

[Report 1961] / Medical Officer of Health, South Shields County Borough.

Contributors

South Shields (Durham, England). County Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1961

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/usdzvhv>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

AC-4474

Leitch

FW 7/1/63

COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS

2nd copy



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1961

I. D. LEITCH,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.



COUNTY BOROUGH OF SOUTH SHIELDS



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1961

I. D. LEITCH,
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

CONTENTS.

Preface	1
Chairmen of Committees	5
Staff of Public Health Department	5
PART I.	
Statistics and Social Conditions	10
Vital Statistics	12
Meteorology	27
Cancer	28
PART II.	
Infectious Diseases	31
Laboratory Examinations	40
PART III.	
National Health Service Act, 1946:—	
Sect. 22—Care of Mothers and Young Children	41
,, 23—Midwives' Service	55
,, 24—Health Visiting	59
,, 25—Home Nursing Service	64
,, 26—Vaccination and Immunisation	65
,, 27—Ambulance Service	72
,, 28—Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care—	75
Tuberculosis	79
Venereal Diseases	86
,, 29—Domestic Help Service	90
,, 51—Mental Health Services	92
PART IV.	
Blind Persons	98
Home Accidents	101
PART V.	
Sanitary Circumstances	101
Housing	104
Food and Drugs Control	107
Atmospheric Pollution	112
Other Matters	116
Inspection of Shops	121

PREFACE.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health
and Health Services Committees.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the Borough and of the work of the Public Health Department for 1961.

Birth and death rates for the year, 18.4 and 12.1 respectively showed little change from 1960. Infant mortality however rose to 25.8 from 20.5, this increase being mainly due to a large number of deaths of infants in the first four weeks of life; as to the clinical causes of death, prematurity, birth injuries and congenital defects appear to have accounted for most of this mortality. As it must be the constant endeavour of all concerned to minimise the loss of infant life, before, during and soon after birth, the importance of the closest co-operation between local authority, general practitioner and hospital services is obvious. Although it is known to fluctuate from year to year, this appreciable rise in infant mortality in 1961 is if nothing else a warning against complacency.

There was a significant rise in the number of illegitimate live births in South Shields from 85 (4.24%) in 1960 to 104 (5.17%) in 1961. The average illegitimacy for the five years 1956—1960 was 4.1%. Whilst the ages of the unmarried mothers are not available to the Department, other evidence points to an increasing proportion of those aged under 21. Such an increase, reflecting a national trend, has not been unexpected, but as a manifestation of an adverse social change, the associated factors should be analysed on an official national basis.

Registered deaths for all ages totalled 1,322 and of the various causes of death 247 were registered as being due to coronary disease as compared with 240 in 1960 and an average of 189 for the five years 1956-60. Respiratory deaths (bronchitis, pneumonia, cancer, bronchiectasis, influenza and respiratory tuberculosis) accounted for 220 and 16.6% of the total deaths. This compares with 227 and 17.4% in 1960. Bronchitis alone was registered as a cause in 98 instances 7.4% of all deaths, whilst deaths from violence and for accident increased to 61 from 54 in the previous year, thus assuming even greater prominence as a significant cause of death in the community.

Illness due to infectious disease probably accounts for a sizeable proportion of all childhood morbidity and in 1961

in particular, the measles epidemic in the early part of the year affected a large number of young children. As expected, this epidemic appeared about two years after the previous one in the Borough. There were three cases of measles encephalitis and one was fatal, the first measles death in this town for seven years. It is unfortunate that this disease remains uncontrolled and nothing can yet be done to stop or modify the biennial burden of acute (and sometimes complicated) illness in the young child. It is to be hoped therefore that the present efforts to find a safe and effective measles vaccine will meet with early success, and, as a consequence, one may also hope that measles, like diphtheria, could become a rarity.

With poliomyelitis, on the other hand, it can certainly be said that its control by preventive inoculation using safe and effective vaccines, is now well established and in South Shields, only two cases, both mild in degree, were reported during the year. The recent experience however of extensive outbreaks in two large towns in the country shows the vital necessity of obtaining high acceptance rates to an inoculation programme and figures in South Shields for polio vaccination acceptance, whilst comparable with the country generally, could be improved.

Meningococcal infection occurred in 10 cases (3 non-resident) and caused 3 deaths, which was the same as for the previous year. It was not possible to establish any common environmental factors in the cases reported and from an epidemiological point of view, this dangerous disease in its sporadic form unfortunately offers little scope for prevention and control.

As a diminishing threat to health, tuberculosis fell to the smallest number of notifications yet received in any year, 87 as compared with 115 in 1960. The preventive efforts of all concerned are now intensified to such an extent that the ultimate and practical goal is, in fact, the eradication of the disease from the community. Even as recently as ten years ago such an intention in this area would have seemed a pipe dream.

I would draw your attention to the report of the Consultant Venereologist, Dr. Schofield, on page 86. The national increased incidence of V.D. has now affected South Shields and although it may be premature to suggest that we may be approaching the high prevalence of the war-time and early post-war years, one of the disturbing features of the report is the proportion of young adults involved in the increased figures. A special health education effort is

necessary to bring to the notice of young people the facts about venereal disease and, in particular, apart from the moral issues involved, the dangers of promiscuity. In addition it is felt that the parents of teenagers should be warned of the rising incidence of venereal disease in the community.

The element of social work in the personal health services becomes more prominent with the realisation that illness often has its origins in adverse social conditions. As has been regularly stressed in this report, the work of the health visitors has become more orientated in this way and each health visitor is frequently dealing with family problems where there is a background of such factors as the mother going out to work, family relationships, domestic budgeting difficulties, etc. In coping with some of the more complex problems, the services of the qualified family case worker (see page 75) have proved to be of great assistance not only to the health visitors but to other sections of the Department and to the community generally.

In environmental work, steady progress has been achieved over the years in the slum clearance programme and an interesting fact has been brought to light in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector on page 105 where he produces evidence of a considerable improvement in the incidence of overcrowding as compared with the figures of the 1936 survey. The standard applied however is the statutory one which is very low. The amount of overcrowding, not necessarily in the legal sense, which exists in council owned houses is not known but there are probably many instances of functional overcrowding caused by the marriage of sons and daughters. For a number of reasons, of which health is the most important, it is essential that the needs of these young people should not be overlooked and it is to be hoped that there will a resumption of the former policy of providing council houses for general as well as slum clearance needs. The wisdom of maintaining a steady slum clearance programme in the Borough since 1950 is clearly seen and although there remains an appreciable number of houses still to be dealt with, some of the worst areas have now disappeared and been replaced with excellent examples of modern housing planning (e.g. Laygate and Tyne Dock), without recourse to the multi-storied flat unit which has certain disadvantages for the young family. The housing position generally however, is ill-balanced in so far as the houses of medium age are not being improved and maintained to the extent indicated by modern standards. Thus only 79 improvement grant applications were dealt with in

1961 and 110 in 1960. The steady deterioration and lack of amenities in these houses could mean another large legacy of slum clearance for the future unless the owners are encouraged to take advantage of improvement grants. Compulsory legislation may be the only answer.

The year ended on a sad note with the sudden death on 20th December, 1961, of the Chairman, Councillor John T. Elliott. His energy and enthusiasm coupled with his eagerness to assimilate the advances and developments in public health will be especially remembered. His passing has been a great loss to the town.

In conclusion I wish to thank the members of the Committee for their guidance and encouragement throughout the year. I am also indebted to general practitioners, hospital staffs and the staffs of other corporation departments who have co-operated with us in innumerable ways for the health of many of the town's citizens and the community generally. I wish to express my sincere thanks to my own staff for their devoted service during the year and particularly those who have assisted in the compilation of this Annual Report.

I. D. LEITCH, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Public Health Dept.,
SOUTH SHIELDS.
August, 1962.

Chairmen of Committees

at 31st December, 1961

Public Health Committee	} Councillor J. T. ELLIOTT Deceased 20.12.61.
Health Services Committee	
Mental Health Services Sub-Committee	Alderman W. P. McANANY, J.P.
Slaughterhouses Sub- Committee	Councillor J. MADDISON.
Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee	Alderman MARGARET E. SUTTON, J.P.
Education Committee	Councillor J. W. IRELAND, J.P.
Education Special Services Sub-Committee	Alderman ROSE A. HART.
Housing Committee	Alderman A. L. NEWMAN, J.P.
Town Improvement Committee	Alderman A. M. SOUTHWICK.
Welfare Committee	Alderman J. E. WRIGHT.
Children Committee	Councillor STELLA LLOYD.

Staff of Public Health Department.

Post or Appointment	Name	Qualifications
Medical Officer of Health, Chief Tuberculosis Officer, Principall School Medical Officer	I. D. LEITCH	M.B., ch.B., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy School Medical Officer	VACANT	
Chest Physician	O. W. MARIENFELD	M.D., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S.G., D.P.H.
School Medical Officer	H. LEVY	M.B., B.S.
Assistant Medical Officers (Maternity and Child Welfare and School Health Service)	ANNIE K. WATTIE LORNA M. ROZNER P. A. Y. NARAYANAN (Com. 8.8.61)	M.A., M.B., ch.B., D.P.H. M.B., B.S., D.P.H. M.B., B.S.
Assistant Medical Officer (Maternity and Child Welfare)	JEAN WALMSLEY	M.B., ch.B., D.P.H.

<i>Post or Appointment</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>
Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon (School Health Service)	P. MACMURRAY* Retired	M.B., D.L.O.
Physiotherapist	MISS R. HENDERSON*	
Principal School Dental Officer	A. B. GIBSON	B.D.S.
School Dental Surgeons	J. McKELVEY* J. P. BLUNT*	B.D.S. L.D.S.
Dental Surgeon (Mat. & Child Welfare, etc.)	VACANT	
Anaesthetist	DR. E. O'NEIL*	L.R.C.P.I., L.M., L.R.C.S.I.
Education (Psychologist)	I. R. MCKENZIE	B.SC. (Psych.)
Speech Therapist	MISS M. OGLE	L.C.S.T.
Borough Analyst	W. GORDON-CAREY*	F.R.I.C.
Chief Public Health Inspector	R. V. ROBINSON	1, 2, 6, 7
Deputy-Chief Public Health Inspector	J. SMITH	1, 2, 7
Senior Public Health Inspectors	J. McVAY R. COPELAND (Left 31.10.61) T. McCOWIE J. R. WILSON S. TEASDALE	1, 2 1, 2, 7 1, 2, 7 1, 2, 6, 7 1, 2
Public Health Inspectors	R. H. ALDUS (Left 31.8.61) E. RAMSDEN G. B. STEPHENSON	1 1
Student Public Health Inspectors	M. J. W. GIBLIN R. GARDENER	
Inspector under the Shops Act	J. R. KELSO	

* Part-time, also in Consultant or Private Practice.

<i>Post or Appointment</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>
Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives	MRS. S. A. INNES	3, 4
Domiciliary Midwives	24 (including 2 part- time)	
Matron, Midwifery Part II Training School	MISS E. ROBINSON	3, 4
Matron, Day Nurseries	MISS I. L. FIFE	3, 4
Superintendent Health Visitor	MISS E. MYCOCK	3, 4, 5
Health Visitors	MISS M. SHERRY	3, 4, 5
	MRS. P. STEWART	3, 4, 5
	MRS. B. HEAVISIDES	3, 4, 5
	MISS S. E. G. WHIT- FIELD	3, 4, 5
	MISS M. V. INGOE	3, 4, 5
	MISS E. N. JOPLING	3, 4, 5
	MISS J. ARNOLD	3, 4, 5
	MISS J. J. McDONALD	3, 4, 5
	MRS. I. CALLENDER	3, 4, 5
	MISS C. FORD	3, 4, 5
	MISS J. C. CLARKE	3, 4, 5
	MISS E. J. HOLT	3, 4, 5
	MISS N. ERICKSON	3, 4, 5
	MRS. W. DAVISON	3, 4, 5
Student Health Visitors	MISS D. BLENKINSOP (Com. 11.9.61)	3, 4
	MISS M. V. CALLAN (Com. 11.9.61)	3, 4
School Nurses	MRS. D. MCPHEE	4
	MRS. E. HAYDEN	4
	MRS. J. JOHNSON	3, 4
	MRS. M. M. BAIN	4
	MRS. E. APPLEBY	3, 4
	MRS. A. M. WHEATLEY	S.E.A.N.
	MRS. R. HEDLEY (Com. 17.4.61)	4
Chief Administrative Clerk	C. HYMERS	1, 2
Senior Administrative Clerk	J. HILTON	1
Assistant Administrative Clerk	W. JOHNSON	

<i>Post or Appointment</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>
Clerks (General)	L. SNAPE N. CHAMLEY (Left 3.12.61) J. PITT N. DUNCAN I. G. BAIRD (Left 17.8.61) MRS. M. BADGER MRS. D. A. STRATFORD MISS G. KELSO (Com. 14.8.61) MISS J. HAY (Com. 16.10.61)	
(School Health Services)	MISS E. PARK (Retired 4.10.61) MISS J. TINMOUTH MISS B. G. TINDLE MISS J. McCORMACK (Com. 11.7.61)	
(Typists)	MRS. O. NEWMAN (Left 27.5.61) MISS N. HARDWICK (Left 19.11.61) MISS P. THOMPSON (Com. 26.6.61) MISS C. POTTINGER (Com. 12.6.61) MISS M. MASON (Tempy. Com. 18.12.61)	
(Maternity and Child Welfare)	MRS. C. M. GIBBONS (Left 2.4.61) MRS. H. GEATCH MISS J. A. ASSEL- BROUGH	
(Domestic Help)	MRS. R. SMITH (Left 1.7.61) MISS L. M. NESS- WORTHY	
(Vaccination)	MISS M. GASCOIGNE MISS M. S. STOREY	
(Welfare Foods)	MRS. F. BORTHWICK (Left 18.3.61) MRS. M. P. NEVILLE MRS. E. FORD MISS S. ROBERTSON	

<i>Post or Appointment</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Qualifications</i>
(Public Health Inspectors)	D. J. HEGARTY	
Mental Health Service: (Mental Welfare Officers)	W. SCOTT (Senior) D. J. JOHNSTON D. HOLLAND	
Training Centre (Junior and Adult Female Groups): Supervisor Assistant Supervisors	MRS. I. HOULT MRS. I. C. HESKETH MISS J. AITCHISON MRS. H. C. E. FERGUSON MRS. M. ELLIS	
(Adult Male Group) Supervisor Assistant Supervisor	W. S. HILL E. POLLARD (29.5.61)	
Dental Assistants, School Health Service	MISS O. DEAKIN MISS V. GRAHAM	
Ambulance Service: Superintendent Ambulance Drivers Telephone Attendant	W. S. BOHILL 28 1	
Domestic Help Service: Supervisor Assistant Supervisor	MRS. A. C. THOMPSON MISS M. CLARKE (Left 3.1.61) MRS. A. TAYLOR (Com. 4.4.61)	
Domestic Helps: (2 Full-time, 203 Part-time)	No. on staff, 1st Jan., 1961—228 No. appointed during year—29 No. resigned during year—52 No. on staff, 31st Dec., 1961—205	
Rodent Operators (2) Van Driver (1)		

1. *Certificate, Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board (now Royal Institute of Public Health).*
2. *Meat and Other Foods Certificate (R.S.I.).*
3. *State Certified Midwife.*
4. *State Registered Nurse.*
5. *Health Visitors Certificate (R.S.I.)*
6. *Certificate in Sanitary Science (R.S.I.).*
7. *Certificate in Smoke Inspection (R.S.I.).*

PART 1.—STATISTICAL AND GENERAL DATA.
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF
THE BOROUGH.

1. General Statistics.

Area of Borough (including inland water but excluding foreshore and tidal water—301 acres)	4,877
Population at Census—1961	109,533
Resident population, Registrar-General's estimate for 1961 (mid-year)	109,350
Density (persons per acre)	22.4
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1961 (according to Rate Books)	36,323
Rateable Value at 1st April, 1961	£1,159,250
Produce of a penny rate (estimate for 1961-62)	£4,699

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics.

Live Births:—

Total Male Female	1960	1961
Legitimate 1,909 955 954	} Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	18.5 18.4
Illegitimate 104 45 59		
Illegitimate Live Birth (% of total live births) ...	4.24	5.17
Birth rate adjusted by Comparability Factor of 0.93	17.2	17.1
Still Births:—	} Rate per 1,000 total	
Legitimate 50 25 25	} births (live and still-births)	
Illegitimate 1 — 1		
Total Live and Still-births—	23.4	24.7
2,064 1,025 1,039		
Infant Deaths:—		
52 31 21		
Infant Mortality Rate (under one year of age):—		
All infants per 1,000 live births	20.5	25.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	21.4	24.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil	48.1
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (first four weeks) ...	14.97	18.88
Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (under 1 week) ...	14.47	15.90
Peri-Natal Mortality Rate (still-births and deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total births)	37.5	40.2
Maternal Deaths	1	1
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 total births:		
Puerperal sepsis	—	—
Other puerperal causes	0.49	0.48

				1960	1961
Deaths	1,322	742	580	} Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	12.0 12.1
Death Rate adjusted by Comparability Factor (1.19)					
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)				267	257
" " Measles (all ages)				—	1
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)				—	—
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ...				—	1
Area comparability factors:—					
Births				0.93	0.93
Deaths				1.19	1.20

3. Social and Economic Conditions.

The principal industries in the borough are shipbuilding, shiprepairing, coal-mining and export. Light industries (electrical and engineering fittings, tailoring, gowns, lingerie, slippers and chemicals) have now been established for some years and these, in contrast to the heavy industries, provide employment for many women.

UNEMPLOYMENT:—

I am indebted to the Manager of the Employment Exchange, for the latest information available relating to unemployment which is summarised below.

The average numbers on the live registers taken from the monthly returns, were as follows:—

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Men (age 18-64)	979	1,584	2,228	1,896	1,425
Boys (age 15-17)	30	39	90	84	73
Women (age 18-64) ...	230	306	386	425	354
Girls (age 15-17)	14	16	24	29	29
Total	1,253	1,944	2,728	2,434	1,881

Of the different groups the percentage of unemployed was as follows:—

	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Men (age 18-64)	4.5	6.8	10.2	8.3	7.0
Boys (age 15-17)	2.6	3.3	7.8	7.6	4.9
Women (age 18-64) ...	2.2	3.0	3.6	4.0	3.4
Girls (age 15-17)	0.8	0.9	1.4	1.6	1.6
Total average	3.6	5.5	7.7	6.7	5.5

The maximum and minimum numbers of persons unemployed during each year were:—

MAXIMUM	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960
Men (age 18-64)	1,263	2,176	3,042	2,725	1,721
Boys (age 15-17)	56	77	157	152	150
Women (age 18-64) ...	305	392	450	524	407
Girls (age 15-17)	33	42	51	47	42
MINIMUM					
Men (age 18-64)	740	1,208	1,861	1,288	963
Boys (age 15-17)	19	20	55	41	24
Women (age 18-64) ...	177	250	319	335	309
Girls (age 15-17)	8	7	13	15	17

VITAL STATISTICS.

Population.

The Registrar-General's estimate of the resident population of the County Borough for 1961, is 109,350, an increase on the previous year of 750. The natural increase—excess of births over deaths—was 691. The population at the 1961 Census was 109,533.

Births.

2,013 babies were registered as belonging to South Shields during 1961, a birth rate of 18.4 per 1,000 of the population, the birthrate for 1960, was 18.5 per 1,000.

The proportion of male to female births was 1,000 males to 1,013 females.

There were 104 illegitimate births or 5.2% of the total births.

There were 51 still births, 25 males and 26 females: 24.7 per 1,000 of all births, live and still.

The birth rate in South Shields as compared with the country generally and neighbouring authorities was as follows:—

	<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Stillbirths</i>
England and Wales	17.4	18.7
<i>South Shields C.B.</i>	18.41	24.71
Gateshead C.B.	19.2	26.9
Sunderland C.B.	20.36	19.8
Newcastle upon Tyne	18.11	19.25
Tynemouth C.B.	19.49	21.23
Durham County	18.2	22.2
Northumberland County	16.75	20.33

Deaths.

There were 1,322 deaths during the year among South Shields residents: males 742, females 580. This is equal to a death rate of 12.1 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with a death rate of 12.0 for 1960. The figure includes 115 deaths of residents who died away from South Shields, but

the deaths of 166 non-residents who died in South Shields, mostly in hospitals, are excluded.

The death rate for South Shields as compared with the country generally and neighbouring authorities was as follows:—

England and Wales	12.0
<i>South Shields</i> C.B.	12.1
Gateshead C.B.	12.7
Sunderland C.B.	10.1
Newcastle upon Tyne	12.3
Tynemouth C.B.	11.7
Durham County	11.2
Northumberland County	12.0

The death rate for South Shields in the four quarters of the year was as follows:—

1st quarter	14.8
2nd quarter	11.8
3rd quarter	10.1
4th quarter	11.8

Infant Mortality.

There were 52 deaths of infants under one year of age, this represents an infant mortality rate of 25.8 per 1,000 births as compared with 20.5 in 1960 and 21.6 for the country generally.

Maternal Mortality.

One death occurred in a hospital outside the town of a woman belonging to South Shields, the maternal death rate was therefore 0.48 per 1,000 total births.

Zymotic Deaths.

There was one death during the year from measles and one from epidemic diarrhoea, the zymotic rate being 0.02 per 1,000 of the population.

The chief causes of death were as follows:—

	<i>Number of Deaths</i>	<i>Percentage of Total</i>
(a) Arteriosclerotic and Heart diseases	411	31.1
(b) Cancer	249	18.8
(c) Cerebral haemorrhage, Apoplexy, etc. ...	186	14.1
(d) Bronchitis	98	7.4
(e) Violence and accidents	61	4.6
(f) Pneumonia	49	3.7
(g) Prematurity and diseases of early infancy	47	3.6
(h) Nephritis	13	1.0
(i) Tuberculosis	11	0.8
(j) Influenza	7	0.5

Average Age at Death (in years).

Year	Male	Females	Overall
1918	32.90	32.61	32.76
1919	34.69	33.66	34.20
1920	32.82	34.84	33.78
1921	37.31	36.89	37.12
1922	36.41	39.01	37.61
1923	35.94	36.25	36.09
1924	35.84	40.65	38.12
1925	35.77	37.36	36.49
1926	39.79	41.15	40.42
1927	40.23	41.05	40.62
1928	41.82	41.12	41.49
1929	39.49	41.38	40.41
1930	42.96	45.94	44.32
1931	39.29	43.19	41.11
1932	46.98	49.06	47.98
1933	43.30	47.71	45.38
1934	45.30	48.00	46.60
1935	48.13	50.06	49.04
1936	48.38	53.41	50.67
1937	48.64	51.20	49.87
1938	50.15	51.88	51.01
1939	52.24	53.33	52.73
1940	51.92	54.23	53.01
1941	50.34	52.05	51.80
1942	51.81	54.37	53.05
1943	52.94	52.81	52.88
1944	55.14	56.52	55.79
1945	55.54	57.40	56.40
1946	53.55	58.78	55.87
1947	56.67	58.30	57.41
1948	58.99	60.39	59.65
1949	58.27	60.98	59.58
1950	60.53	64.40	62.31
1951	61.51	64.53	62.88
1952	60.44	63.58	61.86
1953	61.59	64.94	63.41
1954	60.97	65.53	63.07
1955	63.13	65.65	64.27
1956	64.29	69.15	66.55
1957	64.24	67.77	65.82
1958	64.00	69.53	66.49
1959	63.93	68.52	65.92
1960	65.06	68.26	66.53
1961	64.71	68.85	66.51

The average age of all registered deaths for each year has been calculated and the table on page 14 shows the steadily rising average age of deaths over the past 44 years.

Many factors contribute to this improvement—notably the reduction of infant mortality, the decrease in infectious diseases generally, the advancement of medical science and better housing conditions resulting in improved hygiene in the homes. It will be observed that females live longer than males (and one factor may be that many of the best lives among males were either lost at sea or in the fighting services whilst comparatively young).

Whilst lengthening of life is a good thing, we must obviously protect the health of older people, as we do with children to enable them to enjoy their longer lives.

Coroner's Inquests.

Coroner's inquests were held in respect of 117 deaths. In 6 cases, the Coroner ordered a post-mortem examination, but it was found unnecessary to hold inquests. There were 23 deaths which were not certified by a medical practitioner and on whom no inquest or Coroner's post mortem examination was held.

Deaths in Hospitals and other Institutions.

644 deaths or 48.7 per cent. of the total occurred in institutions, exclusive of 162 deaths among non-residents of the Borough. These are detailed in Table 2, page 24.

Cremation.

The Corporation's new Crematorium at Simonside commenced functioning on 4th July, 1961. Up to the end of December 296 cremations were carried out—

- 223 of South Shields residents.
- 34 of Jarrow residents.
- 25 of Hebburn residents.
- 6 of Boldon and district residents.
- 8 from other districts.

In addition 26 South Shields residents were cremated at the Newcastle Crematorium, and 254 at the Sunderland Crematorium. This is a total of 503 South Shields residents equivalent to 37 per cent. of total deaths.

Causes of Death.

The tabulation of deaths given in Table 1, page 17, follows the Abbreviated List in accordance with the Nomenclature Regulations 1948, of the World Health Organisation, and

amended by the International Conference held in 1955. This is the seventh revision of the International List and came into force on the 1st January, 1958.

It provides for an international Medical Certificate of Cause of Death and rules for the selection of the *underlying* cause of death, which may be defined as

- (a) the disease or injury which initiated the train of morbid events leading directly to death, or
- (b) the circumstances of the accident or violence which produced the fatal injury.

The chief purpose of this codification is to secure such uniformity in morbidity and mortality statistics, internationally, as can be achieved for comparisons.

At the request of the Ministry of Health the short list of the causes of deaths as supplied by the Registrar-General is included in the report (Table 1(A), page 21) in order that the relation between the local tabulation (Table 1) and the statistics supplied by the Registrar-General may be compared. There is substantial agreement, but as the Registrar-General points out, the classification of some deaths in respect of which the certifying medical practitioners have given definite causes is modified in the light of further information obtained by him from them by special enquiries; also this Table is of deaths actually registered during the year, while Table 1 is of deaths taking place; these possible sources of discrepancy should be borne in mind.

Causes of Death	Sex	All Ages	Ages at Death																					
			0+	1+	2+	3+	4+	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+
B 21 Anaemias	M.	3								1														
	F.	2																						
B 22 Vascular lesions affecting central nervous system	M.	78	1												2	1	2	10	14	20	15	9	2	
	F.	108	1												1	1	5	8	16	17	19	20	18	
B 23 Nonmeningococcal meningitis	M.	1																						
B 24 Rheumatic fever	M.	2																						
B 25 Chronic rheumatic heart disease	M.	3																						
	F.	9													1	1	2		2				2	
B 26 Arteriosclerotic and degenerative heart disease	M.	209												4	4	14	22	25	30	30	37	27	14	
	F.	133												1	1	11	14	12	20	20	31	19	23	
B 27 Other diseases of heart	M.	16								1														
	F.	18																						
B 28 Hypertension with heart disease	M.	11																						
	F.	12																						
B 29 Hypertension without mention of heart	M.	10																3	1				2	
	F.	4																	2	1			1	
B 30 Influenza	M.	3																						
	F.	4																						
B 31 Pneumonia	M.	33	1																					
	F.	16																						
B 32 Bronchitis	M.	68													3	1	4	11	9	17	11	8	3	
	F.	30													1	2	2	2	3	3	6	6	5	
B 33 Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M.	9																						
	F.	4																						

Causes of Death	Sex	All Ages	Ages at Death																							
			0+	1+	2+	3+	4+	5-9	10-14	15-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85+		
BE 47 Motor vehicle accidents.....	M.	8	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—		
	F.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	—		
BE 48 All other accidents.....	M.	22	2	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	2	—	2	1		
	F.	10	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	1	1		
BE 49 Suicide and self-inflicted injury.....	M.	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—		
	F.	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
BE50 Homicide and operations of war.....	M.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
	F.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
"N" Code. Alternative Classification of Accidents, Poisonings, and Violence (Nature of Injury).																										
BN 47 Fractures, head injuries and internal injuries	M.	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F.	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	M.	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
BN 49 Effects of poisons.....	M.	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F.	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
BN 50 All other injuries.....	M.	11	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
	F.	6	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
TOTAL.....	M.	746	31	2	2	1	—	—	2	6	3	5	11	18	20	37	62	95	94	117	109	83	47			
	F.	576	21	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	4	6	3	14	18	43	53	66	86	91	91	71			
GRAND TOTAL.....		1322	52	4	2	1	—	2	1	2	9	5	9	17	21	34	55	105	148	160	203	200	174	118		

TABLE I (A)—CONTINUED.

Causes of Death	Sex	All Ages	Age Groups							
			0—	1—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast.....	F.	18	—	—	—	—	2	11	3	2
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus.....	F.	15	—	—	—	—	1	4	8	2
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.....	M.	66	—	—	—	3	2	20	22	19
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia.....	F.	57	—	—	—	—	3	20	18	16
	M.	5	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
16. Diabetes	F.	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	M.	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system.....	F.	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2
	M.	75	—	—	—	—	2	14	32	27
18. Coronary disease, angina.....	F.	106	—	—	—	—	1	15	32	58
	M.	161	—	—	—	—	6	61	48	46
19. Hypertension with heart disease.....	F.	86	—	—	—	—	2	16	29	39
	M.	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	6
20. Other heart disease.....	F.	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	10
	M.	60	—	—	—	1	2	8	16	33
21. Other circulatory diseases.....	F.	77	—	—	—	—	—	17	14	46
	M.	33	—	—	—	—	2	5	9	17
22. Influenza	F.	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	15
	M.	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
23. Pneumonia	F.	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
	M.	35	1	1	—	—	1	8	4	20
24. Bronchitis	F.	17	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	11
	M.	68	—	—	—	—	1	18	25	24
	F.	29	—	—	—	—	—	7	6	16

TABLE 2.—Deaths during 1961 in Institutions and Transferable Deaths.

INSTITUTIONS	Deaths in Institutions in the Borough		Deaths of South Shields Residents in Institutions outside of the Borough	Transferable Deaths	
	Residents	Non-Residents		Residents	Non-Residents
General Hospital.....	334	105	—	—	105
Ingham Infirmary.....	163	49	—	—	49
Deans Hospital.....	31	7	—	—	7
Cleadon Park Sanatorium.....	5	1	—	—	1
Primrose Hill Hospital, Jarrow.....	—	—	11	11	—
General Hospital, Newcastle.....	—	—	21	21	—
Shotley Bridge Hospital.....	—	—	8	8	—
Palmer Memorial Hospital, Jarrow.....	—	—	4	4	—
R.V.I., Newcastle.....	—	—	7	7	—
Conrad House, Newcastle.....	—	—	4	4	—
Sunderland General Hospital.....	—	—	5	5	—
Holywood Hall Hospital.....	—	—	5	5	—
Other Hospitals.....	—	—	19	19	—
Private Addresses.....	—	4	4	4	4
Other Places.....	—	—	27	27	—
Total.....	533	166	115	115	116

**TABLE 3—POPULATION, BIRTHS AND DEATHS FOR
1942-61.**

Year	Popula- tion esti- mated to middle of each year	Births			Total deaths registered in the Borough		Transfer- able Deaths		Net deaths belonging to the Borough			
		Uncor- rected Num- ber	Net		Num- ber	Rate	Of Non-Residents Registered in the Borough	Of Residents not Registered in the Borough	Under 1 year of age		At all ages	
			Num- ber	Rate					Num- ber	Rate per 1,000 Net Births	Num- ber	Rate
1942	89,480	1,712	1,590	17.8	1,492	16.7	223	63	126	79	1,332	14.9
1943	86,130	1,822	1,696	19.7	1,622	18.8	221	68	127	75	1,459	16.9
1944	91,040	2,184	2,058	22.6	1,436	15.8	189	59	104	51	1,306	14.3
1945	93,680	2,008	1,882	20.1	1,482	15.8	195	64	131	70	1,351	14.4
1946	100,360	2,257	2,206	22.0	1,464	14.6	168	48	145	66	1,344	13.4
1947	101,780	2,434	2,441	24.0	1,458	14.3	147	53	118	48	1,364	13.4
1948	106,800	2,106	2,113	19.8	1,373	12.9	137	59	89	42	1,295	12.1
1949	108,360	2,120	2,127	19.6	1,479	13.6	141	64	97	46	1,402	12.9
1950	109,400	2,026	2,015	18.4	1,494	13.7	143	61	75	37	1,412	12.9
1951	* 106,670	1,897	1,933	18.1	1,413	13.2	128	78	76	39	1,363	12.8
1952	107,100	2,024	2,007	18.7	1,340	12.5	146	74	77	38	1,268	11.8
1953	107,300	1,996	1,995	18.6	1,301	12.1	142	67	59	30	1,226	11.4
1954	107,500	2,029	2,041	19.0	1,348	12.5	184	46	65	32	1,210	11.3
1955	107,800	1,960	1,955	18.1	1,322	12.3	168	82	66	34	1,236	11.5
1956	108,100	1,956	1,935	17.9	1,290	11.9	153	74	40	21	1,211	11.2
1957	108,300	2,074	2,114	19.5	1,356	12.5	169	88	49	23	1,275	11.8
1958	108,600	2,065	2,078	19.1	1,382	12.7	168	107	49	24	1,321	12.2
1959	108,700	2,167	2,177	20.0	1,259	11.6	153	84	52	24	1,190	10.9
1960	108,600	1,997	2,004	18.5	1,403	12.9	191	94	41	21	1,306	12.0
1961	109,350	2,096	2,013	18.4	1,373	12.6	166	115	52	26	1,322	12.1

NOTES.—(a) The rates in Columns 5, 7, and 13 are calculated per 1,000 of the population.

(b) "Transferable Deaths" are deaths of persons who, having a fixed or usual residence in England or Wales, died in a district other than that in which they resided.

*Modified estimate for calculation of rates, as Borough was extended on 1st April, 1951 (mid-year estimate for extended Borough (106,800)).

TABLE 4.—BIRTH-RATES, INFANT MORTALITY RATES, AND DEATH RATES FROM VARIOUS CAUSES
1871-1961.

Year	Estimated Population	Birth-rate	Death-rate	PRINCIPAL EPIDEMIC DISEASES										Deaths under 1,000 births per year			
				Total	Smallpox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	*Diphtheria	Whooping Cough	"Fever"	‡Diarrhoea	Respiratory Tuberculosis	Tuberculosis of other organs		Cancer	Bronchitis	Pneumonia	Influenza
Mean 1871-1880....	50,580	43.1	25.5	6.00	.86	.42	1.44	.12	.78	.79	.59	1.91	—	—	—	—	164
Mean 1881-1890....	66,520	38.8	20.5	2.32	.01	.34	.45	.10	.44	.19	.78	1.84	—	—	—	—	140
Mean 1891-1900....	87,022	36.1	20.1	2.45	.00	.44	.22	.11	.46	.28	.93	1.60	1.00	.63	2.00	1.47	166
Mean 1901-1910....	104,186	33.9	18.0	2.03	.02	.45	.17	.16	.47	.10	.66	1.50	.71	.72	1.41	1.28	140
Mean 1911-1920....	109,843	28.9	18.1	1.47	.00	.38	.09	.09	.26	.04	.61	1.53	.59	.90	1.72	1.67	126
Mean 1921-1930....	122,170	23.2	14.0	0.79	.00	.19	.03	.08	.19	.01	.29	1.33	.44	1.09	1.15	1.17	99
Mean 1931-1940....	110,635	17.7	13.7	0.55	—	.12	.03	.17	.08	—	.14	1.12	.34	1.44	0.82	0.77	81
Mean 1941-1950....	97,994	20.1	14.3	0.27	—	.03	.00	.09	.03	—	.12	0.92	.17	1.92	0.84	0.70	60
Mean 1951-1960....	107,867	18.8	11.7	0.03	—	.01	—	—	.00	—	.02	0.24	.02	2.24	0.75	0.58	28
1961....	109,350	18.4	12.1	0.02	—	.01	—	—	—	—	.01	0.09	.01	2.44	0.89	0.45	25.8

*Since 1891, Membranous Group has been included under Diphtheria. ‡Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years of age) since 1905.

CANCER.

During 1961 there were 249 deaths from cancer as compared with 267 in 1960. 132 of the deaths occurred among males and 117 among females. There were 55 deaths from cancer of the respiratory system. The cancer death rate was 2.44 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 2.16 for England and Wales. Cancer accounted for 18.8 per cent. of the total deaths in the Borough, and 114 of the deaths occurred in hospitals.

The following table shows the numbers of cancer deaths in South Shields in 1961 analysed according to sex and to the site affected.

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
141. Tongue	1	—	1
144. Oral Mesopharynx	4	1	5
150. Oesophagus	3	4	7
151. Stomach	21	21	42
153. Large intestine, except rectum ...	7	17	24
154. Rectum	6	3	9
155. Biliary passage and liver (primary)	—	5	5
156. Liver (secondary and unspecified)	3	—	3
157. Pancreas	9	5	14
158. Peritoneum	1	1	2
161. Larynx	2	—	2
162. Trachea, and bronchus and lung (primary)	34	9	43
163. Lung and bronchus (unspecified)	10	—	10
170. Breast	—	19	19
171. Cervix uteri	—	11	11
172. Corpus uteri	—	4	4

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
174. Uterus, unspecified	—	1	1
175. Ovary, Fallopian tube, and broad ligament	—	3	3
176. Vagina and vulva	—	1	1
177. Prostate	5	—	5
180. Kidney	1	—	1
181. Bladder and other urinary organs	6	1	7
190. Skin	1	—	1
192. Eye	1	—	1
193. Brain and other parts of nervous system	—	2	2
194. Thyroid	1	—	1
195. Endocrine glands	—	1	1
196. Bone	3	1	4
199. Other and unspecified sites	1	3	4
200. Lymphosarcoma and reticulo- sarcoma	1	1	2
201. Hodgkin's disease	5	—	5
202. Other forms of lymphoma	—	1	1
203. Myeloma	1	—	1
204. Leukaemia and aleukaemia	5	2	7
Total	132	117	249

Deaths from cancer have shown a progressive increase during the last twenty years, particularly from cancer of the lungs and pleura. Contributory causes are at present being investigated.

The distribution, percentage of total deaths and percentage of deaths 35 years and upward (i.e. the age usually affected) since 1942, is given in the following table.

CANCER DEATHS 1942 to 1961.

Situation	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Buccal cavity and pharynx	6	4	6	4	6	8	6	6	2	5	10	4	3	9	1	5	5	1	3	6
Digestive organs and peritoneum	75	106	110	127	112	115	106	107	100	112	98	100	94	100	105	121	110	117	110	106
Respiratory system	19	12	10	14	24	30	31	33	41	50	33	47	46	49	50	48	57	54	63	55
Breast and genito-urinary organs	47	39	56	41	34	48	52	42	51	45	65	54	45	66	49	57	61	64	70	52
Other and unspecified sites	13	13	14	10	8	4	16	10	8	13	14	17	13	15	20	11	9	16	7	14
*Lymphatic and haematopoietic tissues.....	6	2	8	4	3	3	8	11	8	8	15	4	6	6	13	6	15	16	14	16
Total	166	176	204	200	187	208	219	209	210	233	235	226	207	245	238	248	257	258	267	249
*Percent. of all deaths	12.5	12.1	15.6	14.8	13.9	15.2	16.9	14.9	14.9	17.1	18.5	18.4	17.1	20.0	19.6	19.5	19.5	21.7	20.5	18.8
*Percentage of deaths 35 and over	15.7	15.0	18.9	17.8	17.2	17.9	19.3	17.2	16.5	18.7	20.5	19.8	18.8	21.4	20.3	20.9	20.6	22.6	21.5	20.2

* Under the regulations of the World Health Organisation which came into force on 1st January, 1950, the following diseases are now classified as Cancer: Hodgkin's disease, Lymphoma (reticulosus), Leukaemia and Aleukaemia and Mycosis Fungoides and these diseases have therefore been added to 1942/49 figures for comparison.

PART II.—INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following tables give the corrected figures of all cases of Infectious Disease notified in the Borough during 1961:—

Table A —Age Groups.

„ B —Ward Distribution (page 32).

„ C —Seasonal Incidence (page 33).

„ D —Comparative figures for past 10 years (page 34).

Table A.—Notifications, 1961, classified by Age Groups.

Disease	At all ages	Under 1	1 & 2	3 & 4	5—9	10—14	15—24	25—44	45+ 64	65+
Scarlet Fever.....	31	—	—	9	17	4	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough.....	65	12	22	12	19	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	2074	74	586	631	765	14	4	—	—	—
Diphtheria.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia :										
influenzal	8	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	3	2
primary	104	—	1	1	4	6	8	15	38	31
Dysentery	4	—	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	4	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid Fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid Fever.....	4	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Meningococcal infection	10	4	3	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
Food poisoning.....	36	7	10	3	6	—	2	4	2	2
Puerperal pyrexia.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Tuberculosis :										
respiratory	78	1	1	2	3	4	8	16	28	15
non-respiratory	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	2	—
Total	2434	102	628	663	815	30	25	45	76	50

Table B.—Ward Distribution of Notifications, 1961.

Disease	Beacon	Bents	Biddick Hall	Brinkburn	Cleadon Park	Harton	Horsley Hill	Marsden	Rekendyke	Simonside	Tyne Dock	Victoria	Westoe	West Park	Whiteleas	Non-Residents	Total
Scarlet fever.....	1	—	—	3	1	3	5	—	3	3	1	4	2	1	4	—	31
Whooping cough.....	6	5	8	4	4	2	7	11	6	—	2	1	5	—	4	—	65
Acute poliomyelitis.....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Measles.....	106	119	134	154	137	137	183	145	181	97	82	131	145	107	215	1	2074
Diphtheria.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia :																	
Influenzal.....	2	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	8
Primary.....	11	12	4	6	12	6	6	6	7	5	6	4	7	10	1	1	104
Dysentery.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Smallpox.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningococcal infection.....	1	—	—	2	—	—	6	—	3	2	3	1	5	1	1	2	2
Food poisoning.....	—	—	7	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	5	—	2	10
Puerperal pyrexia.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia neonatorum.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis :																	
respiratory.....	6	8	5	9	9	5	6	3	6	5	3	—	3	5	4	1	78
non-respiratory.....	1	—	—	1	—	1	2	1	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	9

Table C.—Seasonal Incidence of Notifications, 1961.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet fever	5	2	3	1	6	2	2	1	3	4	—	2	31
Whooping cough	6	6	4	2	8	9	6	7	7	3	7	—	65
Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Measles	444	553	528	234	192	45	14	5	3	6	10	40	2074
Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia :													
influenzal	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	8
primary	12	29	5	8	7	8	11	2	3	3	4	12	104
Dysentery	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	4
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute encephalitis	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Typhoid fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid fever	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	4
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Meningococcal infection	—	3	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	10
Food poisoning	11	1	—	—	2	2	11	6	—	3	—	—	36
Puerperal pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis :													
respiratory	6	12	10	7	10	6	3	4	5	7	4	4	78
non-respiratory	—	1	3	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	9
Total	484	615	556	254	229	76	48	26	22	31	30	63	2434

Table D.—Comparative Notifications for the past ten years.

Disease	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Scarlet fever.....	318	176	102	38	119	86	70	144	89	31
Whooping cough.....	561	227	312	414	130	108	161	75	74	65
Acute poliomyelitis.....	6	2	11	1	5	2	1	1	1	2
Acute polioencephalitis.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles.....	1676	1259	1546	867	379	3218	36	2697	482	2074
Diphtheria.....	7	17	9	4	3	36	5	30	10	8
Pneumonia : influenza primary.....	99	129	130	161	167	137	102	124	87	104
Dysentery.....	36	16	132	182	152	187	81	77	31	4
Smallpox.....	1	1	1	1	2	—	1	3	2	4
Encephalitis (infective and post infectious).....	5	4	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid fever.....	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—
Paratyphoid fever.....	17	20	26	22	13	15	15	9	11	4
Erysipelas.....	10	9	1	2	4	3	14	3	7	2
Meningococcal infection.....	45	15	9	27	26	12	14	12	1	10
Food poisoning.....	58	50	48	40	47	14	20	30	19	36
Puerperal pyrexia.....	5	2	4	1	2	4	7	1	—	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum.....	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Malaria.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pemphigus neonatorum.....	236	237	176	178	150	158	147	132	100	78
Tuberculosis : respiratory non-respiratory.....	24	23	20	15	11	10	8	12	15	9

NOTES ON CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever.

31 cases were notified, the smallest number in any year since the disease was made notifiable. All were of a mild type; only one patient was admitted to hospital because of adverse home conditions. 21 of the cases were of school age and all were back at school within three weeks of notification. There were no fatal cases.

Whooping Cough.

65 cases were notified and in addition 6 cases were reported by Head Teachers. This is the lowest number notified in any year since the disease was made notifiable. Hospital treatment was not required in any case and there were no deaths.

Immunisation against whooping cough commenced in December, 1951. The following table shows the number of cases in age groups and cases occurring who had previously received a complete course of immunising vaccine, together with the total immunisations carried out in 1961.

<i>Age</i>	<i>Cases of Whooping Cough</i>	<i>Cases previously immunised</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>Immunisations 1961</i>
Under 1.....	12	2	—	563
1— 2.....	22	3	—	1,168
3— 4.....	12	3	—	122
5— 9.....	19	4	—	47
10—14.....	—	—	—	3
15.....	—	—	—	—
Total.....	65	12	—	1,903

Poliomyelitis.

Four cases were reported during the year, but in two of these the diagnosis was not confirmed. The two confirmed cases of paralytic poliomyelitis were both males, aged 2 years and 10 months respectively. The boy of two had received two injections against polio, and his illness was mild; he was in fact admitted to hospital with suspected appendicitis, and type I polio virus was isolated in a routine faeces test. A careful check was made on a fairly large number of contacts, most of whom had been immunised against polio:

type I polio virus was isolated in the faeces of two sisters of the patient. No further cases occurred among these contacts, and the patient made a quick recovery from the slight paralysis.

The male infant of ten months also had a vague illness and on admission to hospital type III polio virus was isolated. He had received his first injection against polio one week before the onset. No illness occurred among any of his contacts and he made a quick recovery from his mild illness.

The campaign to protect the public against this disease was vigorously carried on during the year; details will be found on pages 70 and 71.

Measles.

This was an epidemic year for measles, the rise in incidence appearing late in 1960, and reaching a peak in February and March, 1961.

2,074 cases were notified, most of these occurring in the first four months of the year. This compares with previous peak figures of 2,699 cases in 1959 and 3,218 in 1957.

62 per cent. of the cases occurred in children under school age. The disease was of a mild character, but two children developed post-measles encephalitis; one of these children died.

Diphtheria.

For the tenth year in succession, no case of diphtheria was notified, and for the eleventh successive year there was no death from the disease. Because of this fortunate state of affairs, a generation is growing up to whom the word "diphtheria" has no dread significance, and it is the constant endeavour of the public health department staff to maintain the high rate of diphtheria immunisation. Details of primary and booster diphtheria immunisation are given on page 66.

Smallpox.

No case of this disease has been notified in the town since 1932. Three persons arriving in South Shields by sea had come from a ship in which a case of smallpox had occurred while in a North African port. These contacts were vaccinated and kept under surveillance for the necessary period.

Encephalitis.

Four cases of encephalitis were notified — three post measles and one infective encephalitis. Two of these were

admitted to the South Shields General Hospital from adjoining areas and their illness diagnosed after admission. One child, a female of 15 months, died from post-measles encephalitis.

Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever.

Four cases of paratyphoid fever were notified—all young children.

(1) A boy aged fifteen months, a visitor to the town, became ill soon after arrival and was admitted to hospital where his condition was diagnosed. Faeces tests of the contacts proved negative, and the history showed that he had almost certainly been infected in his home town.

(2) A girl infant aged two weeks was admitted to hospital and tests showed positive to paratyphi B. Her mother, aunt, grandfather and twin brothers were all found to be symptomless excretors of paratyphi B.

(3) A boy of 4 years while in hospital under observation for tuberculosis, developed gastro-intestinal symptoms and tests showed paratyphi B. His sister, also in hospital for observation for tuberculosis, was found to be a symptomless excretor of paratyphi B.

(4) A female infant aged two months was admitted to hospital where faeces tests showed paratyphi B. All contacts were tested with negative result.

There was no apparent connection between these cases and no source of infection could be found. A series of faeces tests was taken from the symptomless excretors until eventually negative results were obtained.

Meningococcal Infection.

Ten cases of this disease were notified: 8 males of whom 7 were aged under 3 years, and one aged 18; and two females, aged 8 months and 14 years. All were admitted to hospital where three young males died. Two of these deaths occurred so quickly after onset that inquests were held. Three of the patients were non-residents of South Shields, including the male of 18 years who was admitted to hospital from a ship in dry dock. Careful enquiries were made at the homes of the seven South Shields children without eliciting any trace of the probable source of infection.

Food Poisoning.

65 suspected cases were reported during the year, and of these 36 were confirmed bacteriologically. In addition, 13 symptomless excretors were found.

Nine family outbreaks occurred, affecting 24 people; all these were salmonella infection—*s. typhi-murium*, *s. heidelberg* and *s. manhattan*. There were 12 single cases, also all salmonella infection — *s. typhi-murium*, *s. thompson*, and *s. manhattan*.

Four of the family outbreaks occurred early in the year, after family parties, affecting eleven children and three adults. Three of these outbreaks were not reported to the M.O.H. until 2 to 3 weeks after onset, and food specimens were not available. In the fourth case where cream cakes were suspected, samples of these were sent for laboratory tests with negative result. A symptomless excreter, an aunt who had helped to prepare food, was found in one family outbreak.

In the fifth family outbreak where 3 children were affected with *s. heidelberg*, specimens of pork meat and sausage were examined with negative result. Here the father was found to be a symptomless excreter.

The sixth outbreak, the largest, affected mother and four children, and the father and other three children were symptomless excreters of *s. manhattan*. The mother collapsed and died suddenly; her death was certified as due to coronary atheroma with salmonella infection as a contributory cause. Specimens of various foodstuffs were examined with negative result: the kitchen hygiene here was not good. All the children were admitted to hospital until negative faeces results were obtained.

In the seventh outbreak, father, mother and three children were affected, faeces tests showing *s. manhattan*. The mother had just been confined at home, and her mother came from an adjoining area to care for the children—this lady was found to be a symptomless excreter of *s. manhattan*. The symptoms of all five patients included headache, backache and stiff neck and in view of this, laboratory investigation was made for ECHO virus with negative result.

The remaining two outbreaks both affected mother and newly born infant while in maternity hospital. Laboratory examinations of specimens from household contacts and also of food specimens were made, with negative result.

Of the 12 single cases of food poisoning, two were patients admitted to the South Shields General Hospital from adjoining areas. In the other 10 cases (nine children and one adult) food specimens were examined in each instance with negative result: symptomless excreters were found among family contacts in two cases.

In an outbreak of food poisoning due to *s. heidelberg* in

County Durham and on Tyneside during 1961, evidence seemed to point to infected pork products from a Yorkshire factory. Investigation into South Shields cases of illness due to *s. heidelberg* showed no evidence of any link with this suspected source of infection.

Dysentery.

116 suspected cases were reported and investigated. Of these, only four were confirmed by bacteriological examination. Two were found to be paratyphoid infections and one salmonella infection. It was not necessary to admit any dysentery case to hospital and there were no deaths.

Infective Hepatitis.

Local medical practitioners continued to co-operate in enquiries into infective hepatitis, and 43 cases were reported during 1961, 20 males and 23 females. Three of the patients were under school age, 33 of school age, and 7 adults. In one family all six children were affected, and there was a history of school contact in five cases. In half of the cases the symptoms were reported as moderately severe, but it was not necessary to admit any patient to hospital.

Virus Meningitis.

Following the outbreak of this illness in South Shields in the latter half of 1960, careful investigation was made into any suspected cases but only one patient was found to be suffering from ECHO virus type 9 infection. He was a boy aged four years, who recovered after treatment in South Shields General and Newcastle General Hospitals.

Hospital Treatment.

During 1961, 45 cases of notifiable infectious disease belonging to South Shields were treated in hospitals as under:

	<i>Ingham Infirmary</i>	<i>S.S. General Hospital</i>	<i>Sheriff Hill Hospital</i>	<i>Total</i>
Poliomyelitis	—	2	—	2
Scarlet fever	—	—	1	1
Paratyphoid fever	—	3	—	3
Encephalitis	—	4	—	4
Food poisoning	2	7	6	15
Meningococcal infection	1	8	—	9
Pneumonia	2	8	—	10
Ophthalmia neonatorum	—	1	—	1
	5	33	7	45

In addition, four patients were admitted to the South Shields General Hospital suspected to be suffering from infectious diseases which were not confirmed on subsequent diagnosis.

Laboratory Examinations.

The following is a classified list of pathological examinations, etc., carried out at various laboratories for the Public Health Department.

	<i>Public Health Laboratory Newcastle</i>	<i>General Hosp. South Shields</i>	<i>Public Health Laboratory Sunderland</i>
Ear, nose and throat swabs	24	12	—
Faeces	760	—	45
do. (for monkey kidney and HeLa cell culture)	59	—	—
Blood complement fixation tests (in- fluenza)	14	—	—
Food specimens	12	—	25
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	869	12	70
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

PART III.—LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES.
National Health Service Acts, 1946-59.
SECTION 22.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.
SUMMARY OF MATERNAL AND CHILD WELFARE
STATISTICS FOR SOUTH SHIELDS COUNTY
BOROUGH, 1961

Live births:		
Number	2,013	
Rate per 1,000 population	18.4	
Illegitimate Live Births—5.17% of total Live Births.		
Stillbirths:		
Number	51	
Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births	24.7	
Total Live and Still Births	2,064	
Infant Deaths (under one year)	52	
Infant Mortality Rates:		
Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	25.8	
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	24.6	
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	48.1	
Neo-natal Mortality Rate	18.88	
Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate	15.90	
Peri-natal Mortality Rate	40.2	
Maternal Mortality:		
Number	1	
Rate per 1,000 live and still births	0.48	

Notification of Births.

The number of births notified or registered in the Borough during 1961, was as follows:—

DOMICILIARY BIRTHS:

	<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Still Births</i>
Notified by midwives	1,179	12
BIRTHS IN SOUTH SHIELDS MATERNITY HOSPITAL:		
Notified by midwives	943	48
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	2,122	60
<i>Less</i> —Born in Borough to mothers not normally resident in the town:		
In South Shields Maternity Hospital	314	13
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,808	47

Add—Born outside Borough to mothers normally resident in the town:

In Institutions	*226	*2
In Private Homes outside town	5	—
Net Total	<u>2,039</u>	<u>49</u>

*The institutions outside the Borough where the births occurred were as follows:—

	<i>Live Births</i>	<i>Still Births</i>
†Danesfield Maternity Home, Jarrow ...	97	—
Princess Mary's Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne	60	2
Hopedene Maternity Hospital, N'cle ...	42	—
General Hospital, Newcastle	5	—
Maternity Hospital, Sunderland	5	—
Royal Infirmary, Sunderland	6	—
Dilston Hall Nursing Home	4	—
Ravensbourne Nursing Home, Gosforth	1	—
Clement Park Nursing Home, Dundee ...	1	—
Alexandra Nursing Home, London, N.10	1	—
St. Theresa's Hospital, Wimbledon	1	—
Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Gateshead ...	1	—
Ashleigh Nursing Home, Gosforth	1	—
Fernwood Nursing Home, Newcastle	1	—
	<u>226</u>	<u>2</u>

†Danesfield Maternity Home was closed for alterations from April, 1961, until the end of the year and a reduced number of patients were confined as a temporary arrangement in Palmer's Memorial Hospital, Jarrow.

The total births correspond to a birth rate for 1961 of 18.4 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 18.5 in 1960, and 20.0 in 1959.

Included in this total are 18 sets of twins:—

5 sets born at home (1 child stillborn).

13 sets born in South Shields Maternity Hospital (3 children stillborn).

Premature Infants.

The number of premature live births (i.e. weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less at birth) notified during the year as belonging to South Shields was 131; 51 of these were born at home, 77 in

the South Shields Maternity Hospital and 3 in hospitals and nursing homes outside of town.

The survival of these during the first 28 days of life is shown in the following table:—

	Survived 28 days	Did not survive 28 days	Total
At home	25	26	51
South Shields Maternity Hospital	52	25	77
Hospitals and nursing homes outside of town	3	0	3
Total	80	51	131

Weight at Birth	PREMATURE LIVE BIRTHS												PREMATURE STILL-BIRTHS					
	*Born in Hospital			Born at home and nursed entirely at home			Born at home and transferred to hospital on or before 28th day			Born in nursing home and nursed there			Born in nursing home and transferred to hospital on or before 28th day			Born in hospital	Born at home	Born in nursing home
	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of birth	Survived 28 days	(17)	(18)	(19)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)
(a) 3 lb. 4 oz. or less (1,500 grms. or less)	19	7	8	1	..	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	2	—
(b) Over 3 lb. 4 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 6 oz. (1,500-2,000 grms)	12	—	11	5	—	5	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—
(c) Over 4 lb. 6 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 15 oz. (2,000-2,250 grms)	15	—	15	8	—	8	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—
(d) Over 4 lb. 15 oz. up to and including 5 lb. 8 oz. (2,250-2,500 grms)	34	1	33	34	—	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
TOTALS	80	8	67	48	—	48	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	5	—

* The group under this heading will include cases which may be born in one hospital and transferred to another.

Premature Still Births.

Of the 49 still births recorded 20 were premature; (5 occurred at home and 15 in hospitals).

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case of ophthalmia neonatorum was notified during the year, and six cases of "discharging eyes" were reported by midwives. There was no impairment of vision in any of the cases.

Pemphigus Neonatorum.

No cases were notified.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

Only one case of puerperal pyrexia was notified in a domiciliary confinement.

Infant Mortality.

There were 52 deaths among infants under one year of age (31 boys and 21 girls); an infantile mortality rate of 25.8 per 1,000 births. The neo-natal mortality was 18.88 per 1,000 births.

There were 4 deaths among the 104 illegitimate children under one year of age.

The principal causes of deaths in infants were:—

Prematurity	14
Congenital defects	12
Birth injuries	13
Accidental death	5
Meningococcal infection ...	2
Other causes	6

Place of Confinement.

In the following table, the births of South Shields babies are set out for the past ten years according to whether the confinements took place in hospital or at home. The proportion of hospital births is still very much below that of the country generally. In addition still births are analysed separately from live births and the still birth rate for the past ten years shows how considerably this figure varied from year to year.

BIRTHS FOR SOUTH SHIELDS COUNTY BOROUGH.
(BASED ON NOTIFICATIONS OF BIRTHS RECEIVED IN THE DEPARTMENT.)

	NET LIVE BIRTHS				STILLBIRTHS				Still Birth Rate
	Home	South Shields Maternity Hospital*	Other Hospitals	Total	Home	South Shields Maternity Hospital*	Other Hospitals	Total	
1952.....	1,293	540 (169)	174	2,007	16	31 (12)	4	51	24.8
1953.....	1,207	559 (160)	229	1,995	7	29 (19)	4	40	19.7
1954.....	1,185	611 (214)	245	2,041	12	24 (20)	—	36	17.3
1955.....	1,073	617 (222)	270	1,960	16	43 (19)	1	60	29.7
1956.....	1,052	580 (256)	303	1,935	7	38 (25)	5	50	25.2
1957.....	1,203	516 (211)	395	2,114	18	28 (18)	13	59	27.2
1958.....	1,317	423 (180)	325	2,065	8	26 (13)	4	38	18.1
1959.....	1,302	555 (244)	310	2,167	13	37 (16)	5	55	24.8
1960.....	1,173	580 (248)	255	2,008	3	46 (17)	2	51	24.8
1961.....	1,184	629 (314)	226	2,039	12	35 (13)	2	49	23.5
Total	11,989	5,610 (2218)	2,732	20,331	112	337 (172)	40	489	23.5

*The figures in parentheses refer to births occurring in the Maternity Hospital to mothers who are not resident in South Shields and are not included in the main figure.

South Shields Births (Net)—1952 to 1961 (inclusive).

Total at Home	11,989	+	112	12,101	or	58%
Total in Hospitals	8,342	+	377	8,719	or	42%
				<u>20,820</u>		<u>100%</u>

Peri-Natal Mortality.

	<i>Number of Stillbirths</i>	<i>Deaths of Infants during first week of life</i>	<i>Peri-natal Mortality Rates</i>	<i>Deaths of Infants between one week and twelve months</i>
1952	51	40	44.2	37
1953	40	30	34.4	29
1954	36	32	32.7	33
1955	60	42	50.5	24
1956	50	24	37.3	16
1957	59	28	40.0	21
1958	38	33	33.8	16
1959	55	28	37.4	24
1960	51	29	38.9	12
1961	49	32	38.8	20

The mortality of infants after the first week has shown a steady improvement over the years due to various factors including improvement in social conditions and medical services. The loss of infant life taking place before, during and soon after birth however is not diminishing to the same extent as can be seen from the above figures. Peri-natal mortality remains as a hard core of the general problem of infant survival and presents a considerable challenge to preventive medicine.

Neonatal Cold Injury.

During cold spells in 1961, the midwives were reminded of the risks to premature infants.

Maternal Mortality.

There was one death among South Shields mothers during the year in hospital.

The maternal death-rate was 0.48 per 1,000 total births as compared with 0.49 in 1960. The rate for England and Wales was 0.34 per 1,000 total births.

The cause of death, after inquest, was given as air embolism arising from self-induced abortion.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

Three clinics are in use as follows:—

Municipal Clinic, Stanhope Parade.

Community Centre Hut, Steward Crescent.

St. Margaret's Church Hall.

Number of sessions held during the year 301

Women attending 2,231

New cases 1,668

Total attendances 9,719

Post Natal Clinics.

Patients were seen at the

Municipal Clinic, Stanhope Parade.

Number of sessions held during the year	42
Women attending (total)	96
New cases	96
Total attendances	128

Child Welfare Centres.

Five morning and eight afternoon clinics are held each week. Three sessions are held at the Municipal Clinic and ten at the branch clinics, as follows:—

Municipal Clinic, Stanhope Parade—Monday, Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

West Harton Methodist Church Hall—Tuesday and Friday mornings.

Steward Crescent Community Centre Hut—Wednesday and Friday afternoons.

Wenlock Road Methodist Church—Wednesday afternoon.

Galsworthy Road Hall—Thursday mornings.

Baring Street Methodist Church Hall—Tuesday mornings and Thursday afternoons.

St. Margaret's Church Hall, Prince Edward Road—Monday afternoon and Wednesday morning.

Attendances at Child Welfare Clinics.

Total number of sessions held	651
New attenders in 1961:—	
(a) Babies under 1 year	1,682
(b) Children between 1 and 5 years	4,522*
(c) Total	6,204
Total number of attendances	39,333

*This figure includes children attending for a pre-school medical examination.

Child Guidance Advice (Circular 3/59).

As there is no child guidance clinic locally there has been no arrangement for regular discussion of individual cases but occasionally a child under five has been referred to the Sunderland Child Guidance Clinic.

One of our child welfare medical officers (Dr. Wattie) initiated a special weekly clinic for pre-school children with presenting emotional problems but owing to the small numbers referred, the clinic was not continued on a weekly basis.

DEATHS DURING 1961 OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR — CAUSES AND AGES.

Causes of Death	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	1-3 Months	3-6 Months	6-9 Months	9-12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 year	MALES	FEMALES
	22	11	1	3	37	5	4	4	2	15	31	21
All causes : Certified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Uncertified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Code 57 Meningococcal infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	2	—
331 Cerebral haemorrhage	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	1	1
492 Virus pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
571 Gastro enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1
751/9 Congenital malformations	6	2	—	—	8	2	—	2	—	12	9	3
760/2 Birth injuries, etc.	7	3	1	1	12	1	—	—	—	13	6	7
763 Infection of the newborn	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
770/6 Immaturity	7	6	—	—	13	1	—	—	—	14	9	5
795 Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—
E916 & 921 Accidental asphyxia	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—	4	2	2
E951 Embolism during transfusion	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Total	22	11	1	3	37	5	4	4	2	52	31	21

DEATHS DURING 1961 OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR: CAUSES AND WARD DISTRIBUTION.

Causes of Death	WARDS												Total			
	Beacon	Bents	Biddick Hall	Brinkburn	Cleaddon Park	Harton	Horsley Hill	Marsden	Rekendyke	Simonside	Tyne Dock	Victoria		Westoe	West Park	Whiteleas
All Causes : Certified	2	5	2	3	3	3	4	5	4	3	3	5	3	2	5	52
Uncertified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Code																
57 Meningococcal infection	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
331 Cerebral haemorrhage	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
492 Virus Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
571 Gastro enteritis	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
751/9 Congenital malformations	—	1	1	1	1	—	2	1	—	—	1	2	1	—	2	12
760/2 Birth injuries, etc.	—	—	—	1	2	2	1	2	—	1	1	1	1	—	1	13
763 Infection of the newborn	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
770/6 Immaturity	1	2	1	—	—	1	1	2	2	1	—	1	1	—	—	14
795 Unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
E916 & 921 Accidental asphyxia	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	4
E951 Embolism during transfusion	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total deaths under 1 year	2	5	2	3	3	3	4	5	4	3	3	5	3	2	5	52
*Number of births	136	144	173	148	106	87	158	114	200	129	138	147	123	96	140	2039
*Infant Mortality Rate	14.7	34.7	11.6	20.3	28.3	34.5	25.3	43.9	20.0	23.3	21.7	34.0	24.4	20.1	35.7	25.5

*The births dealt with in this table are (a) 1808 live births notified under the Public Health Act; and (b) 231 inward transfers from other districts, but 314 births in the South Shields Maternity Hospital among non-residents of the Borough are excluded. Elsewhere in this report the Registrar-General's figures of births registered during the calendar year have been used for the calculation of birth rates.

Distribution of Welfare Foods.

Food is distributed from the Clinics as follows:—

	<i>Weekly Sessions</i>
Municipal Clinic, Stanhope Parade	
Monday to Friday .....Mornings and afternoons	
Saturday .....Mornings	11
St. Margaret's Church Hall, Prince Edward Road	
Monday .....Afternoons	
Wednesday .....Afternoons	2
Community Centre Hut, Steward Crescent	
Wednesday .....Afternoons	
Friday .....Afternoons	2
West Harton Methodist Church Hall, Boldon Lane	
Tuesday .....Mornings	
Friday .....Mornings	2
Baring Street Hall	
Tuesday .....Mornings	
Thursday .....Afternoons	2
Wenlock Road Methodist Church Hall	
Wednesday .....Afternoons	1
Galsworthy Road Hall	
Thursday .....Mornings	1
Total	21 sessions

The total amounts issued were:—

(a) Under Circular 10/54.

	1960	1961
National Dried Milk (tins)	78,916	71,361
Cod Liver Oil (bottles)	6,681	4,287
Vitamin A. & D. Tablets (packets)	4,231	2,750
Orange Juice (bottles)	52,532	27,104

(b) Under the Authority's other arrangements.

Virol (cartons)	1,476	1,144
-----------------------	-------	-------

Day Nurseries.

The following is a statement of the work of the two Day Nurseries Nos. 1 and 29 Beach Road, for the past year. There is accommodation for 40 children in each nursery.

	1 Beach Road	29 Beach Road
No. of children on the register at end of 1960	43	46
Admission during 1961:—		
Under 2 years old	25	32
2—5 years old	26	25
No. of attendances during 1961:—		
Under 2 years old	2,754	2,258
2—5 years old	5,485	6,206
Average attendance per session:—		
Under 2 years old	10.9	9.0
2—5 years old	21.7	24.5
No. of children on the register at the end of 1961:—		
Under 2 years old	16	14
2—5 years old	30	30

197 individual children from 179 families made use of the Day Nurseries in 1961 and the admission of children on the authority of the Matron continues to operate satisfactorily.

Taken over the whole year the percentage of children whose mothers were in full employment was 80.3% and 8.7% were compassionate cases.

Training.

The Day Nurseries are authorised as a training school for the Nursery Nurses' Certificate. During 1961 a total of 11 student nursery nurses received training and 2 students were successful in obtaining their certificates.

Ultra Violet-Ray Treatment.

31 children made 339 attendances. Conditions treated were:—

Debility	13
Chest diseases	16
Underdevelopment: bones & muscles	1
Skin diseases	1

Care of Illegitimate Children.

The scheme for the care of illegitimate children and unmarried mothers is carried out by a joint committee of the Council and the Jarrow Deanery Moral Welfare Association. A full-time welfare worker is employed with an office in South Shields. Her duties, however, also embrace the areas of neighbouring authorities.

The following is a summary of the work carried out by the welfare worker for South Shields cases during 1961:—

No. of unmarried mothers seeking help and advice ...	48
„ „ married women with illegitimate children ...	8
„ „ widows with illegitimate children	3
„ „ putative fathers interviewed	2
„ „ domestic cases	2
„ „ other cases	8
South Shields children placed for adoption	13

Routine Medical Examination of Pre-School Children.

To the parents of all children on reaching their fourth birthday, a special letter is sent offering, on a voluntary basis, a full medical examination of the child. This scheme was initiated in 1955, and there has been a very satisfactory response from parents. The examination takes place at special toddlers' sessions held at three of the child welfare centres in the town.

	<i>No. of Children offered examinations.</i>	<i>No. of Children examined.</i>	<i>No. of Children referred to hospital or general practitioner.</i>
1955	445	338	9
1956	713	608	15
1957	756	446	22
1958	662	647	10
1959	350	341	21
1960	1,050	975	35
1961	1,065	978	48

Dental Care of Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Children under School Age.

The aim of the Department is to encourage as much interest in preventive dentistry as possible. As opportunity arises the Chief Dental Officer gives talks to mothers on aspects of dental health education.

Due to shortage of staff it has not been possible to expand the facilities for systematic dental inspection of mothers and young children.

DENTAL CARE OF EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND CHILDREN UNDER SCHOOL AGE

- (1) Number of Officers employed at end of year on a salary basis in terms of whole-time officers to the maternity and child welfare service:—
- (1) Senior Dental Officer 0.25
 - (2) Dental Officers
- (b) Number of Officers employed at end of year on a sessional basis in terms of whole-time officers to the maternity and child welfare service
- (c) Number of dental clinics in operation at end of year 1
- (d) Total number of sessions (i.e. equivalent complete half days) devoted to maternity and child welfare patients during the year 48
- (e) Number of dental technicians employed in the Local Health Authority's own laboratories at the end of the year

(2) DENTAL TREATMENT RETURN

A. NUMBERS PROVIDED WITH DENTAL CARE:

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers.....	87	87	87	75
Children under Five.....	260	250	249	240

B. FORMS OF DENTAL TREATMENT PROVIDED

	Scalings and Gum Treatment	Fillings	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Crowns or Inlays	Extractions	General Anaesthetics	Dentures Provided			Radio-graphs
							Full Upper or Lower	Partial Upper or Lower		
Expectant and Nursing Mothers.....	34	7	—	—	358	35	75	12	6	
Children under Five.....	4	15	10	—	532	200	—	—	—	

SECTION 23.—MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

Intention to Practise.

Fifty midwives notified their intention to practise during 1961. Of these, 25 were in the maternity hospital, and 25 were municipal domiciliary midwives (2 part-time only). At the end of the year 23 midwives were in the municipal service (two giving part-time service only) and 24 in the maternity hospital.

Suspension from Practise.

There were no temporary suspensions of midwives notified to the Central Midwives' Board on account of infectious conditions.

Domiciliary Midwives.

Attention was given to 1,191 domiciliary births, 15 more than in 1960. Of the total births to South Shields residents (2,088), 57.3% occurred at home and 42.7% in hospitals. In 1,180 cases the services of a doctor as well as a midwife were engaged. In 70 cases medical aid was sought by the midwives under section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act, 1951.

The following table gives a summary of the work of the domiciliary midwives during 1961:

Number of births attended:

As midwives	992
As nurses	199
Other cases (miscarriages, etc.)	8

In addition, 714 patients were attended on their discharge from hospital before the 14th day.

The number of visits paid were as follows:

Morning visits	21,152
Evening visits	3,543
Pre-natal visits	7,177
Post-natal visits	1,430
Night calls	1,232

Total 34,534

Gas and Air Analgesia

1,019 patients had 'gas and air' or trilene analgesia administered by the midwives in their confinements. This represents 85.6% of home deliveries.

(a) When acting as a midwife 834

(b) When acting as a maternity nurse 185

All the municipal midwives are now qualified to administer analgesia.

Trilene analgesia was brought into use in 1960. Eleven sets of trilene apparatus are available and were used in 116 cases.

Domiciliary Midwives Staff.

	<i>Full-time</i>	<i>Part-time</i>
Number on 1st January, 1961	16	3
Appointed during year	9	1
Left during the year	4	2
Number on 31st December, 1961	21	2

Three midwives attended a refresher course during the year.

Notifications from Midwives.

The following notifications were received at the Public Health Department from domiciliary midwives:—

Sending for medical aid	70	(70 cases, 84 causes)
Intention to Practise ...	50	
Deaths: Mothers	1	
Infants	5	
Still Births	11	

Medical Aid under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act, 1951.

The principal reasons for calling in medical aid were:—

(a) DOMICILIARY CASES:

(1) Mothers:

Malpresentations, delayed or prolonged labour ...	11
Abortion or threatened abortion	4
Haemorrhage	15
Perineal rupture	6
Increased pulse and temperature	4
Toxaemia	3

Albuminuria, oedema, hypertension	11
Retained placenta	1
Mastitis	3
Foetal distress	1
Other causes	8
 (2) <i>Babies:</i>	
Prematurity	4
Feebleness and jaundice	1
Discharging eyes	6
Rash	4
Vomiting	1
Other causes	1
	84
 (b) INSTITUTIONAL CASES WHERE MEDICAL AID WAS SUMMONED, NUMBERED	
	457
Total	541

Part II Training School for Midwives.

The following is a summary of the work:

In training on 1st January, 1961	12
New students during 1961	24
Still training on 31st December, 1961	9
Number of students who entered for Part II of the Board's examination	23
Number of students who passed examina- tion	22

14 pupils completed training to administer 'gas and air' analgesia.

ANTE-NATAL CARE.**(1) Ante-Natal Clinics.**

Three clinics are in use as follows:

Municipal Clinic, Stanhope Parade.
St. Margaret's Church Hall, Prince Edward Road.
and the
Community Centre Hut, Steward Crescent.

Number of sessions held during the year	301
Women attending	2,231
New cases	1,668
Total attendances	9,719

(2) Defects Found.

The following defects were found among the mothers:

Dental caries	294
Respiratory diseases	3
Varicose veins	75
Oedema	173
Albuminuria	94
Raised blood pressure	292
Glycosuria	29
Cardiac disease	11
Anaemia	71
Hyperemesis	76
Hydramnios	15

1,133

2 patients were referred to the Chest Clinic.

(3) Rhesus Factor.

679 specimens of blood from expectant mothers and 149 cord specimens from babies were examined for rhesus factor. 440 were rhesus positive, 77 were negative and 162 were 32nd week specimens. 12 mothers were admitted to hospital with active anti-bodies and there were no positive Coombs tests from babies' cord specimens. In addition, 51 specimens of blood were taken from fathers, 41 of which were positive and 10 negative.

(4) Wassermann Tests.

992 routine Wassermann tests were carried out, of which two were doubtful results. Two patients were referred to special clinics.

(5) Maternity Outfits.

1,445 complete outfits were distributed to expectant mothers from the Public Health Department during 1961.

SECTION 24.—HEALTH VISITING.

During 1961 the Health Visitors paid the following visits to homes:

Expectant mothers: 1st visits	330
Subsequent visits	11
Children under one year of age 1st visits	2,007
Subsequent visits	11,364
Children aged 1 and 2 years: visits	5,705
Children aged 2 to 5 years: visits	14,369
Visits re stillbirths	46
" infant deaths	49
" adopted children	6
" tuberculosis	2,758
" other infectious diseases	2,077
" admission to hospital	686
" B.C.G. vaccination	226
" applications for recuperative holidays ...	103
Visits to aged people	2,079

Staff.

- 1 Superintendent Health Visitor.
- 14 Health Visitors (full time) and
- 2 Student Health Visitors commenced training September, 1961.

Students taken on District with Health Visitors.

- Student Nurses from Ingham Infirmary in 3rd year of training.
- Student Nurses from General Hospital in 3rd year of training.
- Social Welfare Assistants (request from Director of Welfare Services).
- Student (Study of Aged—Nuffield Foundation).

Refresher Courses.

- Superintendent 1 week Cambridge.
- 2 Health Visitors 2 weeks Cambridge.

Assessment of Hearing in Babies and Young Children

12 health visitors were taught how to test hearing in young children in a successful two-day course held in the Municipal Clinic and conducted by Dr. I. Taylor of Manchester University. We are indebted to Professor Ewing and Dr. Taylor for providing this course. All the members

of the staff are now trained to test hearing of young children.

Health Visitors work in pairs and each pair holds a test clinic once a month for children aged 7 months to 2 years. Those babies tested include

- (a) Premature babies.
- (b) Any child with a history of deafness in family.
- (c) Any child having had infectious diseases or discharging ears.
- (d) Babies referred by child welfare doctors.

The total number of children tested in 1961 was 364. Two children were referred for further advice to the Consultant Otologist and one child to the speech Therapist.

Phenylketonuria.

Phenylketonuria tests were carried out on all new babies at the second home visit, usually at age of 6 weeks. The follow-up investigation of any suspected cases thus ascertained will be undertaken by arrangement with the local Consultant Paediatrician.

Family Case Worker.

Mrs. E. Winch, the family case worker, whose services are provided by the Northumberland and Tyneside Council of Social Service in an arrangement with South Shields Corporation, has worked very closely with the health visitors and has helped with problem families.

Health Education.

The staff were invited to a Health Education Study Day arranged by the South Shields Division of the British Medical Association held in the General Hospital on a Sunday. This proved most interesting and stimulating and helped to foster good relationships with general practitioners.

V.D. Clinic.

In response to a request by the Consultant, Dr. Schofield, the health visitors have followed up two contacts in their own homes.

A meeting was arranged for health visitors and Youth Club leaders to hear Dr. Schofield speak on this subject. Films were also shown at the meeting to ascertain their suitability for showing at Youth Clubs. Both films were unfortunately rather old.

Court Cases.

- (a) Health visitor, Miss Whitfield, attended the Magistrates' Court for a case of child neglect.
 - (b) School nurse, N. Appleby, attended the Magistrates' Court for a case of child neglect.
- (Neither were ultimately called).

Co-operation with other Agencies.

There is a regular and frequent contact between the health visitors and the following:—

- Moral Welfare Worker (Jarrow Deanery Moral Welfare Association).
- N.S.P.C.C.—Local Inspector.
- W.V.S.
- Mental Health Officers.
- Social Worker at the General Hospital.
- Probation Officers.

Social Work

This continues to increase. Strenuous efforts are made to prevent "break-up of families" and to keep the family unit intact if at all possible.

In so many homes at present both parents are working and this does not help to create a happy family life for the children. They often have to see themselves off to school and on coming home they find no parent and they tend to wander the streets. It appears that the mother often goes out to work not out of necessity but to obtain extra luxuries for the home and children, and an all out effort to "keep up with the Jones". The insecurity which is inevitably felt by the children is no doubt a contributory factor in the increase in juvenile delinquency. There is also more and more mental stress amongst many young mothers due to a variety of causes associated with present-day conditions, e.g.:—

- Housing—Living in with in-laws or in furnished rooms.
- Excessive rents—overcrowding.
- Buying their own houses—high mortgage rates.
- Hire Purchase—Rates, etc.
- Young children, and mother has to finish work.

In addition marriage is often taking place at an early age and in many cases the partners are not mature enough to undertake the responsibilities of married life. The Health Visitors try to help in such cases, particularly with budgeting and housekeeping as well as advice on the care of children.

One social evil at the moment is "Bingo". So many people are anxious to win money that this form of entertainment becomes a craze and some people go to play every night in the week, including Sunday. This often results in a lowered standard of living and other complications, e.g. rent arrears, hire purchase debts, poorer quality of food, all of which are threats to the health and welfare of the family.

In general the work of the health visitor is no longer that of advising parents on making the best of a low standard of living, as in past years, but helping them and their families to cope with life in an affluent society and world.

Arrangements for working with General Practitioners (Circular 1/62 para. 7(a)).

So far no plans have been made for health visitors to work in conjunction with a particular general practitioner, or group of practitioners. However, a good relationship exists between the health visitors and a certain number of the family doctors in South Shields.

If in any doubt about a particular family the health visitor either telephones or visits the doctor's surgery to discuss the problem. The doctors in turn sometimes ask the health visitors to visit some of their patients. The following are examples of some of the family problems referred by family doctors:

Threatened nervous breakdowns—Stress, etc.

Young inexperienced mothers and the management of their babies.

Patients needing convalescent treatment.

Housing problems.

Care of the aged in their own homes.

Arrangements for the follow up of patients discharged from Hospital (Circular 1/62 para. 7(b)).

1. Maternity Cases.

Discharges of maternity cases to their own homes are received from the General Maternity Hospital and from the Danesfield Maternity Hospital. Normally all such discharges are notified to the midwives' service.

2. Premature Babies.

The Sister of the Premature Baby Unit telephones the Superintendent Health Visitor, and gives particulars of all babies discharged, the home conditions having previously been investigated by the health visitor.

3. Aged Persons.

The Group Almoner for the hospitals in the area informs the Superintendent Health Visitor (prior to their discharge) of those patients who may require assistance at home. This applies particularly to patients living alone.

4. Children.

All children under the age of fifteen who have been patients in the General Hospital and Ingham Infirmary, are notified to the Health Department and the health visitor will make a home visit where necessary.

5. Hospitals outside South Shields.

There are also requests from Almoners in Sunderland and Newcastle Hospitals asking if the health visitor would help in investigating families, or following up discharged patients. In addition notification of certain patients discharged from the Sunderland Eye Infirmary is given.

SECTION 25.—HOME NURSING SERVICE.

This service is carried out on behalf of the Corporation by the South Shields and District Nursing Association. It has a separate administration and is not under the control of the Department.

The following is a summary of the work of the Association, the figures being kindly supplied by the Superintendent:

Cases on books on 1st January, 1961	335
New Cases: Medical	829
Surgical	199
Ear, nose and throat	51
Cerebral conditions	94
Carcinoma	136
Pneumonia	76
Maternal complications	12
Tuberculosis	55
Diabetes	10
	— 1,462
Visits paid by nurses	53,508
Patients over 65 years of age	793
Children under 5 years of age	34
Patients who had more than 24 visits during year	712
Patients receiving penicillin injections ...	208
Patients receiving streptomycin injections	68
Patients receiving other injections	32
Cases remaining on books at 31st December, 1961	372

In 1961, of 1,462 new patients, 17.4% (256) were referred by hospitals directly. Certain other patients discharged from hospital are also referred to the service through the family doctor.

It is difficult to say how far the care given by the home nursing service renders hospital treatment unnecessary, but during the year complete courses of antibiotics, etc., were administered by the nurses to 308 patients in their own homes.

SECTION 26.—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

Vaccination against Smallpox.

Of the 1,878 births occurring in 1960, and surviving on 31st December, 1960, 856 infants (45.6%), were successfully vaccinated by the 31st December, 1961.

Of children surviving at 12 months of age:—

From 1920 to 1929	43.1%	were successfully vaccinated
From 1930 to 1939	38.8%	were successfully vaccinated
From 1940 to 1948 (4th July) ...	41.4%	were successfully vaccinated
From 5th July, 1948 to 1949	10.0%	were successfully vaccinated
From 1950 to 1959	29.0%	were successfully vaccinated

It is worthy of note that during the last 11 years 1950 to 1960, the annual percentage of surviving children who have reached 12 months of age and who have been successfully vaccinated were: 17.6, 17.7, 20.6, 24.4, 30.3, 28.6, 30.9, 39.7, 37.8, 38.7 and 45.6 respectively. This latter figure 45.6% compares favourably with

1920—29	43.1%
1930—39	38.8%
1940—48	41.4% when vaccination was compulsory.

During 1961—1,216 vaccinations (367 by private practitioners and 849 by our medical officers) and 139 re-vaccinations (130 by private practitioners and 9 by our medical officers) were carried out.

The following figures show the numbers of successful vaccinations or re-vaccinations carried out during the past seven years.

VACCINATIONS.	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Under 1 year old	525	567	819	756	768	790	979
One year old ...	23	18	25	20	21	26	28
2 to 4 years ...	25	14	34	26	27	26	55
5 to 14 years ...	27	27	33	37	33	28	50
Over 15 years	59	72	87	122	104	71	104
Total							
Vaccinations	659	698	998	961	942	941	1,216

RE-VACCINATIONS.	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
2 to 4 years ...	7	9	12	3	2	11	8
5 to 14 years ...	21	10	30	18	9	17	22
Over 15 years .	123	162	188	190	125	141	109
Total							
Re-vaccinations	151	181	230	211	136	169	139

Vaccinations of infants have shown a moderate increase since 1956. Nevertheless, it is estimated that only 6.6% of the total population have been vaccinated during the past 7 years. As South Shields is a sea port visited by all nationalities, the gravity of the position is apparent.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

1,995 children were immunised during 1961; of these 1,568 were immunised by medical officers of the Health Department.

In addition, 1,182 children had reinforcing inoculations (1,069 by medical officers of the Health Department). It was estimated that at the end of 1961, 79.2% of the school children in the Borough and 65.0% of children under 5 years of age, had been immunised.

It has been agreed that, because individual immunity tends to wane with the passage of time, an assessment of the extent to which a local population has been protected must take into account the proportion of children who have had a course of immunisation within the last five years. These figures are given under para. A, of the following table. Para. D, gives the resultant index, which is the percentage of children immunised during the past 5 years. This is still far from satisfactory especially with regard to babies under twelve months and parents are urged in the interests of their children to ensure that immunisation and later re-inforcing immunisation is carried out.

I. IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of children at 31st December, 1961, who have completed a course of immunisation *at any time* between 1st January, 1947, and 31st December, 1961.

Age on 31/12/1961 (i.e. born in year)	Under 1 1961	1—4 1957—1960	5—9 1952—1956	10—14 1947—1951	Under 15 Total
A—Number of children whose last course (primary or booster) was completed in the period 1957—1961.....	567	5,952	5,840	2,393	14,752
B—Number of children whose last course (primary or booster) was completed in the period 1956 or earlier....	—	—	1,479	5,774	7,253
C—Estimated mid-year child population.....	1,951	8,085	19,541		29,577
D—Immunity Index 100A	29·1	73·6	42·1		49·9
C					

The annual number of cases and deaths from diphtheria in *England and Wales* since the National Immunisation Campaign was launched in 1940, are as follows:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Cases</i>	<i>Deaths</i>
1940	36,281	2,480
1941	50,797	2,641
1942	41,404	1,827
1943	34,662	1,371
1944	23,199	934
1945	18,596	722
1946	11,986	472
1947	5,609	244
1948	3,575	156
1949	1,890	84
1950	962	49
1951	664	30
1952	376	23
1953	266	20
1954	173	8
1955	155	12
1956	53	3
1957	37	4
1958	80	8
1959	102	None
1960	49	3
1961	165	7 (Provisional)

The following table shows the annual number of cases of diphtheria in *South Shields* and the number of deaths and children immunised since the campaign began here in 1938:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>Cases</i>	<i>*Deaths</i>	<i>Children (under 15) Immunised</i>
1938	598	61	4,649
1939	493	44	11,441
1940	178	25	12,882
1941	183	25	13,226
1942	201	17	15,998
1943	234	18	17,140
1944	187	8	17,651
1945	125	7	17,881
1946	77	2	17,527
1947	60	2	17,647
1948	50	2	18,070
1949	20	2	18,947
1950	5	1	19,357

1951	3	None	20,000
1952	None	None	20,143
1953	None	None	20,450
1954	None	None	20,740
1955	None	None	21,116
1956	None	None	21,266
1957	None	None	21,597
1958	None	None	21,733
1959	None	None	21,734
1960	None	None	21,621
1961	None	None	22,005

*None of the patients who died from diphtheria had been immunised.

Whooping Cough Immunisation.

1,903 children were immunised against whooping cough during the year; 223 combined with diphtheria prophylactic and 1,680 combined with diphtheria and tetanus prophylactic.

The ages of the children were as follows:—

Age	"Triple" Antigen	Combined Whooping Cough and Diphtheria	Total
0+	555	8	563
1+	861	139	1,000
2+	127	41	168
3+	56	15	71
4+	39	12	51
5+	16	5	21
6+	10	—	10
7+	8	1	9
8+	3	—	3
9+	3	1	4
10+	1	—	1
11+	1	1	2
Total	<u>1,680</u>	<u>223</u>	<u>1,903</u>

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

By the end of December, 1961, the vaccination state in South Shields was as follows:—

Group	In- jection	1956 to 1960	1961	Total (to date)
A. Under one: Born 1961	1st	—	264	264
	2nd	—	218	218
	3rd	—	1	1
B. Age 1 to 4: Born 1957/60	1st	3469	2144	5613
	2nd	3213	2086	5299
	3rd	2259	899	3158
	4th	—	20	20
C. Age 5 to 14: Born 1947/56	1st	15312	976	16288
	2nd	15158	912	16070
	3rd	13619	363	13982
	4th	—	6434	6434
D. Age 15 to 24: Born 1937/46	1st	10257	728	10985
	2nd	9725	646	10371
	3rd	8281	208	8489
E. Age 25 to 39: Born 1922/36	1st	5118	2966	8084
	2nd	4669	2790	7459
	3rd	4050	747	4797
F. Others (including Age 40 and over)	1st	1671	1223	2894
	2nd	1359	1178	2537
	3rd	761	163	924
	4th	—	19	19
Grand Total	1st	35827	8301	44128
	2nd	34124	7830	41954
	3rd	28970	2381	31351
	4th	—	6473	6473

A total of 24,985 injections were carried out during the year (23,008 by our own Medical Officers and 1,977 by private practitioners).

It was estimated that at the end of the year, one or more injections had been given to 58.5% of children under 5, and 83.4% to children 5/14.

In March, 1961 an intensive propaganda scheme was carried out, based upon a two days' visit of the mobile clinic loaned by Messrs. Pfizer. Aided by press and widespread poster and other publicity, the campaign opened with his Worship the Mayor of South Shields (Alderman J. F. Richardson) and the Town Clerk receiving the first injections at the mobile clinic. This unit moved to several busy sites in the town during the two days' stay, and the value of this attempt to take the clinic to the public is reflected in the attendances: a total of 2,251 persons received a first injection at the mobile clinic and an additional 1,060 persons had a first injection at the municipal clinic during the week's campaign. These figures represented a record attendance of the public at the unit in all of the areas which had up to then been visited.

In April, when the mobile unit was due to return for a second two day visit, it was diverted at short notice to Ipswich, where an outbreak of poliomyelitis had occurred. Emergency arrangements were quickly made to use premises as near as possible to the original sites of the mobile unit, and 97% of those who had received a first injection returned for their second injection.

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular 15/61, which advised a fourth injection for children aged 5-12 years, special clinics were arranged to deal with this age group, and a fourth injection was given to 6,473 children.

SECTION 27.—AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The following is a statement of the work of the Ambulance Service during 1961:—

(1) PATIENTS

Removals to or from addresses in South Shields	42,059
Removals to or from addresses outside South Shields	6,226
Total Patients	<u>48,285</u>

(2) JOURNEYS

Journeys with patients in South Shields	9,937
Journeys with patients outside South Shields ...	2,942
Accidents and emergencies	2,128
Infectious disease cases	34
Midwives with analgesia apparatus	1,980
Other journeys	171
Total journeys	<u>17,192</u>

(3) MILEAGE

Mileage in South Shields	128,056
Mileage outside South Shields	85,119
Total mileage	<u>213,175</u>

At the end of the year there were in service 10 ambulances. There were 28 driver-attendants, one ambulance superintendent, one motor mechanic and one telephone operator.

(4) COSTS

The cost of the service for the year ending 31st March, 1961, was £34,827; three shillings and three pence per vehicle mile. Corresponding figures for previous year were £32,041 and three shillings and five pence per vehicle mile.

In 1961 each journey averaged 12.4 miles and 2.8 patients were carried as compared with 11.5 miles and 2.6 patients for 1960.

(5) NEW PREMISES

The new ambulance station was taken over from the builders and occupied in January, 1961. It is located in Boldon Lane and consists of ten-bay accommodation for vehicles adjoining a two-storey personnel block. The block comprises, on the ground floor, control room, superintendent's room, store rooms, staff ablution cloakroom and toilets, and on the first floor, mess and lecture rooms with adjoining kitchen for light meals. An inspection pit and other garage equipment is incorporated at one end of the vehicle bays and a motor mechanic was subsequently engaged for the maintenance of the vehicles.

These vastly improved facilities for the staff and for vehicles, coupled with an establishment which was increased by four driver-attendants from the beginning of the year, have enabled the service to cope more efficiently with the still rising demand.

(6) ANNUAL FIGURES

The table on the adjoining page shows the annual totals over the past eight years and the steady rise in miles covered and patients carried. Thus there was a 16% increase in the miles covered and a 12% increase in the number of patients carried in 1961 as compared with 1960.

(7) LONG-DISTANCE TRANSPORT FOR PATIENTS

A considerable demand is made upon the service for the long distance transport of patients. In the interests of comfort for the patient, arrangements are made when possible to forward the patient by main-line train and with the co-operation of ambulance services in other areas to have the patient conveyed from home to train, and on arrival at destination from train to hospital or private address. In 1961, 42 patients were sent by ambulance/rail service on long distance journeys (as compared with 38 patients in 1960).

AMBULANCE SERVICE — 1954 to 1961.

	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
No. OF PATIENTS—								
In South Shields —	32,428	32,676	31,384	30,873	30,501	33,037	36,274	42,059
Out of South Shields	5,409	5,359	5,458	4,458	5,641	6,431	6,660	6,226
TOTAL	<u>37,477</u>	<u>38,035</u>	<u>36,842</u>	<u>35,331</u>	<u>36,142</u>	<u>39,468</u>	<u>42,934</u>	<u>48,285</u>
No. OF JOURNEYS—								
In South Shields —	13,384	13,436	12,774	13,190	13,109	13,514	13,593	14,250
Out of South Shields	2,201,	2,059	2,183	2,067	2,376	2,816	3,197	2,942
TOTAL	<u>15,585</u>	<u>15,495</u>	<u>14,957</u>	<u>15,257</u>	<u>15,485</u>	<u>16,330</u>	<u>16,790</u>	<u>17,192</u>
MILEAGE—								
In South Shields —	95,516	99,191	102,485	100,260	102,055	107,859	108,563	128,056
Out of South Shields	66,544	67,931	70,286	63,537	71,352	76,889	83,776	85,119
TOTAL	<u>162,060</u>	<u>167,122</u>	<u>172,771</u>	<u>163,797</u>	<u>173,407</u>	<u>184,748</u>	<u>192,339</u>	<u>213,175</u>
Miles per Patient	4.3	4.4	4.7	4.6	4.8	4.7	4.5	4.4

SECTION 28.
PREVENTION of ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE.
Family Case Worker.

As mentioned in the annual report for 1960, the allocation of part-time services of a qualified Family case worker by the Northumberland and Tyneside Council of Social Service was introduced at the end of that year. The arrangements continued throughout 1961 with full liaison with the department.

Mrs. E. Winch, the family case worker who holds her interviews in Talbot Memorial House, Westoe Village, on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Friday of each week has supplied the following details of the work carried out in 1961:

New cases seen		57
Referred by: Hospital almoners	10	
Probation officer	4	
Public Health Dept. ...	20	
N.S.P.C.C.	5	
Others	18	
Interviews		238
Cash disbursed		£150

Health Education Arrangements (Circular 1/62 para. 7(c)).

The Mothers' Health Education Club was held at the Municipal clinic every second Tuesday and the number of members remained high. Films, talks and discussions on a variety of health topics were featured at most meetings.

Assistance in mothercraft classes was given by the health visiting staff in two secondary schools and five sessions of instructions were given by one of the health visitors.

In November, 1961, a Fire Prevention Week was held and the health visitors worked with the local Fire Service in arranging an exhibition stand in the Market Place and an exhibition on home safety in the Municipal clinic.

For the education of the expectant mother, regular sessions are held in conjunction with ante-natal clinics for instruction, which is given by the midwives on physiology of child-birth, mothercraft, analgesia and breathing exercises.

A talk on venereal disease with films was given by the consultant Venereologist, Dr. C. B. Schofield, to youth club leaders to enable the latter with the assistance of health visitors to give information on this subject to their individual clubs. This has been followed up by the regular monthly issue to youth clubs of the magazine 'Better Health.'

Members of the health visiting staff have given talks to the following:

- Red Cross Cadets (Home Safety).
- Two Women's Guilds.
- Three Young Mothers' Clubs.
- Salvation Army (Women's Hour).

In addition, members of the medical and dental staff and of the public health inspectorate have given talks to other organisations.

Recuperative Holidays.

Recuperative holidays in approved convalescent homes are arranged by the department for persons who are recommended by their medical practitioner for this form of care, and who are unable otherwise to obtain such treatment. During 1961, 167 applications—46 males, 121 females—were made; these requests came from medical practitioners, almoners and health visitors. Nine of the applicants were not able to take advantage of the arrangements made for them, and 158 patients had a holiday as follows:

In the Proctor Memorial Home, Shotley Bridge	84
Shoreston Hall, Seahouses	19
The Leazes, Wolsingham	18
Horn Hall, Stanhope	12
Metcalfe Smith House, Harrogate	10
Rose Joicey Home, Whitburn	5
Silloth Home	5
St. Camillus, Hexham	4
Whickham Home for Children	1

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>
0—15 yrs.	2	1
16—25 yrs.	—	7
26—45 yrs.	4	15
46—65 yrs.	21	48
66—75 yrs.	13	24
75+	4	19
	—	—
	44	114
	—	—

Two weeks' holiday	137
Three weeks' holiday	12
Four weeks' holiday	2
Less than two weeks	7

The conditions necessitating a recuperative holiday were:

Bronchitis	46	Gastritis	3
Post influenzal debility	21	Peptic ulcer	3
Arthritis	16	Varicose veins	3
Post operation	12	Anaemia	3
Hypertension	10	Asthma	2
Neurosis	11	Quiescent tuberculosis	2
Domestic stress	11	Child with mother	2
Diabetes	4	Cystitis	1
Heart disease	4	Carcinoma	1
Otitis	3		

The gross cost of these holidays to the local authority was £1,454 and the amount recoverable from patients was £65. Thirty-four patients had a total of 68 weeks' holiday in The Leazes, Wolsingham; Horn Hall, Stanhope; and St. Camillus, Hexham: and these holidays were arranged at no cost to the Corporation, through the courtesy of the Brother-in-charge, St. Camillus, and the co-operation of the South West Durham Hospital Management Committee.

Sick Room Requisites.

994 articles were lent during the year, as follows:—

Bed Pans	211	
Air Cushions	124	
Foam Cushions	19	
Invalid Chairs	65	
Rubber Sheets	204	
Bed Rests	98	
Crutches (pairs)	7	pr.
Urinals	115	
Lifting Pole, etc.	4	
Dunlop Mattresses	18	
Leg Cages	28	
Rubber Bed Pans	23	
Elbow Stick	8	pr.
Commodes	39	
Tripod Sticks	8	
Mattresses	5	
Walking Sticks	1	
Special Beds	7	
Feeding Cups	9	
Spinal Carriage	1	

Deposits and charges amounted to £134/5/6.

Sick room requisites are also issued by the St. John Ambulance Brigade (Nursing Division) from their Headquarters in Westoe Village.

Chiropody.

Since 1959, the South Shields Old People's Welfare Committee have been assisted by grants from the local health authority to enable them to continue a chiropody scheme for old persons which they had instituted in 1958. This voluntary scheme has been very successful; it is held in the headquarters of the local division of the British Red Cross Society, whose members assist the elderly people attending each session. The appointments for chiropody are made through the Welfare Department. The Chiropodist, Mr. J. Anderson, is approved by the Minister of Health under the National Health Service (Medical Auxiliaries) Regulations, 1954.

The following is a summary of the work carried on:

	1959	1960	1961
Total sessions held	55	184	203
Total attendances	363	1,167	1,257
Visits paid by chiropodist to patients' homes	39	249	249
Total number of patients treated	215	442	452

Owing to the national and local shortage of qualified chiropodists, no steps have yet been taken to formulate proposals for a directly administered chiropody scheme in accordance with Section 28 of the National Health Service Act.

Liaison Arrangements (Circular L.H.A.L. 2/59).

All discharges of children under the age of 15 from the local group of hospitals have been notified to the Department for several years. A special form supplied by the authority is used and the co-operation of the hospital service is much appreciated. By this arrangement, the follow up of children at home is facilitated in cases where this may be required.

There is also regular consultation between the Consultant Paediatrician and children's ward sister with the staff of this department.

TUBERCULOSIS.**Incidence of Tuberculosis.**

No. of South Shields residents on the tuberculosis notification register on 1st January, 1961 ...	766
Cases notified during 1961	87
Non-notified fatal cases	—
Notified posthumously	—
Cases re-admitted to register	11
“Inward” Transfers	4
	<hr/>
	868

Cases removed from register:—

Deaths from tuberculosis or other causes	21
Left the town	18
Two years untraced	2
Three years free (non-respiratory)	30
Five years free (respiratory)	121
Wrong diagnosis or notification withdrawn	7
	<hr/>
	199

Number of cases on register at end of 1961 669

**Age and Sex of Cases on Notification Register
as on 31st December, 1961.**

Age Groups	MALES		FEMALES		Total
	Respiratory	Non-respiratory	Respiratory	Non-respiratory	
0- 4 years	8	2	9	—	19
5- 9 years	11	—	16	—	27
10-14 years	8	1	12	2	23
15-19 years	13	1	17	—	31
20-24 years	27	3	39	2	71
25-29 years	19	3	34	4	60
30-34 years	14	1	30	4	49
35-39 years	38	3	28	1	70
40-44 years	31	2	25	2	60
45-49 years	32	2	14	1	49
50-54 years	28	2	18	1	49
55-59 years	45	—	10	1	56
60-64 years	32	—	6	—	38
65-69 years	29	—	5	—	34
70-74 years	19	—	5	1	25
75-79 years	4	—	2	—	6
80-84 years	1	—	—	—	1
85+	1	—	—	—	1
Totals	360	20	270	19	669

There was a decrease of 97 cases on the register on the 31st December as compared with the 1st January, 1961.

Notifications.

Of the 87 cases notified there were:—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Respiratory	54	24	78
Non-respiratory	4	5	9

The following table shows the number of "new cases" classified according to age.

Age Group	Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	1	...	...	...
1+ years .....	...	1	...	...
2—4 years.....	2	1	...	...
5—9 years.....	2	2	...	...
10—14 years.....	1	1	...	...
15—19 years.....	1	2	...	...
20—24 years.....	3	2	...	...
25—34 years.....	3	4	1	5
35—44 years.....	5	4	1	...
45—54 years.....	11	3	2	...
55—64 years.....	13	1	...	...
65—74 years.....	9	1	...	...
75+ years	3	2	...	...
Total.....	54	24	4	5

These figures include five Arabs—all males aged 19, 26, 37 and 55 (Respiratory) and aged 45 (Non-respiratory).

Of the 87 new cases ascertained in 1961, 28 less than in 1960, 78 were respiratory and 9 in which the disease affected organs other than the lungs. The notification rate was 0.79 per 1,000 of the population (0.71 respiratory and 0.08 non-respiratory).

The number of cases of tuberculosis notified or ascertained during each of the past ten years is as follows:—

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Notified :—										
Respiratory	232	237	176	178	148	158	147	132	100	78
Non-respiratory	24	23	20	15	10	10	8	12	15	9
Not Notified :—										
Respiratory	4	3	2	2	2	3	1	2	—	—
Non-respiratory	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	3	—	—
Total	260	264	199	195	161	171	156	149	115	87
Notification rate	2.43	2.46	1.85	1.81	1.49	1.58	1.44	1.37	1.06	0.79
Cases per 100 deaths	406	754	524	813	805	900	867	1146	1917	791

A comparison of the notification rates for the neighbouring authorities is as follows:—

South Shields	0.79 per 1,000
Gateshead C.B.	0.94 „
Sunderland C.B.	0.73 „
Newcastle upon Tyne	0.67 „
Tynemouth C.B.	0.92 „
Durham County	0.52 „
Northumberland County	0.54 „

Mortality.

Tuberculosis caused 11 deaths during 1961: 10 respiratory and 1 non-respiratory cases. This represents a death rate of 0.10 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 0.06 for 1960.

The death rate in South Shields from tuberculosis during the past ten years was as follows:—

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Respiratory	0·59	0·30	0·32	0·20	0·17	0·17	0·16	0·09	0·06	0·09
Non-respiratory	0·01	0·03	0·03	0·02	0·02	0·01	0·01	0·03	—	0·01

The following table sets out a comparison of the death rates of neighbouring authorities, for all forms of tuberculosis:—

England and Wales	0.07
<i>South Shields</i> C.B.	0.10
Gateshead C.B.	0.06
Sunderland C.B.	0.09
Newcastle upon Tyne	0.08
Tynemouth C.B.	0.05
<hr/>	
Durham County	0.08
Northumberland County	0.07
<hr/> <hr/>	

Contacts examined at Chest Clinic.

1. New cases notified as Respiratory Tuberculosis	74
2. New contact examinations	586
3. Contact examinations per notifications	7.9
4. Contacts notified Respiratory Tuberculosis	9
5. Total notifications (headings 1 & 4)	83
6. Percentage of heading 4 in heading 2	1.5
7. Percentage of heading 4 in heading 5	10.8

Contacts tested at Chest Clinic.

No. tuberculin tested		321
Results—positive	50	
,, —negative	271	
		321
No. vaccinated with B.C.G.	270	
,, elsewhere	69	
		339

B.C.G. Vaccination.

The scheme for the vaccination of contacts of cases of tuberculosis by the Chest Physician commenced in 1951 and that for the vaccination of the '13 year olds' by the medical staff of the Public Health Department commenced in 1954, while Circular 7/59 extended the latter to all school children 14 years of age and upwards and students attending colleges, etc.

During 1961, the following tests and vaccinations were carried out.

	<i>Contact scheme by Chest Physician</i>	<i>13 year old Group</i>	<i>Students etc., Group</i>
Skin Tests	390	1,486	283
Positive	50	144	140
% Positive	12.8	9.7	49.5
Negative	271	1,316	104
% Negative	69.5	88.6	36.7
Vaccinated B.C.G.	339	1,315	104
% Vaccinated	86.9	88.5	36.7

All 'positive' cases were invited to attend for X-ray.

From the commencement of the B.C.G. scheme in 1951 a total of 9,946 vaccinations have been given.

Contacts (by the Chest Physician)	2,834
13 year old children (by Local Authority Medical Officers)	6,730
Students (by Local Authority Medical Officers)	382

This is helping very materially in the reduction of tuberculosis, particularly among the groups who are most susceptible.

13-year-old Group.

It is worthy of note that the percentage of negative results on testing has increased annually from 1954 as follows:— 68.3, 72.6, 75.9, 75.8, 79.4, 83.2, 84.1 and 88.6% These are the children who can be and are vaccinated with B.C.G. vaccine and this is due to the increased tubercle-free milk supply and to the decreasing pool of infection in the Borough.

Student Group.

As was to be expected, this group, whose ages range between 15 and 46, had a high positive rate, no less than 49.5%

In addition 24 students who had previously been vaccinated with B.C.G., were tested, 6 of whom were found negative and were re-vaccinated.

Mass Radiography.

I am indebted to Dr. O. W. Marienfeld, Chest Physician, for the following details:

The unit operated in South Shields and district for 51 days during 1961.

5,240 miniature films were taken, the daily average being 103 examinees.

The number of active cases of tuberculosis brought to light by the Unit was 10, equivalent to a percentage of 0.2 of all the persons examined.

Special Housing Scheme.

231 houses have been allocated to overcrowded tuberculous families in the past, 9 of which were allocated this year. The present state of these families is as follows:— 36 of the cases have died, 134 have been 5 or more years free (disease arrested), 7 left the town, 12 moved out of Council houses, and 42 still remain as active cases. Many other families in which there is a case of tuberculosis have qualified under the Council's "points" scheme which allows extra 6 or 10 points in certain cases upon special certificate of the Medical Officer of Health, and in all, there are 331 families in which 370 patients are suffering from the disease living in houses on the Council's housing estates.

Resettlement.

With the increasing number of tuberculous patients now considered fit for work, it has been found easier, and also quicker for the patients, to refer them at once to the Disablement Resettlement Officer instead of collecting them for special sessions.

Dietary Supplements.

Four patients were supplied with one pint of milk daily, amounting in all to 160 gallons.

After-Care.

The medico-social work has been carried on since March, 1958, on a part-time basis by a rota of health visitors.

Each health visitor in turn attended certain lessons at the Chest Clinic for a period of three months during 1961, however, the need for the attendance of a health visitor at any of the chest clinic sessions was found to be unnecessary and the arrangements terminated. The health visitors of course maintain a link with tuberculosis families through their routine home visiting of such households.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

For the following report on the Venereology Services in South Shields in 1961, I am indebted to Dr. C. B. S. Schofield, Physician in Charge.

During 1961 there was a general increase in the number of new patients (391) as compared with 1960 (267). This was noticed prior to the increase in the number of sessions to two whole days and two mornings, which started in mid-June. In the first six months 169 new patients were seen as compared with 109 in the first six months of 1960.

84 men (in 1960, 38) and 43 women (26) were treated for gonorrhoea and a further 42 men (21) for non-gonococcal urethritis. A further 64 patients (66) attended with other conditions requiring treatment, and 141 (104) for reassurance that they were free from venereal disease.

There has been no evidence of undiscovered cases of syphilis in the area, either by contacts named from other areas or from serological tests on hospital or ante-natal patients. Of the total of 19 patients (8) attending for the first time with syphilis, 7 (0) were in the early contagious stages—4 men and 3 women, 2 of them acquiring it from their husbands.

The overall increase in the number of new patients is now in line with the rest of the country, and the delay in onset might have been due, in part, to the geographical position of this area. We have no large contiguous urban areas as are found elsewhere in say Glasgow, Manchester, Birmingham and the Metropolis, where the transmission of contagious venereal disease is more rapid. Most of the imported venereal disease in this area can be traced to mariners, who have escaped treatment on board ship.

During the year our social services have identified and brought for treatment or notified other areas of their names and addresses, 4 patients with contagious syphilis and 37 with gonorrhoea. Of 84 men with gonorrhoea 76 were interviewed by the social worker, 29 had consorts out of the area or who were unknown; the other 47 named 31 women in the area all of whom attended and were treated, 6 of them on more than one occasion. In the field of case holding, of 41 men and 45 women attending for treatment or surveillance of syphilis, 15 and 14 respectively defaulted, some repeatedly and were brought back by letters and visits on 12 and 17 occasions. Only 3 men have been written off the books as hopeless. Of 140 men and 96 women attending with gonorrhoea, 16 and 14 respectively defaulted, 1 man and 7 women returned by efforts, 17 men and 6 women de-

faulted completely, but with the present success of the treatment of gonorrhoea with one injection of Penicillin, we do not follow-up a default intensively unless we have reason to believe there are undisclosed consorts to be tested.

There has been a rise in venereal diseases found in teenagers, as elsewhere in the country. 14 or one-third of the women who were treated for gonorrhoea were under 21 and 4 of them were aged 16. If youth clubs, or their leaders, desire them, lectures can be given on certain aspects of venereal disease, probably in association with other health propaganda lectures under the direction of Dr. Leitch, the Medical Officer of Health.

The posting of notices in public lavatories by the Medical Officers of Health concerned, stating the clinic times of both North and South Shields Clinics, has been welcomed by patients attending for treatment of venereal diseases, both strangers to the towns as well as the local inhabitants.

The small rise in total attendances from 2,323 in 1960 to 2,458 in 1961 is due to the fact that modern therapy needs less attendances, per infection, than before.

The following table shows in detail the cases dealt with at the South Shields centre for the first time during each of the past ten years.

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Syphilis	79	39	32	18	22	14	14	13	8	19
Gonorrhoea	153	137	94	70	57	85	82	54	64	127
Other conditions	413	338	352	276	259	302	232	193	195	245
Total	645	514	478	364	338	401	328	260	267	391

The cases dealt with for the first time exclude the following numbers of patients who were known to have had treatment for the same infection at other centres, in Service Hospitals or by general practitioners.

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
Syphilis	28	17	12	4	10	5	2	16	13	15
Gonorrhoea	18	6	8	8	3	11	8	8	4	9
Other Conditions	10	5	1	3	—	5	5	1	5	4
Total	56	28	21	15	13	21	15	25	22	28

The following table shows the attendance at the South Shields centre during the past 10 years:—

Year	Total	Male	Female
1952.....	9,072	4,084	4,988
1953.....	6,705	3,309	3,396
1954.....	5,769	2,763	3,006
1955.....	4,370	1,948	2,422
1956.....	4,484	2,198	2,286
1957.....	4,209	2,389	1,820
1958.....	3,288	1,788	1,500
1959.....	2,713	1,313	1,400
1960.....	2,323	1,331	992
1961.....	2,458	1,561	897

Total cases treated at the South Shields centre during 1961 including cases who had continued treatment from 1960:—

	Male	Female	Total
Syphilis	41	50	91
Gonorrhoea	96	44	140
Other conditions.....	234	46	280

Summary of Cases.

	Syphilis		Gonorrhoea		Other Conditions	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under treatment or observation, 1/1/61	22	35	4	—	30	1
Old cases returning for treatment.....	5	6	1	—	—	—
Transferred from other centres.....	3	1	7	1	4	—
New cases	11	8	84	43	200	45
Completed treatment	2	2	16	22	136	37
Transferred elsewhere.....	7	2	45	1	56	—
Not completed treatment.....	3	—	17	6	24	6
Under treatment or observation, 31/12/61	29	46	18	15	18	3

Non-residents were treated at the centre from countries other than England and Wales and from other administrative counties and County Boroughs.

South Shields Cases under treatment at other centres.

	Syphilis	Gonorrhoea	Other Con- ditions	Total Cases
Newcastle upon Tyne ...	1	4	37	42
North Shields	—	7	5	12
Sunderland	1	3	10	14

SECTION 29.—DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE.

This service, first established in 1948, has steadily expanded each year until April 1961 when the Council decided to reduce the financial estimate of the service for the year 1961/62 by £7,000. As from April 1961, therefore, the Home Help supervisor was compelled to review the circumstances and allocation of hours in all old and new cases. This was achieved however without undue disturbance of arrangements for those in need although the service had to be more drastically pruned in other cases where the needs were less pressing. In assessing need of the service and in new cases, the Supervisor has had to apply more rigorous standards.

The following table shows the details of the working of the service for 1961 as compared with 1960:

	Households		Hours given	
	1960	1961	1960	1961
Aged persons	1,100	1,099	189,134	204,831
Maternity cases ...	32	21	1,940	1,211
T.B. cases	8	8	1,355	1,404
Other cases	66	41	7,995	7,471
	<u>1,206</u>	<u>1,169</u>	<u>200,424</u>	<u>214,917</u>

Despite the reduction in the financial estimate, it will be noticed that the number of hours worked in 1961 exceeds the number in 1960 by more than 14,000. In 1960 the number of hours worked per quarter averaged 50,000, but this had increased in the first quarter of 1961 to nearly 70,000: the application of stricter standards reduced this in the second, third and fourth quarters to an average of 45,000 hours per quarter. The reduction in the number of cases is not as great as would be expected; because of the permanency of a large proportion of aged and chronic sick on the register and whilst some economies can be effected by reducing the number of hours, it is still necessary to give the service to such cases.

The scale of charges applied to the users of the service continued unaltered with the exception that the minimum charge of 2/- per week was abolished. This, if anything, had the effect of still further increasing the proportion of aged persons making use of the service, but there was a reduction in the number of maternity cases. There is probably a financial deterrent in such cases owing to the more extreme effect of the scale of charges on a wage-earning

household. In view of the known reluctance of a number of multiparous women to have their fourth (or upwards) confinement in hospital, some easement of the scale in such cases (where the services of a home help would be so valuable) might help to ensure that any reason advanced for refusing the services for a home confinement was not because of the high charge applied. The shortage of maternity hospital beds in the area also adds to the likelihood of home confinements in those cases where hospital confinement is really indicated.

By using an experienced home help in routine supervisory visits, it was possible to arrange for more extensive supervision of the service generally. The number of visits thus paid in 1961 totalled 3,636 (2,057 in 1960). In this way the service can be varied with the changing needs and circumstances of each household and the work of the individual home helps supervised.

Night attendance was requested for two patients: in one case this was provided by a home help, and in the other case private arrangements were made with the district nursing service.

Staff.

- (a) At 31st December, 1960.
 - One supervisor.
 - One assistant supervisor.
 - Two clerks.
 - 2 full-time and 226 part-time home helps.
- (b) At 31st December, 1961.
 - One supervisor.
 - One assistant supervisor.
 - Two clerks.
 - 2 full-time and 203 part-time home helps.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

Although it is only thirteen months since the Mental Health Act, 1959 became fully operative, even at this early stage in the Act's history the changes it was intended to bring about in the care and treatment of mental disorder are being or have been accepted and the results of the changes becoming more evident.

There now appears to be a greater readiness on the part of the mentally sick to accept whatever help is offered whether it be by way of the local authority's domiciliary care services, or in-patient or out-patient hospital treatment. This is evidenced by the fact that prior to the introduction of the new Act this department had under domiciliary care 146 sub-normal patients, and none suffering from mental illness. At the end of 1961 these figures were 176 sub-normal patients and 67 mentally ill, and the numbers are growing month by month. The Mental Welfare Officers now spend the greater part of their time in visiting these patients and their families, giving them advice, information and support in times of difficulty and stress, and, on occasion, material assistance.

That patients more readily accept hospital treatment is borne out by the fact that of those patients referred to the Mental Welfare Officers, 70% enter hospital informally; and if to this could be added the number who enter hospital direct or through the service of their medical practitioner, then the informal rate of admission would rise to about 90%.

As well as the expansion in the domiciliary care service during the year, it has also been a year of continued expansion for the training centres. The demand for places in both the junior and adult centres continues, and there is a waiting list of both juniors and adults. It is hoped, however, that more places will be made available in 1962 as buildings have already been obtained for expansion and extra staff is being appointed. Alterations are already in hand to convert an out-building into a workshop for the use of the adult male group. The supervisors and their staffs maintained their high standard of teaching and this has resulted in the centre being accepted as a training school for new entrants by the N.A.M.H. It is also reflected in the excellent attendance rate of all groups and in the very fine work and handicrafts produced.

A full statement of the Authority's official proposals for the Mental Health Services was set out in the Annual Report for 1960.

In the future it is hoped that a further stage in the development of the services will be reached when the first hostel in the borough is opened to cater for the needs of mentally disordered.

Altogether it has been a year of steady progress.

TABLE 2.—Patients under domiciliary care on 31st December, 1961.

	MENTALLY ILL				SUBNORMAL				SEVERELY SUBNORMAL				TOTALS				Grand Total
	Under 16		Over 16		Under 16		Over 16		Under 16		Over 16		Under 16		Over 16		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Patients under domiciliary care on 31st December, 1961....	—	—	26	41	3	3	40	35	32	16	23	24	35	19	89	100	243

TABLE 3.
TRAINING CENTRES, 10 OAKLEIGH GARDENS,
CLEADON VILLAGE.

	SUBNORMAL				SEVERELY SUBNORMAL				TOTALS				Grand Total
	Under 16		Over 16		Under 16		Over 16		Under 16		Over 16		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
(a) Numbers on register on 31/12/61	3	2	6	5	24	14	14	12	27	16	20	17	80
(b) On waiting list 31/12/61	—	—	—	4	5	—	—	—	5	—	—	4	9

The number of Staff employed in the Training Centres on 31/12/61 was as follows:—

- 1 Male and 1 Female Supervisor.
- 1 Male and 5 Female Assistant Supervisors.
- 1 Guide Helper and two Cleaners.

TABLE 4.—South Shields patients admitted to Hospitals by Mental Welfare Officers under the Mental Health Act, 1959, during the year 1961.

(a) General Hospital, South Shields.

	Males	Females	Total
Informal	35	27	62
Section 29 (Emergency Admissions)	9	10	19
Section 25 (Admission for Observation).....	—	—	—
Section 26 (Admission for Treatment).....	—	—	—
	44	37	81

(b) Cherry Knowle Hospital, Ryhope

	Males	Females	Total
Informal	4	14	18
Section 29 (Emergency Admissions).....	1	9	10
Section 25 (Admission for Observation).....	—	1	1
Section 26 (Admission for Treatment).....	—	—	—
	5	24	29
Sum Totals.....	49	61	110

The total number of patients admitted to hospital in 1961 by the officers, 110, compares with 218 for 1960. This striking reduction is however offset by the large number of patients admitted informally to hospital through general practitioners. The full total of hospital admissions for mental disorder for South Shields patients, irrespective of mode of admission probably shows little significant change.

TABLE 5.—Total discharged*, etc., from Psychiatric Hospital during 1961.

	DISCHARGED			DIED			No. of Patients in hospital on 31/12/61		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
General Hospital, South Shields	42	38	80	—	2	2	8	5	13
Cherry Knowle Hospital Ryhope	24	42	66	—	—	—	41	43	84
St. Mary's Hospital, Stannington	1	1	2	—	1	1	63	63	126
St. Georges Hospital, Morpeth	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1
	68	81	149	—	3	3	112	112	224

*This includes all South Shields patients irrespective of manner of admission and by whom arranged.

Table 6
SUBNORMAL PATIENTS IN HOSPITAL ON
31st DECEMBER, 1961.

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital, Prudhoe	69	55	124
General Hospital, South Shields	22	—	22
Aycliffe Hospital, Heighington	2	—	2
Other Hospitals	3	7	10
	<u>96</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>158</u>

The numbers of cases reported to the Local Health Authority under the amended Section 57 of the Education Act, 1944, during the year were:—

Section 57 (3)	—
Section 57 (4)	4
Section 57 (5)	5

PART IV.—MISCELLANEOUS.**Blind Persons.**

I am indebted to the Director of Welfare Services for the information which he supplied for this part of my report.

During the year, the total number of forms B.D.8 submitted was 63, and the number of persons certified as blind was 38.

<i>Age Groups</i>	<i>On Certification</i>	<i>At Onset of Blindness</i>
Up to 9 yrs.	—	2
10 — 19 „	—	1
20 — 29 „	1	1
30 — 39 „	1	1
40 — 49 „	2	1
50 — 59 „	1	1
60 — 69 „	5	6
70 — 79 „	14	20
80 and over	14	5
	38	38

The total number on the blind register, at the end of the year, was 399.

Treatment.

Follow up of registered blind persons.

	Causes of disability			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retro- lental Fibro- plasia	Others
(1) No. of cases registered during 1961, in respect of which para. 7(c) of Form B.D.8 recommends—				
(a) No treatment .	5	1	—	12
(b) Treatment (Medical, surgical or optical)	11	2	—	6
(c) Treatment inadvisable	—	—	—	1
(11) No. of cases at (i) (b) above, which on follow up action have received treatment	3	2	—	2

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

One case of ophthalmia neonatorum was notified in 1961. The infant was treated at Sunderland Eye Infirmary, and at the end of the year the condition was satisfactory.

Six cases of discharging eyes were notified by midwives. There was no impairment of vision in any of the cases. One case under treatment from 1960 had recovered by the end of 1961.

Nurseries and Child Minders' Regulations Act, 1948.

One private nursery school is registered with the authority to receive up to a maximum of 24 children.

Home Accidents.

During the ten years up to the end of 1961, 101 persons lost their lives as a result of home accidents in South Shields. The mortality due to road accidents in the same period was 91. In the following table, the age group distribution of home accident deaths is shown.

HOME ACCIDENT DEATHS. SOUTH SHIELDS 1952—1961.

Year	0—1 years	2— 4	5— 14	15— 24	25— 34	35— 44	45— 54	55— 64	65— 74	75— 84	85+	Total
1952	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	2	9
1953	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	6
1954	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	1	7
1955	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	6
1956	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	6
1957	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	2	1	—	8
1958	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	6	2	13
1959	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	9	1	20
1960	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	3	1	13
1961	4	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	1	4	1	13
Total	21	5	1	1	4	1	3	9	19	29	8	101

This table underlines the now accepted fact that the persons most at risk in the home are children under 5 and elderly persons over the age of 65; both categories account for 82% of the total deaths. Of the 26 deaths of children under 5, 25 were infants who were stated to have died from suffocation due to various causes such as choking due to vomiting, smothering by pillows and overlaying.

46 of the deaths were due to accidental falls and 34 of these victims were over the age of 65; 24 deaths followed burns and scalds, and 7 of these were children under 14, the remaining 17 affecting persons of middle and old age in equal proportions.

The remainder was due to a variety of causes.

The members of the staff, especially the health visitors, constantly refer to the prevention of home accidents in talks to groups and individuals and appropriate posters are displayed from time to time.

National Assistance Act, 1948—Section 47, and National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951.

Under the above-mentioned Acts, provision is made for "securing the necessary care and attention for persons suffering from grave chronic disease or, the aged, infirm, or physically incapacitated, who are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to devote to themselves and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention."

On two occasions during the year arrangements were made under this section to remove to hospital an old lady of 98. These arrangements were made with great reluctance, having regard to the age and background of the patient. On the first occasion, in March, removal was not proceeded with, and provision of extended home-help care was made. On the second occasion in August the patient died peacefully at home whilst arrangements for removal were still proceeding.

PART V.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE COUNTY BOROUGH.

The annual report of the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. R. V. Robinson, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B., Certs. R.S.I. (Meat & Other Foods) (Smoke) (Sanitary Science).

Water Supply.

A constant supply of chlorinated water is provided by the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company and chemical and bacteriological reports show this to be wholesome and satisfactory.

All houses in the town have a piped supply though some houses in scheduled clearance areas have only a stand-pipe in the yard.

104 samples were taken from taps in various parts of the town; two were reported to contain non-faecal organisms but subsequent samples from the same taps proved to be satisfactory.

Results of Samples of the Company's Water.

(a) BACTERIOLOGICAL (Coliform percentages):—

	No. of Samples	Free from Non-Faecal Organisms	Free from Faecal Organisms
Wells and other sources ...	450	81.4%	98.3%
Reservoirs	191	97.4%	99.0%
Taps	199	99.4%	100.0%

(b) TYPICAL ANALYSIS (physical and chemical) OF WATER IN 1961:—

Physical Characters.

Colour Hazen	Less than 5°
Turbidity	—
pH.	7.6

Chemical Analysis (expressed in parts per million)

Dissolved Oxygen	—
Free CO ₂	6.54
Alkalinity (CaCO ₃)	207.8
Chlorides (Cl)	35.4
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.1
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.03
Nitrite as Nitrogen	—
Nitrate as Nitrogen	1.80
Oxygen Absorbed (3 hrs. at 37° C.)	0.34
Temporary Hardness	207.8
Permanent Hardness	130.3
Total Hardness	338.1
Total Solids (dried at 180° C.)	—
Suspended Solids (dried at 105° C.)	—
Calcium (Ca)	65.2
Magnesium (Mg)	42.5
Aluminium (Al)	—
Iron (Fe)	—
Manganese (Mn)	—
Carbonate (CO ₃)	162.5
Sulphate (SO ₄)	93.8
Silica (SiO ₂)	5
Free Chlorine	Nil
MgCO ₃	37.9
MgSO ₄	117.6
MgCl ₂	31.2
NaCl	20.1
NaCO ₃	168.2

Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

The combined system of drainage is used in the town with soil and surface water discharging directly into the River Tyne.

In conjunction with other riparian authorities the Corporation is currently contributing to an investigation into methods of dealing with the pollution of the river.

Drainage defects resulted in 231 visits during the year; repairs or renewals were supervised in 35 instances and 49 tests were applied.

Swimming Baths.

The Borough is served by one public swimming bath which was originally opened in 1906. It was closed during the whole of 1960 whilst improvement and modernisation works were in progress and was re-opened in January, 1961.

The improvements included the renewal of the chlorinating equipment and filters and the provision of separate changing rooms in place of the cubicles which were formerly sited around the side of the bath.

The bath is filled with mains water which is then subject to continuous filtration and chlorination with a turnover period of 3 hours. There is no doubt that the improvements and renewals have resulted in an improvement in water quality; of 100 samples taken during the year for bacteriological examination only one showed evidence of bacillus coli in 100 m.l. compared with 9 unsatisfactory samples in 1959.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Eight shops and stalls in the Borough were licensed under this Act during the year. 34 visits were made by inspectors and three contraventions were corrected after they had been brought to the notice of the proprietors.

Proceedings were instituted against the occupier of one shop on 4 counts relating to inadequate precautions to prevent the spread of disease amongst animals.

The magistrates imposed a total fine of £20 and revoked the licence for the premises on which the offences had occurred.

One application for licence was refused on the grounds that the premises were unsuitable for the purpose.

Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

There are two premises in the Borough registered for the use of specified filling materials in bedding and upholstery. Each has been visited twice during the year and found satisfactory.

Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.

12 informal and 1 formal sample of fertiliser have been taken during the year. 1 informal sample of hoof and horn meal was slightly deficient in nitrogen and it was later claimed that the wrong statutory particulars had been given. A warning letter was sent.

HOUSING.

Housing inspections and related actions to secure a general improvement of housing conditions continue to account for a considerable part of the public health inspector's time. During the year 2,679 inspections and visits were made for various purposes; 418 dwellings were represented as suitable only for clearance or closure; 370 dwellings were repaired as a result of notices served; 72 improvements grants were approved and 24 applications made under the disrepair provisions of the Rent Act 1957 were dealt with.

New Houses.

244 new houses were completed during the year and they comprised the following types:—

<i>Type</i>	<i>Number</i>
2 bedroomed terrace	31
3 " "	21
3 " semi-detached	54
3 " special semi-detached	8
Corner type flats (1 B.R.)	7
2 bedroomed bungalows	6
2 bedroomed flats (three/four storeys) ...	113
3 " " " " ...	2
Flatlets " " ...	2
	244
	244

The total number of inhabited houses in the Borough at the end of 1961 was 36,323.

Fair Rents Information Bureau.

The following statement by the Borough Treasurer summarises the work of the bureau during 1961:—

Forms 'G' sold to tenants	59
Enquiries by landlords	210
Enquiries by tenants	198
Cases heard by Rent Tribunal	15
	482

Slum Clearance.

The following areas were represented during the year:—

<i>Area</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Persons</i>	<i>Dwellings</i>	<i>Families</i>
Alfred Street	16.5.61	578	225	224
Derby Terrace				
Nos. 1 and 2	16.5.61	62	29	29
Thomas Street	12.7.61	39	10	11
Green Lane				
Nos. 2, 3, 4 and 5 ...	11.10.61	310	111	111
William Black Street	11.10.61	39	15	15
		1,028	390	390

Compulsory purchase orders containing the following clearance areas were confirmed:—

<i>Area</i>	<i>Date confirmed</i>	<i>Date of Public Inquiry</i>	<i>Date represented</i>
Saville St./Winchester St.	18.5.61	17.1.61	10.5.60
John Williamson Street ...	22.9.61	27.6.61	9.11.60

Individual Unfit Houses.

In addition to those dwellings included in areas a further 28 were represented individually as being suitable only for closure or demolition. For 11 of these dwellings the Council accepted undertakings not to re-let for human habitation; closing orders resulted in 4 instances; and 6 were purchased by the Council and demolished. The remaining 7 were parts of buildings adjoining clearance areas and action in respect of these has not yet been concluded. The 28 families to be rehoused comprised 69 persons.

Overcrowding.

Complaints of overcrowding numbered 27 of which 13 were confirmed.

A detailed knowledge of the extent of overcrowding throughout the town could be gained only by a survey such as was carried out in 1936; at that time 3,990 dwellings were

found to be overcrowded—12% of all the dwellings in the town.

Some information is obtained during clearance area inspections—of the total of 390 houses in the areas represented this year 26, or just under 7%, were overcrowded—but this is usually of limited value for comparison purposes because of the varied incidence of overcrowding in different areas of the town.

Occasionally, however, the relationship between the boundaries of a clearance area and those of the enumeration area of 1936 is sufficiently close to make comparison worth while and the Alfred Street area, represented in May is such an area. In 1936, 25% of the dwellings in the area were overcrowded and when represented for clearance, 16 dwellings—i.e. 7%.

If it is assumed that the reduction for the whole town is on the same scale as in the Alfred Street area the percentage of overcrowded dwellings in the town as a whole will have reduced to about 3.5 — nearly 900 houses excluding those owned by the Council.

Surprisingly, however, the number of overcrowded tenants on the Council's list of housing applicants was only 42 at the end of the year.

Whatever the number of cases, the legal standard for overcrowding remains as in 1936; this is a very low one accepting, as it does, the nightly conversion of living rooms into bedrooms. In offering alternative accommodation local authorities must adopt a different standard which takes account of bedrooms only and one wonders when the legal standard will be raised to the same level.

Certificates of Disrepair.

The following are details of applications considered under the disrepair provisions of the Rent Act, 1957:—

Applications for certificates of disrepair	17
Applications refused or withdrawn	Nil
Notice given of intention to issue certificate	16
Undertakings accepted by the Council	11
Certificates of disrepair issued	4
Applications for cancellation	7
Cancellations refused	3
Cancellations granted	
without objection from tenant	4
after objection from tenant	Nil

Applications for certificates relating to compliances with undertakings:	
from landlords	3
from tenants	1

In one instance repairs were satisfactorily completed after application for a certificate of disrepair had been made but before any action had been taken by the Council; in another, the repairs were completed after the Council had given notice of intention to issue, but before the issue of a certificate of disrepair.

Improvement Grants.

The number of standard grant applications considered during the year was 40. One was refused and one withdrawn.

This grant is intended for houses which are structurally sound but which lack modern amenities.

Discretionary grants cover a wider range of improvements and 39 applications for such grants have also been considered; one was refused and 4 withdrawn for amendment.

Lodging Houses.

There are no common lodging houses in the town but a number of Seamen's Lodging Houses are registered under the Merchant Shipping Acts and provide accommodation for seamen.

One new licence was granted during the year. This was for premises in Brunswick Street owned and adapted for the purpose by the Corporation, and occupied by a lodging house keeper who had been displaced by the redevelopment of Cuthbert Street. Two houses closed during the year.

There were 12 Seamen's Lodging Houses licensed at the end of 1961 providing in total sufficient accommodation for 120 lodgers. 50 inspections were made for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the bye-laws.

FOOD AND DRUGS CONTROL.

Sampling for Chemical Analysis.

Sampling of foods and drugs for chemical analysis is carried out to ensure that articles as purchased by the public, are pure and wholesome and conform to the requirements of the various orders regulating composition, preservation, colouring and labelling.

This year 209 samples have been submitted for analysis,

the total being made up of 118 samples of milk, 80 of other foods and 11 drugs; 45 were formal samples.

8 samples of milk were reported to contain less than the presumptive standard of 3% fat but in each case "appeal to cow" samples showed them to be genuine.

One half pint bottle of milk, the subject of a complaint was found to contain 42.1% water. Informal and formal samples from the roundsman and the dairy proved satisfactory and no other complaints were received about the milk from this source. It was then found that the complainant had been employed by the dairy concerned and recently discharged. No action was taken in this case.

3 samples of beef sausages were found to contain preservative though no declaration to this effect was given. The manufacturers were advised of the requirement.

An informal sample of sweets was found to contain a non-permitted colouring matter. A subsequent formal sample proved satisfactory and when the matter was discussed with the manufacturer it was claimed that all stock of colours now held were on the permitted list. "The colour in the informal sample must therefore have been some old stock which had been overlooked and used in error."

2 informal samples of Christmas chocolate novelties were found to show slight patches of colouring but in insufficient quantity to establish whether it was a permitted or non-permitted colouring matter. It was felt that the patchy nature of the colour might give rise to complaint and, as this was an imported product, the attention of the retailers and importers was drawn to this condition.

Letters of caution were sent in respect of 6 complaints about foreign matter in food.

Food Premises and Food Hygiene.

The following summary shows the number and type of food businesses carried on in the town. It should be noted that these have been classed according to the principal trade and in some cases it is not the only one.

Retail shops:	
Butchers	112
Bakers and confectioners	97
Fish fryers	42
Fishmongers	20
Grocers and general dealers	375
Greengrocers	51
Bakehouses	38
Catering	62

tests as a check up on the adequacy of heat treatment and keeping quality. The total samples taken this year numbered 291 and the results were as follows:—

Designation	Total Samples	Results of Tests					
		Phosphatase Passed	Phosphatase Failed	Methylene Blue Passed	Methylene Blue Failed	Turbidity Passed	Turbidity Failed
Pasteurised	58	58	—	52	6	—	—
T.T. (Pasteurised)	48	48	—	42	6	—	—
Tuberculin Tested (Farm bottled)	149	—	—	104	45	—	—
Sterilised	36	—	—	—	—	36	—

Brucella abortus.

All raw milks sampled were examined for *Brucella abortus* and milk from one source gave a positive culture. Investigations at the farm showed that 6 out of 33 cows were producing milk which gave a positive culture and the milk from these cows was diverted for heat treatment.

It is pleasing to record that this potential source of infection was quickly sealed off with the helpful co-operation of the officers of the county district in which the farm was situated and the farmer himself.

Meat Inspection.

The slaughtering of animals for meat for human consumption is done at the Public Abattoir and all the meat produced is inspected before release.

The number of animals slaughtered during the year was 48,439 compared with the 1960 total of 45,961. There were increases in the number of cattle from 5,486 to 6,083 and of sheep from 34,406 to 36,766 whilst the number of pigs slaughtered showed a slight decrease.

As was anticipated, tuberculosis in cattle, and especially in cows, showed a further considerable reduction and the incidence in pigs was also less.

Cysticercus bovis was found in 0.8% of the cattle; this is similar to the figure for 1960. In one case the condition was found to be generalised and the carcase was wholly condemned but all other cases were submitted to treatment by refrigeration after condemnation of the affected parts.

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

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed.....	4,903	1,180	132	36,766	5,458	—
Number inspected	4,903	1,180	132	36,766	5,458	—
<i>All diseases except tuberculosis and cysticercosis</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	13	9	62	27	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.....	1,479	599	2	656	674	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	30.2%	51.8%	8.3%	1.9%	12.8%	—
<i>Tuberculosis only</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.....	16	4	2	—	37	—
Percentage of Number inspected affected with tuberculosis.....	0.34%	0.42%	1.5%	—	0.67%	—
<i>Cysticercosis</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.....	41	8	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	41	8	—	—	—	—

Disposal of Unfit Food.

Unfit meat is collected by contract for processing by heat treatment. Before leaving the abattoir it is thoroughly stained with a green dye. All other condemned food is destroyed by incineration by arrangement with the Cleansing Superintendent.

The total weight of meat (including offal) rejected at the abattoir was 17 tons 7 cwts. 36 lbs. This included 1 ton 1 cwt. 2 lbs. which was rejected for tuberculosis.

Other food inspected and condemned resulted in the issue of 1,645 certificates and the total weight was 5 tons 20 lbs. made up of the following:—

Fresh Foods.

Butter	11 lbs.
Cheese	39 lbs.
Flour	30 lbs.
Lard	25 lbs.
Mutton	54 lbs.
Poultry	11 lbs.
Miscellaneous	57 lbs.

Processed and Packed Foods.

Beans	221 lbs.
Peas	840 lbs.
Cheese	68 lbs.
Creamed Rice	297 lbs.
Fish	57 lbs.
Fruit	728 lbs.
Ham	3,839 lbs.
Other Meats	4,090 lbs.
Jams, Syrup, etc.	128 lbs.
Milk	257 lbs.
Pickles, sauces, etc.	40 lbs.
Soup	133 lbs.
Tomatoes	85 lbs.
Vegetables	115 lbs.
Miscellaneous	95 lbs.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

No formal action was taken during the year; informal action resulted in three improvements being made to reduce smoke emission from boiler plant.

Measurement of Atmospheric Pollution.

The air sampling apparatus in operation at the Public Health Department gives daily readings of the concentration of sulphur acids of smoke or suspended matter in the air. The table below shows the monthly average readings and also the highest and lowest reading in each month.

Month	SO ₂ in microgrammes/cu. metre			Smoke in microgrammes/cu. metre		
	Average value	Highest daily value	Lowest daily value	Average value	Highest daily value	Lowest daily value
January	—	—	—	—	—	—
February	88	205	22	395	980	130
March	71	140	26	269	720	60
April	69	146	13	246	700	80
May	205	346	71	186	310	90
June.....	161	335	91	125	370	60
July	237	150	79	85	150	10
August	144	249	49	66	160	20
September	125	240	17	247	450	30
October	121	332	66	327	820	70
November	254	598	83	660	1240	260
December	305	670	103	550	1800	320

The site chosen for this apparatus is a provisional one only.

The results for the deposit gauges—these collect the coarser particles of material which settle out of the atmosphere by their own weight — and for the lead peroxide instruments, which indicate comparative levels of sulphur dioxide concentrations, are given in the following tables:—

B. DEPOSIT GAUGES.

Month	Harton Junior School			Stanhope Road School			Town Hall					
	Rain fall in ins.	Monthly Deposit in Tons per sq. mile		Rain fall in ins.	Monthly Deposit in Tons per sq. mile		Rain fall in ins.	Monthly Deposit in Tons per sq. mile				
		Total Soluble matter	Total In-Soluble matter		Total Soluble matter	Total In-Soluble matter		Total Soluble matter	Total In-Soluble matter	Total Solids		
January	3.70	12.47	9.41	21.88	3.94	17.85	9.76	27.61	3.11	14.09	8.36	22.45
February	1.08	7.00	5.54	12.54	1.00	8.02	5.61	13.63	1.04	4.30	5.74	10.04
March	1.24	8.97	8.07	17.04	0.94	7.82	8.30	16.12	1.14	6.21	7.58	13.79
April	2.16	10.07	5.10	15.17	2.00	5.68	7.00	12.68	2.07	8.59	5.37	13.96
May	1.49	15.67	8.34	24.01	1.52	6.32	8.67	14.99	1.61	10.81	23.42	34.23
June	2.42	4.70	5.80	10.50	1.47	4.56	6.49	11.05	1.81	5.17	5.74	10.91
July	3.35	4.34	7.80	12.14	3.30	3.69	7.05	10.74	3.37	5.67	5.40	11.07
August	1.54	4.80	4.50	9.30	1.57	4.08	7.65	11.73	1.92	5.71	5.30	11.01
September	1.91	6.67	5.17	11.84	1.57	6.94	7.17	14.11	1.56	6.04	5.50	11.54
October	3.76	22.88	10.40	33.28	2.78	12.24	4.69	16.93	3.58	12.96	8.69	21.65
November	0.93	7.94	5.27	13.21	0.79	6.73	5.88	12.61	0.88	10.51	4.83	15.34
December	1.80	9.11	5.30	14.41	1.58	6.94	6.46	13.40	1.66	9.46	5.27	14.73
Average	2.11	9.55	6.72	16.27	1.87	7.57	7.06	14.63	1.98	8.29	7.60	15.89
1960	2.26	9.56	6.23	15.79	2.15	6.85	6.55	13.40	2.41	10.23	7.60	17.83
1959	1.37	8.05	5.41	13.46	1.31	6.82	6.64	13.80	—	—	—	—
1958	2.86	8.21	7.96	16.17	2.01	6.17	9.82	15.99	—	—	—	—
1957	1.71	6.24	5.63	11.87	1.66	6.51	6.97	13.47	1.88	6.99	7.20	14.19

Factories.

Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health:

Premises (1)	No. on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(I) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	41	7	1	—
(II) Factories not included in (I) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	321	263	38	—
(III) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	40	53	6	—
Total	402	323	45	—

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred By H.M. Insp'tor (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	4	10	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2.)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Convenience (S.7.)	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Insufficient	8	6	—	1	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	23	33	—	3	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	2	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	12	12	3	1	—
Total	47	63	3	5	—

Outworkers.

2 outworkers were notified during the year. The conditions under which the work was being done were satisfactory.

Control of Rodents and Other Pests.

During the year 581 complaints of rodent infestation were received and 69 further infestations were found. Of the total, 133 were infestations of rats and 577 of mice; 454 were in dwellings and 196 in business premises or on other land.

In course of treatment 4,644 visits were made by the rodent operatives and in 24 instances notice was given of the need for work to prevent re-infestation.

The sewerage systems of the town were treated twice during the year; a total of 2,051 points were baited and takes were recorded at 414 of these.

Complaints about insects and similar pests are frequently received. Advice and help is given as required and if needed, the Department undertakes the work of disinfection at a charge which covers the cost of labour and material; 162 infestations were so dealt with during the year.

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS DURING 1961.

Complaints received: 679.

(A) Inspections and Investigations.

HOUSES INSPECTED FOR HOUSING DEFECTS:

(a) Under Public Health Acts	467
(b) Under Housing Acts	399
(c) Improvement Grants	80
(d) Certificates of Disrepair	24

HOUSES RE-INSPECTED:

(a) Under Public Health Acts	1,066
(b) Under Housing Acts	59
(c) Improvement Grants	175
(d) Certificates of Disrepair	23

Boarding houses	14
Seamen's lodging houses	50
Verminous or dirty premises	288
Other nuisances	54

DRAINAGE:

Visits	231
Works supervised	35
Tests applied	49

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

Cases investigated	179
Visits of surveillance	175
Visits re pathological specimens, etc.	336
Premises disinfected	35

OVERCROWDING:

Houses inspected	27
Instances detected	13

FACTORIES :

Power	263
Non-power	7
Building and Engineering works	53
Outworkers premises	2
Offensive trades	24
Places of public entertainment	16
Pet shops	34
Schools	9
Upholsterers, etc.	4
Merchandise Marks Acts	29
Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs	10
Samples taken	13

FOOD PREMISES :

Registered under Food and Drugs Act	664
Others	1,245
Inspections of unsound food	206

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLES TAKEN :

MILK :

Chemical	118
Bacteriological	291

ICE-CREAM :

Chemical	12
Bacteriological	80

WATER SUPPLY :

Bacteriological	104
-----------------------	-----

OTHER FOODS AND DRUGS :

Chemical	79
Bacteriological	37

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION :

Inspection of fuel burning appliances	59
---	----

SMOKE OBSERVATIONS :

Half-hour	11
Casual	90

(B) Notices Served.

The following notices were served during the year:—

Public Health Act, 1936:—

Intimation Notices	347
Statutory Notices	30

South Shields Corporation Act, 1935, Sec. 63	46
Pet Animals Act, 1951	3
Factories Act, 1937	45
Food and Drugs Act, 1955	430
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	22
Merchandise Marks Acts	12
Clear Air Act, 1956	3
	<hr/>
	938
	<hr/> <hr/>

(C) Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Improvements made in Food Premises.

Sinks or washhand basins provided	55
Cold water supply provided	24
Hot water supply provided	66
Clothes lockers provided	46
First aid equipment provided	67
Protective screens provided for displayed food ...	46
Lighting improved	39
Ventilation provided or improved	14
"Now Wash Your Hands" notices provided	98
Soap, towels, nailbrushes provided	41
Premises cleaned or decorated	173
Miscellaneous	191
	<hr/>
	860
	<hr/> <hr/>

(D) Repairs and Improvements effected under the Public Health and Housing Acts.

Floors relaid or repaired	30
Walls and ceilings repaired	50
Dampness of walls remedied	64
Roofs repaired	87
Spouts repaired or renewed	32
Windows repaired or made to open	18
Rooms cleansed or redecorated	7
Yards drained, relaid or repaired	9
Waterclosets repaired	46
Waterclosets, basins or cisterns renewed	7
Drains cleared of obstruction	75
Drains relaid or repaired	35
Waterpipes repaired or renewed	11
Miscellaneous improvements made and nuisances abated	110
	<hr/>
	581
	<hr/> <hr/>

INSPECTION UNDER THE SHOPS ACT.

Number of Shops.

Number of shops on the Register on 31st December, 1961, coming within the jurisdiction of the Shops Act, 1950, and the various orders made thereunder by the Town Council was 1,265.

52 of these shops are licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquor to be consumed off the premises; 23 being concerned only with the sale of intoxicating liquor and 29 being operated in conjunction with other general trades.

The number of premises on the register licensed for the sale of intoxicating liquors to be consumed on and off the premises is:—

Fully licensed	88
Ales only	13
	101
Total	101

There are 2 cinemas in which Young Persons (those under 18 years of age) are employed.

The following premises are on the register in connection with employment of Young Persons under the Shop Act, 1950:—

Fun fairs 2; laundry, dyeing and cleaning works (including despatching and receiving goods premises) 27; boot and shoe repairing 32 (including despatching and receiving premises).

The number of visits paid to shop premises where the Shops Act, 1950, applies was as follows:—

Weekdays	1,393
Sundays	397
	1,790
Interviews and appointments	16
Complaints received and investigated	20

Circulars instructing shopkeepers in the requirements of the Shops Act were issued where required including an extract of the Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations, 1952 4

The Acts and Orders which came under the supervision of the Shops Inspector:—

- (1) Shops Act, 1950.
- (2) Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations, 1952.
- (3) The Hairdressers Weekly Half Holiday Order, 1913.

- (4) The South Shields Butchers Half Holiday Order, 1915.
- (5) The South Shields Pork Butchers Closing Order, 1921.
- (6) The South Shields Butchers Closing Order, 1920.
- (7) The South Shields Hairdressers Closing Order, 1922.
- (8) The South Shields Drapers, etc., Weekly Half Holiday Order, 1925.
- (9) The South Shields Fish Dealers Weekly Half Holiday Order, 1925.
- (10) South Shields Holiday Resort Order, 1912.

The Drapers, etc., Orders apply to the trade or business of Drapers, Milliners, Clothiers, Mercers or Outfitters.

There were 223 infringements of the Shops Act, 1950, and of the Shops (Sunday Trading) Act, 1950, Sections 47-49.

All infringements were of a minor nature and in no case was it found necessary to take legal proceedings and only in one case was a letter of caution sent by the Town Clerk. A warning from the Inspector was sufficient to ensure that all other infringements were rectified.

There were no infringements of the Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952, and in no case was any accident reported involving personal injury or damage due to defective appliances.

INDEX OF CONTENTS.

Abattoir, Public	110
Accidents in Home	101
Age at Death	14
Ambulance Service	72
Ante-natal Care	58
Area	10
Atmospheric Pollution	112
B.C.G. Vaccination	83
Births and Birth-rates	10, 25, 26, 41
Blind Persons	98
Brucella Abortus	110
Cancer	28
Care of Mothers and Young Children	41
Child Guidance	48
Child Welfare Centres	48
Chiropody	78
Committees, Chairmen of	5
Cremation	15
Day Nurseries	51
Deaths and death-rates	15, 25, 26
Deaths, Causes of	12,, 15
Dental Care	53, 54
Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years	13
Diphtheria	66
Domestic Help Service	90
Domiciliary Midwifery Service	55
Drainage and Sewage Disposal	103
Enteric Fever	37
Factories	116
Family Case Workers	60, 75
Food and Drugs Control	107
Food Poisoning	37
Health Education	60, 75
Health Visiting	59
Home Nursing Service	64
Housing	104
Ice-Cream	109
Illegitimate Children, Care of	52
Infant Mortality	13, 49, 50

Infectious Diseases, Prevalence and Control Over	31
Liaison Arrangements	78
Lodging Houses	107
Maternal Mortality	13, 47
Maternity Outfits	58
Measles	36
Meat Inspection	110
Mental Health Services	92
Meteorology	27
Milk	109
National Assistance Acts, 1948—1951	102
Nurseries and Child Minding Regulations Act, 1948	100
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	45, 100
Perinatal Mortality	47
Phenylketonuria	60
Poliomyelitis	35, 69
Population	10
Preface	1
Prematurity	43
Pre-school Children	53
Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care	75
Puerperal Pyrexia	45
Rateable Value	10
Recuperative Holidays	76
Rhesus Factor	58
Rodent Control	116
Scarlet Fever	35
Shop Acts	121
Sick Room Requisites	77
Social Conditions	11
Slum Clearance	105
Staff	5
Statistics	10
Swimming Baths	103
Treatment Centres and Clinics	48, 58
Tuberculosis	79
Unmarried Mothers, Institutional Provision	52
Vaccination and Immunisation	65
Venereal Diseases	86
Vital Statistics	12
Virus Meningitis	39
Wasserman Tests	58
Water Supply	101
Welfare Foods	51
Whooping Cough	35, 69



17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36
37
38
39
40
41
42
43
44
45
46
47
48
49
50
51
52
53
54
55
56
57
58
59
60
61
62
63
64
65
66
67
68
69
70
71
72
73
74
75
76
77
78
79
80
81
82
83
84
85
86
87
88
89
90
91
92
93
94
95
96
97
98
99
100

The Northern Press Limited, South Shields and Alnwick
