involved are included in the five year housing clearance programme.

Samples of drinking water were examined with the following results—

2 samples of Staffordshire Potteries Water Board—Satisfactory Chemical and Bacteriological.

Samples from two springs supplying six houses—

2 Chemical	..	1 Satisfactory	1 Unsatisfactory
2 Bacteriological	..	1 Satisfactory	1 Unsatisfactory

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

"During 1955 bacteriological examinations were made of 136 samples of which 63 were of untreated waters at the sources and 73 of the chloraminated water going into supply. All were 100% free of Fæcal Coli organisms.

"Ten chemical samples were analysed, showing moderate mineral and saline content, neutral reaction and absence of metals. The water is also of moderate hardness; it is not softened, nor is it plumbo-solvent.

"All the waters in supply were certified by the Board's Chemist as conforming to the highest standards of bacterial purity and organic quality, indicative of a 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 1955 averaged 27·53 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.

During the year 9·77 miles of new sewers were laid. Three hundred and twelve inspections regarding sewers, street gullies, etc., were made and nineteen 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. 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. Both brooks are polluted.

Nine inspections of brooks were made during the year.

SWIMMING BATHS

During the year samples of water were taken from the two swimming baths in use in the Borough. The results are as follows :

High School Bath—6 Bacteriological—all satisfactory
" " " —7 Free Chlorine —6 satisfactory
—1 unsatisfactory

King's Memorial Bath—5 Bacteriological—4 satisfactory
—1 unsatisfactory
" " " —6 Free Chlorine —4 satisfactory
—2 unsatisfactory

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	471	1271	970	1390
Other Nuisances	105	27	51	31
Water Supply	26	11	23	12
Overcrowding	19	—	2	—
Drains—Inspected	357	64	218	92
Tested	95	—	21	—
Sewers, Street Gullies, etc...	285	3	218	92
Sanitary Accommodation ..	190	13	17	6
Ashes Accommodation ..	2465	2098	—	2098
Accumulations	92	19	21	16
Swine, Fowl or other Animals	35	3	7	7
Rivers Pollutions Acts ..	9	—	5	—
Rats and Mice Infestations	290	9	55	3
(Visits by Inspectors)				
Houses let in Lodgings ..	5	—	5	—

Other visits :—

Respecting Infectious Diseases	2341
Respecting Verminous Conditions	142
Respecting Disinfection	5
Respecting Schools, Public Buildings, Cinemas, etc.	82
Miscellaneous Visits	2018
Interviews—owners and tradesmen ..	606

Notices served and complied with

	Notices served		Notices complied with	
	Prelim.	Statutory	Prelim.	Statutory
P.H.A.—Housing Defects ..	339	42	356	24
Nuisances	13	—	13	—
Smoke Nuisance ..	3	2	1	—
Housing Acts	—	—	—	—
Factories Acts	19	1	18	—
Food and Drugs Act ..	9	—	8	—
Bye-Laws and Local Acts ..	—	—	2	—
Shops Acts	—	—	—	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	12	—	6	—
Milk and Dairies Act, 1950..	—	—	—	—

Inspection of Factories

(a) Inspections.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occu-piers' Pro-secuted
Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	51	39	3	—
Factories not included above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	195	148	15	—
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	28	41	2	—
Total	274	228	20	—

(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) ..	8	8	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient	2	3	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	24	21	—	22	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Total	35	33	—	23	—

(c) Outworkers' premises.

Business carried on	No. of Premises	No. of Visits
Making of Wearing Apparel	12	6
Furniture and Upholstery	2	1
Plastics (make-up)	24	8
Watch Repairs	1	2
Total	39	17



GAINSBOROUGH ROAD, CHESTERTON
HOUSING CLEARANCE AREA

HOUSING

Housing Census :—

(1)	Total number of inhabited houses in the Borough	23,300
(2)	Number of new houses erected during the year :—	
(a)	by Private Enterprise 169	} 836
(b)	by Local Authority 667	

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

Inspections :—	Primary	Re-visits
(a) Part 1—Clearance Areas ..	548	108
(b) Part 2—Section 9—Reconditioning	—	33
Sections 11/12—Demolition or closure ..	49	344

Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year :—

(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	388
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	550

The Council's Five-Year Slum Clearance Programme was commenced and four areas were represented and confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government.

The areas, all in Chesterton, were Loomer Bridge, Gainsborough Road, Holditch Road and Gibsons Row, involving 38 houses, 43 families and 116 persons.

In addition 47 individual unfit houses were dealt with as follows :—

Section 11, 1936	—	Demolition Orders—25
„ „ „	—	Undertaking not to use for human habitation—4
Section 12, 1936	—	Parts of a building closed—3
Section 10 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953	—	Closing Order—15

Housing Act, 1936—Part IV—Overcrowding.

The estimated number of cases recorded as legally overcrowded at the end of the year was 64*

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

Housing Act, 1949, Housing Repairs and Rents, Act, 1954.

- (a) 158 applications for grant for improvements and conversions have been received and in 123 cases it has been recommended that they are suitable for consideration for grant.
- (b) 15 Certificates of Disrepair and 5 Revocation of Certificates of Disrepair have been issued.



GAINSBOROUGH ROAD, CHESTERTON
NEW HOUSES ON CLEARANCE AREA SITE

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Record of Inspections and Results

	Inspections	Re- Inspections	Nuisances or defects	
			Found	Abated
Dairies and Milkshops ..	85	4	—	—
Ice Cream Premises ..	113	4	3	3
Food Preparing Premises ..	146	13	40	25
Bakehouses ..	85	8	2	2
Slaughterhouses ..	295	—	—	—
Butchers' Shops ..	60	3	2	4
General Food Premises ..	560	15	56	45
Meat and Food Inspections ..	410	—	—	—
Market Inspections ..	402	—	—	—

(a) Milk Supply.

Number of Dairy Farms in the Borough .. 32

Producers of graded milk .. 8

Number of Retail Purveyors of milk .. 221

(a) Resident .. 206

(b) Non-Resident .. 15

Of the resident purveyors, 171 retail sterilised bottled milk only.

Number of Dairy Milkshops .. 13

Fifty 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 .. 43

Pasteurised .. 50

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 ..	153	}	168
Manufacture and Sale ..	15		

Bacteriological Samples

Type	No. Submitted	No. failed Cleanliness Test	Examined for T.B.	
			No. Submitted	No. Positive
MILK:				
Clotted Cream ..	3	3	1	Nil
Heat Treated ..	*113	4	6	Nil
Ice Cream and Lollipops ..	22	5	Nil	Nil
Orange Juice ..	11	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) .. 68

Number of Preserved Food preparing premises
registered (including Fish Fryers, 40) .. 89

Number of licensed slaughterhouses .. 3

The number of men licensed to slaughter animals in
accordance with the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, is 21.

**Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned
in whole or in part**

	Cattle exclud'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed (if known) ..	174	35	7	1022	382	—
Number Inspected	174	35	7	1002	382	—
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	54	14	—	234	87	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ..	31.0	40.0	—	22.9	22.8	—
Tuberculosis only						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ..	30	17	—	—	15	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	17.8	48.6	—	—	3.9	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned...	2	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	2	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Total weight condemned, 1 Ton, 1 Cwt, 7 lbs.

Surrenders of Other Food

				lbs.
Cooked Meats and Sausages	..	..	..	117
Bacon and Ham	..	..	..	171
Wet Fish	..	..	..	49
Cheese ..	..	..	..	545
Butter	..	..	..	5
Pickles and Sauces	..	..	..	6
Packet Powders	..	..	..	26
Preserves	..	..	..	55
Dried Fruits	..	..	..	72
Tinned Meat	..	..	..	2,342
Tinned Fish	..	..	..	193
Tinned Vegetables	..	..	..	755
Tinned Milk	..	..	..	664
Tinned Soup	..	..	..	136
Tinned Fruit	..	..	..	4,468
Bread	..	..	..	1,530
Coffee	..	..	..	1
Fruit Pudding	..	..	..	10
Egg Albumen	..	..	..	90
Dried Milk	..	..	..	56

Food and Drugs Act, 1938

Total Number of Samples taken, 171.

Milk	138	Self-raising Flour	..	1
Teething Powders	2	Pure Malt Vinegar	..	2
Pork Sausage ..	4	Dressed Crab..	..	1
Beef Sausage ..	1	Salmon Spread	..	1
Clotted Cream	1	Olive Oil ..	..	1
Margarine ..	1	Ground Cinnamon	..	1
Butter	1	Ground Nutmeg	..	2
Vanilla Flavouring	1	Lemon Flavouring	..	1
Indian Brandee	1	Jelly Creams..	..	1
Ham Spread ..	1	Christmas Pudding	..	2
Rum Flavour Sauce	1	Honeycomb Mould	..	1
Table Jelly ..	1	Glycerine, Lemon		
Pure Lard ..	1	and Honey ..	..	1
Boracic Ointment	1	Aspirin Tablets	..	1

Observations

Ten samples were adversely reported upon by the Public Analyst.

Sample No.	Description	Result of Analysis	Remarks
593	Informal Pork Sausage	12.1% deficient of meat.	
594	Formal Pork Sausage	8.1% deficient of meat.	Follow-up to No. 593. Retailer fined £5 with 26/- costs.
3, 4, 8, 9 19, 20, 21	Formals Sterilised Milks Informals Sterilised Milks	Contained small amounts of added water and slightly deficient in solids not fat.	Warning to wholesale Dairy
65	Informal Ground Nutmeg	Contained 0.9% volatile oil instead of 2%	Formal sample unobtainable. Retailer warned.

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 premises were registered under the above Act during the year.

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	..	11

Tents, Vans and Sheds

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

(a) 1 Permanent Site	..	..	..	..	22
(b) 18 Other Sites	..	..	..	..	30
Number of vans, etc., in possession of owner-occupiers	..	..	..	..	50
Number of vans, etc., known to be overcrowded	..	..	..	..	4
Number of vans, etc., unfit for habitation	..	..	..	..	3
Number of visits and inspections made	..	..	..	..	349
Nuisances or defects found	..	..	..	..	9
Nuisances or defects remedied	..	..	..	..	9

Smoke Abatement

Number of recorded observations made	..	..	46
Number of notices served	..	..	3
Number of notices complied with	..	..	1
Premises visited following observations	..	..	18

Eradication of Bed Bugs

Particulars of action taken is as follows :—

COUNCIL HOUSES				PRIVATE HOUSES			
Inspections	Infested	Dis-Infested		Inspections	Infested	Dis-Infested	
		HCN	Other Insecticides			HCN	Other Insecticides
71	4	—	4	71	2	—	2

Shop Sanitation

Number of sanitary visits made to shops	..	23
Number of nuisances or defects found	..	2
Number of nuisances or defects remedied	..	3

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	..	18
Nuisances or defects found	..	9
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	22,808
No. of houses served by waste water closets	154
No. of houses served by hand-flushed water closets ..	87
No. of houses and premises served by privies(125) ..	106
No. of houses and premises served by pail closets (87) ..	68
No. of houses and premises served by standard dustbins	23,290
No. of houses and premises served by ash pits (2) ..	2

Particulars of conversions made during the year :—

Privies converted to water closets.. .. .	5
Pail closets converted to water closets	—
Waste water closets converted to flushed water closets..	6
Hand-flushed closets provided with cisterns	—
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) ..	2,098

PUBLIC CLEANSING

SERVICES :

The following is a summary of the cleansing services performed during the year ending 31st March, 1956 :

Refuse Collection :—

Number of houses and other premises receiving regular refuse collection service	23,300
Number of premises receiving special trade refuse collection service	668
Average number of ashbins cleansed per week ..	22,762
Number of separate Waste Food Bins in use ..	105
Average number of privies cleansed per week ..	82
Average number of pail closets cleansed per week ..	72

Number of cesspools cleansed during the year (excluding work undertaken outside the area) ..	61
Total refuse collected—Dry (estimated) ..	20,124 tons
Salvage (estimated) ..	900 tons
Wet (estimated) ..	695 tons
Weight collected per 1,000 population per day (Dry refuse and salvage)	16 cwts.

Refuse Disposal :—

Total estimated refuse dealt with at Disposal Plant or Tips (excluding wet refuse, or covering material)	23,000 tons
(Incineration 4%, Tipped 96%.)	

Street Cleansing :—

Number of Gullies	6,126
Total number of gulley cleansings	22,406
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed daily (including Sunday)	1.05%
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	65.46%
Approximate mileage of streets cleansed less than once weekly	22.74%
Total mileage —	94.22

Trunk Road, 4.36 miles. County Roads, 30.68 miles.
District Roads, 59.78 miles. (Unadopted Roads, 21.07 miles.)

The Staff employed in these services is as follows :—

	<i>Average</i>
Refuse collection and salvage	73
Refuse disposal	5
Street cleansing	22

In addition to the above there is one cleansing foreman,
a foreman mechanic and three mechanics for vehicle maintenance.

COSTS :—

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

Net Expenditure—

Refuse Collection	..	..	..	..	£41,936
Refuse Disposal	..	..	..	..	£ 1,384
(Salvage Income £6,282)					
					<hr/> £43,320
Street Cleansing (all roads)	..	..	..	..	£ 9,872
Gully Cleansing	..	..	..	..	£ 2,204
Snow Removal	..	..	..	..	£ 2,359

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES :

The following conveniences are maintained and supervised:—

Newcastle :—

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

Wolstanton :—

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

Silverdale :—

Crown Street (Males)

Knutton :—

Cross Roads Urinal

Chesterton :—

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

Nett Cost of Services £4,147.

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 51 annual contracts with traders affecting factory and business premises.

Sewer maintenance treatments carried out during March and April with an operating squad consisting of an inspector, a rodent operator, two sewer men and the use of a van. A total of 1489 sewer manholes were inspected and of these 1356 were baited and 312 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.

3,116 visits were made by the operators and the number of rats destroyed were—

(a) Caught and trapped 449. (b) Estimated by baits 1,798.

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

	Type of Property				(5) Agri- cultural
	Non-Agricultural				
	(1) Local Author- ity	(2) Dwelling houses (in. C'ncl houses)	(3) All other (includ'g business premises)	(4) Total of Cols (1) (2) & (3)	
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	85	21,500	2,279	23,864	56
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
Notification	20	171	24	215	2
Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	15	398	78	491	4
III. Number of properties inspected (in Section II) which were found to be infested by :					
(a) Rats					
Major ..	—	—	3	3	—
Minor ..	5	113	40	158	3
(b) Mice					
Major ..	2	10	9	21	—
Minor ..	13	26	14	53	—
IV. Number of infested prop- erties (in Section III) treated by the L.A. (Figures should NOT exceed those given at Section III)	20	148	58	226	—
V. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	31	192	174	397	—

The gross expenditure of rodent control during the year was £775

Table 1—CAUSES OF DEATH

CAUSES OF DEATH			MALES	FEMALES
All Causes			375	339
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	..	..	4	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	..	..	—	1
3. Syphilitic disease	..	..	1	2
4. Diphtheria	..	..	1	—
5. Whooping Cough	..	..	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	..	..	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	..	..	—	—
8. Measles	..	..	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	..	..	—	—
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	..	..	10	10
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	..	..	22	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	..	..	—	8
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	..	..	—	6
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	..	..	30	34
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia	..	..	2	3
16. Diabetes	..	..	—	4
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	..	..	40	52
18. Coronary disease, angina	..	..	67	36
19. Hypertension with heart disease	..	..	9	11
20. Other heart disease	..	..	46	71
21. Other circulatory disease	..	..	12	13
22. Influenza	..	..	1	3
23. Pneumonia	..	..	14	13
24. Bronchitis	..	..	28	11
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	..	..	14	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	..	..	3	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	..	..	3	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	..	..	4	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	..	..	4	—
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	..	..	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	..	..	6	7
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	..	..	30	33
33. Motor vehicle accidents	..	..	7	—
34. All other accidents	..	..	12	5
35. Suicide	..	..	4	5
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
46	Nil	Salmonella infections 17	Unknown or Sausages
		Unknown cause 29	Unknown, Tinned Stewed Steak, Ham and Tongue, Re-heated beef & gravy.

Table 3.—Cases of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during 1955

(Civilians only)

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	AT ALL AGES	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED AT ALL AGES										Total cases re- moved to Hospital	Percentage of Cases removed to Hospital
		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	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	100
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	73	—	2	—	15	—	41	14	1	—	—	—	39.7
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	25
Scarlet Fever	12	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	4	4	3	25
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pemphigus Neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebrospinal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
Poliomyelitis and Polio-Encephalitis	3	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	100
Measles	420	7	111	—	123	—	176	2	1	—	—	—	0.95
Whooping Cough	54	5	14	—	16	—	19	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	167	5	7	10	14	11	66	15	5	14	20	—	0.59
Food Poisoning	21	—	2	2	1	1	5	4	—	4	2	—	4.7
Post-infectious Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	100

* Information not available.

Table 4.—Deaths from Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during 1955.

Notifiable Diseases	Total Number of Deaths													
	AT ALL AGES	At All Ages												
		Under 1	1 and under 2	2 and under 3	3 and under 4	4 and under 5	5 and under 10	10 and under 15	15 and under 20	20 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 years and over	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pregnancy, Childbirth Abortion ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Meningococcal Infections ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pneumonia ..	27	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	12	
Whooping Cough ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Measles ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	

Table 5.—Notification of and Deaths from Tuberculosis during 1955

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	3	—	—	—	—	—
5 and under 15	5	3	1	1	—	—	—	—
15 and under 25	5	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 and under 35	1	5	—	1	—	—	—	—
35 and under 45	4	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
45 and under 55	7	2	—	—	2	—	—	—
55 and under 65	7	1	—	—	2	—	—	1
65 and upwards	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	29	20	4	2	4	1	—	1