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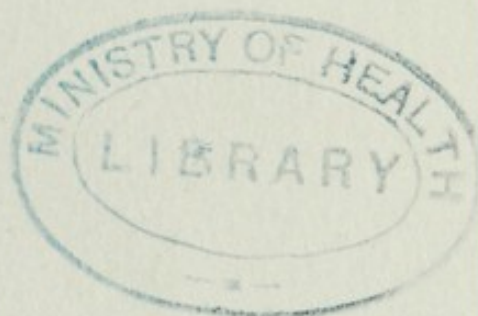


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NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL




ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
(W. F. YOUNG, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.)
FOR THE YEAR 1950.



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NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
(W. F. YOUNG, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.)
FOR THE YEAR 1950.

The Chairman and Members of the
Newcastle-under-Lyme Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Ministry of Health Circular No. 112/50 requires that Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health for 1950 should be prepared on the lines of those for 1949, and suggests that in addition to subjects regarding public health and preventive medicine, matters of current interest should be included.

The present Report has been prepared accordingly, and I have in addition given some detailed attention to a few special subjects.

Progress continued to be made in connection with post-war housing. This subject is referred to on page 18 where it may be seen that fifty-two Council houses were erected during the year, and a total of 272 had been completed since the end of the war.

No further progress had been made with the Council's schemes for the extension of water-mains.

The first section of the final part of the scheme for the extension of the sewerage system in Audley Parish and of the disposal works had been practically completed by the end of the year. It had not been found possible to start work on the reconstruction of the sewage-disposal works at Madeley, and no progress had been made at Ashley, Betley, Loggerheads, and Baldwin's Gate.

There was a slight fall in the birth-rate, and a small increase in the death-rate. The infantile mortality rate rose 4.5 per 1,000 births above the record low figure for 1949.

It is with much regret that I have to record the death in July of Mr. L. L. L. Scawn, M.R.S.I., Chief Sanitary Inspector, and Sanitary Surveyor.

Mr. Scawn's appointment dated from 1932, the year in which the District's boundary came to include Audley Parish and Blore Heath Rural District.

The influence of his work was perhaps most noticeable in connection with housing, water supplies, and the improvement of farm and dairy premises. His co-operation in the declaration of the District's first clearance order and subsequent developments was of great value, and he also played a significant part in the measures that resulted in the achievement of a very high percentage of domestic premises having main water supplies, viz., 96%.

His work in connection with all the multifarious duties crowding upon his Department as a result of the War and of the reconstruction period was no less outstanding, and his loss at such a time as the present has been severely felt.

I may perhaps be allowed to take this opportunity of thanking the Chairman and Members of the Council for their encouragement and support during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

W. F. YOUNG,

Medical Officer of Health.

September, 1951.

"The Gables,"
Albert Road,
Trentham,
Stoke-on-Trent.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area: 40,015 acres.

Rateable Value (at 1/4/51): £59,929.

Sum represented by the penny rate: £237.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population as at June 30th, 1950: 16,930.

Number of inhabited houses in the area as at 31st December, 1950: 5,049.

Table I shows the distribution of these houses by Parishes.

TABLE I.

Parish			Parish		
Ashley	...	362	Madeley	...	851
Audley	...	2560	Maer	...	180
Balterley	...	64	Mucclestone	...	140
Betley	...	196	Tyrley	...	234
Chorlton	...	121	Whitmore	...	175
Keele	...	166			

Of the total of 5,049 houses, 488 (9.5%) were Council houses.

In addition there were a number of occupied caravans and other forms of dwellings as follows :—

TABLE 2.

Parish			Parish		
Ashley	...	10	Madeley	...	1
Audley	...	5	Mucklestone	...	1
Balterley	...	1	Tyrley	...	1
Betley	...	3	Whitmore	...	1
Chorlton	...	68*			

* Includes 16 occupied as permanent dwellings.

TABLE 3.
VITAL STATISTICS.

				Rates per 1,000 estimated Population	
				Newcastle-u-Lyme R.D.	England and Wales
Live Births :					
Total ...	249	M 132	F 117	14.7	15.8
Legitimate	234	124	110	13.8	— *
Illegitimate	15	8	7	0.9	— *
Stillbirths :					
Total ...	11	6	5	0.65	0.37
Legitimate	10	5	5	0.59	— *
Illegitimate	1	1	0	0.06	— *

The birth-rate of 14.7 is the crude rate. The corrected rate is 15.4.

Deaths :					
Total ...	198	M 99	F 99	11.70 (crude)	11.6
				11.35 (corrected)	
				Rates per 1,000 related live births	
				Newcastle-u-Lyme R.D.	England and Wales

Deaths Under One Year of Age :					
Total ...	6	M 3	F 3	24.5	29.8
Legitimate	6	3	3	24.5	— *
Illegitimate	—	—	—	—	— *

* Rates not available.

Deaths Under Four Weeks of Age					
Total ...	3	M 2	F 1		
Legitimate	3	2	1		
Illegitimate	—	—	—		

Rates per 1,000 Live Births
Newcastle-u-Lyme R.D. England
and Wales

Deaths from					
Diarrhoea and Enteritis under two years of age					
Total ...	...	M 0	F 2	8.0	1.9

Table 4 shows the Infantile Mortality Rate for the last eight years in Newcastle-under-Lyme Rural District and in England and Wales, and the average rates during this period.

TABLE 4.

Year	Newcastle-u-Lyme R.D.				England and Wales	
1943	53	49
1944	43	46
1945	78	46
1946	50	43
1947	29	41
1948	36	34
1949	20	32
1950	25	30
Averages	42	40

EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS.

By the courtesy of the Manager of the Employment Exchange at Newcastle-u-Lyme I am enabled to state that there was a further marked decrease in unemployment in the District.

Considerable attention was given by the Council to the question of the establishment of light industry factories in Audley Parish. A factory for pottery decoration employing about twenty women came into operation during the year.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

There is no change to record in the general provision unaffected by the National Health Acts.

The death of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. L. L. L. Scawn, is referred to on page 4.

On October 1st Mr. G. K. Thorley, M.R.S.I., formerly Assistant Sanitary Inspector, was appointed Sanitary Inspector and Sanitary Surveyor.

Mr. E. Wildon continued to act as Assistant in the Department.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER.

On October 1st, 1950, the whole of the Council's sources of supply, together with the mains, were taken over by the Staffordshire Potteries' Water Board.

The Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board continued to supply a considerable area in the District from the pumping station at Bearstone.

There was no change in the ownership of private main supplies, viz., at Whitmore and Hales, and from the Market Drayton Water Company.

By the end of the year it had not been found possible to make any progress with the schemes referred to on page 9 of my Annual Report for 1949.

No notices requiring the provision of supplies were served during the year, and no new connections were made.

Rainfall was above the average, and no cases of shortage came to notice.

With regard to quality, Table 5 gives particulars of results of analyses. From these it may be seen that all samples taken from main and other public sources of supply were satisfactory.

TABLE 5.

Summary of Results of Analyses of Water Supplies taken in the Area in 1950.

	Bacteriological		Chemical	
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory
Public Mains :				
R.D.C. Audley Water Works	1	—	1	—
Market Drayton Water Co.	1	—	1	—
Staffs. Potts. Water B'd.	2	—	2	—
	4	—	4	—
Other Public Supplies :				
Tyrley Parish	2	—	2	—
Other Private Supplies :				
Ashley Parish	1	—	—	1
Tyrley Parish	4	1	4	—
	5	1	4	1
Total Number of Analyses :				
Public Mains	4	—	4	—
Other Public Supplies...	2	—	2	—
Other Private Supplies	5	1	4	1
	11	1	10	1

Chloramination continued to be undertaken at the waterworks at Audley.

Particulars by Parishes of the numbers of houses in the District supplied from piped mains were given in my Annual Report for 1948. The total percentage thus supplied in 1950 was estimated to have increased to about 96.

The approximate number of houses supplied from stand-pipes is as follows :—

Parish					
Ashley	...	...	...	...	6
Audley	...	...	...	...	4
Tyrley	...	...	...	...	8
					<hr/>
Total	...	...	...	...	18
					<hr/>

With regard to the Ministry of Health's requirement that the number of dwelling-houses and population supplied from public mains (a) direct to the houses, and (b) by means of stand-pipes should be given, it may be seen from the above that the proportion supplied from stand-pipes is negligible.

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE, AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Audley Parish.

By the end of the year the first section of the final part of the scheme for the extension of the sewerage system, and of the disposal works at Audley, had been practically completed. Approximately 110 conversions to water-carriage had been carried out at Halmerend.

In May, 1950, and in January, 1951, a Consultant Engineer reported that the plant generally at the Audley works was in a satisfactory condition, and that a high standard of maintenance continued to be attained. Except for some excess of solids in solution the effluent was satisfactory. This difficulty would be overcome when the extension of the works came into full operation.

Madeley Parish.

The need of an improved system of sewerage and sewage disposal in the Parish has long been felt. A scheme was submitted by the Council's Consulting Engineer in 1936, but on account of the War action had to be deferred.

Towards the end of 1950 the Engineer submitted a fresh scheme, in which allowance was made for the service of the large number of houses built in the Parish since the War, and also for the further considerable development contemplated. The scope of the original scheme was also extended so as to provide sewerage and disposal facilities in the neighbouring Parish of Keele.

The existing disposal works have long been in need of replacement, and it is proposed that these should be demolished *pari passu* with the installation of the new works.

The projected disposal works would provide for a population of 9,200 persons. Replacement of considerable lengths of old sewers is also considered necessary.

No further progress was found possible in connection with the Council's schemes for sewerage and sewage disposal at Ashley, Betley, Loggerheads, and Baldwin's Gate.

Night-Soil Disposal.

The position generally was somewhat eased in Audley Parish as a result of the extension of the sewerage disposal system.

Apart from this there is little change to report in the conditions outlined in my Annual Report for 1948.

Refuse Disposal.

The Council's scheme for scavenging in every Parish continued to work satisfactorily.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, under which responsibility was placed on Local Authorities, came into operation in April, 1950.

In November, 1950, the Council appointed a rodent operative. Disinfestation was undertaken at tip-sites, schools, canteens, and other premises with highly satisfactory results.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Table 6 gives some particulars of official action taken during the year in connection with repairs, etc., and of its results.

Table 6.

Details of Action Taken During the Year.

Number of informal notices served	...	...	...	62
Statutory notices served under Section 9 (H.A. 1936)...				1
Statutory notices served under Section 11 (H.A. 1936)...				10
Number of houses included in clearance areas under Section 25 (H.A. 1936)	...	...	...	—
Overcrowding abatement notices	...	...	...	—

Result of Action Taken.

Number of houses where repairs were in hand	...	...	22
Number of houses where repairs had been completed	...	...	29
Number of houses reconditioned under Housing (Rural Workers') Acts	...	...	—
Number of houses demolished (Section 11 and Section 25)	...	...	6
Number of overcrowding cases abated	...	...	9

HOUSING SURVEY.

The total number of houses inspected during the year was 44. Table 7 gives details of the numbers inspected under the categories suggested in the Third Report of the Sub-Committee of the Central Housing Advisory Committee published in May, 1944.

TABLE 7.

1. Satisfactory in all respects	...	...	...	...	15
2. Minor Defects	...	...	...	...	5
3. Requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement...					17
4. Appropriate for reconditioning under the Housing (Rural Workers') Act...	...	...	...	...	—
5. Unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable expense	...	...	...	...	7
Total	...	...	...	...	44

The County Joint Housing Advisory Committee issued a detailed statement of suggested standards of fitness in June, 1945, and this has formed the broad basis of the Survey in this area.

The total numbers of houses inspected since the commencement of the present survey are shown in Table 8.

TABLE 8.

1. Satisfactory in all respects	...	...	...	...	1048
2. Minor Defects	...	...	...	...	1016
3. Requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement...					1075
4. Appropriate for reconditioning under the Housing (Rural Workers') Act	...	...	...	...	2
5. Unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable expense	...	...	...	...	213
Total	...	...	...	...	3354

Particulars of the total number of houses in the District are given on page 5.

Overcrowding.

Accurate figures of statutory or "near-statutory" cases of overcrowding are not available, and since changes do not always come to notice, no reliable assessment can be made. The figure of nine cases shown in Table 6 as abated is likely to be an underestimate.

Steady progress continued to be made during the year with some of the more serious cases.

Building Licences.

Licences for repairs and extensions were approved in fifty-five cases.

Private Building.

Four houses were completed during the year, making a total of forty-three since the end of the War.

Town Planning and Post-War Housing

By the courtesy of the Council's Financial Officer I am enabled to present the following statements. (Tables 9, 10 and 11.)

From Table 9 it may be seen that fifty-houses were erected during the year, and that a total of 272 had been erected since the end of the war.

Table 9

NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL STATEMENT

Of the total number of POST-WAR HOUSES erected as at 31st January 1951.

STATEMENT No. 1

PARISH AND SITE	Completed during year ended 31st March.					Total	Types				Number of Bedrooms				PARISH TOTALS
	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951*		Alu- min- ium	Swed- ish	Trad- itional	1	2	3	4		
AUDLEY:															
Halmerend	6	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	6	—	—	6	—		
Wereton	—	40	26	42	16	124	50	—	74	—	—	122	2		
Wood Lane	—	—	—	—	6	6	—	—	6	—	—	6	—	Audley	
ASHLEY:														136	
Charnes Road	—	2	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	2	—		
Sovereign Lane	—	—	—	24	—	24	24	—	—	—	—	24	—	Ashley	
CHORLTON:														26	
Chapel Chorlton	—	4	2	—	—	6	—	—	6	—	—	4	2	Chorlton	
MUCKLESTONE:														6	
Knighton	—	4	4	—	—	8	—	8	—	—	—	8	—	Mucklestone	
MADELEY:														8	
Onneley	—	—	4	—	—	4	—	2	2	—	—	4	—		
Furnace Lane	—	—	8	4	—	12	—	—	12	12	—	—	—		
Newcastle Road	—	—	26	—	—	26	26	—	—	—	26	—	—		
The Moss	—	—	—	22	18	40	22	—	18	—	—	38	2	Madeley	
MAER:														82	
Aston	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	2	—	—	2	—		
Blackbrook	—	—	—	—	10	10	—	—	10	—	—	10	—	Maer	
WHITMORE:														12	
Action	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	2	—		
TOTALS	6	50	72	92	52	272	96	26	12	138	12	228	6	Whitmore	
														TOTAL	
														272	

* It should be noted that the numbers of houses shown in this column comprise those completed during the period 1st April, 1950, to 31st January, 1951.

Table 10 shows the number of houses (by Parishes) in course of construction as at 31st January, 1951.

TABLE 10.

Site.	Number of Houses. (Trad't'l. Type)	Number of Bedrooms			
		1	2	3	4
Audley :					
Wereton	52	4	12	34	2
Wood Lane	14	—	—	14	—
Madeley :					
The Moss	20	—	6	12	2
Tyrley :					
Almington	8	—	—	8	—
Totals...	94	4	18	68	4

Table 11 shows the total number of houses built or acquired by the Council under all the Housing Acts.

TABLE 11..

Pre-War	210
War-Time	6
Post-War	272
Total	488
Houses acquired at Halmerend in 1950	33
Grand Total	521

The following statement gives some particulars of further progress as at the end of the year.

Ashley Parish. Work was proceeding at a site for fourteen further houses at Sovereign Lane.

Keele Parish. Tenders had been accepted for eight traditional-type houses. Unavoidable delay in connection with sewerage and sewage disposal had however prevented the starting of building.

Madeley Parish. Progress continued to be made with twenty traditional-type houses of the thirty-eight planned at Madeley Moss. Further development will however not be possible until the extensions of water-mains, sewerage, and the reconstruction of the sewage disposal works have been carried out.

Towards the end of the year notification of an initial allocation of sixty houses for 1951 had been received from the Ministry of Health.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Mr. G. K. Thorley, Chief Sanitary Inspector, reports as follows :

"MEAT.

All meat for sale was received from centres outside the Rural District. Slaughtering is still carried on to some extent by local butchers, mainly pigs killed under licence from the Ministry of Food, and not for retail sale.

During the year 595 pigs were slaughtered, but owing to the widely distributed places of slaughter and the tendency to carry out the work during week-ends, it was found impossible to inspect all carcasses."

Condemned.

- 1 Pig—Generalised tuberculosis.
- 2 Sheep—Extensive bruising.
- 120 lb. Beef (Bone Taint).
- 28 lb. Sausages.
- 20 lb. Luncheon Meat (tinned).

Food Premises Generally.

Further improvement in hygienic and structural conditions of food premises, and small catering establishments in particular, was effected during the year. Special attention was given to preparation rooms, facilities for washing, and food storage, during routine inspections, and it is apparent that the practice of hygienic methods in the trade is becoming more widespread and appreciated. The installation of modern equipment: especially machines for the preparation of foods, has improved conditions in many respects, particularly in regard to bakeries, which, in the past have given rise to much concern, and indeed the condition of a few of the older establishments still leaves much to be desired.

One hundred and forty-two inspections were made and improvements were effected in nineteen cases as a result of informal action.

Nine new food-shops were opened including four small catering establishments of reasonably good standard.

Ice-Cream.

Seventeen applications for registration for the sale of ice cream were received during the year, and fifteen were approved. The total number registered is thirty-three, three of which manufacture and the remainder sell pre-packed ice cream.

No difficulties were encountered and a reasonably good standard of cleanliness was maintained."

Tubercle Bacilli in Milk.

During the year the County Medical Officer of Health informed me that tubercle bacilli had been found in six samples of milk obtained from the premises of five producers in the District.

Notices under paragraph 20, Part VII of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, prohibiting the retail sale of unpasteurised milk from these premises were at once served, and arrangements made whereby the milk was pasteurised and a supply afforded for the retailers' customers.

Investigations were carried out in each case by the Divisional Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and after the periods necessary for the performance of tests the milk from all five premises was certified to be non-tuberculous, and the retail sale of non-pasteurised milk again permitted.

Model Bye-laws, Series I.

The Bye-Laws concerning the handling, etc., of food (referred to at length in my Report for 1949), came into operation in the District on July 10th, 1950.

No action was found necessary during the year.

Food Poisoning.

An outbreak occurred at Madeley on the evening of Sunday, June 4th.

The occasion was a birthday-party, which was celebrated by a high tea. Thirty-four people attended, and of these fifteen became seriously ill within 2½–5 hours. Fourteen were removed direct to hospital. Recovery was complete in the majority within 36–48 hours, and there were no deaths.

Samples of the various articles of food consumed were available for investigation, and of these pressed tongue was found to be heavily infected with staphylococci. The place where this tongue had been processed was outside this District, but investigation revealed that the general hygiene at that place was quite satisfactory. Except for the lack of a refrigerator conditions at the premises where the meal was served were also quite satisfactory.

Such steps as were possible with a view to the prevention of a repetition of the incident were taken.

Four cases in Audley Parish were notified to me towards the end of September. They formed parts of larger outbreaks in Stoke-on-Trent and Newcastle-u-Lyme.

Investigations were carried out by the Chief Food Officer at Stoke, and the cause seems to have been the infection of chocolate eclairs by staphylococci of nasal origin in one of the workers at a bakery in Stoke City.

The cases in this District were affected severely. Recovery took place however in all within about twenty-four hours.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table shows the number of cases notified during the last five years, together with the average numbers during this period.

TABLE 12.
(Civilians only).

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	Average Numbers for five Years
Scarlet Fever ...	17	34	7	6	9	14.6
Diphtheria ...	2	2	1	—	—	1.0
Whooping Cough ...	55	48	96	36	31	53.2
Measles ...	20	377	152	32	236	163.4
Ac. Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	2	0.4
Ac. Polioencephalitis ...	—	1	—	—	—	0.2
Typhoid Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fevers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Pneumonia*...	7	10	1	1	6	5.0
Dysentery ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	1	—	—	—	—	0.2
Ac. Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	9	1	2	1	2	3.0
Smallpox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	1	—	1	0.4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	—	1	—	1	0.4
Food-Poisoning ...	—	—	25	40	20	17.0
Tuberculosis :						
Pulmonary ...	10	10	11	18	9	11.6
Non-Pulmonary ...	5	4	1	5	3	3.6

* Notifiable cases only, viz., primary or influenzal.

TABLE 13.

Analysis by Age-Groups and Sex of Cases of Notifiable Infectious Disease.

(Civilians only).

Age Periods				Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles		Diphtheria	
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	...	...	1	—	1	—	3	14	—	—
1	...	...	...	—	—	1	3	25	18	—	—
3	...	...	...	1	—	3	9	34	25	—	—
5	...	...	...	2	3	6	6	51	54	—	—
10	...	...	...	1	1	—	—	4	8	—	—
15	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	3	4	—	—
25 and over	...	...	...	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—
Age unknown	...	...	...	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—
Totals	...	...	...	5	4	12	19	121	115	—	—

Age Periods				Acute Pneum'ia		Erysipelas		Food-Poisoning	
				M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	2	1
5	...	...	...	2	—	—	—	4	—
15	...	...	...	1	1	—	—	3	4
45	...	...	...	—	1	1	1	2	2
65 and over	...	...	...	1	—	—	—	—	2
Age unknown	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	...	...	4	2	1	1	11	9

Age Periods				Acute Poliomyelitis			
				Paralytic.		Non-Paralytic.	
				M	F	M	F
1	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
3	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
5	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
10	...	...	...	—	1	—	—
15	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
25 and over	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
Totals	...	...	...	1	1	—	—

Note.—The total numbers of cases of puerperal pyrexia and ophthalmia neonatorum are shown in Table 12.

TABLE 14.

Comparison of the Rates of Incidence in the District of Certain Infectious Diseases during 1950 with those for England and Wales.

Notifications :	England and Wales. (Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population)		Newcastle-u-Lyme Rural District
Typhoid Fever	0.00		0.00
Paratyphoid Fevers	0.01		0.00
Cerebrospinal Fever	0.03		0.00
Scarlet Fever	1.50		0.53
Whoopingcough	3.60		1.83
Diphtheria	0.02		0.00
Erysipelas	0.17		0.12
Smallpox	—		—
Measles	8.39		13.94
Pneumoia	0.70		0.35
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia*	5.81		4.01
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.18		0.12
Acute Polioencephalitis			
Food-Poisoning	0.17		1.18

* Rates per 1,000 total births (live and still.)

TABLE 15.

Comparison of Death-rates from Certain Infectious Diseases during 1950.

Deaths :	England and Wales. (Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population)		Newcastle-u-Lyme Rural District
Whooping Cough	0.01		0.00
Diphtheria	0.00		0.00
Tuberculosis	0.36		0.36
Influenza	0.10		0.12
Small-pox	—		—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	0.02		0.00
Pneumonia	0.46		0.12
Enteritis and Diarrhoea, under 2 years of age *	1.9		0.12

* Rates per 1,000 Live Births.

The following notes give some particulars of the incidence, etc., of infectious disease :—

(a) Notifiable Infectious Disease.

Scarlet Fever.

There was a small increase in the number of cases notified (6). The disease continued to be of mild type.

Diphtheria.

No cases were notified, and there were no deaths. The incidence of cases in England and Wales as a whole fell from four per 100,000 total population in 1949, to two per 100,000 in 1950, and the incidence of deaths in 1950 was below the one in 100,000 mark.

The practice of immunisation has resulted practically in the eradication of the disease, and it may well be characterised as one of the great triumphs of preventive medicine.

Whooping Cough.

It may be seen from Table 12 that there was a small reduction in the number of cases notified. There were no deaths.

Measles.

The very large number of cases notified were scattered throughout the District. There were no deaths.

Food Poisoning.

This subject is referred to on page 23.

(b) Non-Notifiable Infectious Disease.

Accurate records of this type of infectious disease are, of course, not available. Information provided by the Head Teachers of schools nevertheless gives indications as to the locality of certain infections during periods when schools are open. The co-operation of Head Teachers continued to be of great value in connection with precautions against the spread of infectious disease in schools.

Influenza.

The incidence-rate of cases in the District seems to have been low. There were two deaths.

Chicken-Pox.

Considerable numbers of cases were reported in February and March, and again in December.

Scabies.

No cases came to notice.

TUBERCULOSIS.

TABLE 16.

New Cases and Mortality during 1950.

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Males		Females		Males		Females	
	Respir- atory	Non- Respir- atory	Respir- atory	Non- Respir- atory	Respir- atory	Non- Respir- atory	Respir- atory	Non- Respir- atory
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15	2	1	2	1	1*	—	1	—
25	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
35	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
45	—	—	—	—	1*	—	—	—
55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Totals ..	5	1	4	2	4	0	1	1

* Died unnotified.

TABLE 17.

Incidence and Numbers of Deaths during the Last Ten Years.

	NEW CASES		DEATHS	
	Respiratory	Non- Respiratory	Respiratory	Non- Respiratory
Year				
1941 ...	9	6	5	—
1942 ...	4	6	3	2
1943 ...	13	8	6	2
1944 ...	10	4	3	—
1945 ...	12	5	5	1
1946 ...	10	5	4	1
1947 ...	10	4	8	1
1948 ...	11	1	10	1
1949 ...	18	5	5	—
1950 ...	9	3	5	1
Totals ...	106	47	54	9
Averages	10.6	4.7	5.4	0.9

TABLE 18.

Incidence Rates and Death Rates of Pulmonary Tuberculosis in the District During the Last Ten Years.

Year	Incidence Rate of Pulmonary Cases (Number of New Cases per 1,000 Population)		Death Rate of Pulmonary Cases (Deaths per 1,000 Population)
1941	...	0.51	0.30
1942	...	0.24	0.18
1943	...	0.80	0.37
1944	...	0.62	0.19
1945	...	0.75	0.31
1946	...	0.62	0.25
1947	...	0.60	0.48
1948	...	0.66	0.60
1949	...	1.07	0.30
1950	...	0.53	0.30
Averages...	...	0.64	0.33

It may be seen from Table 18 that as compared with 1949 the incidence-rate of pulmonary cases was halved, and that the death-rate was unchanged.

The subject of the housing conditions of pulmonary cases was referred to in my Report for 1949, and there is no change to record.

In August a scheme whereby Health Visitors are required to supply very full details in connection with environmental conditions, welfare, preventive factors, and to arrange for the clinical examination of contacts was brought into operation by the Health Department of the County Council. Copies of forms giving details of this information are made available to Medical Officers of Health, and particularly from the point of housing conditions these should be of considerable value.

TABLE 19.
CAUSES OF DEATH
in Newcastle-under-Lyme Rural District in 1950.

		M.	F.	Crude Death Rates per 1,000 population
	All Causes	99	99	11.70
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	2	1	0.18
2.	Tuberculosis, other ...	1	1	0.12
3.	Syphilitic Disease	0	0	0.00
4.	Diphtheria	0	0	0.00
5.	Whooping Cough	0	0	0.00
6.	Meningococcal infections ...	0	0	0.00
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	0	0	0.00
8.	Measles	0	0	0.00
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1	0.12
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	5	2	0.41
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	2	1	0.18
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	3	0.18
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus...	—	2	0.12
14.	Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	11	4	0.89
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	0	0	0.00
16.	Diabetes	0	2	0.12
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	10	10	1.18
18.	Coronary disease, angina ...	6	11	1.00
19.	Hypertension, with heart disease	5	5	0.59
20.	Other heart disease... ..	21	21	2.48
21.	Other circulatory disease ...	1	6	0.41
22.	Influenza	1	1	0.12
23.	Pneumonia	1	1	0.12
24.	Bronchitis	5	2	0.41
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	1	0	0.06
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duo- denum	1	0	0.06
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	2	0.12
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis ...	6	5	0.65

29.	Hyperplasia of prostate ...	4	—	0.24
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	0	0.00
31.	Congenital malformations ...	1	—	0.06
32.	Other defined and undefined diseases ...	9	14	1.36
33.	Motor vehicle accidents ...	2	1	0.18
34.	All other accidents ...	3	3	0.36
35.	Suicide ...	0	0	0.00
36.	Homicide and operations of war ...	0	0	0.00

The figures given in Table 19 are those supplied by the Registrar General, who states that the classification of some deaths is modified in the light of fuller information obtained from the certifying practitioner in response to special inquiries.

This possible source of discrepancy between the figures given in Table 19 and those in the body of the Report must be borne in mind with regard to the causes of death.

TABLE 20.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in Respect of the
Year 1949 for the Rural District of Newcastle-under-Lyme in the
County of Stafford.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Acts,
1937 and 1948.

PART I OF THE ACT.

1.—**Inspections** for purposes of provision as to health (including
inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

<i>Premises</i>	<i>Number on Register</i>	<i>Number of Inspec- tions</i>	<i>Number of Written notices</i>	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be en- forced by Local Authorities	10	9	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sect. 17 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	16	13	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (exclud- ing out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	26	22	—	—

2.—Cases in which Defects were Found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including Offences relating to Outwork)	2	2	—	—	—
Total	3	3	—	—	—

PART 8 OF THE ACT. OUTWORK.

(Sections 110 and 111).

Nature of Work	SECTION 110		SECTION 111	
	No. of out-work-ers in Aug.	No. of cases of default list req'd in sending by Sect. 101(1)(c) Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in premises Notices served Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel— Making, etc.	3	—	—	—

Mr. G. K. Thorley, Chief Sanitary Inspector, reports as follows :
" There is no change to record in the position as outlined in the Report for 1949.

Apart from the few minor defects discovered in 1950 conditions generally were satisfactory."

