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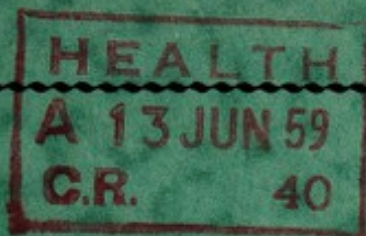
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*L. M.*

Washington Urban District Council

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**REPORT OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH**

**FOR THE YEAR 1957**

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**L. A. M. JOHNSTON,**  
B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

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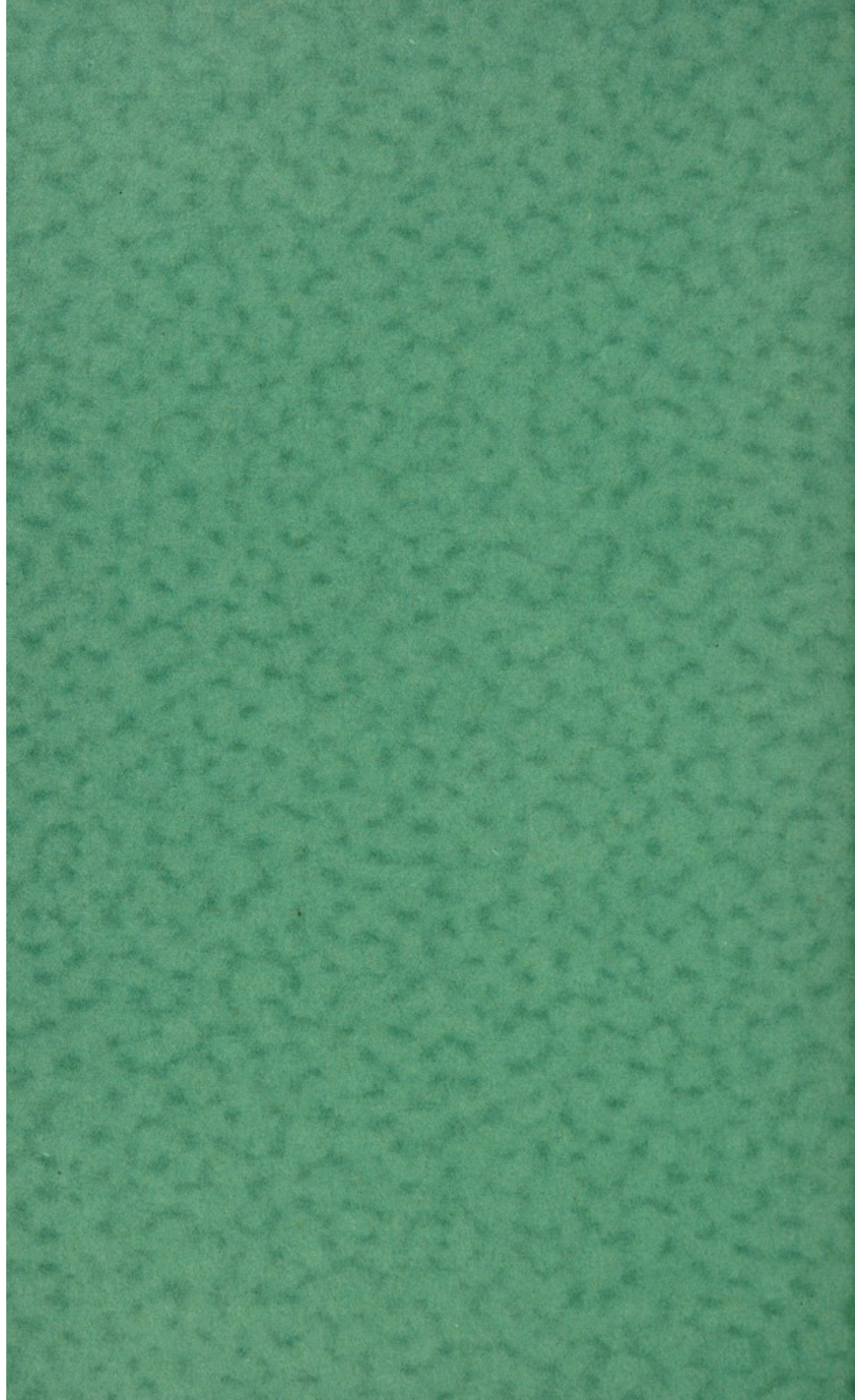


1959

PELAW-ON-TYNE :

CO-OPERATIVE WHOLESALE SOCIETY'S PRINTING WORKS







# Washington Urban District Council

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## REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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# WASHINGTON URBAN DISTRICT

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## *Members of Council and Health Committee, 1957*

### CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL

### CHAIRMAN OF HEALTH COMMITTEE :

Councillor A. BOYD, J.P.

#### GREAT USWORTH WARD

Councillor R. COATES, 14, Garsdale Avenue.

Councillor C. McILROY, 34, The Drive.

Councillor Mrs. E. THOMPSON, 6, The Drive.

#### SPRINGWELL WARD

Councillor T. W. BOYD, 19, Kingsdale Avenue.

Councillor J. R. COXON, C.C., J.P., 5, Westfield Crescent.

#### USWORTH COLLIERY WARD

Councillor J. W. DRUMMOND, J.P., 40, Oxford Avenue.

Councillor J. GIBSON, 75, Tyne Gardens.

Councillor N. MURPHY, 8, Richardson Terrace.

Councillor R. MCGLEN, Jnr., 68, The Oval.

Councillor W. OLDS, 40, Oxford Avenue.

Councillor W. TROTTER, 25, Richardson Terrace.

#### WASHINGTON WARD

Councillor C. HALL, 13, Urban Gardens.

Councillor G. HASKETT, 40, Havannah Terrace.

Councillor W. HASKETT, 11, Havannah Terrace.

Councillor Mrs. A. TEMPEST, 6, The Green.

#### WASHINGTON STATION WARD

Councillor M. ALLON, C.C., 4, Wear Terrace.

Councillor J. A. YOUNG, 11, Biddick Terrace.

Councillor G. GREEN, 6, The Poplars.

Councillor J. MURDOCK, 22, Grassmere Terrace.

Councillor H. PRICE, 22, Romney Avenue.

Area in acres .....	5,758 acres
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population, mid-1957 .....	17,910
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1956), according to Rate Books .....	5,671
Rateable Value .....	£132,377
Sum represented by a Penny Rate....	£509

## Public Health Officers of the Authority

The Staff consists of:—

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH :** Dr. L. A. M. JOHNSTON.  
Whole-time conjoint appointment (see below). Degrees of  
B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. (St. Andrew's).

**SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :** Mr. J. MITCHELL.  
Whole time. Holds Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Association and Certificate for Inspection of Meat and other Foods. Also acts as Factory and Workshop Inspector, Shops Inspector, Cleansing Officer, Petroleum Officer and Rodent Control Officer.

**ASSISTANT PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR :** Mr. J. SCOTT.  
Whole time. Holds the Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Certificate for Inspection of Meat and other Foods.

**SURVEYOR AND ENGINEER :** Mr. CROWE. Whole time.  
Member of the Institution of Municipal Engineers.

The Medical Officer of Health also acts as Medical Officer to the Urban Districts of Houghton-le-Spring and Hetton, also as Assistant Medical Officer for Durham County Council for No. 5 Area.

The County Council, on behalf of the Government, pay half the salaries of the Medical Officer of Health and the Public Health Inspectors.



HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
COUNCIL OFFICES,  
WASHINGTON.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS,

I have pleasure in submitting herewith my Seventh Annual Report on the vital statistics, sanitary conditions and health of the district, being for the year 1957. The report of your Public Health Inspector for that year is included.

Sincere apologies must be tendered for the delay in the issue of said report.

I should like to make comment here on some of the more important and interesting matters :—

**Birth Rate** at 17·707 was slightly higher than in 1956 and definitely higher than that for England and Wales, which was 16·1.

**Death Rate** at 13·74 was higher for the district than in 1956, but higher than that for England and Wales at 11·5.

**Infectious Diseases.**—It is noted that during 1957, 358 cases of infectious diseases were notified, compared with almost one-fifth of that figure in 1956, viz., 69.

**Measles and Whooping Cough.**—These two diseases, which were epidemic in 1955, accounted for the divergence between the total cases of infectious diseases in 1955 and 1956.

In 1957 290 cases of measles and 19 of whooping cough were notified, as against 5 measles and 21 whooping cough in 1956.

**Tuberculosis.**—There was a decrease in the number of cases of tuberculosis as compared with the previous year, there being 10 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis and 4 cases of non-pulmonary, as compared with 18 pulmonary and 3 non-pulmonary in 1956. The figures for 1956, however, were unusually low and earlier diagnosis, thoroughness of investigation, and supervision of close contacts is bringing an additional number for notification and treatment. This is of immense importance in preventing the spread of the disease and of great benefit to the patient. Early diagnosis means more rapid cure, and the various drugs which have been discovered and brought into use during the post-war years have resulted in many complete cures—in some cases without the necessity for hospital treatment, whilst in the remainder the duration of the stay in hospital has been considerably reduced. It is indeed satisfactory that many tuberculosis hospitals throughout the country are being closed for lack of patients, and waiting lists for admission no longer exist.

**Scarlet Fever.**—This disease nowadays bears no semblance to the grave sickness at the beginning of the century and hospitalisation is no longer considered necessary apart from very exceptional circumstances. Quarantine of school children contacts is being dropped in most areas.

**Diphtheria.**—Again there were no cases of diphtheria in this area.

The present generation of young parents have little first-hand knowledge of this dread disease and must be continuously reminded of the importance of having their children immunised. Quite a number have



had their children immunised by their own doctors, who are able to combine this with protection against whooping cough. Like several Local Health Authorities in the country, Durham County Council did not offer this combined protection to children immunised at the Child Welfare Centres during 1956.

**Heart Disease.**—54 deaths were ascribed as being due to this cause, an increase of 1 on the previous year, but the number of cases of coronary disease, quite a number of which are not fatal on the first attack, causes serious anxiety throughout the whole country. It is possible nowadays for patients seen sufficiently soon to receive much more effective treatment than was possible only a few years ago.

**Cancer.**—A satisfactory decrease in the death rate from cancer was apparent in 1957. It cannot be over-emphasised that early diagnosis and treatment of cancer means cure in many cases and nowadays a very few types are in fact curable by drugs. The great thing is to get the disease in the early stage whilst it is localised and before its spread to various other organs.

**Welfare of the Aged.**—The nine clubs for the "Over 60's" continued to function actively, but one cannot fail to see that there is real scope for other voluntary services to help the elderly to have a more comfortable and pleasant life, to combat loneliness, and in some instances such voluntary service is sufficient to enable the old folk to remain in their own homes instead of becoming permanently resident in hospital or hostel.

Finally, I wish to take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation and gratitude to Councillors and to my colleagues on the staff for their loyalty and assistance so readily forthcoming whenever required.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Members,

Your obedient servant,

L. A. M. JOHNSTON,

*Medical Officer of Health*

## Health Services

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Administered by the County Council and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

The following Health Services are administered by Durham County Council as the responsible Local Health Authority under the National Health Service Act :—

- Ambulance.
- Home Nursing.
- Home Helps.
- Preventative measures against Smallpox, Poliomyelitis, Diphtheria, and Tuberculosis.
- Child Welfare and Maternity.
- School Medical.
- Welfare of the Aged.
- Welfare of the Blind and Handicapped.
- Health Visitors.

The County Council are also responsible for the administration of Part III of the National Assistance Act, 1948.

FOOD AND DRUG INSPECTORS are appointed by, and work under the direction of, the County Council.

VETERINARY INSPECTORS are fully-qualified men appointed by, and working under the direction of, the Ministry of Agriculture, being responsible for conducting routine examinations of the cow population throughout the County in order to maintain and raise the standard of health of said cows.



## Vital Statistics

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### Births and Birth Rate

The net number of live births (as corrected by the Registrar General for outward and inward transfers) during 1957 was 342, compared with 336 for 1956.

Sex and Legitimacy are shown thus :—

#### LIVE BIRTHS—

	Total	Male	Female	Giving a Birth Rate of 19·04 per 1,000 of the estimated population.
Legitimate ....	336	117	159	
Illegitimate ....	6	2	4	

To exactly compare the Birth Rate in Washington Urban District with that for England and Wales, as a whole, it must be multiplied by a comparability factor of 0·93, giving a rate of 17·707 as compared with 16·1 for England and Wales.

The following table shows (i) the total number of births, (ii) the number of males born, (iii) the number of females born, (iv) the Birth Rate per 1,000 population, and (v) the total increase of population (i.e., the excess of births over deaths) for 1957, as compared with the years 1948–56 :—

Year	Total Births	Males	Females	Rate per 1,000	Total Increase
1948 .....	395	195	200	22·52	218
1949 .....	362	197	165	20·49	166
1950 .....	325	160	165	18·29	163
1951 .....	332	183	149	18·7	111
1952 .....	302	158	144	17·06	102
1953 .....	324	177	147	18·33	169
1954 .....	312	170	142	17·59	108
1955 .....	327	173	154	18·37	123
1956 .....	336	167	169	18·8	163
1957 .....	342	179	163	19·04	161

### Still Births

During 1957 there were 10 still births in the district.

#### STILL BIRTHS—

	Total	Male	Female	Giving a Still Birth Rate of 28·83 per 1,000 total (live and still births).
Legitimate ....	10	3	7	
Illegitimate ....	—	—	—	

There is a Still Birth Rate of 0.558 per 1,000 population in Washington Urban District, as compared with 0.36 for England and Wales.

### **Deaths and Death Rate**

The Registrar General reports that after correction for outward and inward transfers, 181 residents of the Washington area died during 1957, being 95 males and 86 females.

Locally compiled figures show that there were 106 deaths registered as having occurred within the district, being 60 males and 46 females. Two persons died within the area during the period under consideration who did not normally reside therein; there were therefore 2 outward transfers.

Seventy-three persons, being 33 males and 40 females, normally resident in the district, died outside the area. There were therefore 73 inward transfers.

During 1957, 173 residents of Washington died, being 90 males and 83 females.

The Death Rate for 1957, corrected for outward and inward transfers and including deaths from all causes and at all ages, was 10.106 for Washington Urban District, compared with 9.68 in 1956.

In order to compare the local figure with that for England and Wales, the former must be multiplied by a comparability factor of 1.36, giving a Death Rate for Washington of 13.744, whilst that for England and Wales is 11.5.

### **Total Deaths under Five Years (corrected locally)**

During 1957, 10 children died before attaining the age of five years, as compared with 9 in 1956. Nine children, being 4 males and 5 females, were under one year of age.

Therefore 5.52 per cent. of the total deaths were of children under five years of age, as compared with 6.47 per cent. in 1956.

### **Deaths in Institutions**

Of the 73 residents who died outside the area, 69 died in hospital, 2 in private homes, and 2 due to accident.

### **Maternal Mortality**

There were no deaths among women from puerperal sepsis, pregnancy, or abortion.



## Comparisons between England and Wales and Washington

The maternal mortality per 1,000 total live and still births, based on deaths which are primarily classed as due to diseases of pregnancy, childbirth, and the puerperal state, is shown in the following table :—

	ENGLAND AND WALES		WASHINGTON URBAN DISTRICT	
	Nos.	Rate	Nos.	Rate
Maternal Causes, excluding Abortion .....	288	0.39	0	0.000
Due to Abortion .....	61	0.08	0	0.000
Total Maternal Mortality ..	349	0.47	0	0.000

## Death Rate of Infants under One Year

During 1957 there were 9 children, being 3 legitimate males and 5 legitimate females and 1 illegitimate male, who died in the area before attaining the age of one year. This is equivalent to an infantile mortality rate of 26.31 per 1,000 live births, compared with 23.0 for England and Wales.

In 1956 there were 8 children who died under one year of age, yielding an Infantile Mortality Rate of 22.04 (per 1,000 total births).

The following table shows the death rates for infants under one year of age, according to the total number of live births and legitimacy for the years 1948-1957 :—

Year	All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births
1948 .....	50.66	63.60	166.66
1949 .....	52.49	53.98	0.00
1950 .....	30.77	30.91	0.00
1951 .....	42.17	43.81	0.00
1952 .....	19.86	20.54	0.00
1953 .....	37.03	37.97	0.00
1954 .....	16.02	15.57	0.00
1955 .....	36.69	35.5	0.00
1956 .....	23.8	23.3	0.00
1957 .....	26.31	25.56	0.00

The following table shows in detail the number and causes of deaths in infants during the first year of life, and also the deaths at the various ages.

**Infant Mortality during the year ended 31st December, 1957**

Cause of Death	Ages of Children				Total
Lobar Pneumonia ....	....	2 months	....	....	1
Prematurity ....	....	3 days ; 45 mins. ; 2 hours	....	....	3
Congenital Heart Disease ....	....	1 week	....	....	1
Acute Ilio Colitis ....	....	1 month ; 1 month	....	....	2
Asphyxia ....	....	2 months	....	....	1
Atelectasis ....	....	1 day	....	....	1
					—
					9
					—

Since the total deaths in the district at all ages was 181, then 4.96 per cent. of the total were children under one year of age. Of these infants 55.56 per cent. were one week old or younger.



## Causes of Death in Washington Urban District during 1957

CAUSES OF DEATH	Males	Females
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory ....	3	2
2. Tuberculosis, Other .....	.....	.....
3. Syphilitic Disease .....	.....	1
4. Diphtheria .....	.....	.....
5. Whooping Cough .....	.....	.....
6. Meningococcal Infections .....	.....	.....
7. Acute Poliomyelitis .....	.....	.....
8. Measles .....	.....	.....
9. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases .....	.....	.....
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach .....	4	4
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus .....	6	3
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast .....	.....	1
13. Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus .....	.....	2
14. Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms .....	5	6
15. Leukaemia Aleukaemia .....	.....	.....
16. Diabetes .....	.....	.....
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System .....	11	15
18. Coronary Disease, Angina .....	14	8
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease .....	2	4
20. Other Heart Disease .....	9	7
21. Other Circulatory Disease .....	5	5
22. Influenza .....	4	1
23. Pneumonia .....	2	4
24. Bronchitis .....	10	3
25. Other Diseases of Respiratory System .....	2	.....
26. Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum .....	1	2
27. Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea .....	1	3
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis .....	.....	1
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate .....	1	.....
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion .....	.....	.....
31. Congenital Malformations .....	1	.....
32. Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases .....	6	7
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents .....	2	1
34. All other Accidents.....	5	6
35. Suicide .....	.....	.....
36. Homicide and operations of War .....	1	.....
ALL CAUSES .....	95	86

## Causes of Death

### TUBERCULOSIS

There were 5 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis and no deaths from non-pulmonary tuberculosis during 1957, being equivalent to a death rate of 0.279 per 1,000 population from the pulmonary form and 0.00 from the non-pulmonary.

#### COMPARATIVE TABLE

Year	No. of Deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Washington U.D.	Death Rate per 1,000 Population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis England and Wales	Death Rate per 1,000 Population from Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Washington U.D.	No. of Deaths from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Washington U.D.	Death Rate per 1,000 Population from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis England and Wales	Death Rate per 1,000 Population from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis in Washington U.D.
1948 ....	10	0.44	0.570	1	0.067	0.570
1949 ....	9	0.403	0.509	2	0.054	0.113
1950 ....	5	0.321	0.281	1	0.043	0.056
1951 ....	2	0.275	0.113	3	0.041	0.164
1952 ....	6	0.212	0.339	1	0.028	0.056
1953 ....	5	0.179	0.283	0	0.022	0.000
1954 ....	1	0.160	0.056	0	0.019	0.000
1955 ....	2	0.145	0.112	0	0.015	0.000
1956 ....	1	0.109	0.056	0	0.012	0.000
1957 ....	5	0.109	0.279	0	0.011	0.000

### HEART DISEASE

#### AND DISEASE OF THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM

This includes :—

	Males	Females
Coronary Disease—Angina ....	14	8
Hypertension with Heart Disease....	2	4
Other Heart Disease ....	9	7
Other Circulatory Disease....	5	5
Total ....	30	24

Therefore in 1957 there were 54 deaths due to the above-named causes—that is 29.83 of the total deaths, or a death rate of 3.015 per 1,000 population. The percentage of total deaths in 1956 was 30.64 and the death rate 2.9.



# COMPARATIVE TABLE

Year	Total Deaths All Causes	Deaths due to Heart Disease	DEATH RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION		Percentage Total Deaths due to Heart Disease
			All Causes	Heart Disease	
1947	177	37	10.34	2.16	20.90
1948	177	46	10.09	2.62	25.99
1949	196	55	11.09	3.11	28.07
1950	162	42	9.12	2.36	25.92
1951	221	61	12.47	3.44	27.6
1952	200	53	11.29	2.99	26.55
1953	155	48	8.77	2.72	31.0
1954	204	72	11.51	4.06	35.29
1955	201	60	11.29	3.37	29.85
1956	173	53	9.68	2.9	30.64
1957	181	54	10.106	3.015	29.83

## CANCER

This includes all malignant growths and diseases.

During 1957 there were 31 deaths certified as being due to malignant growths, being 15 males and 16 females. Of these 9 were due to cancer of lungs and bronchi and 8 to cancer of stomach, 1 breast, 2 uterus, and 11 to other malignant growths.

	England and Wales	Washington Urban District
Death Rate (per 1,000 population) cancer, lungs, and bronchi ....	0.407	0.502
Death Rate (per 1,000 population) other cancer ....	1.668	1.73

The following table shows the number of deaths in the area due to cancer, and the mortality rate from this disease in 1957 compared with the preceding 10 years :—

Year	NUMBER OF DEATHS			Mortality Rate per 1,000 Population
	Male	Female	TOTAL	
1947	15	8	23	1.35
1948	15	9	24	1.37
1949	15	15	30	1.69
1950	6	8	14	0.79
1951	10	11	21	1.19
1952	21	12	33	1.86
1953	12	11	23	1.30
1954	18	19	37	2.08
1955	24	21	45	2.528
1956	12	15	27	1.15
1957	15	16	31	1.73

## Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

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### Water Supply

The Newcastle upon Tyne and Gateshead Water Co., and the Sunderland and South Shields Water Co., supply the Urban District with water.

The supply of water to the district is satisfactory in quality. The quantity is being carefully observed and further progress has been made with the increase to the bulk supply to the district, materials having been delivered.

No treatment is installed in the supply system within the Urban District. The taking of samples for bacteriological and chemical analysis is carried out by the companies involved.

The waters do not appear to have plumbo-solvent action.

Samples of main supply water taken during the year gave satisfactory results, there being no evidence of contamination.

All the dwelling-houses within the Urban District are supplied from public water mains by the method herewith tabulated :—

(1)	Direct to houses	....	....	....	....	5,624
(2)	By means of tap in yard or wash-house	....				101
						<hr/> 5,725 <hr/>

### Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The sewage of the district is discharged into the River Wear at three points : one near Barmston Forge and two at Washington Staithes. The waste matter at Barmston only is treated in settlement tanks before being allowed to flow into the river. The settlement tanks were cleansed during September, 1956. The need for new sewage disposal works is recognised and is under consideration.

### Rivers and Streams

Favourable reports as to the condition of the various water-courses in the district were received during the past year.



### Closet Accommodation

At the end of the year the various types in use within the Urban District were as follows :—

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Water Closets..	6,087	6,243	6,291	6,408	6,493
Ash Closets ....	26	12	12	11	—
Chemical Closets ....	6	6	6	6	6
Elsan Closets ..	—	—	—	—	7

### Household Refuse and Salvage Collection and Disposal

The collection and disposal of household refuse was carried out as during previous years by direct labour, with some 10 isolated houses being controlled by contract.

The personnel included three foremen/drivers and 12 loaders. Two salvage sorters were employed at Shop Houses salvage depot.

A foreman-driver with four loaders, man each of three 10 cubic yard Dennis vehicles, the newest of the three being Diesel driven, while the other two are petrol driven.

A service varying from four to seven days was maintained during the year to the community.

The number of dwelling-houses, shops, and other premises dealt with totalled 5,877, an increase of 120, compared with 5,757 in 1956.

Test weights of loaded vehicles were taken during the year and, together with information returned in daily time sheets by the foremen, it was calculated that approximately 9,719 tons were collected for disposal, while the calls made for that purpose totalled 342,880.

Disposal of refuse during the year was as follows :—

Swinburn's Tip ....	5,639 tons
Biddick Tip ....	2,700 „
Other Agricultural Land ....	1380 „

Salvage during the year was mainly confined to the collection of paper. Approximately 82 tons of paper were collected and, after sorting, 46 tons were returned to industry for re-pulping.

	£	s.	d.
The expenditure of the combined services =			
£10,226 9s. 3d., including labour, &c. ....	11,217	6	9
Maintenance of tips (two) ....	275	3	10
Maintenance of vehicles ....	1,095	2	6
Profit on sale of ash-bins ....	16	8	10
Income from refuse collection ....	118	7	0
Income from salvage collection ....	434	14	1
Annual cost of services during the year was....	11,018	3	2

## Sanitary Inspection of the Area

### (a) NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTION

Visits and re-visits to premises under Public Health and Housing Acts ....	2,172
Visits to Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milk Shops ....	6
„ Bakehouses ....	17
„ Factories and Workshops ....	32
„ Work in progress ....	74
„ Food premises ....	182
„ Pig-keepers' premises ....	10
„ Shops ....	83
Visits made in connection with Infectious Diseases and disinfection of premises ....	61
Visits to Tents, Vans, Sheds and similar structures ....	5
Visits and re-visits to premises in connection with Rodent Control ....	291
	<hr/> 2,933 <hr/>

### Shops Act

During the year 83 inspections of shops were made.

### Smoke Abatement

In this Urban area the need to take action is not deemed necessary.

### Swimming Baths

There are no swimming baths in the district.



## Rat Infestation

During the year maintenance treatments for rats within the area were carried out as recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries Infestation Control Division. A summary of the work entailed on surface infestations is given in the following table :—

Premises	Local Authority	Dwelling-houses	Agri-cultural	All other (including Business and Industrial)	TOTAL
1. Total number of properties in Local Authority's District....	*70	4,978	30	597	5,565
2. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1954 as result of (a) notification, (b) survey, (c) otherwise.....	(a) 8 (b) 9 (c) 17	45 321 402	2 9 13	3 12 172	58 351 604
3. Number of properties (under 2) found to be infested by rats .....	3	9	1	5	18
4. Number of properties (under 2) found to be seriously infested by mice .....	6	23	....	4	33
5. Number of infested properties (under 3 and 4) treated by the Local Authority .....	8	54	1	7	70
6. Number of Notices served under Section 4— (i) Treatment .....	....	....	....	....	....
(ii) Structural Works (i.e., Proofing) .....	....	....	....	....	....
7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of Notices under Section 4 .....	....	....	....	....	....
8. Legal Proceedings .....	....	....	....	....	....
9. Number of "block" control schemes carried out .....	Four				

\* Figures given as per Valuation Roll on 31st December, 1957.

At the end of the year 11 farms were on contract to the County Agricultural Executive Committee for the destruction of rats, and action was taken on four premises following informal notice. One block treatment was completed with the co-operation of the County Agricultural Executive Committee.

(b) NUMBER OF NOTICES SERVED AND COMPLIED WITH

	Number of Informal Notices Served	Number of Statutory Notices Served	Number of Nuisances Abated after Notice
Dwelling-houses { Structural Defects ..	210	12	238
{ Foul Conditions .....	....	....	....
{ Overcrowding .....	....	....	....
Lodging-houses .....	....	....	....
Dairies and Milk Shops .....	....	....	....
Cowsheds .....	....	....	....
Bakehouses .....	2	....	2
Slaughterhouses .....	2	....	2
Ashpits and Privies .....	4	....	4
Deposits of Refuse and Manure .....	2	....	2
Water Closets .....	22	3	22
Defective Yard Paving .....	4	....	5
{ Defective Traps .....	3	....	3
House Drainage { No disconnection from .....	....	....	....
{ Sewers .....	....	....	....
{ Other Faults .....	37	3	36
Water Supply .....	5	1	5
Pigsties .....	....	....	....
Animals Improperly Kept .....	....	....	....
Offensive Trades .....	....	....	....
Smoke Nuisances .....	....	....	....
Other Nuisances .....	....	....	....
Ash Bins .....	47	5	41
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>338</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>360</b>



## **Housing**

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### **1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year**

(1) (a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ....	735
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose....	2,172
(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Acts ....	Nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose....	Nil
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ....	18
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ....	127

### **2. Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of Formal Notices**

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ....	61
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### **3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year**

#### **(A) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 9, 10 AND 16 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :—**

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs....	12
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners ....	12
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners....	Nil

#### **(B) PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS :—**

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ....	3
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a)	By owners ....	3
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners....	Nil

(C) PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTIONS 11 AND 13 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ....	1
(2) Number of dwelling-houses 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 respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ....	Nil

During the period under review 139 houses were erected and occupied within the Urban District, viz. :—

Permanent houses by Local Authority ....	131
Houses built by Private Enterprise ....	8



#### 4. Overcrowding

In the Urban District overcrowding is much in evidence, more particularly with regard to houses overcrowded by reason of more than one family being in occupation.

The following is a Summary of the Permanent Dwelling-houses, including number of Apartments erected by the Local Authority up to 31st December, 1957.

WARD	SIZE OF HOUSE OR TYPE					Total
	2BR	3BR	P.T.	A.P.	S.P.	
Washington ....	107	167	23	20	....	317
Washington Station ....	42	229	10	28	....	309
Springwell ....	26	128	....	16	....	170
Usworth Colliery ....	287	182	38	....	....	507
Great Usworth ....	179	780	....	60	6	1,025
TOTAL ....	641	1,486	71	124	6	2,328

The total number of dwelling-houses under the control of the Urban District Council is tabulated herewith :—

Permanent ....	2,328
Temporary ....	238
Others ....	2
	<hr/>
	2,568
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## Inspection and Supervision of Food

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### (a) Milk Supply

Details of licensing under the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies) Act, 1955, and the various Regulations made thereunder are given as follows :—

Licensed to sell Pasteurised Milk	....	1
Licensed to sell "T.T." Pasteurised Milk (Supplementary)	.... ....	2
Registered to sell "Sterilised" Milk	....	55

### (b) Inspection of Meat and Other Foods

Two licences were issued during the year with regard to premises for the slaughtering of animals (excluding horses) for human consumption.

Slaughterers' licences were renewed to 15 persons in the same period.

The following table is given showing inspections and condemnations :—

	Cattle	Cows	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	529	217	8	6
Number inspected	528	217	8	6

All cases except Tuberculosis—

Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	61	29	1	1
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	11.5%	13.4%	12.5%	16.6%

Tuberculosis only—

Whole carcasses condemned	—	1	—	—
Carcasses in which some part or organ was condemned	48	22	—	—
Percentage of number affected with Tuberculosis	9.1%	10.1%	—	—



Unsound foodstuffs, involving the issue of 148 certificates, were surrendered as unfit for human consumption during the year, and included the following :—

Meat	....	....	....	....	....	168 lb.
Canned Meat and Meat Food Products	....	....	....	....	....	363 „
Canned Vegetables	....	....	....	....	....	72 „
Canned Fruit	....	....	....	....	....	195 „
Canned Fish	....	....	....	....	....	2 „
Canned Milk	....	....	....	....	....	9 tins
Other Foods	....	....	....	....	....	29 lb.
Eggs	....	....	....	....	....	14 „
Sausage	....	....	....	....	....	2 „
Cake	....	....	....	....	....	21 „

**(c) Ice Cream**

Number of Producers Registered	....	....	2
Number of Retailers Registered	....	....	34

**FACTORIES ACT, 1937**

**Part 1 of the Act**

**1. Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to Health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

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	17	16	1	....
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	26	14	1	....
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	7	2	....	....
Total	50	32	2	....

## 2. 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) ....	5	4	....	....	....
Overcrowding (S.2) ....	....	....	....	....	....
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3) ....	....	....	....	....	....
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ....	1	1	....	....	....
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ....	....	....	....	....	....
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
Insufficient ....	1	....	....	....	....
Unsuitable or defective ....	3	3	....	....	....
Not separate for sexes ....	....	....	....	....	....
Other offences (not including offences relating to out-work) ....	....	....	....	....	....
Total ....	10	8	....	....	....



### Notifiable Disease during the year 1957

The incidence of infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, as notified in the district during the period under consideration, the number of cases which received treatment in hospital, and the number of deaths from such infectious diseases are shown in the following table :—

DISEASES	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	....	....	....
Scarlet Fever	32	6	....
Diphtheria	....	....	....
Enteric F. (incl. Paratyphoid)	....	....	....
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	....	....	....
Puerperal Pyrexia	....	....	....
Erysipelas	....	....	....
Pneumonia	3	3	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....	....	....
Measles	290	....	....
Whooping Cough	19	1	....
Dysentery	....	....	....
Poliomyelitis	....	....	....
Polioencephalitis	....	....	....
Food Poisoning	....	....	....
Total	344	10	6

### Prevention of Blindness

Schemes for the above are entirely under the jurisdiction of the County Council.

### New Cases of Tuberculosis during 1957

The following table shows the notification of tuberculosis, pulmonary and non-pulmonary, according to sex, for the year 1957, compared with the preceding 10 years :—

Year	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY		
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total
1947 .....	3	6	9	7	1	8
1948 .....	15	6	21	4	....	4
1949 .....	11	6	17	4	2	6
1950 .....	5	15	20	1	2	3
1951 .....	9	9	18	3	2	5
1952 .....	12	12	24	2	2	4
1953 .....	14	4	18	1	....	1
1954 .....	11	15	26	1	1	2
1955 .....	2	9	11	1	....	1
1956 .....	8	7	15	1	2	3
1957 ....	7	3	10	2	2	4

The following table shows the distribution of pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis notified in 1957, according to sex and ward incidence :—

Ward	Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis		Totals
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Washington .....	....	....	....	....	....
Washington Station ....	1	2	1	....	4
Usworth Colliery .....	....	....	....	1	1
Great Usworth ....	4	1	....	1	6
Springwell .....	2	....	1	....	3
Total .....	7	3	2	2	14



The following table shows the various age periods for males and females at which the new cases were notified and the age of those who died from tuberculosis :—

Age Period	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
1—5 years ....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
5—15 „ ....	1	1	1	1	....	....	....	....
15—25 „ ....	1	1	....	1	....	....	....	....
25—35 „ ....	....	1	....	....	....	....	....	....
35—45 „ ....	2	....	1	....	....	....	....	....
45—55 „ ....	3	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
55—65 „ ....	....	....	....	....	1	1	....	....
65 and upwards	....	....	....	....	2	1	....	....
Total ....	7	3	2	2	3	2	....	....

### Occupation

The occupations of those who were notified during 1957 as sufferers from pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis were as follows :—

PULMONARY : 2 retired miners, 1 factory worker, 1 housewife, 2 school children, 1 unknown, 1 labourer, 1 grocer, and 1 typist.

NON-PULMONARY : 2 school children, 1 bookbinder, and 1 not known.

### Sites of Lesions in Non-Pulmonary Cases

1 meninges, 1 ileitis, 1 neck glands, 1 facial skin lesions.

### Examination of Sputa

Specimens of sputa sent by the family doctor or other medical practitioner are examined free at the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle upon Tyne.

### Mass Radiography

The Mass Radiography Unit which has been operating in the County for some years has helped in the detection of early cases of tuberculosis, which to a certain extent may account for increase in notifications. The early diagnosis is of the utmost importance in getting speedy cures with a greatly shortened time of incapacity from work and a tremendous reduction in the danger of infectivity to other persons.



