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COUNTY BOROUGH OF TYNEMOUTH

SEVENTY-SIXTH
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
AND
Senior Public Health Inspector.

1956.

O.N. 1781/12/57 226B/40UB.

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County Borough of Tynemouth

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

January to April, 1956

THE MAYOR—Councillor J. R. WATSON.

Chairman :

Councillor Mrs. A. SOUTHWORTH.

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor Mrs. S. A. BALLARD.

Members :

Alderman FORSTER.	Councillor RICHARDSON.
„ LISLE, J.P.	„ SOWERBY.
Councillor ANDERSON.	„ SPENCE.
„ BILTON, Mrs. C. E.	„ TURNER, Mrs. M. E.
„ HEARN, Mrs. E. E.	„ WELCH, Mrs. M.

May to December, 1956

THE MAYOR—Councillor L. G. DOLBY.

Chairman :

Councillor Mrs. A. SOUTHWORTH.

Deputy Chairman :

Councillor Mrs. S. A. BALLARD.

Members :

Alderman FORSTER.	Councillor SPENCE.
Councillor BILTON, Mrs. C. E.	„ TURNER, Mrs. M. E.
„ HEARN, Mrs. E. E.	„ WELCH, Mrs. M.
„ SMITH.	„ YOUNG.
„ SOWERBY.	

STAFF OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

: o :

MEDICAL AND DENTAL STAFF

Medical Officer of Health and Principal School Medical Officer ...	R. H. DAWSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health	MARGARET B. STEEL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (Resigned 10/3/56) MARGARET A. LORAINÉ, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B. (Appointed 19/3/56)
Part-time Assistant Medical Officers	ELSPETH C. SPENCER, M.B., B.S. A. E. WHITE, M.B., B.S.
Principal Dental Officer	R. W. ESSENHIGH, L.D.S.
Dental Officer	R. E. O. WADDELL, B.D.S. (Resigned 30/4/56) LILA M. ROBINSON, B.D.S. (Commenced 1/6/56)

CLERICAL STAFF

Chief Clerk	W. R. MILLER.
Senior Clerk	G. G. ELLIS
Clerks	B. O. BLAGBURN. H. J. SPRATT. Miss N. WALLACE. Miss M. LAMBERT. Mrs. J. WAUGH. Miss E. BOGIE. Miss G. CRAGG. Miss E. HARRISON. Miss A. C. SCOTT, Part time. Mrs. A. A. COOPER, Part time. Mrs. A. E. KIRKNESS, Part time.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION STAFF

Senior Public Health Inspector ...	C. A. MURRAY, Cert. S.I.B., Cert. Meat Inspection.
Deputy Senior Public Health Inspector	J. E. HALL, Cert. R.S.I., Cert. Meat Inspection.
Public Health Inspectors	L. MORALEE, Cert. S.I.B., Cert. Meat Inspection. R. C. NICHOLSON, Cert. S.I.B., Cert. Meat Inspection. S. TREWHITT, Cert. S.I.B., Cert. Meat Inspection. Vacancy.
Disinfector	B. NEWHAM.

NURSING STAFF

Superintendent Nursing Officer ...	A. M. TURNER, S.R.N., S.R.F.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. (Q.N.).
Health Visitors	M. BATEY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. A. I. MOONEY, S.R.N., S.R.F.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. H. MARCH, S.R.N., S.C.M. E. MYERS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. E. SMART, S.R.N., S.R.F.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. L. HARRISON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT—cont.

Health Visitors			M. A. WIGHT, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. K. I. M. HODGSON, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert A. TINDLE, S.R.N., S.C.M. M. E. MADDEN, S.R.N., S.R.C.N., S.C.M. (Part 1), H.V. Cert. J. BROWN, S.R.N., S.R.F.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert. Vacancy.
Municipal Midwives	...	...	M. HALL, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Retired 12/2/56). M. CARRUTHERS, S.C.M. E. MOONEY, S.C.M. (Retired 15/9/56). A. BROWN, S.C.M. E. BUXTON, S.R.N., S.R.F.N., S.C.M. (Q.N.). E. BRIGGS, S.E.A.N., S.C.M. E. SIMPSON, S.C.M. I. E. RUSSELL, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Commenced 1/9/56). E. M. K. JOEL, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Commenced 16/1/56).
District Nurses	...	...	M. RICHMOND, S.R.N. M. LOGGAN, S.R.N., S.C.M., S.R.F.N. C. THOMSON, S.R.N. A. ROWLEY, S.E.A.N. M. DIXON, S.E.A.N. E. H. THOMAS, S.E.A.N. (Resigned 11/10 56). H. E. ROYLS S.R.N. (Q.N.) M. TOMLINSON, S.R.N. (Commenced 1 8/56). G. E. BELL, S.R.N., S.C.M. (Commenced 12,11/56).

DULY AUTHORISED OFFICERS

W. R. MILLER.
B. O. BLAGBURN.
H. J. SPRATT.

PUBLIC ANALYST

W. GORDON CAREY, F.R.I.C.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
TYNEMOUTH,

October, 1957.

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
County Borough of Tynemouth.*

YOUR WORSHIP, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the County Borough of Tynemouth for the year 1956.

Whilst detailed statistical information appertaining to these matters is set out in the body of the report, there are certain features relating to the vital statistics for the year under review to which I would draw your attention particularly.

The birth rate of 17.62 per thousand of the population is again higher than the average applicable to England and Wales for the corresponding period (15.7).

The number of deaths from all causes was 802, which gives a rate of 11.84 per thousand of the population, this being very slightly higher than the national average. This rate represents a decrease of 1.05 per thousand of the population below the corresponding figure for last year. The number of inhabitants who succumbed to cancer was the highest ever recorded (150). The number of deaths from lung cancer was two-thirds higher than that applicable to 1955. The number of deaths from tuberculosis was slightly higher than the figure for 1955. The increased rate was relatively insignificant.

It is pleasing to note that there was a dramatic decrease in the number of deaths of infants under one year of age, namely, 25 as against 45 in 1955. This is obviously a spurious figure but there is reason to hope that a more modest decrease may be maintained over the years to come.

With the exception of whooping cough, the incidence of infectious disease was low.

There were no cases of diphtheria notified. It was estimated that, at the end of the year under review, 73 per cent of the child population of the Borough had been immunised against this disease.

The registration of children whose parents wished to accept the offer of vaccination against poliomyelitis was inaugurated early in the year. The acceptance rate of 41 per cent of children eligible was very encouraging.

The loss of the services of Dr. M. B. Steel in March, 1956, as a result of her impending marriage, was a matter of much regret. Dr. Steel held the appointment of Maternity and Child Welfare Officer for nineteen years throughout which she discharged her duties with enthusiasm and profound understanding. She was a most loyal and amiable colleague. Her successor, Dr. M. A. Loraine, took up her appointment on 19th March, 1956.

Once more, I desire to express my appreciation of the efficiency and energy which has been applied to public health inspection duties which have been so ably directed by the Senior Public Health Inspector whose report is incorporated herewith, commencing on page 30.

In conclusion, I wish to express my gratitude to the officers and other members of the staff of the Public Health Department for their support and co-operation during the year under review. I also desire to express my thanks to colleagues in other departments, who have furnished data for inclusion in the report.

To the Chairman and members of the Health Committee and the members of the Council, I desire to tender my thanks for their support and consideration, and also for the interest they have shown in the work of the department during the year 1956.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

R. H. DAWSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEES.

The committees of the Local Authority, which control matters relating to communal health, are :—

- (a) **The Health Committee**, which consists of thirteen members of the Local Authority, two of whom are representatives of the Local Education Authority ;
- (b) **The Health Sub-Committee**, which consists of the whole of the members of the Health Committee, together with co-opted representatives of the Local Executive Council, the South East Northumberland Hospital Management Committee and the Local Medical Committee ;
- (c) **The Maternity and Child Welfare Sub-Committee**, consisting of six members of the Health Committee and *four co-opted members.
- (d) **The Mental Treatment Sub-Committee**, consisting of eight members of the Health Committee and *five co-opted members.
- (e) **The Tuberculosis Care Sub-Committee**, consisting of six members of the Council, including the Mayor, and *five co-opted members.
- (f) **A Voluntary Tuberculosis Care Committee**, the object of which is to raise funds by voluntary effort, to supply such articles as bedding, clothing, and extra nourishment, to necessitous cases of tuberculosis. The Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the Health Committee are members of this Committee.
- (g) **The Fire Brigade Committee**, being the Committee responsible for the routine administration of the Ambulance Service on behalf of the Health Committee, consists of twelve members of the Council, including the Mayor, plus one representative of the Health Committee, namely the Chairman of that Committee. In the event of the Chairman of the Health Committee being an ordinary member of the Fire Brigade Committee, another member of the Health Committee shall be appointed a member of the Fire Brigade Committee. The ambulance service is operated conjointly with the fire service.

*These co-opted members are appointed by the Council from any nominations received when the Committees are elected in May of each year.

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

Area 4,604 acres, plus 80 acres inland water, 150 acres
foreshore and 185 acres half River Tyne

Population Registrar General's 1951 Census	...	...	...	66,564
Population. Estimated Mid Year 1956 by Registrar General	...			67,700
Population of Children under 15. Estimated Mid Year 1955 by Registrar General)	...	...	...	16,700
Number of Private Families 1951 Census	...	...	...	19,882
Number of Private Families. 1956 Register of Electors	...			20,665
Average number of persons per family. 1956 Register of Electors				3.247
Rateable Value, 1955/56	...	...	...	£519,015
Product of a penny rate 1955/56	...	...	...	£2,096

VITAL STATISTICS.

Marriages and Births.

Number of Marriages	...	...	...	553
Total LIVE BIRTHS (Registrar General's figures)	...	...	...	1,193

Compiled as follows :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
Legitimate	602	538
Illegitimate	23	30
	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/> 625	<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/> 568

Area Comparability factor	0.95
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The NETT TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS assignable to the Borough as above (1,193) gives an ANNUAL LIVE BIRTH RATE of 17.62 per 1,000 of the population.

The LIVE BIRTH RATE for England and Wales was 15.7 per 1,000 of the population.

The percentage of ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS to the total live births for the Borough equalled 4.4.

STILLBIRTHS during the year totalled 30

Compiled as follows :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females</i>
Legitimate	19	9
Illegitimate	1	1

The STILLBIRTH RATE for the Borough was 24.5 per 1,000 live and stillbirths.

The STILLBIRTH RATE per 1,000 of the total live and still births for England and Wales equalled 23.00.

DEATHS.

DEATHS assignable to the Borough during the year totalled 802

Compiled as follows :—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>
	418	384
Area Comparability factor		1.07

During the year 1,020 deaths were registered in the district. This figure is subject to the deduction of 289 outward transfers and the addition of 71 inward transfers, leaving a net total of 802 as shewn above.

The DEATH RATE per 1,000 of the population for the Borough equalled 11.84.

The DEATH RATE per 1,000 of the population for England and Wales was 11.7.

INSTITUTIONAL DEATHS.

Deaths of persons belonging to the Borough which occurred in Hospitals, etc., were as follows :—

Preston Hospital	189
Tynemouth Victoria Jubilee Infirmary ...	46
Frater Maternity Home	—
Moor Park Isolation Hospital	—
*The Oaks	3
*Holmlands	55
*The Elms	1
St. Margaret's Home (Private)	1
Fairmede (Private)	4
Other Institutions outside the Borough....	54
	<hr/>
	353

44% of all deaths of residents of the Borough took place in Institutions.

* This is National Assistance Act, 1948, Part III accommodation.

Registrar-General's List of Causes of Death at different periods
of life in the County Borough of Tynemouth during 1956.

MALES.

Short List No.	Causes of Death.	Under 1 Year.	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 and over	Total all Ages
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	—	—	—	—	1	5	1	—	7
2	Tuberculosis, other ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2
3	Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
4	Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	Whooping cough ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	Meningococcal infections ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8	Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach...	—	—	—	—	—	5	8	1	14
11	Malignant, neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	—	—	—	—	2	18	9	2	31
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	—	1	1	—	2	15	9	12	40
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16	Diabetes ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	3
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	—	—	—	1	—	6	14	23	44
18	Coronary disease, angina ...	—	—	—	—	2	31	39	24	96
19	Hypertension with heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	6
20	Other heart disease ...	—	1	—	—	1	5	17	21	45
21	Other circulatory disease ...	—	—	—	—	2	3	4	3	12
22	Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
23	Pneumonia ...	1	—	—	—	—	7	—	9	17
24	Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	2	7	5	7	21
25	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	4	6
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
28	Nephritis and nephrosis ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	4
29	Hyperplasia of prostate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	4
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31	Congenital malformations ...	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	8	1	—	—	2	5	4	12	32
33	Motor vehicle accidents ...	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	3
34	All other accidents ...	2	—	—	1	2	6	1	3	15
35	Suicide ...	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	1	6
36	Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Totals ...	14	3	1	5	19	126	117	133	418

Deaths under one year of age :—

Legitimate male children ... 14.
Illegitimate male children ... Nil.

Registrar-General's List of Causes of Death at different periods of life in the County Borough of Tynemouth during 1956.

FEMALES.

Short List No.	Causes of Death.	Under 1 Year	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65	65 to 75	75 and over	Total all Ages
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
2	Tuberculosis, other ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	Syphilitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
4	Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	Whooping cough ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
6	Meningococcal infections ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	Acute poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8	Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9	Other infective and parasitic disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach...	—	—	—	—	2	4	2	3	11
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	4
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	3	10
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	—	—	—	—	—	5	1	2	8
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms ...	—	—	—	—	1	11	10	10	32
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
16	Diabetes ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	—	—	—	—	1	13	19	37	70
18	Coronary disease, angina ...	—	—	—	—	1	12	21	18	52
19	Hypertension with heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	9
20	Other heart disease ...	—	—	—	—	3	7	12	46	68
21	Other circulatory disease ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	5	8	15
22	Influenza ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23	Pneumonia ...	2	—	—	—	—	1	4	14	21
24	Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	4	6
25	Other diseases of respiratory system ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	4
29	Hyperplasia of prostate ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
31	Congenital malformations ...	3	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	5
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	6	1	2	—	—	4	9	16	38
33	Motor vehicle accidents ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
34	All other accidents ...	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	7	12
35	Suicide ...	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	4
36	Homicide and operations of war ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	Totals ...	11	4	3	—	13	77	95	181	384

Deaths under one year of age :—

Legitimate female children ... 10.

Illegitimate female children ... 1.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

	No. of Deaths,	Proportion of Deaths per 1,000 Deaths from all causes.
Total All Causes	802	
Cardio-Vascular Diseases ...	303	377.6
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	114	140.9
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)	71	88.5

Cancer (all forms including Leukæmia, as from 1954)
Deaths and Death Rates.

	1920 -24	1925 -29	1930 -34	1935 -39	1940 -44	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Deaths ...	319	315	403	474	529	95	122	114	124	99	128	104	139	144	147	145	150
Death Rate per 1,000 living ...	0.99	0.95	1.23	1.42	1.89	1.62	1.91	1.75	1.87	1.48	1.93	1.57	2.07	2.15	2.19	2.16	2.21
Proportion of deaths per 1,000 deaths from all causes ...	72	74	99	117	125	119	153	147	155	130	147	126	179	186	185	167	187

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF MATERNAL DEATHS FOR PAST 10 YEARS.

Year.	Live Births.	Birth Rate.	TYNEMOUTH.		England and Wales Maternal Mortality per 1,000 live and stillbirths.
			No. of Maternal Deaths (R.G.)	Maternal Mortality per 1,000 live and stillbirths.	
1947	1,433	22.02	5	3.39	1.17
1948	1,291	19.54	2	1.51	1.02
1949	1,311	19.72	2	1.48	0.98
1950	1,174	17.71	3	2.46	0.86
1951	1,228	18.52	2	1.58	0.79
1952	1,222	18.26	1	0.80	0.72
1953	1,251	18.72	3	2.34	0.76
1954	1,210	18.06	1	0.80	0.69
1955	1,149	17.12	1	0.85	0.63
1956	1,193	17.62	1	0.83	0.56
Average of 10 years.	1,246	18.73	2.1	1.60	0.83

A five-yearly average, set out below, shows the progressive decline in the number of Maternal Deaths.

<i>Period.</i>					<i>Average.</i>
1910/14	...	...	...	...	8.8
1915/19	...	...	...	...	8.0
1920/24	...	...	...	...	4.8
1925/29	...	...	...	...	5.8
1930/34	...	...	...	...	6.2
1935/39	...	...	...	...	3.2
1940/44	...	...	...	...	2.6
1945/49	...	...	...	...	2.2
1950/54	...	...	...	...	2.0

INFANT MORTALITY RATES OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

Deaths of resident infants under 1 year of age totalled 25 (47 in 1955) of which 17 were related to children who did not survive for more than 4 weeks. Of these 25 deaths, 13 occurred in institutions.

The Infant mortality rate, per 1,000 live births, for the Borough equalled 20.9. The corresponding figure for England and Wales was 23.8.

BIRTHS AND BIRTH RATES, DEATHS AND DEATH RATES, IN WARDS.

•BIRTHS.

****DEATHS.**

Ward.	Ward popln.	RESIDENTS											TOTAL NON-RESIDENT BIRTHS.			No. of Deaths.		Death rates per 1,000 of Ward poplns.	
		Still births	Live Births.				Live Birth rate per 1,000 of Ward popln.	% of illeg. Births to total Births	Live	Still.	Resi- dents.	Non- Resi- dents	Total Deaths	Resi- dents.	Non- Resi- dents.				
			Male.		Female.														
			Legmt.	Illeg.	Legmt.	Illeg.													
CHIRTON ...	7,848	1	73	4	63	—	17.8	2.8	—	103	—	103	13.1	—					
COLLINGWOOD	10,939	7	101	2	91	3	18.0	2.4	—	77	9	86	7.0	0.8					
CULLERCOATS	7,634	2	65	—	52	—	15.3	—	—	94	—	94	12.3	—					
DOCKWRAY ...	6,160	1	40	5	57	4	17.2	8.4	—	107	—	107	17.3	—					
LINSKILL ...	5,984	4	47	1	56	6	10.8	6.1	237	206	35	93	238†	331	15.5	39.7			
PERCY ...	7,387	1	89	3	79	3	23.5	3.4	1	1	—	91	1	92	12.3	0.1			
PRESTON ...	6,137	4	26	—	40	—	10.7	—	93	94	3	76	47‡	123	12.3	7.6			
TRINITY ...	7,053	1	96	2	65	2	23.4	2.4	1	—	—	87	2	89	12.3	0.3			
TYNEMOUTH...	7,958	3	53	1	57	2	14.2	2.6	—	—	—	76	2	78	9.5	0.2			

* As per notification register, adjusted by transfers.

** As per local registrar's weekly returns, adjusted by transfers.

† Consists mainly of deaths in Preston Hospital.

‡‡ Consists mainly of deaths in Tynemouth Victoria Jubilee Infirmary.

The following is a table of Statistics relating to the Borough since its incorporation in 1849, illustrating the increase in population and decrease in both birth and death rates.

Year.	Population.	Nett Deaths.	Death Rate per 1,000 of Population.	Nett Births.	Live Birth Rates per 1,000 of Population.
1849	28,448	—	—	—	—
1871	38,941	—	—	—	—
1873	39,923	929	23.3	1,557	39.0
1874	40,424	1,075	26.6	1,542	38.1
1875	40,932	963	23.5	1,607	39.2
1880	43,533	928	21.3	1,521	34.9
1885	46,600	960	20.2	1,612	33.9
1890	46,403	973	20.9	1,533	33.0
1895	48,632	984	20.2	1,533	31.5
1900	51,038	1,074	21.0	1,649	32.3
1901	51,520	1,007	19.5	1,780	34.5
1902	52,224	1,009	19.3	1,753	33.5
1903	52,938	969	18.3	1,734	32.7
1904	53,661	1,031	19.2	1,851	34.5
1905	54,394	1,066	19.6	1,775	32.6
1906	55,137	1,022	18.5	1,759	31.8
1907	55,891	926	16.5	1,796	32.1
1908	56,654	951	16.8	1,896	33.4
1909	57,428	958	16.7	1,874	32.6
1910	58,223	971	16.6	1,788	30.7
1911	59,008	927	15.7	1,653	28.0
1912	59,809	957	16.0	1,734	28.9
1913	60,601	951	15.6	1,748	28.8
1914	60,688	992	16.3	1,736	28.6
1915	58,199	1,038	17.8	1,549	26.6
1916	57,192	968	16.9	1,573	25.2
1917	57,591	895	15.5	1,416	22.0
1918	55,758	1,141	20.4	1,471	23.5
1919	58,007	1,064	18.3	1,613	26.5
1920	60,541	956	15.8	1,947	32.1
1921	63,900	877	13.7	1,708	26.7
1922	64,640	855	13.2	1,618	25.03
1923	65,330	833	12.75	1,576	24.12
1924	65,940	900	13.64	1,521	23.06
1925	66,180	901	13.61	1,452	21.94
1926	66,560	766	11.5	1,341	20.14
1927	67,030	863	12.86	1,337	19.93
1928	66,030	833	12.62	1,252	13.9
1929	65,880	862	13.08	1,203	8.26
1930	65,880	787	11.94	1,280	19.41
1931	64,720	814	12.57	1,276	19.71
1932	65,630	748	11.41	1,238	18.86
1933	65,770	873	13.27	1,135	17.25
1934	65,950	840	12.73	1,172	17.77
1935	67,350	824	12.23	1,201	17.38
1936	66,800	773	11.57	1,209	18.1
1937	66,880	858	12.83	1,087	16.25
1938	66,510	797	11.98	1,104	16.6
1939	65,220	792	12.14	1,119	16.7
1940	59,730	840	14.06	1,060	17.74
1941	56,240	1,066	18.95	897	15.95
1942	53,500	787	14.71	908	16.97
1943	52,370	780	14.89	1,019	19.45
1944	57,100	816	14.29	1,252	21.90
1945	58,760	797	13.56	1,144	19.47
1946	63,690	796	12.47	1,358	21.32
1947	65,070	772	11.86	1,433	22.02
1948	66,050	800	12.11	1,291	19.54
1949	66,480	762	11.46	1,311	19.72
1950	66,270	871	13.14	1,174	17.71
1951	66,300	825	12.44	1,228	18.52
1952	66,900	774	11.56	1,222	18.26
1953	66,800	771	11.54	1,251	18.72
1954	67,000	793	11.84	1,210	18.06
1955	67,100	865	12.89	1,149	17.12
1956	67,700	802	11.84	1,193	17.62

SEPARATE OCCUPIERS.

During 1956, lists of Separate Occupiers were compiled from information obtained from the Electors' Register, and set out below are details shown in Wards.

<i>Ward.</i>					<i>Number of Separate Occupiers.</i>
Chirton	...	...	...	...	2,417
Collingwood	...	...	...	...	3,369
Cullercoats	...	...	...	...	2,351
Dockwray	...	...	...	...	1,897
Linskill	...	...	...	...	1,843
Percy	...	...	...	...	2,275
Preston	...	...	...	...	1,890
Trinity	...	...	...	...	2,172
Tynemouth	...	...	...	...	2,451
				Total	20,665

Based on the Registrar-General's estimated population for the year 1955, *i.e.* 67,100, the local average of persons per family equalled 3.247.

REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES.

There are now no registered Nursing Homes in the Tynemouth Area.

NURSES ACT 1943.

There are no Nurses Agencies licensed under Section 8 of the Nurses Act 1943, within the area of the County Borough of Tynemouth.

NURSERIES AND CHILD MINDERS REGULATION ACT, 1943.

One person has been registered under the provisions of the above Act.

BLIND PERSONS.

The total number of blind persons on the register of the Welfare Department at the end of the year was 155. An analysis of cases examined during the year for the purpose of registration is contained in the following tables.

No. of Forms B.D.8 received during year	Certified Blind	Certified Partially Sighted	Neither Blind nor Partially Sighted	Cases of Retrolental Fibroplasia in Premature Infants	No. Blinded by Glaucoma where treatment not given prior to certification
51	20	25	6	Nil	Nil

A. Follow-up of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons.

(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Forms B.D.8 recommends :—	CAUSE OF DISABILITY			
	Cataract	Glaucoma	Retrolental Fibroplasia	Others
(a) No treatment ...	5	3	—	14
(b) Treatment (medical, surgical or optical) ...	12	2	—	9
(ii) Number of cases at (i)(b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment ...	4	2	—	7

B. Ophthalmia neonatorum.

(i) Total number of cases notified during the year	Nil
(ii) Number of cases in which :—	
(a) Vision lost	Nil
(b) Vision impaired	Nil
(c) Treatment continuing at end of year	Nil

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS

During the year under review, a widow (M.P.), aged 55, who was blind and living alone in indescribably filthy conditions in two rooms in an offshot building, was the subject of an order under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948. She was admitted to Part III accommodation on 27.3.56 and was still happily resident there at the end of the year.

A further order was granted, in this instance under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, in the case of a widow (A.G.), aged 84, living alone in insanitary conditions and suffering from a grave chronic disease. An order was made admitting her to Hospital on 27.2.56. She died on 5.3.56.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

Bacteriological specimens are examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service, which is directed by the Medical Research Council for the Ministry of Health at the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle General Hospital, Westgate Road, Newcastle upon Tyne, 4.

STAFF MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS, ETC.,

Considerable attention has been given during the year by the Medical Staff, to the examination of staff personnel, for various reasons. 25 persons were examined for superannuation purposes, 27 because they had attained the age of 65, 4 Fire Service personnel undergoing training, and 24 students about to enter the teaching profession. In addition 58 investigations were made with general practitioners in connection with staff sickness problems.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

PART III.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN (Sec. 22).

CHILD WELFARE CENTRES.

Three sessions are held weekly at the Central Clinic at the Public Health Department and one weekly session at each of the three subsidiary clinics, sited at widely separate points of the Borough at Meadowell School, Ridges Estate; St. Aidan's Church Hall, New York Village; and at Y.M.C.A. Buildings, Cullercoats.

The Y.M.C.A. buildings at New York were taken over during the year by the Education Department as an extension to a school and we were forced to vacate that part of the premises used as a subsidiary Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.

Fortunately, however, we were able to obtain much more suitable alternative accommodation at nearby St. Aidan's Church Hall, the building of which had just been completed.

831 children under one year of age attended these clinics for the first time during the year, and altogether a total of 1,650 children under five years of age made 7,972 attendances.

Tynemouth Moral Welfare Association. (Voluntary—Grant aided by Council). Cases investigated 63. Cases placed in homes 11. 843 visits were paid and received.

The work of the Tynemouth Moral Welfare Association, with the assistance of a small financial subsidy granted by the Local Health Authority, in placing unmarried expectant mothers in appropriate homes for their confinements, is highly commendable, and this voluntary service is greatly appreciated by the Health Committee.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS.—*i.e.* babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less at birth, irrespective of period of gestation.

Number of premature live born infants notified during the year (including transferred notifications) whose mothers normally reside in Tynemouth area :—

(i)	Born at home	...	...	...	...	...	22
(ii)	Born in private nursing home	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(iii)	Born in hospital	...	...	...	...	...	58

Out of these 80 cases of prematurity, 5 died within 24 hours, 8 survived 24 hours but died within 28 days, and 67 were still surviving after 28 days. 17 premature stillbirths occurred in hospital and 1 at home.

HEALTH OF CHILDREN

As in previous years, a Committee consisting of representatives of the Welfare and Children's Departments, the Superintendent Nursing Officer with the appropriate Health Visitor, the Senior Public Health Inspector, together with members of Women's Voluntary Organisations, met in alternate months in order to review the circumstances of families disrupted by illness or social difficulties. In addition to these regular meetings, close liaison was maintained by the relevant departments of the Council.

Reference was made in the Annual Report for 1955, to the fact that authority had been given by the Council to appoint a further Health Visitor, largely on account of the additional duties being placed upon the staff in relation to problem families. Difficulty in recruitment still obtains and unfortunately it has not been possible to increase the numerical strength of the staff.

There has been no alteration in the Home Help Service, nor has anyone been appointed to teach housecraft.

CARE OF ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

As in previous years special attention has been given by the Health Visiting staff to the close supervision of this class of children. In addition the Visitor of the Tynemouth Moral Welfare Association has devoted much time to the surveillance of homes where there are illegitimate children. (See also under Tynemouth Moral Welfare Association on Page 13.)

NURSERY SCHOOLS.

There are two Nursery Schools administered by voluntary organisations in the Borough. Both schools have places for 80 children.

REPORT BY R. W. ESSENHIGH, PRINCIPAL SCHOOL DENTAL OFFICER, ON THE DENTAL TREATMENT PROVIDED FOR EXPECTANT AND NURSING MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN DURING 1956.

Expectant and nursing mothers and pre-school children were dentally examined each Monday afternoon during the year at the Public Health Department.

The general standard of dental health was good but where treatment was found necessary the mothers were advised to visit private dental practitioners for this to be carried out.

All the pre-school children requiring treatment were referred to the School Dental Clinic where immediate attention was given to them. Where dental extractions were found to be necessary a general anaesthetic was administered by the School Dental Anaesthetist, Dr. J. R. Steadman.

The distribution of calcium tablets to children showing a calcium deficiency continued throughout the year. The usefulness of this treatment was again noted in its action on the teeth and gums and also on the general health of the patients.

The assistance of the Medical and Nursing Staffs at the Public Health Department was greatly appreciated by the Dental Officer and by the parents and children.

16 expectant and nursing mothers and 184 children under five were examined.

ULTRA-VIOLET LIGHT CLINICS.

Clinics are held twice each week at the Public Health Department. Conditions treated during the past year were—Debility 24; Other conditions 72; a total of 96 cases, who made 1,314 attendances.

WELFARE FOODS.

Proprietary brands of dried milk and other foods are sold during the various Maternity and Child Welfare sessions. The local branch of the W.V.S. continued to provide valuable assistance in this work. During the year, a total of 3,720 lbs. of dried milk was distributed, as against 2,640 lbs. during the previous year.

The total amount expended by the Local Authority on the purchase of proprietary brands of dried milk and other foods during the year was £672. 0s. 0d., all of which was recovered by way of sales to mothers attending the various child welfare centres.

Mothers appreciate being able to obtain their dried milk and vitamin preparations from the various Maternity and Child Welfare Centres and throughout the year this particular service has operated smoothly and efficiently.

The central distribution centre is open to the public for the issue of National Welfare Foods during the afternoons of Monday to Friday, and on Saturday mornings.

During the year, the following quantities were issued:—

National Dried Milk	...	...	...	60,116	tins.
Orange Juice	...	...	...	47,899	bottles.
Cod Liver Oil	...	...	...	9,289	bottles.
Vitamin A & D Tablets	...	...	...	3,137	packets.

MIDWIFERY (Sec. 23).**ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS.**

The Assistant M.O.H. holds 8 ante-natal sessions per month. During the year 219 women attended (175 for the first time). A total of 1,189 attendances were recorded. There was a decrease of 53 in the number of attendances, against last year's figures.

Post-natal clinics are held once per month. 32 women made single attendances. This showed a decrease against last year's figure of 27 women attending.

An Ante-Natal Clinic is also held at Preston Hospital, for the convenience of patients booking at this institution.

MEDICAL AID UNDER SECTION 14 (1) OF THE MIDWIVES' ACT, 1951.

Number of cases in which medical aid was summoned during the year under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives' Act, 1951, by a Midwife:—

(a) For Domiciliary cases:—					
(i) Where the Medical Practitioner had arranged to provide the patient with maternity medical services under the National Health Service.	...	...	...	...	17
(ii) Others.	...	...	...	...	44
(b) For cases in Institutions	...	...	...	...	Nil.

MATERNITY OUTFITS.

427 Sterilised Maternity Packs were issued free of charge to expectant mothers.

ANALGESIA.

Training courses in the administration of Gas and Air analgesia are available at the Obstetrics and Gynaecology Department of Newcastle General Hospital. The seven Municipal Midwives are qualified to administer analgesia and fourteen institutional midwives employed in hospitals within the area of the County Borough of Tynemouth are also qualified.

During the year Municipal Midwives administered Gas and Air Analgesia to 15 cases, Trilene to 243 cases, and Pethidine to 258 cases.

MATERNITY CASES ATTENDED.

The work of the domiciliary midwives shows a slight increase in the number of cases attended—380 in 1956 as against 374 in 1955.

Cases attended by midwives acting as such totalled 124 and 256 by midwives acting as maternity nurses.

Midwives employed in institutions within the Borough area, dealt with 1,358 cases, which figure includes 659 non-residents.

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS.

A total of 1,762 births including non-residents was notified during the year (1,699 live and 63 stillbirths).

Seven births were not notified, but immediately on the requirements of the Public Health Act, 1936, being brought to the notice of the persons concerned, these were officially intimated.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

During the year no cases of puerperal pyrexia occurred amongst domiciliary confinements.

HEALTH VISITING (Sec. 24).

During the year Health Visitors visited 5,806 children under 5 paying 5,956 visits to children under 1; 2,751 to children between 1 and 2, and 8,276 visits to children between 2 and 5.

Expectant mothers received 34 visits and 1,123 visits were paid to miscellaneous other cases, such as aged persons, and cases of infectious diseases.

In addition 3,601 ineffective visits were made.

HOME NURSING (Section 25).

The service is staffed by eight whole-time district nurses under the direct control of the Superintendent Nursing Officer. Six of these nurses are State Registered, whilst the remaining two possess State Enrolled Assistant Nurse status.

All requests for the services of a district nurse must be supported by a certificate from the medical practitioner in attendance on the patient.

During the year, the district nurses paid 20,174 visits to 976 patients. Table I sets out the categories into which these 976 patients fell, together with the number of visits paid in respect of each group. Table II provides a detailed analysis of the type of nursing care required.

TABLE I.

	Medical	Surgical	Infectious Diseases	Tuberculosis	Maternal Complications	Others	Total
Cases	503	239	7	16	11	200	976
Visits	12,702	5,393	7	255	56	1,762	20,174

TABLE II.

Type of Case.	Children	Adults	Total
Injections	28	192	220
Post Operative Dressings	4	131	135
Gynaecological and Obstetrical Cases ...	—	75	75
Neo-Natal Care	4	—	4
†Infectious Diseases	—	—	—
Enemata (Worm Infections — prior to X-Ray Examination etc.)	8	155	163
Minor Ailments and Accidents	5	31	36
Chronic Sick Nursing	—	343*	343
TOTALS	49	927	976

* The majority of these were classified as chronic sick nursing.

† Cases of infectious disease receiving antibiotic injections are included in "Injections".

Loan equipment is available free of charge and considerable use of this service has been made by patients.

Articles available on loan.	No. of occasions issued during the year.
Rubber air rings	39
Back rests	19
Bed cradles	8
Rubber cushions	4
Invalid chairs... ..	19
Mackintosh sheets	63
Steel bed pans	60
Spinal carriage	2
Urinals... ..	28
Walking Aid	1

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION (Sec. 26).

Efforts to have infants vaccinated are still being continued by direct approach to parents by health visitors and by postal reminders.

Record cards received from general practitioners show that 232 children under one year of age were vaccinated in 1956, as against 266 in 1955.

In addition 55 other persons were vaccinated and 3 were re-vaccinated.

NUMBER OF PERSONS VACCINATED (or re-vaccinated) DURING 1956							
Age at date of Vaccination	Under 1	1	2 to 4	5 to 14	15 or over	Total	
Number Vaccinated	232	19	7	10	19	287	
Number re-vaccinated	—	—	—	—	3	3	

DIPHTHERIA.

IMMUNISATION.

Facilities are available for Diphtheria Immunisation at the Schools and at the various Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

During the year, 1,563 children received injections—368 were school children and 834 were pre-school children.

IMMUNISATION IN RELATION TO CHILD POPULATION.

Number of Children at 31st December, 1956, who had completed a course of Immunisation at any time before that date (i.e. at any time since 1st January, 1942).

Age at 31/12/56 i.e. Born in Year	Under 1 1956	1 — 4 1952-1955	5 — 9 1947-1951	10 — 14 1942-1946	Under 15 Total
Last complete course of injections (whether primary or booster) 1952-1956 ...	49	2,623	4,298	275	7,245
1951 or earlier ...	—	—	849	4,403	5,252
Estimated mid-year child population ...	1,140	4,760	10,800		16,700

It is estimated that at 31st December, 1956, 73% of the child population (i.e., children under 15 years of age) had been immunised, as compared with 72% in 1955.

ATTACK AND MORTALITY RATES.

The following table illustrates the incidence of Diphtheria in the Borough since 1901. The figures are shown in five yearly periods from 1901 to 1940, and in yearly periods from 1941 to date.

Period.	Population 5 yearly average.	Total cases notified per 5 yearly period.	Attack Rates per 1,000 of the population.	Total Deaths per 5 yearly period.	Fatality Rates per 1,000 cases notified.	Fatality Rates per 1,000 of the population.
1901-1905	52,947	179	3.380	38	212	.717
1906-1910	56,666	345	6.088	49	142	.864
1911-1915	59,661	324	5.430	38	117	.636
1916-1920	57,818	182	3.147	19	105	.328
1921-1925	65,198	182	2.791	20	109	.306
1926-1930	66,286	562	8.478	36	64	.543
1931-1935	65,884	222	3.369	20	90	.303
1936-1940	65,028	561	8.627	29	35	.445
1941	56,240	182	3.236	11	60	.195
1942	53,500	218	4.074	12	55	.224
1943	52,370	87	1.661	4	46	.076
1944	57,100	132	2.311	2	15	.035
1945	58,760	115	1.957	3	26	.051
1946	63,690	63	0.989	1	16	.015
1947	65,070	11	0.169	Nil	Nil	Nil
1948	66,050	3	0.045	2	666*	.030
1949	66,480	3	0.045	Nil	Nil	Nil
1950	66,270	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1951	66,300	1	0.015	Nil	Nil	Nil
1952	66,900	2	0.029	Nil	Nil	Nil
1953	66,800	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1954	67,000	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1955	67,100	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
1956	67,700	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

* Although there were 2 deaths this year it must be borne in mind that only 3 cases were notified, these 3 cases not having been immunised, hence what appears to be an abnormally high fatality rate.

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

In common with other Local Health Authorities in England and Wales, Tynemouth L.H.A. embarked upon a scheme as instructed in Ministry of Health Circular 2/56, dated 9.1.56, for the vaccination against poliomyelitis of certain selected groups of children born during particular months of the years 1947 to 1954.

The selected months were :—

November in each of the years 1947 to 1954, March in each of the years 1951 to 1954 and, in reserve, the months of August 1947 to 1954.

This limited selection was, of course, necessitated by the small quantity of vaccine available, and to conform to a centrally determined plan, designed to maintain an even spread throughout the eligible age groups concerned.

The public were notified of details of the scheme through the press and by direct approach to children at school. With the co-operation of the head teachers, consent cards were distributed and collected at the schools, and, as a result, a very satisfactory acceptance rate was achieved.

A total of 3,894 children were registered, this figure producing an acceptance rate of 41% of the children eligible.

Of the 81 County Boroughs involved, only eight showed a higher acceptance rate.

Early in May, 1956, the first supply of vaccine (sufficient to administer two injections to 187 children) was received, and by the end of the year, 447 children had received the full course of two injections. This rather small figure was occasioned by the fact that vaccination was suspended at the end of June, 1956, and not resumed until the beginning of December, 1956.

AMBULANCE SERVICE (Sec. 27).

The Ambulance Service, consisting of 6 ambulances and 2 dual purpose light ambulances, is operated by, and concurrently with, the Fire Service, an additional establishment of 18 firemen having been authorised for the provision of drivers and attendants.

During the year the Ambulances carried 12,513 patients a distance of 52,612 miles. The light ambulances carried 8,584 patients over a total of 45,788 miles.

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER CARE (Sec. 28). TUBERCULOSIS.

Chest Clinic.

The clinic which serves the population of this Borough is located in the same building as the Public Health Department. The medical staff consists of 2 Chest Physicians.

Regular sessions for the examination of cases referred by general practitioners, or as a result of mass miniature radiography, the review of old cases, the examination of contacts, etc., are held in the morning and afternoon of 3 days per week. An additional session is set aside for treatment of ambulant cases, and special arrangements are made for B.C.G. Vaccination.

The clinic not only serves the County Borough of Tynemouth, but also the Borough of Whitley Bay and Seaton Valley U.D.

A Health Visitor of the Tynemouth staff is present at those clinic sessions during which the majority of the Tynemouth cases are examined.

Contacts.

During the year under review 162 new contacts were examined and X-rayed, and a further 66 individuals in this category were X-rayed only. Old contacts who were X-rayed and examined numbered 89. A further 662 of this class were X-rayed only. In addition to these examinations, 311 contacts were X-rayed by the Mass Miniature Radiography Unit.

Of the contacts examined, 4 were found to be suffering from tuberculosis.

Domiciliary Visiting.

During the year the Health Visitors paid 860 visits to the homes of individuals suffering from tuberculosis.

Rehousing.

The tenancies of five per cent. of the houses built by the Local Authority are allocated to families, some member of which suffers from active pulmonary tuberculosis. The number of families rehoused in 1956 under this scheme was 6.

This figure does not give a true indication of what has been achieved in this direction for 10 other tuberculous families were rehoused under the "points" scheme of the Corporation on the grounds of overcrowding.

B.C.G. Vaccination

As in previous years B.C.G. Vaccination was restricted to child contacts who were tuberculin negative reactors, and to a small number of members of nursing staffs of local hospitals. The figures relating to children were—Children of school age, 43 ; Children of pre-school age, 82 ; Nurses 18.

Convalescent Home Treatment.

Arrangements were made for the admission of 2 patients to a convalescent home for short periods.

After-care.

The voluntary County Borough of Tynemouth Tuberculosis After-care Committee continued to carry out very good work during the year.

Extra nourishment was granted to many necessitous cases in the form of milk, eggs, provisions, etc. The committee spent £170 on milk alone.

Advice and assistance was also given in many cases of domestic, social and rehabilitation problems.

The committee's activities have been extended this year to the provision of holidays to wives of patients, where the wife has shewn signs of strain caused by the worry of nursing a sick husband and coping with domestic problems under such a handicap.

Patients were provided with tuition in motor vehicle driving and occupational therapy has been commenced on a limited scale.

DOMESTIC HELP (Sec. 29).

During the year, domestic assistance was provided in 79 cases.

Of these 79 cases, 27 related to maternity cases, 28 to the chronic sick including the aged and infirm, and 24 to other cases of illness.

An average of 4 part-time home helps were employed during the year.

**NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946,
PART V.
MENTAL HEALTH.**

Administration.

The administration of the Mental Health Services of the Borough is carried out by the Mental Treatment Sub-Committee which normally meets monthly and which consists of eight members of the Health Committee and five co-opted members elected annually by the Health Committee, such appointments not being subject to confirmation by the Council. The Committee considers, and reports to the Health Committee, all matters connected with Lunacy and Mental Deficiency, with the exception of certain functions under the Lunacy Acts which are discharged by the Welfare Committee.

Staff Employed in Mental Health Service.

R. H. Dawson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health.

M. A. Loraine, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., Asst. Medical Officer of Health.

Medical Practitioners approved for the purposes of the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1938 :

N. D. Gofton, M.B., B.S.

S. C. Stonier, M.D.

J. C. Yeoman, M.B., B.S.

Medical Practitioners approved for the purposes of the Mental Treatment Act, 1930 :

F. G. M. Fraser, M.B., Ch.B.

T. E. Hurley, M.B., B.S., D.P.M.

J. C. Yeoman, M.B., B.S.

P. S. G. Cameron, M.B., Ch.B.

W. E. Horowitz, M.D.

R. Bewley, M.B., B.S.

W. L. Gardner, M.B., B.S.

12 Health Visitors.

3 Duly Authorised Officers.

All the members of the Staff enumerated above are engaged in this work on a part-time basis.

Co-ordination with Regional Hospital Board and Hospital Management Committee (joint use of Officers).

G. McCoull, O.B.E., V.R.D., M.D., Medical Superintendent of Prudhoe and Monkton Mental Deficiency Hospital conducts a Mental Deficiency Diagnostic Clinic at the Tynemouth Public Health Department. During the year 17 clinics were held and the following cases dealt with :—

New Cases, 22 ; 101 cases paid secondary visits.

Patients residing in Tynemouth who are on licence from Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital are visited by the Hospital's Welfare Officer.

A highly satisfactory degree of co-operation exists between Prudhoe and Monkton Mental Deficiency Hospital, to which most of the Tynemouth cases requiring institutional care are admitted, and the medical and lay officers of the Local Mental Health Authority. Close liaison also has been established between the medical officers of Preston Hospital, North Shields, who deal with lunacy and mental treatment cases, and the duly authorised officers.

Duties Delegated to Voluntary Associations.

Nil.

Training of Mental Health Workers.

No special arrangements have yet been initiated for the training of Mental Health Workers.

Work Undertaken in the Community under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

No occupation centre for the training of mental defectives has yet been established by the Local Health Authority under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, but instruction in simple handicrafts is available at the Welfare Department, and at the end of the year 16 defectives had been enrolled for this purpose.

LUNACY AND MENTAL TREATMENT ACTS.

Out of a total of 183 cases dealt with by the Duly Authorised Officers during the year, 143 were admitted to Preston Hospital, 2 were admitted directly to St. George's Mental Hospital, Morpeth, as certified patients, and one was admitted to St. Mary's Hospital, Stanington, as a certified patient.

In 37 cases, no action was necessary under the Lunacy Acts, although one of these cases was admitted to Part III accommodation, one referred to the Welfare Department and 7 admitted to beds for the chronic sick.

Of the 143 cases admitted to Preston Hospital, 60 were subsequently certified and transferred therefrom to St. George's Hospital, Morpeth, 39 were discharged home, 3 were transferred to Part III accommodation (National Assistance Act, 1948), 25 entered St. George's Hospital, Morpeth, as voluntary patients, 7 died in hospital, 7 were transferred to chronic sick beds and 2 were handed over to the custody of the Police.

Work Undertaken in the Community under the Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913—1938.

Ascertainment is carried out in co-operation with Tynemouth Education Authority and general practitioners. New cases are referred to Dr. McCoull for specialist diagnosis. The number of defectives admitted to hospital during the year was 6.

10 cases were ascertained as "subject to be dealt with" and placed under statutory supervision.

117 cases were under supervision, which is carried out by the Health Visitors.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR THE CARE OF MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

The following table shows the hospitals used by the Local Health Authority and the number of patients thereat at the 31st December, 1956.

	Prudhoe and Monkton Hospital.	The General Hospital, South Shields	Rampton Hospital, Retford.	Durran Hill House, Carlisle.	Aycliffe Hospital, Darlington.	Northgate and District Hospital, Morpeth.
Males ...	64	4	1	—	1	2
Females ...	48	—	2	1	—	—

In addition there were 5 males and 1 female on licence from these hospitals.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1956.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 4 ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5- 9 ...	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	—
10-14 ...	1	2	—	—				
15-19 ...	2	1	—	—	6	—	1	—
20-24 ...	2	1	—	—				
25-34 ...	7	4	2	1				
35-44 ...	7	4	—	1	—	—	—	—
45-54 ...	3	—	—	—				
55-64 ...	7	2	—	—	1	1	1	—
65 and over...	2	—	—	—				
Totals ...	34	16	2	3	7	1	2	—

The following table illustrates the tuberculosis morbidity and mortality figures during the past decade.

Year	NEW CASES				DEATHS				Mortality Rate per 1,000 of population	
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
1945	42	28	7	9	29	17	7	6	0.78	0.22
1946	52	19	9	6	28	17	3	3	0.76	0.09
1947	43	42	5	10	31	22	5	4	0.81	0.13
1948	40	39	9	7	23	24	7	5	0.71	0.18
1949	41	27	5	3	22	12	2	4	0.64	0.09
1950	42	34	2	8	30	18	3	2	0.72	0.07
1951	50	41	4	11	14	8	1	5	0.33	0.09
1952	62	47	12	6	14	9	0	3	0.34	0.04
1953	39	38	14	7	6	1	3	1	0.10	0.06
1954	46	25	2	7	9	5	—	1	0.21	0.01
1955	36	16	1	3	4	3	1	—	0.14	0.01
1956	34	16	2	3	7	1	2	—	0.12	0.03

WATER.**General Domestic Supply.**

The water supply for domestic and general use in the County Borough of Tynemouth, is provided by the water undertaking of the Local Authority, which is also responsible for supplying water to several other areas in South East Northumberland.

The water is derived from four sources, namely, an upland surface catchment area (Fontburn), springs in the same district, an appreciable quantity from the system of the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, and water extracted from the River Wansbeck in the vicinity of the village of Mitford. During the year under review the proportions from each of these supplies may be expressed approximately in the following percentages, Fontburn 52% ; Springs 19% ; Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company 14% ; Wansbeck 15%.

Distribution throughout the Borough is achieved through four covered service reservoirs.

The total number of samples of water derived from various points of the Corporation's water undertaking throughout the year, for the purpose of bacteriological examination was 219. Of these, 82 were obtained from piped supplies within the County Borough. A further 40 were of raw water. The remainder had their origin at various points located in that part of South East Northumberland supplied by the Tynemouth Water Department.

Table relating to the Bacteriological Examination of Samples of Water derived from Piped Supplies, Service Reservoirs and Gravitation Mains within the County Borough of Tynemouth.

Probable No. of coliform bacilli per ml.	No. of Samples. (MacConkey—2 days at 37°C.)
0	75
Up to 2	5
" 5	1
" 10	1
" 50	—
Over 50	—
Total No. of Samples examined ... 82	

Table of Results relating to Samples of Raw Water.

Source.	Number of samples indicating probable Number of Coliform Bacilli present. (MacConkey—2 days at 37°C.).							Total No. of Samples
	0	1 to 2	3 to 5	6 to 10	11 to 50	51 to 180	Over 180	
Fontburn (upland surface) ...	7	3	3	—	3	—	1	17
Tomboy Springs (Fontburn) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tosson Springs ...	8	3	—	—	—	—	—	11
Cartington Springs	3	5	1	1	1	—	1	12
River Wansbeck ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lion's Head Spring (Tynem'th Beach)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	18	11	4	1	4	—	2	40

The total number of samples derived from piped supplies within the County Borough, submitted for chemical analysis during the year, was 17. A typical result is set out in detail below. The remaining samples did not differ materially from this example.

Date received 13th March, 1956. Sample marked "Oswin Terrace, North Shields."

Chemical Results.

	<i>Parts per Million</i>
Total solids dried at 180°C. ...	170
Chlorine as chlorides ...	14.2
Free ammonia ...	0.06
Albuminoid ammonia ...	0.02
Nitrogen as nitrates ...	Trace
Oxygen absorbed (4 hrs. at 80°F.) ...	4.20
Total hardness ...	75
Permanent hardness ...	10
Temporary hardness ...	65
Lead and Copper ...	None
Iron ...	0.2
Appearance and Colour (Hazen deg. 40) ...	Pale yellow & clear
Smell and taste ...	Satisfactory
Microscopical examination of deposit ...	Satisfactory
pH value ...	7.2
Lead solvency (L.G.B.) ...	0.4 parts per million

Report.

This sample of water is of satisfactory organic purity and it is free from deposit. It is a suitable water for drinking and domestic use.

(Sgd.) W. GORDON CAREY.

Of the 20,665 households in the Borough, it is estimated that 16,726 have an independent internal piped water supply, whilst the remaining 3,939 are dependent upon shared taps or taps in yards, etc.

Swimming Baths. There is a large open-air swimming pool, situated at the South end of Tynemouth Long Sands, and in addition, there is an open-air swimming bath at Hawkey's Lane, North Shields. The former is filled with salt water, while the latter derives its supply from the Tynemouth Corporation water undertaking. Both are open for the summer season only. Continuous filtration and chlorination are used at both pools, the amount of free chlorine present in the water being estimated daily, during the season. Bacteriological examinations and chemical analyses of samples of these waters were satisfactory.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE BOROUGH.

To THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
COUNTY BOROUGH OF TYNEMOUTH.

YOUR WORSHIP, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report upon the Public Health Inspection of the Borough during the year 1956, and wish to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the members of the Health Committee, and to all colleagues for their helpful co-operation and keen interest shown during the year.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient servant,

C. A. MURRAY, Cert.S.I.E.J.B.

Cert. Meat Inspection,

Senior Public Health Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION

Total number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	13,384
Total number of re-inspections made	...	...	...	...	4,289
				Inspections.	Re-inspections.
Accumulations	...	...	...	162	66
Animals, Poultry, etc.	...	...	...	122	7
Ashplaces	...	...	...	14	36
Ashbins	...	...	...	77	72
Bakehouses (with mechanical power)	...	...	...	76	—
„ (without mechanical power)	...	...	...	57	—
Butchers' Shops and Stores	...	...	...	175	9
Cesspools	...	...	...	3	—
Closets—Water	...	...	...	533	347
„ —Privies	...	...	...	9	9
„ —Tubs	...	...	...	20	11
Cold Stores	...	...	...	39	—

Dairies, Milkshops and Milkstores	...	...	368	8
Dangerous Structures	...	...	34	18
Drains—Inspected	...	...	312	309
" —Smoke Tests	...	...	30	7
" —Chemical Tests	...	...	25	10
" —Water Tests	...	...	34	10
Entertainment Houses	...	...	48	1
Factories (with mechanical power)	...	...	209	9
" (without mechanical power)	...	...	39	—
" (Outworkers)	...	...	2	—
Fishmongers' Shops and Stores	...	...	283	—
Fish Curing Premises	...	...	39	—
Fish Quay	...	...	289	—
Fish Frying Premises	...	...	71	8
Houses (Ordinary)	...	...	101	—
" (Overcrowded)	...	...	203	—
Housing Enumeration (Part IV)	...	...	390	—
Houses (Consolidated Regulations)	...	...	53	80
" (Clearance Areas, etc.)	...	...	115	7
Housing Act (other buildings)	...	...	4	—
Houses : Let in Lodgings	...	...	25	8
Infectious Diseases	...	...	69	150
Food Preparing Premises—Ice Cream	...	...	278	—
" " " —Cooked Meats	...	...	276	—
Meat and Food Inspections	...	...	576	2
" " " Condemnations	...	...	323	—
" " " Seizures	...	...	—	—
Meetings with Owners or Tradesmen	...	...	822	—
Merchandise Marks Act	...	...	40	—
Miscellaneous Visits	...	...	175	—
Nuisances Found	...	...	655	2,211
Offensive Trade Premises (excluding Fish Fryers)	...	...	77	—
Pets Act, (1951)	...	...	20	—
Piggeries	...	...	75	—
Public Health Inspections	...	...	170	—
Rats and Mice Destruction	...	...	390	554
Samples—Food and Drugs Act	...	...	277	30
" —Pathological	...	...	127	11
" —Rag Flocks Act	...	...	—	—
" —Water	...	...	26	8
" —Fertilizers and Feeding Stuffs Act	...	...	11	4
Seamen's Lodging Houses	...	...	2	—
Shops Act, Section 38 (1950)	...	...	984	36
Sinks and Water Supply	...	...	321	—
Slaughterhouses—Private	...	...	238	—
Special Notices (Meat Regulations)	...	...	17	—
Schools	...	...	8	—
Smoke Observations	...	...	40	18
Special Visits	...	...	886	—
Sewers, etc.	...	...	54	22

Street Gullies	86	31
Streets or Back Roads	92	7
Stables	8	—
Tips	35	17
Urinals—Public	54	—
„ —Private	83	9
Van Dwellings	37	6
Verminous Premises	107	55
Yards and Courts	66	29
Complaints		
Complaints received		909
Complaints confirmed		801
Matters referred to other Departments		265
Nuisances found		655
Premises where work has been carried out without service of notice		157

Nuisances and Defects Remedied during 1956.

	Public Health Acts.		Housing Acts.	Tynemouth Corporat'n. Act.
	Informal.	Statutory.	Statutory.	Statutory.
No. of defects remedied under 1955 notices	157	205	112	4
Informal notice defects transferred to statutory notices... ..	72	—	—	—
No. of defects remedied under 1956 notices... ..	349	151	—	64
No. of defects outstanding at end of 1956	234	113	213	4

THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.—Inspections.

Premises.	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices.	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	51	39	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	227	218	4	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	3	—	—	—
TOTALS	281	257	4	—

The following defects were dealt with on receipt of notices from H.M. Inspector of Factories, and remedied in the course of inspections.

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

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

There was a total of 281 factories on the Register at the end of the year, 230 with mechanical, and 51 without mechanical power.

OUTWORKERS.

One notice under Section 110 of the Factories Act, 1937, was received during the year.

MEANS OF ESCAPE IN CASE OF FIRE.

Under the provisions of Section 34(1) factories of certain categories are required to be certified by the Council as having adequate means of escape in case of fire. Twenty-one certificates were approved during the year.

BAKEHOUSES.

There were 48 premises on the Register at the end of the year, all of which were inspected regularly. No notices were served during the year.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS (P.H. Act, 1936, Sec. 269).

During the year 43 visits were made to the two sites in the Borough housing 4 Caravans. All are on a yearly Licence.

SHOPS ACT, 1950 (Section 38).

Under the provisions of the above Act, 1,020 visits were made to inspect sanitary conveniences and other arrangements for the welfare of the assistants. Two notices were served during the year.

ASHPITS.

There are 7 ashpits, 29 privy ashpits and 13 pail closets in the Borough.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

During the year 944 visits were made to 1,310 premises, for the purpose of ascertaining rat infestations; business premises with a high risk of infestation receiving special attention. Notices were served with successful results in certain difficult cases. The remedy of drainage and structural defects together with the use of traps, poison baits, etc., resulted in the majority of the premises being cleared. All work was carried out by Public Health Inspectors, with the help of two trained operators from the Borough Surveyor's Department.

Two Partial Maintenance treatments of the Sewers were carried out in accordance with the recommendations of the Infestation Control Division of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. This consisted of two days pre-bait, one day poison bait and a final day's visit to ascertain the amount of bait consumed. The estimated kill for both treatments was 4,721 rats.

Two Block Control treatments to Fish Quay premises were carried out during the year and resulted in a calculated kill of 800 rats.

During the year, privately owned and Corporation properties, including tips, were treated by the Corporation, whilst at certain privately owned works and other premises, treatment was carried out either by direct labour or by servicing firms. Farms and small holdings have also received attention.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Number of Council Houses	...	...	...	19
Number of Other Houses	...	...	...	28
Number of Houses de-infested	...	...	...	47

Dwellinghouses were sprayed with insecticide after preparation of rooms, *e.g.*, stripping off wallpaper and removing skirting boards, etc. Infested bedding was de-infested by steam disinfection.

The dwellings, furniture and effects of all prospective Corporation tenants are inspected for evidence of vermin, and freed before removal to Corporation Houses, by a six hour concentrated fumigation with Sulphur Dioxide (2.8% S.O.₂); the gas being kept circulating by means of electric fans.

All deinfestation is carried out by experienced men employed directly by the Local Authority.

Deinfestation of privately owned and occupied property is not carried out by the Department. The services of a Public Health Inspector are given in an advisory capacity, sprays being loaned free of charge, and insecticide sold at cost price.

DISINFECTION OF PREMISES AND ARTICLES OF CLOTHING.

The following table shows the number of rooms disinfected and the number of articles of clothing removed and disinfected at Moor Park Hospital Disinfecting Station during the year.

Disease.	Rooms.	Articles of Clothing.
Diphtheria	—	—
Scarlet Fever	21	49
Tuberculosis	41	56
Vermin	73	22
Measles	—	—
Other Diseases	36	141
Total	171	268

SEAMEN'S LODGING HOUSES.

There were 2 Seamen's Lodging Houses on the Register at the end of the year, having accommodation for 27 males. Two visits were made during the year. The Chief Constable also made periodic inspections and reported his satisfaction.

THEATRES, MUSIC HALLS, etc.

Forty-nine inspections were made in connection with ventilation, sanitation or cleanliness of cinemas. The Chief Constable, who is also Inspector of Public Buildings, has had inspections made.

FERTILISERS AND FEEDING STUFFS ACT, 1926.

Three formal and eight informal samples of Fertilisers were taken during the year. The Public Analyst reported three samples as satisfactory and four deficient. Letters of caution were sent in appropriate cases.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

The above Act, which repeals the previous Acts of 1911 and 1928, came into operation on the 1st November, 1951.

Its purpose is to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered and other articles which are stuffed and lined.

The total number of premises registered is 7.

There were no samples taken during the year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Regular inspections have been made on premises at which Offensive Trades are carried on, and the Regulations have been strictly enforced. A list of Offensive Trades registered in this Borough is given herewith :—

Tripe Boiling	4
Gut Scraping	1

In addition to these premises, regular visits have been made to analogous trades (fish liver boiling, fish meal and manure manufacture).

INSPECTION AND TESTING OF DRAINS.

The total number of tests made during the year was 116 of which 37 were Smoke Tests, 35 Chemical Tests and 44 Water Tests. The drains and sanitary conveniences of new buildings are dealt with by the Borough Surveyor's Staff.

CERTIFICATES OF DISREPAIR

The Housing, Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, came into operation on the 30th August, 1954.

This Act enables a Landlord to claim an increase of rent where a dwellinghouse is let under a controlled tenancy, or occupied by a statutory tenant if the following conditions are fulfilled (a) that the dwellinghouse is in good repair; (b) that it is reasonably suitable for occupation; and (c) that works of repair to the value specified in the Act, have been carried out within a certain period.

A tenant who considers that the above-mentioned conditions have not been fulfilled, may apply to the Local Authority for a "Certificate of Disrepair", and if such a Certificate is granted, may withhold the rent increase until such time as the Certificate is revoked. In addition, the tenant may also withhold a sum in respect of the 40% permitted increase under Section 2 of the "Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act, 1920".

Details of the number of applications for "Certificates of Disrepair" and applications for revocation of Certificates which have been dealt with from the 1st January, until the 31st December, 1956, are given in the following table.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENTS ACT, 1954

Return of Certificates of Disrepair issued by the Local Authority under Section 26(1) of the above Act between 1st January and 31st December, 1956.

Applications.	(a) Dwellinghouses which have been the subject of a Notice of repairs increase of Rent under Part II of the 1954 Act.	(b) Dwellinghouses which have <i>not</i> been the subject of a Notice of repairs increase of Rent under the 1954 Act, but in respect of which permitted increases of rent are recoverable under Sec.2(1) (c)&(d) of the Increase of Rent & Mortgages Interest (Restrictions) Act 1920
No. of Applications for Certificates	19	—
No. granted	18	—
No. refused	1	—
No. of applications for revocation of Certificates	19	—
No. granted	19	—
No. refused	—	—

HOUSING.

New dwellings erected under the Corporation Housing Scheme during the year :—

NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING 1956.

(A) Total number of Houses Erected :—

(1) By the Local Authority	138
(2) By other Local Authorities	—
(3) By other bodies or persons	216

(B) Houses erected with State Assistance under the Housing Acts (Included in A above).

(1) By the Local Authority :—

(a) For the purpose of Part II of the Act (1925)	Nil.
(b) Do. Part III do.	Nil.
(c) For other purposes	Nil.
(d) Housing Act, 1936	Nil.

The above information has been supplied by the Borough Surveyor.

I.—Inspection of Dwelling houses during the Year.

(1) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts	866
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	953
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses included under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925-1932	53
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	133
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	16
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects, reasonably fit for human habitation	850

II.—Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notice

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	244
---	-----

III.—Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs... ..	16
(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	13
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	—
(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	208
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	220
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ...	34
(C) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1

(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	1
(D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ...	2
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	2

IV.—Overcrowding. Housing Act, 1936.

Owing to staffing difficulties, and ever increasing legislation, it has not been possible, as in former years, to revise the position with regard to the state of overcrowding in the Borough.

It is, however, to be appreciated that since the last survey in 1947, considerable reduction has been made in the number of families in the smaller groups, and in this connection, some 28 families living in privately owned properties, and 45 families living in corporation owned properties were removed from the list during the course of the year.

There still remains, and in my opinion there will always be, the difficulty of dealing suitably with the "large" families, until such time as the general housing position has eased, and special accommodation can be provided for such families.

I give below tables showing the numbers of such "large" families, together with their individual composition, remaining on the overcrowded list at the end of the year.

TABLE "A"

SIZE OF FAMILIES.				
Property Owner	Up to 6½ Units	7 to 9 Units	9½ Units and Over	Totals
Private	127	24	6	157
Corporation	301	140	34	475
	428	164	40	632
204 "Large" Families.				

TABLE "B"

Property Owners	SIZE OF FAMILY														Total
	7	7½	8	8½	9	9½	10	10½	11	11½	12	12½	13	13½	
Private ...	12	4	1	3	4	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30
Corporation	41	28	43	14	14	7	11	3	7	3	1	—	1	1	174
TOTALS ...	53	32	44	17	18	10	14	3	7	3	1	—	1	1	204

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGN

The main provision of the Food and Hygiene Regulation 1955, came into force on the 1st January, and from the 1st July the regulations relating to the provision of suitable wash-hand basins for persons handling food, together with an adequate supply of hot and cold water, soap, towels, etc.

Whilst no lectures were given during the year, circulars and leaflets were distributed to all traders. The majority of food traders appeared to be well informed by their trade organisations observing a reasonably high standard of cleanliness in their premises, no serious breaches of the regulations being discovered.

It had been hoped to complete a full survey of all food shops and preparation premises during the year, but this was not possible owing to staff shortage.

A list of food premises in the County Borough area, by type of business is given herewith.

Bakers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	67
Caterers ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Confectioners and General Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	259
Dairymen and Milk Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	225
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Fish Merchants and Curers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	64
Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Fruiterers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	136
Licensed Victuallers (including Off-Licensed Premises)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
Pork Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Tripe Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3

1,046

MILK SUPPLIES.

The County Borough is now included in a specified area under the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas No. 2) Order 1953, which came into operation on 2nd December, 1953 and has the effect of prohibiting the retail sale of any raw milk other than Designated milk. The six producers of non-designated milk made arrangements for their supplies to be sent to the Pasteurisation plant erected in the area of the adjacent authority of Whitley Bay.

376 visits were made to dairies, milk shops, etc.

Consignments of milk coming into the Borough by road and rail and the conditions of the empty churns returned received attention. The keeping qualities of milk from certain outside sources has considerably improved due chiefly to better transport facilities.

Milk Retailers.

Applications for registration received	...	...	...	19
Applications for registration granted	...	...	...	19
Number of Milk Dealers on the Register	...	...	...	225
Dairy premises registered during the year	...	...	...	Nil.
Applications withdrawn	...	...	...	Nil.
Retailers relinquishing registration	...	...	...	14

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS.

The following table gives the various grades for which licences were granted :—

Dealers Licences to sell Tuberculin-Tested Milk	.....	13
Dealers " " " Tuberculin-Tested Pasteurised Milk	.....	13
Dealers Licences to sell Pasteurised Milk	.....	35
Dealers Licences to sell Sterilised Milk	.....	200
Supplementary Licences to sell Tuberculin-Tested Milk	.....	5
Supplementary " " " Tuberculin-Tested Pasteurised Milk	...	6
Supplementary Licences to sell Pasteurised Milk	.....	8
Supplementary Licences to sell Sterilised Milk	.....	5

MILK SAMPLES FOR BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

During the year 56 samples of Milk were taken for examination and submitted to the Public Health Laboratories at Newcastle and Ponteland. Of the total samples taken 39 were from sources within the Borough and 17 from outside. In addition 17 samples of Pasteurised Milk were submitted to the Public Analyst for the Phosphatase Test.

All of the above 56 samples were examined for Tubercle Bacilli and gave negative results.

The following table sets out the details of the examinations carried out.

RESULTS OF BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS OF MILK.

		<i>Total.</i>	<i>Passed.</i>	<i>Failed.</i>
Accredited Milk.	Methylene Blue Test ...	—	—	—
	Coliform Test ...	—	—	—
	Tubercle Test ...	—	—	—
Pasteurised Milk.	Methylene Blue Test ...	17	17	—
	Coliform Test ...	—	—	—
	Tubercle Test ...	17	17	—
	Phosphatase Test ...	17	17	—
Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised Milk.	Methylene Blue Test ...	—	—	—
	Coliform Test ...	—	—	—
	Tubercle Test ...	—	—	—
	Phosphatase Test ...	—	—	—
Ungraded Milk.	Methylene Blue Test ...	24	21	3
	Coliform Test ...	24	21	3
	Tubercle Test ...	24	21	3
Tuberculin Tested Milk.	Methylene Blue Test ...	15	11	4
	Coliform Test ...	15	11	4
	Tubercle Test ...	15	11	4
Sterilised Milk.	Turbidity Test ...	—	—	—
Total Graded Milks ...		96	84	12
Total Ungraded Milks ...		72	63	9
Total Tests Made ...		168	147	21

The producers of unsatisfactory samples in this area were visited, cautioned and given advice, whilst those outside the area were notified, together with the Local Authorities concerned.

ICE-CREAM.

There are 10 producers in the Borough. Equipment has now been modernised, and all ice-cream is produced in accordance with the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947-1951.

Eighteen samples were subjected to the Methylene Blue Test similar to that applied to Milk samples. It is suggested by the Ministry that over any six months period 50% of vendors' samples should fall into Grade 1; 80% into Grades 1 or 2; and not more than 20% into Grade 3; and none at all in Grade 4.

The graded results of samples are as follows:—

Grade 1.	Grade 2.	Grade 3.	Grade 4.	Total.
15	2	—	1	18

The Food Standards (Ice-Cream) Order, 1953, which came into force on the 1st June, 1953, requires that ice-cream shall contain certain minimum quantities of fat, sugar and milk solids other than fat. Ten samples were taken during the year, all of which were satisfactory.

TYNEMOUTH CORPORATION ACTS, 1916-1934.

Regulations made under these Acts are in force, and no persons are permitted to use premises for the preparation of cooked or preserved foods unless they are registered by the Local Authority, who have power to refuse registration if, in their opinion, the premises are unsatisfactory.

There were 259 persons in the Borough registered as occupiers of premises in which Ice-Cream is sold or manufactured. 137 persons are registered as owners or occupiers of premises in which Preserved Meat, Fish Cakes, or other foods are prepared and sold. These figures do not include premises used for the business of Fish and Potato Frying.

554 visits were made during the year to supervise and emphasise the need for cleanliness in the handling of food. No serious negligence was discovered.

No. of persons registered as occupiers of premises in which Ice-Cream is sold or manufactured	
1952	259
1953	259
1954	259
1955	259
1956	259
1957	259
1958	259
1959	259
1960	259
1961	259
1962	259
1963	259
1964	259
1965	259
1966	259
1967	259
1968	259
1969	259
1970	259

No. of persons registered as owners or occupiers of premises in which Preserved Meat, Fish Cakes, or other foods are prepared and sold	
1952	137
1953	137
1954	137
1955	137
1956	137
1957	137
1958	137
1959	137
1960	137
1961	137
1962	137
1963	137
1964	137
1965	137
1966	137
1967	137
1968	137
1969	137
1970	137

FOOD AND DRUGS.

MILK AND CREAM REGULATIONS, 1912-1927.

- (1) Milk and Cream not sold as Preserved Cream. The following samples were examined for the presence of a preservative: Milk 103; Cream Nil; and Tinned Cream Nil. No preservatives were reported to be present in any of the foregoing samples.
- (2) Thickening Substances. No evidence was found during the year of any addition of thickening substances to Cream.

ARTIFICIAL CREAM ACT, 1929.

There were no samples taken under this Act during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

The following table sets out details of samples found adulterated during the past five years.

Year.	TOTAL SAMPLES.			MILK SAMPLES.		
	Number Examined.	Number Adulterated.	Percentage Adulterated.	Number Examined.	Number Adulterated.	Percentage Adulterated.
1952	218	7	3.21	127	2	1.57
1953	202	3	1.48	107	2	1.87
1954	183	6	3.26	92	—	0.00
1955	159	6	3.77	84	3	3.56
1956	194	4	4.9	103	—	0.00

Details of samples taken during 1956 are set out in Table I on page 47.

SAMPLES TAKEN FOR CHEMICAL ANALYSIS.

TABLE I.

Articles Analysed	Total	No. of Samples taken for Analysis		No. found to be Adulterated		Percentages of Samples Adulterated	
		Infor- mal	For- mal	Infor- mal	For- mal	Infor- mal	Formal
Aspirin	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Beer	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Bicarbonate of Soda ...	4	4	—	—	—	—	—
Butter	4	4	—	—	—	—	—
Castor Oil	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Cheese	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Coffee Chicory Essence	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Condiment (Non-Brewed)	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Crab (Dressed)	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Eggs (Australian)	3	3	—	3	—	100%	—
Dripping	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Fat	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Fish	5	5	—	—	—	—	—
Fish Paste	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ginger	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Glenco Compound	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Ice-Cream	10	10	—	—	—	—	—
Iodine	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Lard	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
Margarine	5	5	—	—	—	—	—
Meat Paste	3	3	—	—	—	—	—
Milk Condensed	4	4	—	—	—	—	—
„ Sterilised	21	—	21	—	—	—	—
„ Pasteurised	45	—	45	—	—	—	—
„ T.T.	11	—	11	—	—	—	—
„ T.T. Pasteurised	26	—	26	—	—	—	—
Nutmeg	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Pepper	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Polony	2	2	—	—	—	—	—
Pork	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Rhubarb Jam	1	1	—	1	—	100%	—
Saveloy	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Sausage (Beef)	16	16	—	—	—	—	—
„ (Pork)	5	5	—	—	—	—	—
Vinegar (Malt)	5	5	—	—	—	—	—
White Puddings	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	194	91	103	4	—	4.9%	—

PARTICULARS OF ADULTERATED SAMPLES.

TABLE II.

No.	Article	Defect	Action Taken
78	Eggs (Australian)	Unfit for Human Consumption	Voluntarily Surrendered and Destroyed
79	do.	do.	do.
80	do.	do.	do.
112	Rhubarb Jam	Contaminated	Police Case

PUBLIC HEALTH (CONDENSED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1923-1927.

Four samples were taken during the year under these regulations.

PUBLIC HEALTH (DRIED MILK) REGULATIONS 1923-1927.

No samples were taken under these regulations during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH (PRESERVATIVES IN FOOD) REGULATIONS, 1925-1927.

194 samples were examined during the year and in no case was any infringement of the regulations discovered.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

There is one private Slaughterhouse on an Annual Licence, used by four butchers.

Carcases and Offal Inspected and Condemned during the year

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	392	—	5	1532	3	—
Number inspected	392	—	5	1532	3	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	134	Nil	—	60	2	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis and cysticerci ...	34.18%	—	—	3.9%	66.6%	—
Tuberculosis only : Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	3.5%	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis : Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned.	Nil	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration ...	Nil	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned	Nil	—	—	—	—	—

Inspection of Meat.

184 visits were made to butchers' shops. There are no open stalls used for the sale of meat.

TOTAL AMOUNT OF UNSOUND FOOD CONDEMNED.

Food	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Fish	11	3	2	4	4
Shellfish	2	7	2	—	—
Beef	2	12	3	4	—
Pork	—	9	2	—	—
Mutton	—	—	3	6	—
Tinned Fish	—	—	—	27	13
Tinned Meat	—	11	—	22	15
Tinned Milk	—	1	1	20	2
Tinned Goods	1	5	3	6	14½
Miscellaneous Groceries ...	1	9	3	17	3
TOTALS	20	2	2	25	3½

All meat, offal and fish were sent for salvage for animal feeding stuffs or fertilisers to two factories within the Borough. Other foodstuffs are destroyed at the incinerator.

SPECIAL EXAMINATION OF FOODSTUFFS.

A special examination was made of 14 tons of liquid eggs of Australian origin, resulting in 1,778 lbs. weight of these eggs being condemned. The balance were dealt with by use after undergoing special heat treatment process.

FISH.

During the season, a large number of boats were engaged in herring fishing, and the catches were usually landed and dealt with the same day. All catches were dealt with at the Corporation Fish Quay, and the quality of the fish landed, has been well maintained.

Mr. J. Coxon Fry, Quay Master, has kindly placed at my disposal the following figures showing the volume of the trade in fish during the year.

Landings Made direct from the Fishing Grounds.

White Fish	...	...	4,130 landings	223,004 cwts.
Herring (Drift Net)	...	1,374	„	125,627 „

Imported from Norway and landed at Fish Quay ex Norwegian Carriers.

NIL.

SHELLFISH

The condition of shellfish coming into this town continued to receive attention.

Three samples were taken during the year, all of which were satisfactory.

There are no layings within the area of this authority.

SWINE FEVER.

Five cases were reported during the year, one of which was confirmed. 12 pigs died.

WHALEMEAT.

Since the introduction of the Food and Drugs (Whalemeat) Regulations, 1949, no landings have been made direct from the fishing grounds.

MINERAL OIL IN FOOD ORDER, 1949.

No cases were discovered during the year.

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SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
FOR THE YEAR 1907

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