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BOROUGH OF WORKINGTON



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1952

BY

J. L. HUNTER

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

Medical Officer of Health

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

JAMES L. HUNTER,
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§*PATRICK J. ELTON ... Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

*CHARLES E. PEARSON ... Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

Miss E. D. NICHOLSON ... Chief Clerk.

Miss E. I. PRICE ... Junior Clerk.

* Certificate of R.S.I. and Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.

§ Certificate of Meat and Other Foods (R.S.I.).

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

ALDERMAN S. WALKER.

THE MAYOR (Councillor Mrs. M. A. Smith).

Councillor J. ASKEW.

„ E. BARRACLOUGH.

„ E. GRAHAM.

„ T. T. GRAHAM.

„ Mrs. B. O. McKEATING.

„ H. H. McMANUS.

„ J. McD. MOORE.

„ Mrs. A. B. THOMAS.

„ D. VICKERS.

„ A. YOUNG.

TOWN HALL,
WORKINGTON,
4th June, 1953.

TO THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR,
THE ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS OF THE
BOROUGH OF WORKINGTON.

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report as your Medical Officer of Health, for the year 1952.

The layout and sequence, and information given, are in line with the reports of recent years.

The health of the community, as reflected in the vital statistics given in Section A, would appear to give no cause for alarm but the poor living background of many families still urges us to do all possible to hurry on the provision of new houses and to extend the provision of amenities for the young and the aged.

The total population of residents went up by 160 to 28,780 (Registrar's Mid-year Estimate for 1952). Live Births increased in number by thirty-seven and the Birth Rate rose to 16.6 from 15.4 in 1951. There were only nine Still Births during the year. The Crude Death Rate fell from 12.9 in 1951 to 12.1. Deaths from Tuberculosis were less than half the number for the previous year.

Eleven children under the age of one year died during the year, giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 23.0. This figure is the lowest ever recorded in the Borough of Workington. It is also the first time that the rate has been lower than that for England and Wales.

Of the other chief causes of death, deaths due to conditions of the heart and circulation and to cancer showed increases.

There was no epidemic of infectious disease: even Chickenpox and Measles produced few notifications. There was one case only of Paralytic Infantile Paralysis.

The results in Diphtheria Immunisation are again disappointing in the pre-school group of children. The numbers done in this group fell by 80 as compared to 1951. An in-

creased number done in school children, although in itself satisfactory, in no way compensates for the state of affairs in which a child belonging Workington stands only one chance in three of having been protected against Diphtheria by the time he or she attains the age of three years. The commonly held idea that children do not fall victims to any extent to serious illness until they reach school is fallacious. Diphtheria is more deadly in the younger age groups.

The number of new houses completed by the Corporation in 1952 was only thirty: the number completed privately was forty-nine. The Westfield branch of the new Main Drainage Scheme was laid. It is hoped that this large work when completed will yield a parallel in the construction of houses in much larger numbers than has been the case in the last few years.

Much time and work were devoted during the year to the re-organisation of the function of Refuse Collection and Disposal. The end of the year saw the last of the horse-drawn vehicles go and the disappearance of disposal by contract. Only one old collecting vehicle remained and this is held now as a standby and for drawing covering matter. On the Collection side much had been done in simplifying routes and times of collection. The fall in the demand for waste-paper by processing manufacturers was soon reflected in difficulties at the tips. The proportion of paper, bottles and tins in present-day refuse appears to be mounting and the disposal by layered tipping may in some way require to be modified or come to be much more expensive in men and covering material.

I should like to express my thanks to my Staff and those of other Departments for their help in the past year and also to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their sustained and earnest support during the year.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. HUNTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

SOCIAL AND STATISTICAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

1.—General.

Area in Acres	5,644
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate of Residents—mid-year, 1952)	28,780
Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Books at the end of 1952	8,387
Rateable Value	£150,988
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£566

The main industries of the town continue and are as given in the Annual Report for 1950.

2.—Vital Statistics.

Population	28,780
This figure shows an increase by 160 on that for 1951.	

Births.

Live Births:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	230	233	463
Illegitimate	7	8	15
Total ...	237	241	478

Birth Rate per 1,000 Population	16.6
---------------------------------------	------

Still Births.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	5	4	9
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total ...	5	4	9

Rate per 1,000 Total Births	18.8
-----------------------------------	------

Deaths.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Deaths (all ages)	205	143	348
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Population	12.1		
Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 Population	13.1		
Deaths from Tuberculosis	10		

Deaths from Cancer	57
Deaths from Measles	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough	Nil
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age:—	
All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	23.0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	23.8
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil

3.—*Notes and Comparisons on Vital Statistics.*

Births.

Live Birth Rate:—

Workington	16.6
County of Cumberland	17.3
Urban Districts of Cumberland	17.6
Rural Districts of Cumberland	17.0
England and Wales	15.3

The Birth Rate shows an increase of 1.2 on the figure for 1951 and is higher this year than that for England and Wales.

Crude Death Rate:—

Workington	12.1
County of Cumberland	12.1
Urban Districts of Cumberland	12.9
Rural Districts of Cumberland	11.6
England and Wales	11.3

The total number of deaths at all ages in Workington in 1952 was 348—a decrease of 21 on 1951. The Death Rate was also lower—12.1 this year as compared to 12.9 in 1951.

The chief causes of death were:—Diseases of the Heart and Circulation, 161; Cancer, 57; Bronchitis and Pneumonia, 29. Deaths from Tuberculosis were 10—as compared to 21 in 1951. The number of Infantile Deaths (i.e., deaths in children under one year of age) was 11 giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 23.0. Two deaths of children aged 1 to 2 years were due to Broncho-Pneumonia.

The two tables which follow show the age at death of all cases and the cause of death:—

Age Groups	Under 1 yr.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	Over 75	Total
Males	7	2		1			1		2	5	11	20	36	51	69	205
Females	4	1			1		1			2	5	5	29	38	57	143
Total	11	3		1	1		2		2	7	16	25	65	89	126	348

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S TABLE OF DEATHS IN WORKINGTON
BOROUGH FOR THE YEAR 1952

<i>Cause of Death.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	5	5	10
Tuberculosis, other forms	—	—	—
Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasms, stomach	7	6	13
do. lung, bronchus	9	1	10
do. breast	—	2	2
do. uterus	—	—	—
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	23	9	32
Leukaemia	—	—	—
Diabetes	—	1	1
Vascular diseases of nervous system	24	31	55
Coronary disease, angina	29	9	38
Hypertension with heart diseases	2	4	6
Other heart diseases	25	26	51
Other circulatory disease	6	5	11
Influenza	2	—	2
Pneumonia	10	8	18
Bronchitis	9	2	11
Other diseases of respiratory system	4	3	7
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	2	4
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	1	3
Nephritis and nephrosis	3	6	9
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
Congenital malformations	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	34	19	53
Motor vehicle accidents	3	—	3
All other accidents	4	1	5
Suicide	1	2	3
All Causes	205	143	348

Infantile Deaths.

Infantile Mortality Rate:—

Workington	23.0
County of Cumberland	32.0
Urban Districts of Cumberland	29.0
Rural Districts of Cumberland	34.0
England and Wales	27.6

The number of deaths of children under one year of age was eleven as compared to fourteen in 1951. The Infantile Mortality Rate was 23.0. This figure is the lowest on record for the Borough of Workington, and is also lower than the figures for England and Wales and for the administrative County of Cumberland.

The chief causes of deaths in Infants were Broncho-Pneumonia (6 cases) and Prematurity (3 cases).

The two tables below give (a) figures of Infantile Mortality Rates in Workington since 1911 and (b) the distribution of deaths by causes and age in weeks and months:—

(a) AVERAGE ANNUAL INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE
PER 1,000 REGISTERED LIVE BIRTHS

<i>Period.</i>	<i>Workington M.B.</i>	<i>England and Wales.</i>
1911—1915	135	110
1916—1920	113	90
1921—1925	102	76
1926—1930	76	68
1931—1935	70	62
1936—1940	63	55
1941—1945	52	50
1946—1950	41	36
1951	31.7	29.6
1952	23.0	27.6

(b) INFANTILE DEATHS SHOWN BY AGES AND
CAUSES OF DEATH, 1952

Causes of Death	Age in Weeks				Age in Months						Total Deaths
	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	Under 1 Month	1-2	2-3	3-6	6-9	9-12	
Premature Birth	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Congenital Malformation Debility	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bronchitis and Pnuemonia	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	2	6
Gastro-enteritis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
	4	2	—	—	6	1	—	2	—	2	11

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

(a) The Public Health Committee and the Staff of the Public Health Department are listed at the beginning of this report. There were no changes in Staff during the year.

LABORATORY SERVICES

(b) The examination of Pathological specimens and the examination of water and other samples is undertaken by the Laboratory at the Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle, under the direction of Dr. J. Steven Faulds.

LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SERVICES

(c) The Ambulance, Nursing, Home Help and the School and Child Welfare Services are the responsibility of the Cumberland County Council. Clinical sessions are held as follows:—

Child Welfare—Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 2 p.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation—Wednesdays at 2 p.m.

School Clinics—Daily at 9-30 a.m.

Orthopaedic sessions—arranged by appointment.

(d) Chest Clinics (the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board) are now held at the Workington Infirmary.

(e) Specialists' sessions for children in Eye and Ear, Nose and Throat conditions are held both in Workington and Whitehaven. Attendance is by appointment.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA

A detailed report of Sanitary matters is given by the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. R. James, in an appendix to this report.

1.—*Housing.*

During 1952 30 houses were completed by the Local Authority and 49 by private enterprise.

2.—*Water.*

A considerable advance was made in the distribution side of the water supply to the Borough by completion of the Winscales High Reservoir. The official opening took place in April, 1952. I am indebted to Mr. Handel Kay, the Water Engineer, for the information given below, this being a summary of a description made by him for the opening.

“The purposes of the scheme are to provide a high level reservoir to give additional service reservoir accommodation and to improve thereby the pressure to the higher parts of the Borough. The scheme comprises the following:—

- (a) A 2 million gallon covered service reservoir constructed on high ground at Winscales to the east of the Borough, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles inland and having a top water-level of 455 feet above sea level.
- (b) A pumping station sited at Stainburn adjoining the existing reservoir there (at 180 feet above sea level).
- (c) An 8 inch pumping main, 3,300 yards between Stainburn and Winscales.
- (d) A 12 inch distribution main, 5,500 yards from the reservoir to the eastern and higher part of the Borough, and extensions from this by pipes of smaller diameter".

"The reservoir itself is a covered reservoir, octagonal in plan with reinforced concrete base and roof which latter is supported by steel staunches. The concrete walls are lined with asphalt. A depth of 15 feet of water can be contained. A wide range of recording gear has been installed".

The Chlorination and De-incrustation Plant was completed at Lorton (high up on the 15 inch and 21 inch mains from the lake) and came into operation soon after the close of the year.

Domestic consumption of water in the Borough is some forty gallons per head per day.

Samples at the source, along the line of distribution, at the new reservoir, and at domestic taps were taken during the year. In all cases the reports were entirely satisfactory from both bacteriological and chemical aspects. The Owsen Fell supply to parts of Harrington was also sampled and found to be satisfactory.

One chemical and bacteriological report is here reproduced:—

Probable number of coli-aerogenes	
present in 100 ml.	Nil
Appearance in a 2ft. tube	
Clear and colourless. p.H.—8.4.	
	parts per 100,000
Ammoniacal nitrogen	0.023
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.075
Oxygen absorbed from N/80 permanganate	
in 15 mins. at 27 degrees C.	0.06

Oxygen absorbed from N/80 permanganate in 4 hours at 27 degrees C.	0.42
Dissolved solids dried for 1 hour at 180 degrees C.	31
Hardness—Total	19
—Carbonate	0
—Non-carbonate	19
Chlorine present as chlorides	9.0
Heavy metals	0.0

Opinion:—"Bacteriologically and chemically a satisfactory water".

NOTE.—In chemical analysis of water results are now given in parts per *million* instead of part per 100,000, so that, (for example) the "total hardness" of 19 in this report would have appeared a year ago as 1.9.

3.—*Drainage and Sewerage.*

The Westfield branch of the Main Drainage Scheme was completed during the year to the outfall at Salterbeck—a distance of 1,240 yards. The Salterbeck branch was under construction—1,250 yards having been laid. The outfall works and overflow chambers on the beach were completed including the outfall sewer to low water mark.

4.—*Refuse Collection and Disposal.*

The collection side of this function underwent further stages of re-organisation during the year. The last horse-drawn vehicle (under private contract) was disposed of and the route involved taken over by a motor vehicle. A large end-loading vehicle with mechanical packing was purchased to cover those parts of the town with wide open streets. With these changes a much more efficient and economic service is now being run.

The problem of the provision of household bins was receiving the active attention of the Council at the end of the year. At the time of writing this report the decision had been made that the provisions of dustbins be a charge against the general rate fund.

Negotiations were completed for the lease of a suitable site in the Oldside area of the town. Further negotiations were in progress for the purchase of the site of the Harrington Ropery Tip and for facilities to effect an entrance to the northern gate of the tip.

The practice of controlled tipping continues. Apart from the disposal of paper there are no great problems at the Harrington Ropery Tip which is in an ideal site—a well protected valley formed of sand and gravel.

The Cloffocks site has its own inherent difficulties. It is relatively high and exposed to prevailing and other winds, making it more subject to fire and disturbance. Various other adverse factors operate here too. Children, youths and even adults take delight in pulling down banks and causing fires, destroying young trees and damaging property. The peculiar choice of a refuse tip, by children in particular, as a playground is fraught with danger. The heat generated in the covered banks causes minor explosions of corked bottles. Parents would be well advised to take more interest in the places frequented by their children.

Sea-gulls, too, are a real problem on tipping areas. Large flocks are always attendant on tipping operations and their powerful beaks are capable of disrupting the surface of banks.

The greatest, and increasing, difficulty in present day controlled tipping is the disposal of paper. There is now no ready market for baled paper. The increasing use of paper in packing and wrapping and the decreasing use of open fires mean that an ever-swelling volume of waste paper reaches the tips. Paper, tins and bottles together constitute more than eighty per cent. by volume of household refuse. If this tendency continues some method of quick sorting and incineration of paper will be needed or a greater number of men at the tip face employed. Householders could help in this difficulty by burning more paper at home.

A total of approximately 10,000 tons of household refuse was dealt with during the year (to 31-3-53). This is equivalent to 19 cwts. per 1,000 population per day.

SECTION D.

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) | 898 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for this purpose ... | 1972 |

(2) (a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	Nil
(b)	Number of inspections made for this 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	5
(4)	Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	893
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 other officers	563
3.	ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:	
(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of Housing Act, 1936:—	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	7
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By Owners	7
(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	*318
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By Owners	40
(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	5
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	5

- (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 Nil
 - (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or underground room having been rendered fit Nil
- * (Two hundred and seventy-eight notices served upon owners to provide dustbins under Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936. One owner appealed against the notice to the Court of Summary Jurisdiction and the Magistrates upheld the appeal).

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

More than 1,600 inspections were made to premises where food is stored, prepared or sold. The Clean Food Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, have, on the whole, been complied with. Improvements to various premises have been carried out and the traders generally have been co-operative.

There are 21 milk producers in the Borough, eight of which produce Tuberculin Tested Milk and one Accredited Milk. Nine samples of ungraded milk were examined for tubercle bacilli and found negative.

The number of milk retailers is 29, and approximately 95% of the milk sold is bottled on registered premises. There has been a considerable increase in the sale of pasteurised milk during the last few years.

There are 5 manufacturers of ice cream and 73 retailers. There has been a great increase in the consumption of ice cream since the War and a great proportion is wrapped. The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947, revolutionised the methods of ice cream manufacture, thus affording a high standard of purity for this important food. As restrictions in the supply of ingredients are eased, manufacturers will in-

crease the nutritional value. At the present time a minimum standard of 5% butter fat is demanded, but the majority of manufacturers are making ice cream with a butter fat content of more than 8%. This fact can be much more appreciated when it is realised that the butter fat content of milk is 3%.

Now that paper is plentiful all foodstuffs should be wrapped, and where possible pre-packed—particularly bread and cakes. The use of newspapers for wrapping foodstuffs should be discontinued.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Infectious Diseases.

The total number of notifications of cases of Infectious Diseases was small and there was no marked outbreak of any one disease.

Scarlet Fever.

The fifty-one cases were spread over the year and over the town.

Whooping Cough.

Showed a slight increase in the numbers notified. Much work has been done in selected areas in the investigation of antigens for use in protecting children against Whooping-cough, and the combination of such substances with those used for protection against Diphtheria. It is to be hoped that the time will not be long delayed when a satisfactory combined antigen will be available for general distribution to Clinics.

Diphtheria and Diphtheria Immunisation.

No confirmed case of Diphtheria was notified during the year. Attention is drawn to the remarks on Diphtheria Immunisation in the introduction to this report.

During the year 245 children aged 0—5 years and 314 children aged 5—15 years were given primary injections. The number of re-inforcement or “booster” doses given totalled 600—all in school children.

The Immunisation state, i.e., the percentage number in the two age groups who have been inoculated at some time prior to 31-12-52, cannot this year be given on the basis of estimated figures of child population supplied hitherto by the Registrar-General as these figures are no longer supplied. However, the trend in Diphtheria Immunisation is accurately enough indicated over the past few years in the table given below:—

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION STATE
BOROUGH OF WORKINGTON

Percentage inoculated on figures of Child Popula- tion supplied by Registrar- General:	Children aged 0—5 year.	Children aged 5—15 years.
1947	26	64
1948	32	65
1949	37	81
1950	37	82
1951	40	84
Calculated on local estimate of Child Population:		
1952	39	85

Anterior Poliomyelitis.

Only one case of this disease was notified—a mild paralysis of a lower limb.

Puerperal Fever.

The ten cases were distributed over the year. There were no deaths.

The notification of other Infectious Diseases is given in the next table.

Food-Poisoning.

There was no notifications of food-poisoning during the year. The preparation and hygiene of iced lollies was the subject of some general discussion during the year and of local interest in the attention drawn by general practitioners to the possibility that much sucking of these iced and sweetened waters may at least give rise to excoriation of the mouth and the skin around the mouth.

The following table gives a summary of all cases of Infectious Diseases notified during the year and the numbers admitted to Hospital (where known):—

NOTIFICATION OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE, 1952

Disease	Age Groups								Admitted to Hospital	Died
	Total Number of cases	Under 1 year	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 and over		
		Under 5 years	5-14	15-44	45-64	65 and over				
Scarlet Fever	51		4	10	25	8	3	1	7	Fig. not known 18 all forms
Whooping Cough	80	11	22	27	20					
Anterior Poliomyelitis	1			1					1	
Measles	63	2	14	20	24	1	1	1		
Diphtheria										
Acute Pneumonia	16	1	1	7	6	1				
Dysentery										
Erysipelas	10			3	3	4				
Meningococcal Infections										
Food Poisoning										
Puerperal pyrexia	6									
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2									
Chickenpox	44									

Cancer.

There were 57 deaths from Cancer—39 in males and 18 in females. Distribution of the cases by location in the body of the disease was as follows:—

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Cancer of Stomach	7	6	13
Cancer of Lung	9	1	10
Cancer of Breast	—	2	2
Cancer of Uterus	—	—	—
Cancer of all other sites	23	9	32
	39	18	57

There was an increase of eleven cases as compared to 1951 and the incidence on males was much higher than on females. The Mortality Rate per 1,000 Population was 1.9 as compared to 1.6 in 1951. The range of age at death in males was from 43 years to 86 with an average at death of 63.7 and in females the range was 10 years to 78 and an average age at death of 61.9.

Tuberculosis.

A total of sixty-five notifications were received during the year, of which 59 were respiratory (or pulmonary) tuberculosis and 6 of non-respiratory tuberculosis. This is an increase of twelve cases over the number for 1951.

Two cases were brought to light by means of Mass Radiography. By this procedure some 4,496 persons were X-rayed in 1952.

There was a decrease in the number of deaths from Tuberculosis. Five males and five females were certified as having died from Pulmonary Tuberculosis. There were no deaths from other forms of the disease. The Death Rate per 1,000 Population was 0.35 as compared with 0.24 for England and Wales and 0.70 for Workington in 1951.

The following table shows by age-group the number of new cases notified and the number of deaths, males and females, for 1952:—

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1—5	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
5—10	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
10—15	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
15—20	1	6	...	...	...	...	...	...
20—25	4	6	...	1	...	...	...	...
25—35	8	8	...	3	1	1	...	...
35—45	8	6	...	...	3	1	...	...
45—55	4	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
55—65	3	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
65 & over.	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total	30	29	2	4	5	5	...	...

TREATMENT IN SANATORIUM

Twenty-nine Pulmonary cases and one Non-Pulmonary case were admitted to Sanatoria for treatment. This is a big reduction on the number of 40 cases admitted in 1951 and makes poor reading against the increase in new cases notified during the current period. In an area such as West Cumberland, where the annual Death Rate is much higher than for England and Wales, much greater provision of hospital beds is required. Unfortunately, recent information received does not indicate that such is likely to take place. There is always a double demand in this disease (a) early and adequate Hospital treatment of the patient and (b) social relief of the family from the danger and detailed care involved in retaining the case at home.

The following table gives the position at the end of 1951 and the end of 1952, and the number of admissions and discharges during the year:—

	In Sana- toria 1st. Jan. 1952.	Admit- ted. 1952	Dis- charged	Died	In Sana- toria 31st Dec. 1952.
Pulmonary Cases—					
Adult Males ...	12	14	16	...	10
Adult Females ...	9	14	16	...	7
Children ..	...	1	1	...	...
Non-Pulmonary Cases					
Adult Males ..	1	...	...	..	1
Adult Females ...	...	...	...	...	...
Children ..	...	1	1	...	...
Observation Cases—					
Adult Males ...	...	..	...	...	...
Adult Females ...	1	...	..	...	1
TOTAL ...	23	30	34	...	19

As on the 31st December, 1952, the total number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register was 234, as follows:—

<i>Pulmonary.</i>			<i>Non-Pulmonary.</i>		
<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
93	72	165	31	38	69

APPENDIX

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

To J. L. Hunter, Esq., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Sir,

I herewith submit the following statement showing the number and nature of inspections, etc., during the year 1952, also the number of notices served and various items dealt with:—

Total number of inspections	...	...	...	...	6490
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	158
Caravans	...	...	...	...	27
Cinemas, Theatres, Clubs, Hotels	...	...	...	...	57
Complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	1257
Cowsheds and Dairies	...	...	...	...	111
Drainage inspections	...	...	...	...	198
Dwellinghouses:—					
Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	1321
Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	86
Re-inspections	...	...	...	...	893
Disinfections	...	...	...	...	71
Disinfestations	...	...	...	...	108
Factories	...	...	...	...	311
Food Shops	...	...	...	...	392
Food Preparing Premises	...	...	...	...	408
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	63
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	52
Markets, Stalls, Carts	...	...	...	...	53
Offensive Trades, etc.:—					
Fish Frying	...	...	...	...	165
Tripe Boiling	...	...	...	...	18
Tanning	...	...	...	...	6
Rag and Bone Merchants	...	...	...	...	46
Knacker Yard	...	...	...	...	47
Rats and Mice	...	...	...	...	359
Shops Act	...	...	...	...	251
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	32

NOTICES SERVED

Informal Notices	...	...	...	...	893
Statutory Notices	...	...	...	...	325

At the end of the year 91 Informal Notices remained to be dealt with.

The attention of the Borough Surveyor was called to the following defects:—

Dangerous premises	...	...	...	...	2
Choked sewers of street gullies	...	...	...	...	20

Waste or poor pressure of water, defective stop taps, etc.	26
Street Sweeping	2
Repairs to Corporation Property	48
Defective paving	4

DRAINAGE : —

Drains relaid	17
Drains cleansed from obstruction ...	160
Inspection chambers provided ...	11
Gullies renewed	47
Drains connected to sewers ...	2
Ventilation pipes renewed ...	2

SANITARY CONVENIENCES : —

Flushing cisterns repaired or renewed ...	46
W.C. basins renewed ...	30
New taps fixed ...	4
Cone joints repaired ...	7
Additional W.C.'s provided ...	11
Seats repaired or renewed ...	8
Doors repaired or renewed ...	16
Roofs repaired or renewed ...	9
Floors renewed ...	1
Soilpipes renewed ...	1
Light and Ventilation improved ...	6
Walls repaired or renewed ...	8
Cleansed or limewashed ...	7
Flushpipe renewed ...	2
Water pipes repaired. ...	43

YARD AND OUTBUILDINGS : —

Wash-houses repaired ...	2
Accumulations removed ...	17
Yard surfaces relaid ...	5
Coalhouses repaired ...	3
Yards to Clean ...	11

EXTERIOR OF HOUSES:—

Chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt	...	...	28
Roofs repaired or renewed	...	...	96
Spoutings cleansed or renewed	...	...	47
Pointing and rendering	...	...	29

INTERIOR OF HOUSES:—

Chimney flue repaired	...	...	5
Ceilings repaired or renewed	...	...	21
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	40
Fireplaces or oven repaired	...	...	35
Doors repaired	...	...	24
Wallplaster renewed	...	...	21
Windows renewed or repaired	...	...	65
Sashcords provided	...	...	17
Sinks provided	...	...	14
Wastepipes renewed or repaired	...	...	17
Accumulations removed	...	...	13
Waterpipes renewed	...	...	80
Dampness remedied	...	...	37
Dirty premises cleansed	...	...	19

MISCELLANEOUS:—

Animals removed	...	...	6
Poultry removed	...	...	10
Caravans removed	...	...	11

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Owing to the presence of vermin 108 houses were disinfected by this Department. The number of Council houses found infested by bugs was 2; other houses 7.

Fifteen houses were treated for fleas, 21 for cockroaches, 2 for silverfish, 2 for earwigs, 39 for ants, and 2 for wood-worm.

All fluids and powders used for disinfestation work have D.D.T. and Pyrethum incorporated, for ant extermination 0.25 per cent. Thallium Sulphate is included.

RATS AND MICE

No serious infestation occurred during the year. Three hundred and fifty-nine visits were made to premises regarding complaints of rats and mice, and all proved of a minor character.

In addition to traps, prebaited used are sausage rusk and bread mash and poisons used are zinc phosphide and red squill.

The sewers in the Borough were test baited twice during the year, and were found satisfactory.

The refuse tips have received regular weekly visits. At the Cloffocks Tip minor infestations were dealt with. The Harrington Tip has been free from rats. The system of controlled tipping, covering and narrowing of tipping faces has eliminated breeding areas.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937

Number in register	...	...	...	...	...	240
Inspections made	...	...	...	...	...	469
Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	37
Prosecutions	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Outworkers	...	...	...	...	...	2
Classification of defects:—						
Want of Cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	10
Inadequate ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sanitary Conveniences:—						
Insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	5
Unsuitable or defective	...	...	...	...	...	14
Not separate for sexes	...	...	...	...	...	2
Other offences against the Act	...	...	...	...	...	4
Fire escape certificates issued	...	...	...	...	...	8

The following is a list of Classified Trades carried on in the Borough:—

Tanning	...	...	...	...	...	1
Aerated Waters	...	...	...	...	...	3
Paint Making, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	7

Enamelling	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Corn Merchants	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Printing, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Rayon Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Gas Undertaking	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Laundry	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dyers and Cleaners	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Firelighters	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Brewery	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Quarrying	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Weaving	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
General Dealers	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Building Trades	...	...	...	...	...	...	21
Wood Cutting and Working	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Leather Working, Shoe Repairing, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Monumental Masons	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Magnesite Production	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Collieries	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Fur Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tailoring, Cutting, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Food Preserving Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Light Engineering—including Motor Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Heavy Engineering	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Electrical Undertaking	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
							240

INSPECTION OF PREMISES

All premises where food is prepared or sold have been regularly inspected. The following foodstuffs were found unfit for human consumption :—

Tinned and Bottled Goods:—

Pork (50 tins).	Peaches (40 tins).
Tongue (11 tins).	Apples (32 tins).
Beef (129 tins).	Pears (102 tins).
Veal (22 tins).	Plums (102 tins).
Ham (50 tins).	Grapes (23 tins).
Luncheon Meat (133 tins).	Apricots (10 tins).
Veal and Ham (10 tins).	Strawberries (51 tins).
Kidneys (2 tins).	Pineapples (33 tins).
Salmon (1 tin).	Oranges (47 tins).
Pilchards (1 tin).	Gooseberries (5 tins).
Sardines (2 tins).	Greengages (5 tins).
Lobster (2 tins).	Pickles (53 bottles).
Peas (170 tins).	Sage & Onions (18 packets).
Beans (136 tins).	Soup (87 tins).
Tomatoes (39 tins).	Salad Cream (6 bottles).
Carrots (3 tins).	Meat Paste (21 jars).
Cherries (600 tins).	Fruit Salad (44 tins).
Prunes ((10 tins).	Mustard (24 jars).
Figs (3 tins).	Jellies (85 packets).
Bilberries (18 tins).	Jam (30 tins).
Grapefruit (16 tins).	Milk (263 tins).
Raspberries (11 tins).	

Other Foods:—

Bacon (16 lbs.).	Crabs (5 stones).
Beef (336 lbs.).	Cheese (7 lbs.).
Sausages (42 lbs.).	Cake (5 lbs.).
Chickens (32 lbs.).	Biscuits (30 lbs.).
Cod (17½ stones).	Cereals (27 lbs.).
Fish Cakes (53).	Ice Cream (250 lbs.).

The approximate weight of the foodstuffs condemned was 38 cwts.

In all cases Certificates were issued under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, to all respective vendors, and as far as possible Ministry of Food Circular M.F. 3/48 has been followed regarding salvage of unsound foods.

(Signed) RICHARD JAMES,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Town Hall,
Workington.



