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Borough of Whitley Bay

HEALTH
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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

AND

CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT

FOR THE YEAR 1956

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BOROUGH OF WHITLEY BAY

HEALTH COMMITTEE

1956

THE MAYOR - Alderman Mrs. A. Wake.

DEPUTY MAYOR - Councillor G. S. Nicholson.

CHAIRMAN

Councillor C. E. Walker.

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Alderman Mrs. A. Wake.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

ALDERMEN -

* Allan, Mrs. M.
* Charlton, R. M.
* Leinster, G. D. J.
Snowball, M. M.
Speed, N.
* Waggott, Mrs. G. F.
* Wake, Mrs. A.
Walker, W. A.

COUNCILLORS -

Adams, D. G.
Adamson, J. N.
* Blyth, J. W. W.
Bolam, Mrs. E.
* Brammer, N. J.
* Brown, S. A.
* Cannell, A. B.
Charlton, C.
Constable, F. A.
Cox, W. E.
* Graham, T. A. S.
* Hutchison, W. H.
* Lubbock, R. W. T.
* Major, J.
Nicholson, G. S.
Parker, Miss M. R.
Potts, W. J.
* Thursfield, J. W. B.
* Vardy, R. A.
* Vickers, J. T.
* Walker, C. E.
Walker, L.
* Walton, A. E.
* Weir, M. G.

* Members of the Health Committee.

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HEALTH AND CLEANSING DEPARTMENT.

STAFF 1956.

Medical Officer of Health.	WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health.	J. CARRICK, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Chief Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent.	GILBERT HOLDEN, F.R.S.I., M.Inst.P.C., M.I.S.E., Member of the Institute of Public Health and Hygiene; Certificate of the Institute of Public Health and Hygiene; Sanitary Inspector's Meat and Food Certificate; Testamur of the Institute of Public Cleansing; Membership Certificates of the Institute of Public Cleansing; Membership of the Institute of Sanitary Engineering; Associate Membership Certificate of the Institute of Sanitary Engineering; Certificates in Sanitary Science and Law: Ollett Silver Medallist.
	Resigned for health reasons - 31/7/56.
Additional Sanitary Inspectors.	WILLIAM W. VALENTINE, M.S.I.A., Sanitary Inspector's Meat and Food Certificate. Smoke Inspector's Certificate.
	Appointed S.P.H.I. - 11/10/56.
	NORMAN HUNTER, A.R.S.I.
Chief Clerk.	PERCIVAL OVINGTON.
Shorthand/Typists.	MRS. E. BARRETT. MISS J. E. SMITH.
Temporary Clerk.	M. WATSON.
Clerk.	J. YARHAM.

To His Worship The Mayor, Aldermen and
Councillors of Whitley Bay Borough Council.

I have pleasure in presenting my report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year 1956.

Population.

The Registrar General in his returns for mid-year 1956, shows a total population of 32,380, an increase of 110 over 1955.

Birth Rate.

The birth rate per 1,000 of the population was 12.85 as compared with 12.79 in 1955.

Death Rate.

The death rate was 13.87 per 1,000 of the population as against 10.56 in 1955. The Table of Longevity in the report shows that 348 persons died at the age of 65 years and over out of a total of 449 deaths.

Infectious Diseases.

There was no incidence of an epidemic nature in infectious diseases. It is again to be noted that no case of Diphtheria was notified.

Milk.

All milk sold in the Borough is Pasteurised, Sterilised, or comes from Tuberculin tested herds. The Coast Creamery alone has pasteurised 7,000 gallons of milk daily. No milk diseases occurred.

Water.

The supply of water has been satisfactory.

Food Hygiene.

Much work has been done in accordance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, but more cannot be done until a third Health Inspector is appointed.

Staff.

It was with deep regret that we had to accept the resignation, through ill-health, of Mr. G. Holden, Senior Public Health Inspector, a man of distinction and great ability. He has left his mark, not only by his own work in this district, and the North of England, but in the many Senior Public Health Inspectors up and down the whole country whom he trained.

I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their deep interest in the work of the Health Department, and their support, and encouragement to the Officials.

To the Public Health Inspectors, and all members of the staff, I tender my appreciation of their unfailing hard work and loyalty.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

WILLIAM CUNNINGHAM.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION "A".

STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH.

The Borough comprises an area of 3,612 acres, including the foreshore which is 310 acres. It continues in popularity as a holiday resort and has excellent rail and bus connections to and from all parts of the country. It has a wide variety of interests and entertainments, and modern shopping centres. Promenades, gardens, and open spaces extend along the whole of the sea front with the picturesque St. Mary's Island and Lighthouse at the North end of the Bay, and fine golden sands stretch for nearly 2 miles.

The Borough is divided electorally into 8 Wards which are represented by 24 Councillors and 8 Aldermen. The rateable value now stands at £428,547, the product of a penny rate being £1,733. The population at mid-year 1956 was 32,380, an increase of 110. There are 10,787 houses in the area.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births.

The number of live births for the year was 416 giving a birth rate of 12.85 per 1,000 population. 214 of these were males, and 202 females. The Registrar General's comparability factor is 1.08 which alters the birth rate for the area to 13.88 per 1,000. There were 7 male and 6 female illegitimate births, representing 3.04 per cent of the total births, and the number of still births was 12, representing 2.83 per cent of the total births. 6 of these were males, and 6 females.

Deaths.

449 deaths were recorded by the Registrar General, consisting of 194 males, and 255 females. The crude death rate for the area was 13.87 per 1,000 of the population, but adjustment by the Registrar General's comparability figure of .92 reduces this figure to 12.76.

The causes of all deaths are shown in the following table.

CAUSES OF DEATH	M.	F.
All Causes	194	295
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	1
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
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	3	11
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	13	5
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	5
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	3
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	13	22
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-
16. Diabetes	2	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	25	46
18. Coronary disease, angina	53	44
19. Hypertension with heart disease	3	7
20. Other heart disease	26	43
21. Other circulatory disease	6	8
22. Influenza	1	2
23. Pneumonia	4	7
24. Bronchitis	6	6
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	4
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	1
31. Congenital malformations	3	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	11	20
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	-
34. All other accidents	8	9
35. Suicide	1	5
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
TOTAL	449	

Death of Infants under One Year of Age.

Details of these are given below.

Legitimate	11	=	27.29 per 1,000 live births.
Illegitimate	1	=	7.69 per 1,000 " "
Total	12	=	28.85 per 1,000 " "

Longevity.

Of the 449 deaths in the area 348 of them occurred at the age of 65 years or over. This represents 77.5 per cent. Details are given in 5 year groups in the following table.

Ages at Death	Males	Females	Total
65 to 69 years	22	23	45
70 to 74 years	33	44	77
75 to 79 years	26	55	81
80 to 84 years	33	49	82
85 to 89 years	15	27	42
90 to 94 years	5	12	17
95 years and over	-	4	4
Totals:	134	214	348

SECTION "B".

HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. Infectious Disease.

The Newcastle Regional Hospital Board administers the Clinics, Hospitals and Sanatoria dealing with treatment necessary for Tuberculosis cases under the National Health Service Act, 1946. Other infectious diseases which require hospitalisation are treated at Moor Park Hospital, North Shields and Walkergate Hospital, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

2. Medical and Surgical Cases.

These cases are mostly treated in Hospitals and Infirmaries under the Jurisdiction of the Newcastle Group Hospital Board and the South East Northumberland Hospital Management Committee.

3. Child and Maternity Welfare.

These Services and the Clinics connected with them are administered by the Northumberland County Council.

4. Home Nursing.

This Service is also controlled by the County Council.

5. Ambulance Service.

This is Radio controlled Service administered by the County Council. The Ambulance Depot is situated in the Whitley Bay Borough premises and gives a 24 hours daily service.

6. First Aid.

A fully equipped Station, manned by qualified personnel, is operated by the Borough and is of great service to visitors and residents during the busy season. The personnel consists of 1 full time Nurse, and volunteer members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade. 1,032 cases were dealt with during the season, 381 of the accidents being due to broken glass on the foreshore. The Station is situated on the Central Lower Promenade.

7. Lost Children.

This Station is provided by the Borough and is also situated on the Lower Promenade. The number of children looked after during the season was 376.

8. Public Health Laboratories.

These Laboratories are attached to the Newcastle General Hospital and are of great service to this Department, and also to Medical Practitioners in the area.

Details of samples for examination sent during the year are as follows:-

Samples Submitted	Positive	Negative
Swabs	3	3
Faeces (organisms)	19	15
Blood (Widal)	1	3
Urine	3	-
Sputum	1	-
Pus.	2	-
Totals	29	21

RAINFALL.

During the year 23.90 inches of rain fell in the area. Comparisons with previous years are shown in table below.

	Inches			
	1953	1954	1955	1956
January	.93	2.56	2.02	3.17
February	1.13	1.69	2.13	1.65
March	.07	.82	1.32	.60
April	2.01	.27	.98	.81
May	2.28	2.80	1.41	.33
June	2.26	1.89	2.24	2.10
July	2.56	1.53	.85	2.37
August	3.76	5.11	.76	6.08
September	1.17	2.73	.98	2.38
October	1.00	3.60	1.06	1.63
November	.98	2.97	1.31	.86
December	.74	1.05	2.77	1.92
Total	18.89	27.02	17.83	23.90

SECTION "C".

1. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(a) (i) The water supply during the year proved of good quality and was plentiful. The water is supplied by Tynemouth Corporation.

(ii) 16 samples of water were taken for analysis and all were satisfactory.

(iii) 1 chemical analysis was taken and proved satisfactory.

(iv) (a) There are 7 houses in the area without internal water supply. These are situated at Rocky Island and are included in our 5 year Slum Clearance plans.

(iv) (b) Sewerage and Drainage.

Three farms have septic tanks in use. With these exceptions the area is fully served with water carriage system.

2. RIVER POLLUTION.

River pollution in the area is the concern of the Northumberland and Tyneside Rivers Board and we are grateful to them for their efforts in cleansing our local streams which were contaminated before reaching us.

The Borough Council has, at much expense, carried out further culverting at Brier Dene to obviate pollution of this particular stream.

3. SANITATION.

The area is completely served by water carriage system except for 7 privy pails in use at Rocky Island. These will be dealt with in our Clearance programme. There are no ashpits in the area, all premises being provided with covered ash bins.

4. PUBLIC CLEANSING.

See Public Health Inspector's Report.

5. SANITARY SERVICES.

See Public Health Inspector's Report.

6. SHOPS AND OFFICES.

See Public Health Inspector's Report.

7. CAMPING SITES.

See Public Health Inspector's Report.

8. SPOILBANKS.

These are situated outside the area and are under the administration of the Inspector of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Effluvia through burning has been negligible throughout the year and no complaint has been necessary.

9. BATHING POOLS.

Table Rocks Pool.

The Table Rocks Pool is a natural amenity being filled by the sea at high tide. The bottom is cleansed periodically.

Paddling Pool.

The Paddling Pool on the Southern Promenade is very popular with the children. It is kept clean and the water constantly chlorinated.

10. PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

Full details are given in the Public Health Inspector's Report.

11. SCHOOLS.

These are administered by the Northumberland County Council.

SECTION "D".

Housing.

This is fully dealt with in the Report of the Public Health Inspector.

SECTION "E"

MEAT, MILK AND OTHER FOODS.

Details of Meat and Food Inspection will be found in the Public Health Inspector's Report. There has been a large increase in the number of animals passing through the Public Abattoir at Hill Heads compared with the previous year. The following table gives the numbers of animals involved:-

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

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	4,327	381	1,042	19,843	7,375	-
Number inspected	4,327	381	1,042	19,843	7,375	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci Whole carcases condemned.	3	7	13	12	12	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,601	183	49	1,009	542	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	37.00	48.0	4.7	5.1	7.4	-
Tuberculosis only: Whole carcases condemned	4	12	1	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	307	37	-	-	83	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	7.1	9.8	.1	-	1.1	-
Cysticercosis Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	5	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

SECTION "F".

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Only 182 cases of notifiable diseases occurred during the year. 33 of these required hospital treatment. Details of cases notified, hospital cases, monthly incidence, age groups, incidences per 1,000 population, and deaths are all given in the following tables.

	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED	CASES ADMITTED TO HOSPITAL
Scarlet Fever	25	16
Pneumonia	22	6
Erysipelas	3	-
Measles	82	-
Whooping Cough	25	-
Tuberculosis	15	8
Food Poisoning	3	1
Dysentery	5	1
Enteritis	2	1
Totals	182	33

MONTHLY INCIDENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1956.

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apl.	May.	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	5	-	-	2	-	3	3	1	2	1	2	6	25
Pneumonia	8	2	-	-	1	3	1	1	2	-	2	2	22
Erysipelas	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	3
Tuberculosis	-	3	1	-	3	4	1	-	1	1	-	1	15
Food Poisoning ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	3
Measles	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	73	3	2	82
Whooping Cough ..	1	-	-	4	5	1	-	3	3	1	6	1	25
Dysentery	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	5
Enteritis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2
Totals	16	5	1	11	10	11	5	5	11	76	18	13	182

ANALYSIS OF CASES UNDER AGE GROUPS

	Under 1	1-4	5-9	10-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50-64	65 and over
Scarlet Fever	-	4	19	2	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	-	5	3	2	-	-	4	2	6
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-
Dysentery	-	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	-
Food Poisoning ...	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Whooping Cough ...	1	9	13	1	-	1	-	-	-
Measles	3	42	37	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	-	1	-	1	2	1	6	2	2
Enteritis	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Totals	4	66	74	6	2	4	12	6	8

INCIDENCE RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION.			
Whooping Cough	0.77	Scarlet Fever	0.80
Dysentery	0.15	Erysipelas	0.09
Measles	2.60	Food Poisoning	0.09
Pneumonia	0.70	Tuberculosis	0.46

Smallpox.

No cases during 1956.

Anthrax.

No cases during 1956.

Paratyphoid.

No cases during 1956.

Typhoid Fever.

No cases during 1956.

Typhus Fever.

No cases during 1956.

Malaria.

No cases during 1956.

Meningococcal Infection.

No cases during 1956.

Poliomyelitis.

No cases during 1956.

Puerperal Pyrexia.

No cases during 1956.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

No cases during 1956.

Diphtheria.

As in previous years there were no cases. Immunisation against this disease continues in the Schools and Clinics, the pertussis vaccines in use safeguarding children at the same time against Whooping Cough.

The number of children immunised during 1956 is as follows:-

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

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 between 1st January, 1942 to 31st December, 1956.

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
A. Number of children who have completed course (primary or booster) in the period 1952 - 1956	92	1,253	1,701	622	3,668
B. Number of children who have completed course (primary or booster) in the period 1951 or earlier	—	—	295	798	1,093
C. Estimated mid-year child population	400	1,380	4,294		6,074
Immunity Index 100 A/C	23%	90%	79%		78%

B. C. G. Vaccinations.

These are carried out at Clinics in Tynemouth and Blyth. Vaccinations carried out during 1956 numbered 20.

The number of school children B. C. G. vaccinated during 1956 by the School Medical Officer was 171.

WHOOPING COUGH

Prophylaxis with Pertussis Vaccines

NUMBER OF CHILDREN WHO COMPLETED A COURSE OF INOCULATION WITH PERTUSSIS VACCINES, (including alum-precipitated vaccines and vaccines combined with Diptheria Prophylactic) during the year ended 31st December, 1956.

AGE AT DATE OF FINAL INJECTION											
Combined with Diphtheria Prophylactic				Pertussis only				Totals			
Under 1 year	1 - 4 years	5 - 14 years	Total	Under 1 year	1 - 4 years	5 - 14 years	Total	Under 1 year	1 - 4 years	5 - 14 years	Total
79	185	20	284	-	8	5	13	79	193	25	297

VACCINATION - Year Ended 31st December, 1956.

AGE AT DATE OF VACCINATION											
Number Vaccinated During Period						Number Re-vaccinated During Period					
Under 1 year	1 year	2 - 4 years	5 - 14 years	15 years or over	Total	Under 1 year	1 year	2 - 4 years	5 - 14 years	15 years or over	Total
63	92	9	4	21	189	1	3	2	7	56	69

Tuberculosis.

While there were 15 new cases during the year only 2 deaths were recorded, giving a mortality rate of 0.06. Mass Radiography is carried out by mobile units under the administration of the Northumberland County Council, and public response is very good.

The age groups of the 15 cases above are as follows:-

Years	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F
1 - 4	-	1	-	-
5 - 9	-	-	-	-
10 - 19	-	-	1	-
20 - 29	1	1	-	-
30 - 39	1	-	-	-
40 - 49	4	2	-	-
50 - 64	2	-	-	-
65 and over	1	1	-	-
Total	9	5	1	-

Cancer.

There were 75 deaths recorded - an incidence of 2.32 per 1,000 of the population.

The deaths in age groups are given in the following table along with the various parts or organs affected.

	Age in Years						Total
	1-30	31-35	36-45	46-55	56-65	Over 65	
Lungs.	-	-	2	1	-	2	5
Bladder.	-	1	-	-	-	1	2
Colon.	-	-	-	1	1	4	6
Liver.	-	-	-	-	2	3	5
Stomach.	-	-	-	3	2	12	17
Cervix Uteri.	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Rectum.	-	-	-	-	-	4	4
Breast.	-	-	1	-	1	1	3
Bronchi.	-	-	-	4	5	5	14
Prostate.	-	-	-	-	1	2	3
Pancreas.	-	-	-	-	2	1	3
Tongue.	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Mouth.	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Ovary.	-	-	-	-	4	-	4
Maxilla.	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Larynx.	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pharynx.	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Vulva.	-	-	-	-	-	2	2

Disinfection of Premises.

Houses are disinfected where requested, and also Library Books. The Priory Theatre is frequently sprayed during the warm weather, and Schools are treated on the request of Headmasters where disease has occurred amongst Scholars.

Disinfestation.

There were 32 requests for disinfestation from the public, mostly in connection with cockroaches, and mites of various kinds.

SECTION "G".

The Factories' Acts, 1937 - 1948.

The sections of the above Acts, which are the concern of the Department, are carried out regularly and all relevant details are shown in the following tables. A list is given also of all mechanical and non-mechanical Factories in the Borough.

Inspection under Part I of the Factories' Acts, 1937 and 1948.

1. INSPECTIONS made by Sanitary Inspectors.

Premises (1)	No. on Register (2)	Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
i) Factories without mechanical power in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced	85	54	4	Nil
ii) Factories with mechanical power	160	135	27	Nil
iii) Other premises under the Act, excluding out-workers premises	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	245	189	31	Nil

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			to H. M. Inspector	by H. M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S1)	3	3	-	-	Nil
Overcrowding (S2)	Nil	Nil	-	-	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	Nil	Nil	-	-	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	1	1	-	-	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	Nil	Nil	1	-	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)					
a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	Nil
b) Unsuitable or defective	26	18	-	-	Nil
c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	-	-	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork)	Nil	Nil	1	-	Nil
TOTAL	31	23	2	-	Nil

Factories	Mechanical	Non-Mechanical
Sculptor	1	0
Soft Furnishings	1	0
Dry Cleaners	4	0
Carpet Fitter	0	2
Plumber	2	6
Electricians	4	1
Dental Mechanic	1	0
Blacksmith	2	0
Tinsmith	1	0
Glass Cutter	1	1
Photographers	0	3
Paper, rags and tin baling	0	1
Tripe Boiler	1	0
Watch Repairer & Optician	3	1
Sugar Boiler	1	0
Laundries	2	1
Plastic Engraving	1	0
Printer	5	0
Upholsterer	0	3
Cycle Repairer	1	1
Drug Packer	1	0
Bakehouses	18	0
Boot Repairer	12	0
Joiner and Builder	22	19
Tailor, Dressmaker & Milliner	9	6
Hairdresser	14	10
Cafes and Restaurant Kitchen	15	26
Motor Repairer	18	4
Fish Fryer	10	0
Furrier	0	2
Picture Framer	1	0
Ice Cream Manufacturer	8	0
Milk Pasteurising & Bottling Plant	1	0
Total	160	87

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

Only one firm in the area handles Rag Flock. Supplies, which are small in quantity, are purchased from Newcastle.

SECTIONS 110 and 111 of the FACTORIES' ACT, 1937 - 1948.

There are no out-workers employed in the area.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948, Section 47.
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (Amendment) ACT, 1951.

Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

It was not necessary to invoke the above sections of the Act during the year.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

May, 1957.

To the Chairman, Vice-Chairman,
Aldermen and Members of the
Health Committee of the
Borough of Whitley Bay.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my first Annual Report on the activities of the Public Health Inspectors' Department for the year 1956.

Costing statistics refer to the financial year 1st April, 1956 to 31st March, 1957.

Despite important and urgent world affairs which have occupied a large part of our Government's time during the year, it is encouraging to note the ever advancing tide of Public Health Legislation. The administration of this Legislation is in prejudice, however, caused by the shortage of newly qualified Public Health Inspectors. The effect of this shortage is being felt in our own Department, and we must look for an improvement in the position in 1957.

Circumstances which necessitated the work of the Department being borne by only two Inspectors since August, 1955, have had a severe restraining effect on routine Inspections of food premises, factories, housing areas for demolition, or closing, etc.

Attention is drawn to the Sanitary Inspectors (Change of Designation) Act, 1956, which provides that Sanitary Inspectors shall, in future, be designated Public Health Inspectors.

STAFF.

Early in October, I had the honour to be promoted from my previous appointment as your Additional Public Health Inspector to the senior position, vacated in August by the Retirement, due to illness, of your former Chief Inspector, Mr. Gilbert Holden.

Mr. Norman Hunter, Additional Public Health Inspector, passed the appropriate examination of the Royal Society of Health to qualify as an Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.

A member of the Typing Staff, Mrs. E. Barrett left the Department in November.

Mr. J. Yarham, Clerk, returned to your service on the 1st October, 1956, after serving two years conscripted service with Her Majesty's Navy. Mr. Yarham's return brought about the retirement of Mr. M. Watson, who had temporarily filled the clerical post.

HOUSING.

It is pleasant to record the final clearance of the three Clearance Areas at The Fold. Areas Nos. 2 and 3 were acquired by agreement by the Council as these Areas are incorporated in The Fold Development Plan. Area No. 1. was cleared by the owner who intends to develop the site for private use.

The Ryton Terrace (Seaton Sluice) Clearance Order was confirmed by the Minister on 24th July, and rehousing of the occupants is planned at Seaton Sluice.

A Demolition Order was made in June under the Provision of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, in respect of Whitley Lodge Farm.

The dwelling house at 11, Rocky Island was made the subject of a Closing Order as provided for in Section 10 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.

Action to secure the maintenance and repair of privately owned dwellings again occupied a large part of the work carried out by your Inspectoral staff. Although formal Notices were served in five cases, no default or legal action was necessary. There appeared to be an improvement in measures taken by Owners and Agents in applying essential repairs.

Houses completed during the year.

(a) By Local Authority ... ... 64.

(b) By other Bodies or Persons ... 177.

CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES.

PERIOD 1st JANUARY, 1956 to 31st DECEMBER, 1956.

PART A. CLEARANCE AREAS (Housing Act, 1936 and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954).			
	Houses Demolished.	Number of Persons Displaced.	
		Persons	Families.
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation.	8	28	9
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.	Nil	Nil	Nil
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 27, Housing Act 1936.	Nil	Nil	Nil
Not in Clearance Areas.			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936.	Nil	Nil	Nil
PART B. UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED.			
(5) Under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936 and Sections 10 (1) and 11 (2), Local Govt. (Misc. Prov.) Act, 1953.	1	Nil	Nil
(6) Under Sections 3 (1) and 3 (2) Housing Act, 1949.	Nil	Nil	Nil
(7) Parts of buildings closed under Section 12, Housing Act 1936	Nil	Nil	Nil

PART C. UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND HOUSES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED.

	By Owner.	By Local Authority
(8) After informal action by Local Authority.	127	Nil
(9) After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts.	5	Nil
(b) Housing Act, 1936.	9	Nil
(10) Under Section 5, Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.	Nil	Nil

PART D. UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954).

	Number of Houses (1)	Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1) (2)
Position at end of quarter		
(11) Retained for temporary accommodation		
(a) Under Section 2	Nil	Nil
(b) Under Section 3	Nil	Nil
(c) Under Section 4	Nil	Nil
(12) Licensed for temporary occupation Under Section 6	Nil	Nil

PART E. PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT.

	Number of Houses (1)	Number of occupants of houses in column (1) (2)
(13) Houses in Clearance Areas other than those included in confirmed Clearance Orders or Compulsory Purchase Orders, purchased in the quarter.	Nil	Nil

Housing (Repairs and Rents) Act, 1954.

Considering the number of dwelling houses in our Borough, to which could be applied the permitted rent increase under the Provisions of the Act, few owners appear to consider that qualifying for the increase is worth while. Unfortunately, we have no means of ascertaining the exact number of permitted increases instituted.

Certificates of Disrepair.

Number of Applications for Certificates	...	11
Number of Certificates granted.	...	6
Number of Certificates refused.	...	5

Revocation of Certificates of Disrepair.

Number of Applications for Revocation of Certificates.	...	2
Number of Applications granted.	...	2
Number of Applications refused.	...	Nil.

TENTS, VANS, SHEDS, AND SIMILAR STRUCTURES.

There are two sites licensed in the Borough for siting caravans, one at Red House Farm, and the other, which is reserved for Members of the Caravan Club of Great Britain only, at Old Hartley.

A mains water supply is available at both sites.

The Conveniences at the Caravan Club site were agreed to be inadequate and the increased facilities are expected to be completed for the Summer of 1957.

It was necessary to serve three Notices on the owner of the Red House Farm site to secure repairs to the sanitary conveniences.

No individual applications for Licences to site moveable dwellings in the Borough were received.

GENERAL SANITATION.

The number of complaints and enquiries received in the office and recorded in the Complaints Book was, 1,049.

Queries on all manner of health matters were dealt with and followed up by personal inspections when necessary.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Medical Officer of Health's Report contains results of Bacteriological examination of water samples taken from various parts of the district.

DRAINAGE.

The number of obstructed drainage systems cleared on request was 94. This service is a great asset to residents and Officials alike. Formal proceedings are seldom required and drains are cleared within a few hours of the request being received.

Inspection and testing of drainage installations renewed or expanded continued. Testing of drains, incorporated with new buildings is carried out by the Borough Engineer's staff. 17 water tests and 10 smoke tests were applied to the drains of existing property.

SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

The number of Dry Closets, etc. in the Borough is:-

Dry Closets:	...	7
Chemical Closets:	...	2
Ashpits:	...	Nil.

Defects in Water Closets.

The existence of 9 defective W. C. compartments, 16 defective W. C. basins, or cisterns, was intimated to the owners and the necessary repairs obtained.

Outside Water Supply.

The number of houses in the Borough not provided with an inside water supply is 7.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 107.

One "Offensive Trade" only, continues to operate in the Borough. The trade carried on is tripe boiling and fat extraction. No nuisance occurred and the process was carried out in a very satisfactory manner.

PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.

The following premises were inspected and the carrying out of certain repairs or improvements attained.

Cinemas.	Theatre.	Dance Halls.	Others.
Regal.	Priory.	Empress.	Whitley Bay Athletic Football Club.
Gaumont.			
Coliseum.			
Playhouse.			
Picture House.			

The opening of improved convenience facilities at Whitley Bay Athletic Football Club Ground were an overdue amenity for persons attending the games.

A complaint received regarding bad ventilation in a film projection room was investigated and confirmed. The owner was contacted and new ventilation ducts installed which removed the unhealthy fumes given off from heated films, from the workroom.

Certificates under Circular 120 of the Ministry of Health were issued following inspections.

RODENT CONTROL.

This control is administered under the provisions of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Infestations are classified as 'major' or 'minor' according to the estimated number of rodents present. No 'major' infestations of rats or mice occurred.

Except for sewer treatments when zinc phosphide is used, good results continued to be obtained with 'Warfarin' in sausage rusk base.

The following table summarises the prevalence of rodents in the Borough.

PREVALENCE OF RATS AND MICE AND

MEASURES OF CONTROL BY LOCAL AUTHORITY.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural				
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All Other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1), (2) & (3)	(5) Agricultural
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District.	27	10,737	1,299	12,063	13
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification.	-	112	4	116	-
(b) Survey under the Act.	23	17	8	48	1
(c) Otherwise (e.g., when visited primarily for some other purpose)	-	-	-	-	-
III. Total inspections carried out - including re-inspections.	33	224	17	274	7
IV. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. II) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats (Major	-	-	-	-	1
(a) Rats (Minor	2	57	2	61	-
(b) Mice (Major	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Mice (Minor	-	30	3	33	-

PREVALENCE OF RATS AND MICE AND

MEASURES OF CONTROL BY LOCAL AUTHORITY. (CONTINUED)

	TYPE OF PROPERTY				
	Non-Agricultural				
	(1) Local Authority	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All Other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	(5) Agricultural
V. Number of infested properties (in Sect. IV) treated by the L.A. (Figures should NOT exceed those given at Sect. IV)	2	87	5	94	1
VI. Total treatments carried out - including re-treatments.	-	97	5	102	1
VII. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act: (a) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural Work (i.e., Proofing)	-	1	-	1	-
VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Sect. 4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-
IX. Legal Proceedings.	-	-	-	-	-
X. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out.	-	-	-	-	-

DISINFESTATION.

The number of treatments carried out was 32.

FLEAS. (Pulex Irritans)
3 dwellings were treated with D. D. T. Solution or Gammexane fumigators with good results.

BED BUGS. (Cimex Lectularius).
No infestations found.

LICE. (Pediculus Humanus)
No infestations found.

COCKROACHES.

10 Dwellings were treated and elimination secured. In conjunction with surface powder dusting, Gammexane Fumigators set off under floors proved to have effective results.

SEA WEED FLY. (Coelopa SPS).

Flies of this or related species were widely reported as causing nuisances in various seaside localities throughout the country. Local trouble arose in Windsor Crescent area when these flies were found in large numbers in the front rooms of several dwelling houses overlooking the Bay. Liquid insecticide with a "knock-down" effect was used with success. No seaweed was apparent on neighbouring beaches and the flies were traced to plants in certain front gardens. These plants were dug out and destroyed.

GOOSEBERRY MITE (Bryobia Praetiosa).

Several disinfestation treatments were necessary at two dwelling houses before a successful insecticide not normally used was found to eliminate these small red mites which were prevalent in large numbers on sunny window ledges.

EARWIGS.

The wet Summer which followed a dry Spring brought about an unusual problem in the form of Earwig infestations. Sections of comparatively new housing estates were principally affected. These insects were found to have reached large numbers, nesting in the principal posts of chestnut fencing which divided the estate gardens. The persistent wet weather caused them to seek a drier habitat, hence their presence in large numbers in some dwellings. Experiments with various insecticides where the infestations were most acute limited their numbers, but I am of the opinion that only the use of a poison mixture containing Sodium Fluoride would obtain complete elimination of these pests. In the estate concerned, however, the use of this poison, which is highly poisonous, to children, and animals, would be extremely dangerous.

The plague died out as suddenly as it came after lasting nearly two months.

PIGGERIES.

There is one Piggery which is old established in the Borough. Several visits of inspection were made and it was necessary to issue verbal Notices requiring removal of accumulated debris as potential rodent harbourage. The moving and re-siting of a boundary fence was also enforced to ensure an approved distance from an adjacent dwelling. A shortage of staff led to a deterioration in general hygiene and the position is being observed.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

The number of licensed premises for the sale of pets is 7. Inspections were made to ensure compliance with the Conditions of Licensing.

One application was refused in June as the proposed siting of cages to contain Budgerigars would have allowed uncontrolled interference by members of the public, also the applicant could not arrange for a key to the premises to be available within a reasonable distance in case of fire, or other emergency.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

Only one premise is registered under this Act, and during inspections the necessary records were found to be in order.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The closing of the year saw the coming into operation of certain Sections of the Clean Air Act. The powers given to Local Authorities in this latest Public Health "weapon" include legislation which for the first time in history provides measures for the control of smoke from domestic fireplaces. This particular class of smoke emission forms the major source of atmospheric pollution in our Residential Borough.

In July the Council decided to renew their membership of the National Smoke Abatement Society.

In the North East of England a Regional Advisory Committee of Local Authorities for Smoke Abatement and Clean Air has been inaugurated. This Committee will be a valuable asset to individual authority members. Uniformity in enforcement of legal control is essential and the 'pooling' of experiences and technical knowledge will be a most important function of this Committee.

The steam producing plant at the Whitley and District Laundry was converted from coal to oil burning with a resultant decrease in air pollution. Investigations carried out following complaints from adjacent residents, however, confirmed excessive soot deposits from this particular plant without smoke emission. It was found that soot deposits in the boiler flue uptake were not being removed at least once per week. This regular cleaning is avoiding the emission. The nature of soot from oil burning equipment make this deposit a particular grievance for housewives as contaminated washing is permanently stained.

A series of smoke observations covering the whole of a working day from 6. 30 a.m. to 8 p.m. were carried out at the Provincial Laundry following complaints. The results were tabulated and did not confirm that Public Health nuisance was being caused, having regard to the Provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936.

FOOD INSPECTION.

Milk.

Sales of milk in our area are confined to the various classes of special designated milk. Non-graded milk supplied from approximately 49 farms to the Coast Creamery, Foxhunters Estate is either pasteurised or sterilised before distribution.

Tuberculin Tested milk is also pasteurised in addition to being distributed untreated.

The number of Licences issued under the appropriate Regulations for the sale of the various classes of milk were as follows:-

Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 - 1954.

Number of Dealer's Licences to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" ... 11

Number of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" ... 6

Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949 - 1953.

Number of Dealer's Licences to use the special designation "Pasteurised" and "T.T. Pasteurised." .. 30

Number of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation "Pasteurised" and "T.T. Pasteurised." ... 6

Number of Dealer's Licences to use the special designation "Sterilised" ... 59

Number of Supplementary Licences to use the special designation "Sterilised." ... 3

Inspections of milk retailing and dairy premises totalled 83 and 1 Notice was served, which was complied with.

A total of 85 samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological and biological examination to the Public Health Laboratory.

Details of samples failing to comply with the requirements of the Methylene Blue Reduction Test are forwarded to the Agricultural Executive Committee at Hexham.

Results of the examinations are set out in the following tables.

Total No. of samples taken	85
No. of samples submitted to Methylene Blue Test	82
No. satisfactory	53
Percentage satisfactory	63.85%
No. of samples submitted to Phosphatase Test	26
No. satisfactory	26
Percentage satisfactory	100%
No. of samples submitted to Turbidity Test	1
No. satisfactory	1
Percentage satisfactory	100%

Bacteriological and Biological Examination of Milks distributed in the area.

Type of Milk	No. of Samples	No. of Samples tested for Tubercle bacilli	Tubercle bacilli present	Percentage affected
Pasteurised	28	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sterilised	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Tuberculin Tested	16	7	Nil	Nil
Ungraded	40	21	Nil	Nil
Total	85	28	Nil	Nil

ICE CREAM.

The Food and Drugs Act, 1955 (Section 16).
The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.,) Regulations, 1947 - 1952.

The number of new registrations during the year was 5 compared with 27 in 1955.

The number of registered Manufacturers increased by 1 to 8. The person concerned was a newcomer to the Ice Cream Trade, and after discussions on requirements of the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations he decided to gain first experience with Cold Mix manufacture.

The number of retail premises selling loose ice cream is 10. Premises selling pre-wrapped ice cream number 111.

Methylene Blue Test results:-

Provisional Grading	No. I.	...	6
" "	No. II.	...	2
" "	No. III.	...	3
" "	No. IV.	...	1
	Total		12

The number of visits to ice cream premises was 37. It was necessary to serve 3 Notices which were complied with.

It was necessary to institute legal proceedings in July in one instance for the sale of ice cream from unregistered premises. The occupier of the premises removed to the South of England, address unknown, and the Summons remains unserved.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The post mortem inspection of all animals passing through the Council's Slaughterhouse was not allowed to feel the effects of our Inspectoral staff shortage. To maintain this essential Service it was necessary for your two Inspectors to work 387 hours in overtime during evenings and on Bank Holidays.

Details of animals inspected are set out in the following table:-

Month	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
January	343	58	1,439	347	2,187
February	378	49	1,315	438	2,180
March	422	98	1,258	607	2,385
April	396	66	766	544	1,772
May	339	60	650	450	1,499
June	453	84	999	581	2,117
July	390	63	1,430	435	2,318
August	403	123	2,699	590	3,815
September	331	98	2,398	660	3,487
October	369	118	2,348	549	3,384
November	520	139	2,640	834	4,133
December	364	86	1,641	1,270	3,361
Totals	4,708	1,042	19,583	7,305	32,638

For the purposes of comparison, figures since de-control of meat supplies on 1st July, 1954, are given below.

Year.	Cattle	Calves	Sheep	Pigs	Total
1st July, 1954 to 31st Dec. 1954	2,948	275	12,478	3,475	19,176
1955	3,793	578	15,937	6,065	26,373
1956	4,708	1,042	19,583	7,305	32,638

Inspection of all carcases and viscera is completed before leaving the Slaughter-house.

The following table gives details of meat condemned and voluntarily surrendered. Reason for condemnation, and weights in pounds, are indicated.

REASON FOR CONDEMNATION.	TOTAL
Abscesses	2,363
Actinobacillosis	321
Actinomycosis	70
Arthritis	114
Bone Taint	411
Bruising	1,493
Cavernous Angiomata	241
Cysticercus bovis	533
Cysts	293
Flukes & Cirrhosis	12,676
Gastritis	68
Hydronephrosis	10
Immaturity	133
Johne's Disease	218
Leukaemia	99
Melanosis	23
Moribund	215
Necrosis	83
Nephritis	16
Oedema & Emaciation	2,058
Parasitic	305
Pericarditis	1,174
Peritonitis	1,437
Pleurisy	233
Pneumonia	329
Putrefaction	803
Pyaemia	2,056
Pyelonephritis	400
Septicaemia	1,377
Toxaemia	110
Tuberculosis	20,634
Uraemia	75
	50,371

DISPOSAL OF DISEASED AND UNSOUND MEAT.

All meat and offal surrendered is weighed, recorded, and detained awaiting collection in a locked detention room. This material is then dyed green before collection for processing by Tyneside Butchers' By-Products Limited, into animal food and fertilisers at their Gateshead factory.

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS.

No cases of generalised Cysticercosis were encountered. Two viable cysts were found in one Heifer carcase, one in an external masseter muscle, and one in the pillar of the diaphragm. This carcase was jointed and submitted to refrigerated storage for three weeks below 20°F at a Newcastle Cold Storage Depot.

In the other 4 cases the carcases affected were cut into retail joints and all exposed muscle examined, following condemnation of predilection sites.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933 - 1954.

The number of Slaughtermen's Licences renewed during the year was 28. New Licences granted numbered 5.

The total number of current Licences in the area is now 33.

OTHER FOODS.

The following list indicates the quantities of foods other than meat found on examination to be unfit for human consumption and surrendered for destruction under supervision.

Baby Food.....	3 tins.	Milk.....	133 tins.
Bacon and Ham	116 tins.	Mincemeat.....	5 jars.
Baked Beans	66 tins.	Peas	287 tins.
Cakes	16 lbs.	Pickles	14 jars.
Carrots	7 tins.	Pies	3
Cheese	24 lbs.	Preserves	2 jars.
Chicken	30 tins.	Puddings	12 tins.
Chocolate	8 bars.	Salmon	6 tins.
Fish	3 tins.	Sausage	4 tins.
Fruit	216 tins.	Sausage	50 lbs.
Fruit (dried)	4 lbs.	Shrimps	4
Fruit Juice	10 tins.	Soups	379 tins.
Meats	126 tins.	Spaghetti	2 tins.
Meat (various) ...	109 lbs.	Tomatoes	61 tins.
Meat Extract	3 jars.	Turkey	80 lbs.

SALE OF HORSEFLESH.

There are no premises in the Borough from which horseflesh is sold for human consumption.

KNACKERS' YARDS.

There are no Knackers' Yards situated in the district.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACTS AND ORDERS.

Swine Fever	-	No cases occurred.
Foot and Mouth Disease	-	No cases occurred.

Several individual sheep were found dead at different times in the Slaughterhouse. No symptoms of Anthrax or other notifiable disease were apparent. In each case, however, the Diseases of Animals Inspectors, i. e. the County Police were informed, the carcases being detained until certified clearance from disease by a Ministry of Agriculture, Fish and Food Veterinary Inspector was obtained.

LICENSED PREMISES.

During inspections particular attention was given to glass washing arrangements and the necessity for separate hand washing facilities. Considerable planning is often necessary to meet with this latter requirement and this work is proceeding.

The number of Licensed premises in the Borough is 31.

BAKEHOUSES.

Two Bakeries at 43, Esplanade, and 138, Whitley Road ceased to function, leaving the number of Bakehouses in the area at 16, all being equipped with mechanical power.

Provisions of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 are providing valuable assistance in obtaining improvements in the standard of cleanliness in these premises.

Foreign Matter in Food.

The following instances were recorded:-

Matter Found.	Food Concerned.	Action Taken.
Fly.	Canned Tuna.	Report to Health Committee. Letter to Importers.
Oil Streak.	Bread Loaf.	Interviewed Manufacturers. Machines examined for oil leakage.
Foreign substance consisting of a mixture of coloured starches, chiefly Maize, and Tapioca, similar to custard pudding mixture.	School Milk.	Identification of substance. Suspect entry after the opening of bottle by child.

FISH FRYING ESTABLISHMENTS.

The number of this type of food business in the Borough is 9. Hygiene in these premises continues to be satisfactory, although compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955 is yet to be attained, having special regard to washing facilities. This work is proceeding.

FOOD HYGIENE.

A great amount of work remains to be done in the Borough in this important matter. The thorough inspection of every food business is yet to be commenced to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955, which came into operation in two stages, i. e. on 1st January, 1956, and 1st July, 1956.

250 explanatory pamphlets on the Regulations were distributed to all food premises in January, and it is hoped that occupiers of food businesses will have shown initiative in placing their premises in order, and instructing their staff on personal hygiene requirements.

In January, also, the Council agreed to a suggested Food Hygiene Film Show to be held in the Priory Theatre on 5th April, 1956. Four films were shown and it was generally agreed that the effort had been well worth while. The audience was estimated at 280, the majority of whom were food handlers in the Borough.

On 14th June an informal discussion was held in the Rex Hotel with members of the Whitley Bay Hotel and Boarding House Association. Regulation requirements as affecting Members of this organisation were explained and discussed.

A similar discussion also took place in June with Members of the Whitley Bay Butchers' Association.

Both these Meetings were well attended and lively discussions took place.

I consider that the effort to arrange Meetings of this nature is well worth while. The "other man's" problems must be appreciated as voluntary co-operation, aroused by interest in the subject, is the vital aim of food hygiene education.

Generally speaking, it is difficult to contact the actual food handler as opposed to his employer or Manager, to emphasise the importance of cleanliness in his daily work, and the potential danger of dirty habits. For example, I have several times been asked by Employers to personally inform their staff of non-smoking, and other Regulations, as it would appear that employees tend to seek other employment if they get the impression that their "boss" is being vindictive.

This aspect of Food Hygiene education presents a problem not easy to solve.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Administrative changes took place in this Service. As from April, control of the cleansing of the Links and Sands remains with the respective Committees concerned.

Commencing on 8th August the administration of street cleansing, gully emptying, snow clearance, etc. was transferred to the Borough Engineer's Department. It is expected that jurisdiction over these Services will be transferred from the Health Committee to the Buildings and Roads Committee.

Refuse Collection.

This Service is maintained at a collection once weekly from dwelling houses and increased for Hotels, Shops, and other trade premises in a varying degree, even to a daily collection in certain cases.

An attempt is being made to increase the payments made by many trade premises as very often the amount of refuse removed is in excess of the annual accounts paid. One bin of refuse per week is removed free from a trade premise and an annual charge is made, based on the number of additional bins emptied.

VEHICLES.

Collection of refuse was carried out by the following four vehicles:-

Make.	Capacity.	Year.
Thorneycroft.	14 cu. yds.	1948.
Shelvoke and Drewry (Side Loading)	12 cu. yds.	1950.
Shelvoke and Drewry (Rear Loading)	18 cu. yds.	1951.
Shelvoke and Drewry (Rear Loading)	18 cu. yds.	1952.

A new S. & D. (Rear Loading) vehicle has been on order since April, 1956 and delivery is expected early in 1957. This vehicle is urgently required to ease the load on existing Units which can then receive a regular overhaul and maintenance examinations.

Additional staff to operate this machine will be required to cope with the ever increasing number of dwellings in the Borough. Since 1st January, 1955 to 31st December, 1956, new houses completed total 454.

PROVISION OF DUSTBINS.

The replacement of defective dust bins by the Council for use at domestic premises continues to be a Service much appreciated by residents in addition to the scheme's health influence in preventing any form of nuisance from refuse storage.

The high cost of dust bins brought about by this Purchase Tax applied adds to our difficulties in obtaining their increased use in many trades and Shops for the storage of putressible matter.

The total number of bins supplied during the year was:-

2 cubic feet capacity	...	312
2½ " " "	...	349

The number of bins provided to Council houses was 18 and the number purchased by traders, etc. was 163.

Statistics regarding the weight of refuse collected and disposed of are set out in the following tables:-

Description	1955 - 1956.		
House and Trade Refuse disposed of at Whitley Bay and Seaton Sluice	Tons per annum 10,440 522	Tons per week 200.77 10.04	Tons per day (365 days to 1 year) 28.60 1.43
Refuse per head of population	6.77 cwts.	14.60 lbs.	2.09 lbs.
Refuse per 1,000 of population	338.54 tons	6.51 tons	18.60 cwts.
Refuse per house	20.03 cwts	43.09 lbs.	6.15 lbs.
Refuse per 1,000 houses	1001. 5 tons	19.26 tons	55.03 cwts.

WEIGHTS OF HOUSE REFUSE, TRADE REFUSE AND STREET SWEEPINGS.

Month 1956/57	No. of Loads	No. of Bins	House Refuse		Shop, Cafe & Hotel Refuse		Seaton Sluice and Murton Refuse			
							Loads	Bins	Weight	
			T.	C.	T.	C.			T.	C.
April	275	53,484	878	3	23	1	16	3,772	63	5
May	310	58,292	836	12	38	8	17	4,230	58	18
June	280	52,410	737	18	33	14	8	2,282	34	4
July	294	53,569	750	12	40	8	9	2,465	37	8
August	295	51,191	794	6	52	14	8	2,133	35	18
September	256	48,147	711	19	44	13	8	2,122	36	15
October	266	51,956	768	12	114	15	8	2,093	41	3
November	240	48,586	800	1	100	15	9	2,345	45	14
December	251	49,561	813	11	76	12	8	2,022	39	5
January	271	52,600	905	2	77	14	9	2,297	42	13
February	236	46,194	839	18	66	3	8	2,128	41	4
March	262	50,656	865	10	69	2	10	2,395	45	15
TOTAL:	3,236	616,646	9,702	4	737	19	118	30,284	522	2
Shops Cafes & Hotels.	341	51,259	737	19						
Seaton Sluice & Murton.	118	30,284	522	2						
TOTAL:	3,695	698,189	10,962	5						

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

All refuse was disposed of by controlled tipping procedure at the Brier Dene Refuse Tip.

During November I found it necessary to report to the Council on the remaining capacity of Brier Dene Tip. The cost of future culvert installations makes this site most uneconomical for refuse disposal and investigations into possible disposal alternatives were inaugurated by the Health Committee at the close of the year.

In addition to the weights of refuse set out in the Collection Table on page 49, 990 tons of refuse, including street sweepings and tip sealing materials were accommodated at Brier Dene.

Salvage Recovery.

Sales of waste paper were limited by our buyers to 35 tons per calendar month. This limitation is apparently necessary to balance increased recovery with delay in new plant construction. We are assured that curtailment of permitted output is for a temporary period only. Consequent to this tonnage limitation greater care was taken to increase our relative output of waste paper grades with the highest monetary return.

The following table indicates the income derived from the sale of recovered materials.

1956 - 1957

Commodity	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.	£	s.	d.
Paper	411	17	0	0	3,409.	6.	10.
Scrap	19	10	0	0	82.	14.	3.
Aluminium		1	3	6	8.	18.	9.
Rags	7	17	0	0	163.	4.	9.
Wool		4	0	21	30.	5.	8.
Rubber		16	0	0	2.	6.	0.
Hair		1	2	18	2.	6.	6.
Manure	52	10	0	0	40.	18.	3.
Brass			3	19	3.	18.	3.
Wood		3	0	0	1.	10.	0.
Totals	493	1	2	8	3,745.	9.	3.

Protective Clothing.

Provision of overalls, moleskin jackets, and oilskin suits is arranged for the staff involved in refuse collection and disposal. This scheme is much appreciated by these workers, and in addition to obtaining their enhanced orderly appearance, an effect in reducing absenteeism, due to illness, may also be credited to the scheme.

Sickness Benefit Scheme (Refuse Collection and Disposal Employees).

The total number of man hours lost due to sickness was 326 hours. The cost involved was £305: 15: 10 compared with £250: 12: 5 in 1955.

Details are set out as follows:-

Check No.	No. of Days.	£	s.	d.
183	66	78.	2.	3.
184	61	68.	9.	4.
186	2	3.	2.	4.
187	10	8.	15.	6.
191	15	16.	6.	10.
193	17	14.	7.	4.
194	6	6.	15.	2.
196	31	22.	1.	4.
198	18	19.	3.	0.
199	55	36.	9.	7.
200	30	16.	7.	0.
208	11	11.	19.	11.
225	4	3.	16.	3.
	326	305.	15.	10.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

Construction of the proposed new Conveniences in Whitley Road did not commence as hoped for, the Government's restrictions on loans requiring that this item be postponed.

The following table indicates the use of the Public Conveniences during the year.

Convenience	Persons passing through Turnstiles		No. of Washes		Total Income including Sundries	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
					£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Watts Road	268,878	226,111	19,464	15,597	1,483. 8. 6	1,232.11. 11.
Panama	77,238	53,529	1,362	882	363.10. 10.	244. 9. 9.
Central	109,653	87,303	4,383	2,756	543.12. 9.	419. 2. 3.
Duke's Walk	48,237	35,168	2,037	1,152	240.13. 9.	170. 3. 0.
Others	38,715	62,871	-	-	161. 6. 3.	261.18. 5.
Totals	542,721	464,982	27,246	20,387	2,792.12. 1.	2,328. 5. 4.

CONCLUSION.

I would like to record my appreciation of the support given to me during the year by the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

I am again indebted to Dr. W. Cunningham, your Medical Officer of Health for his advice and encouragement.

Your obedient Servant,

WM. W. VALENTINE.

Public Health Inspector.

Conveniences	Telephones		No. of Vacuum Cleaners		Total Income including Sundries	
	1955	1956	1955	1956	1955	1956
Watts Road	268,818.	226,111	19,464	15,397	1,463. 8. 6	1,272.11. 11.
Panama	77,238	53,529	1,762	882	563.10. 10.	244. 9. 9.
Central	109,655	87,303	4,363	2,756	543.12. 9.	419. 2. 3.
Duke's Walk	48,237	35,168	2,037	1,132	240.15. 9.	170. 3. 6.
Others	38,715	52,971	-	-	161. 6. 7.	261.18. 5.
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Your obedient Servant,

WM. W. VALENTINE.

Public Health Inspector.

APPENDIX i.

ANALYSIS OF VISITS.

Accumulations	17
Animals, Poultry, etc.	4
Ashbins	146
Bakehouses (with mechanical power)	24
Bakehouses (without mechanical power)	7
Butchers' Shops and Stores	73
Cleansing and Refuse Collection, etc.	774
Closets - Water	7
Complaints received	268
Complaints confirmed	206
Dairies, Milkshops and Milkstores	83
Drains - Inspected	60
Smoke tests	10
Chemical tests	2
Water tests	17
Entertainment Houses	17
Factories (With mechanical power)	135
Factories (Without mechanical power)	54
Farms and Cowsheds	2
Fishmongers' Shops	31
Fish Frying Premises	3
Houses (Ordinary)	206
Houses (Overcrowded)	6
Houses (Consolidated Regulations)	37
Houses (Clearance, etc., Areas)	74
Housing Act (Other Buildings)	22
Houses Let in Lodgings	2
Infectious Diseases	66
Food Preparing Premises - Ice Cream	37
- Cooked Meats	6
TOTAL carried forward	2,496

APPENDIX i (Contd.)

ANALYSIS OF VISITS.

Carried forward ...	2,496
Matters Refd. Other Depts	56
Meat and Food Inspections	1,081
Condemnations	990
Meeting with Owner or Tradesman	66
Miscellaneous Visits	78
Moveable Dwellings and Sites	3
Nuisances found (Sec. 91)	219
Offensive Trade Premises (excluding Fish Fryers) ..	36
Office Duties	1,050
Other Food Premises	25
Piggeries	3
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act:	
Rats	289
Mice	75
Provision Merchants	182
Restaurants and Cafes	39
Samples - Ice Cream	12
Milk	73
Water	5
Sanitary Inspections	38
Shops Act, Section 38	73
Slaughterhouses	1,022
Schools	4
Smoke Observations	18
Special Visits	51
Sewers, Etc.	7
Street Gullies	8
Public Conveniences	97
Verminous Premises	89
TOTAL	8,185

APPENDIX ii.

A summary of defects and nuisances dealt with and work required to be done under the Public Health and Housing Act, Regulations, Orders and Bye-laws, is given below:-

Nature of nuisance dealt with and work required to be done	Verbal or written Notice	Second Notice	Formal Notice	Complied with
Accumulations of rubbish & manure	3	-	-	3
Bench defective	5	-	-	3
Boilers defective	4	-	1	4
Brickwork defective	12	-	-	9
Ceilings defective	8	-	2	7
Chimney pots defective..	5	1	1	4
Chimney stacks defective.	5	-	-	3
Cills defective	2	-	-	2
Doors & casings defective	17	2	3	12
Downpipe absence of	1	-	-	1
Downpipe choked	1	-	-	1
Downpipe defective	14	3	1	10
Drains choked	42	-	1	42
Drains defective	1	-	-	1
Eavesgutters absence of.	3	-	-	2
Eavesgutters choked	2	1	2	1
Eavesgutters defective..	26	5	4	23
Fireplaces defective ...	7	3	2	7
Floors defective	10	-	3	8
Gullies defective	1	-	-	-
Infestations	1	-	-	1
Locks, hinges, & Catches defective	2	-	-	2
Manhole covers defective	1	-	-	1
Mullions defective	3	-	-	3
Nuisances, smoke	1	-	-	1
Carried Forward	177	15	20	151

APPENDIX ii (Contd.)

Nature of nuisance dealt with and work required to be done	Verbal or written Notice	Second Notice	Formal Notice	Complied with
Brought forward	177	15	20	151
Paving defective	3	-	1	2
Pipes burst	6	-	-	6
Pointing defective	15	6	3	11
Premises dirty	5	-	-	4
Roofs defective	42	8	9	38
Sashcords defective	4	-	1	2
Sinks defective	1	-	-	1
Taps defective	1	-	-	1
Vent shafts defective ..	1	-	-	1
Walls damp	12	-	2	9
Wallplaster defective ..	5	1	2	4
Washbasins defective ...	1	-	-	1
Waste pipes defective ..	8	-	1	8
Water supply insufficient	1	-	-	1
W. C. basin defective ..	2	-	-	2
W. C. cisterns defective.	10	-	-	10
W. C. cone defective ...	4	1	-	4
Window frames defective.	4	-	-	3
Woodwork defective	7	2	2	4
Byelaws	2	-	-	2
F. & D. Handling Byelaws	5	-	-	5
Food Hygiene Regs.	35	-	4	25
Factory Act.	31	-	4	23
Housing Act.	1	-	-	1
Milk & Dairies Regulations	1	-	-	1
Totals	384	33	49	320

APPENDIX iii.

CLEANSING SERVICES.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF HOUSE AND TRADE REFUSE.

Table showing costs for the year ending 31st March, 1957.

Item	Particulars	Collection	Disposal	Totals	Percentage of total gross expenditure
	1	2	3	4	5
	REVENUE ACCOUNT (note (a))	£	£	£	%
1	GROSS EXPENDITURE:				
	(i) Labour (note (b))	8,335	1,645	9,980	45
	(ii) Transport (note (c))	5,715	897	6,612	29
	(iii) Plant, equipment, land and buildings (note (d))	3,359	2,472	5,831	26
	(iv) Other items (note (e))	—	—	—	—
	(v) Total gross expenditure	17,409	5,014	22,423	100
2	GROSS INCOME (note (f))	1,140	3,785	4,925	—
3	NET COST	16,269	1,229	17,498	—
4	Capital expenditure met from revenue (included above) (note (g))	1,794	1,921	3,715	17
	UNIT COSTS (note (h))	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	
5	Gross cost per ton, labour only	15. 3.	2. 0.	17. 3.	—
6	Gross cost per ton, transport only	10. 5.	1. 8.	12. 1.	—
7	Net cost (all expenditure) per ton	31. 9.	9. 2.	40.11.	—
		£	£	£	
8	Net cost per 1,000 population	502	38	540	—
9	Net cost per 1,000 premises	1,508	114	1,622	—

APPENDIX iii(Contd.)

Operational Statistics

10.	Area (statute acres) - land and inland water	3,612 acres.
11.	Population at 30th June, 1956 (Registrar-General's Estimate)	32,380 persons.
12.	Total refuse collected (tons). Indicate whether A, E or T (note (j))	10,962 A tons.
13.	Weight (cwts.) per 1,000 population per day (365 days to year)	19 cwts.
14.	Number of premises from which refuse is collected	10,787 premises.
15.	Premises from which collections are made at least once weekly	100% of total.
16.	Average haul, single journey, to final disposal point (including .Nil.. miles by secondary transport)	1¼ miles.
17.	Kerbside collection expressed as estimated percentage of total collection	Nil%.
18.	Total refuse disposed of (of which ..Nil.. tons were disposed of for other local authorities)	10,962 tons.
19.	Methods of disposal (Salvage excluded):	
	(a) Crude tipping	--%.
	(b) Controlled tipping	100%.
	(c) Direct incineration	--%.
	(d) Separation and incineration	--%.
	(e) Other methods (state nature)	--%.
		100%.

20. Salvage. Analysis of income and tonnage:

		Income (Included in Item 2)	Tonnage Collected (Included in Item 12)
		£	Tons
(a)	Raw Kitchen Waste (note (a))..	---	---
(b)	Scrap Metal	96	20
(c)	Waste Paper	3,409	412
(d)	Other Salvage	240	61
(e)	Totals	3,745	493

21. Trade Refuse:

(a) Income £378

(b) Tonnage ..... 738 tons.

22. Remarks.