

Contributors

Darlington (England). County Borough Council.

Publication/Creation

1916

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/v72f2ee6>

License and attribution

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

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

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



Annual Reports

ON THE

HEALTH

OF THE

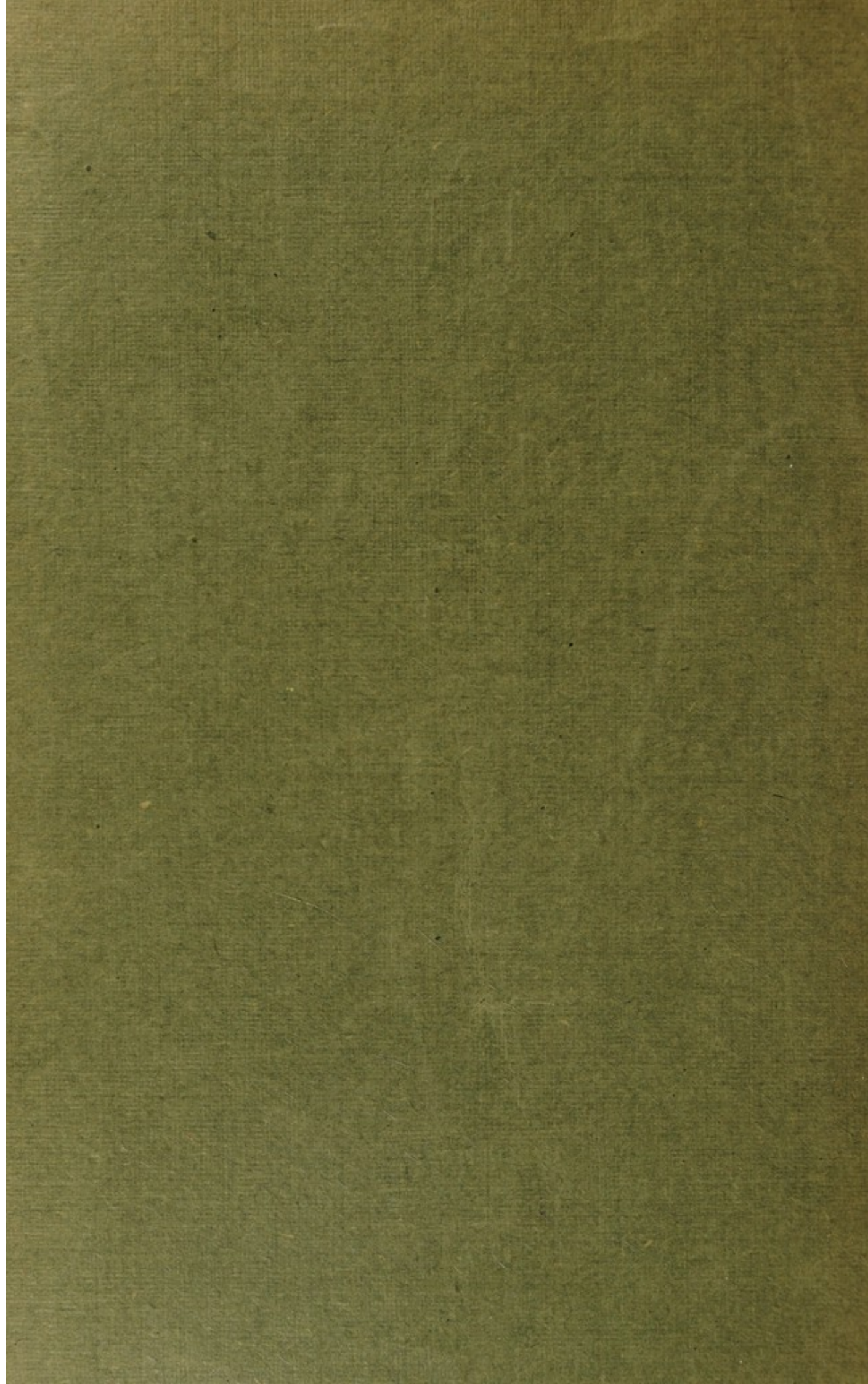
COUNTY BOROUGH OF DARLINGTON

For the Year 1916.

DARLINGTON:

JAMES DODDS, PRINTER, LITHOGRAPHER, ETC., NORTHGATE.

1917.



COUNTY BOROUGH OF DARLINGTON.



ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1916,

BY

S. G. MOSTYN, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health,

Medical Superintendent of the Borough Isolation Hospitals,
School Medical Officer.

DARLINGTON:

JAMES DODDS, PRINTER, LITHOGRAPHER, ETC., NORTHGATE.

1917.



COUNTY BOROUGH OF DARLINGTON.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
HEALTH AND SANITARY COMMITTEE.

MADAM AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith submit for your consideration my Sixth Annual Report, on the Health and Sanitary condition of Darlington during the year 1916.

The general death-rate and the deaths of infants are much the same as in 1915, but rates depending on the population are untrustworthy owing to the changes that have taken place since the last census, and especially in the last three years.

Owing to diminution of the staff, as in the previous year, the routine work of inspections has of necessity been curtailed, and important matters especially with regard to housing have had to be deferred for the present.

The most serious public health question for the Borough is that of housing and town planning. A satisfactory solution of this problem will have far reaching effects on the physical and social well-being of the people. The present is the time for considering schemes, so that the fullest advantage may be obtained from the help that has been promised by the Government when constructive work again becomes possible.

I wish to thank the Committee for their continued support, and to express my indebtedness to the Staff of the Health Department and of the Fever Hospital, and to the Officials of other Departments of the Corporation for their ready co-operation.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

S. G. MOSTYN.

Health Office,

Feethams,

July, 1917.

JOSEPH R. BROWN, JR.

1870

1871

1872

1873

1874

1875

1876

1877

1878

1879

1880

1881

1882

1883

1884

1885

1886

1887

1888

1889

1890

1891

1892

1893

1894

1895

1896

1897

1898

1899

1900

1901

1902

1903

1904

1905

1906

1907

1908

1909

1910

HEALTH REPORT, 1916.

Area of the Borough.—4,614 acres.

Population.—The population, at the 1911 census, of the Borough as now constituted was 57,328 persons; the number of “families or separate occupiers” may be estimated at 12,669 at the same period.

The Registrar General states that “the following estimates of population have been adopted in his office for the calculation of the death and birth rate for Darlington for the year 1916.

For the death rate	...	...	...	59,734.
For the birth rate	...	...	...	64,992.

The former is an estimate of the civilian population; the latter of the total population based on the assumption that the ratio between the total and the civilian population is the same in the borough as in England and Wales as a whole.”

Births.—The net number of births assignable to Darlington was 1,478, of which 73 were illegitimate. The number is made up as follows:—

Legitimate:—

Males—Registered Births, 713; Inward Transfers, 1.

Females—Registered Births, 670; Inward Transfers, 1.

Illegitimate:—

Males—Registered Births, 38; Inward Transfers, 1;
Outward Transfers, 1.

Females—Registered Births, 35; Inward Transfers, 1;
Outward Transfers, 1.

With the population as estimated by the Registrar General these figures give a birth rate of 22.4 per 1,000 of the population per annum.

The birth rate for England and Wales, based upon the estimated civil population for 1915 was 21.6 per 1,000. Estimated in the same way the birth rate for Darlington would be 24.2 per 1,000.

Deaths.—During the year 922 deaths occurred in the Borough; of these 49 were of non-residents, and have been transferred to other districts; on the other hand the deaths of 41 Darlington residents occurred outside the Borough. These numbers give a **death rate of 15.3 per 1,000 of the population per annum**, if the population be taken to be 59,734 as estimated by the Registrar General. Here and throughout this report all deaths of members of the Army and Navy are treated as transferable, in accordance with the instructions of the Registrar General.

One hundred and seventy-eight deaths occurred in Institutions in the Borough: 72 in the Workhouse, 68 in Greenbank Hospital, 23 in the Borough Isolation Hospital, and 11 in other Institutions; in addition to these, 21 residents of Darlington died in Asylums, and 12 in other Institutions outside the Borough.

Still Births.—The bodies of 75 stillborn children from the Borough were buried in the town Cemeteries during the year. The numbers for the various quarters of the year were 12, 26, 25, and 12, respectively.

Particulars of the causes of death, and the ages at which death took place, will be found in Tables I and II, pages 14 and 16.

The following Table compares Darlington with the County of Durham and the rest of England and Wales for 1916:—

	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 LIVING.*								RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.			
	All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping-cough.	Diphtheria.	Accidents and Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	Total Deaths under One Year.	Deaths in Public Institutions.	Certified Causes.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.
England and Wales	14.0	0.03	0.00	0.15	0.04	0.16	0.14	0.66	12.47	91	24.2	91.3	7.2	1.5
96 Great Towns, including London (Census Populations exceeding 50,000) ..	14.4	0.03	0.00	0.21	0.04	0.21	0.15	0.53	16.24	99	29.6	91.2	7.8	1.0
148 Smaller Towns (Census Populations 20,000—50,000)	13.0	0.03	0.00	0.14	0.04	0.14	0.15	0.46	10.79	90	16.4	92.5	5.7	1.8
London	14.3	0.02	..	0.19	0.03	0.18	0.14	0.56	15.80	89	45.6	90.1	9.8	0.1
Durham County	13.2	0.08	..	0.05	0.06	0.23	0.20	0.41	14.04	115	—	96.8	—	3.2
DARLINGTON	15.3	0.05	..	0.18	0.02	0.32	0.34	0.43	16.91	118	19.4	90.9	5.5	3.6

*The death-rates for England and Wales are based upon deaths in the whole population and upon an estimated total population of 36,250,000. The birth-rate similarly calculated is 21.6 per 1,000. The death-rates for the towns are based upon civil deaths and estimated civil populations. The birth-rates cannot be stated. In the case of Durham and Darlington the populations used are those recommended by the Registrar-General. These populations are probably too low; the County Medical Officer's estimate exceeds the Registrar-General's by 11 per cent. This would entail a corresponding *reduction* in the death-rates.

Forty-seven **Coroner's Inquests** were held in the Borough, and four outside the Borough, in connexion with deaths assignable to Darlington; the proportion of inquest cases to the total number of deaths being 5.6 per cent.

Uncertified Deaths.—During 1916 there were 33 deaths, the causes of which were not certified by medical men or the Coroner after inquest, equivalent to 3.6 per cent of the total number of deaths. I am glad to see that only two deaths of children under one year of age were uncertified during the year.

Accidents and Violent Deaths.—Twenty-six deaths were due to accidents or violence: of these, four were due to accidents on railways, four to accidents from other vehicles, four to burns or scalds, five to overlying, six to falls, two to injury at work, and one to starvation.

Infant Mortality.—The number of deaths under one year of age was 175, corresponding to an **Infant Mortality Rate of 118 per 1,000 births**. There were 16 deaths of illegitimate infants assignable to the Borough; comparing these with the 73 illegitimate births during the year assignable to the Borough the death rate of illegitimate infants amounts to 219 per 1,000 births.

During the year the Health Visitors paid 1,304 first visits and 2,904 re-visits to houses where births had occurred; 448 visits were paid by them in connexion with cases of measles and 485 for other reasons.

The deaths of children under one year were 1 less in number than in the previous year. One quarter of these deaths were due to whooping cough, bronchitis, and pneumonia. Though these deaths do not shew appreciable reduction, it is gratifying to notice that the deaths above one and under five years of age were much fewer than in the previous year.

During the year the Maternity Centre work was carried on as before at Beaumont Street Domestic Centre. The School

House at Albert Road was obtained as a permanent head quarters for this work, but was requisitioned for Military purposes before the necessary alterations were carried out. A centre for the north end of the town was in consequence temporarily opened at the North Road Infant School in November. The attendances at both centres have been good.

The abnormal times in which we are now living have had considerable effect on child life. The more frequent industrial employment of women and the absence of the fathers from the homes have exerted their influence, for the most part indirectly, through domestic disorganization. There has been little poverty or want, but times of stress and excitement are not favourable to child welfare.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

TABLE shewing the number of **Notifications** of notifiable Diseases, the **deaths** occurring therefrom, and also the number of Darlington Patients admitted to and discharged from the Borough Fever Hospital during 1916.

Diseases.	Cases Notified.	Deaths Registered.	ISOLATION HOSPITAL.					
			Number in Hospital at beginning of year.	Admitted to Hospital during year.	Discharged from Hospital.	Died in Hospital.	Remaining in Hospital at end of year.	Case Mortality: Per Cent. of Admissions.
Scarlet Fever ..	79	1	15	73	80	1	7	1.4
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	196	22	9	189	177	17	4	9.0
Enteric (or Typhoid) Fever ..	9	3	1	8	4	2	3	25.
Puerperal Fever ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas ..	31	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cerebro-spinal Fever ..	1	2	..	..	..	1	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	86	68	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other forms of Tuberculosis ..	70	27	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles and German Measles ..	370	11	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total for 1916 ..	865	135	25	270	261	21	14	7.8
Total for 1915 ..	548	115	60	278	294	18	26	6.5

The figures in the above and following tables include 8 cases of Scarlet Fever, 10 cases of Diphtheria, and one case of Enteric Fever from soldiers in the Borough. In addition

to these, 3 civil cases and 65 Military cases of Scarlet Fever; and 7 civil cases and 9 Military cases of Diphtheria were admitted from outside the Borough.

The following Table shews the number of **cases** of Infectious Diseases notified each month during 1916:—

	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup.	Enteric Fever.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Other forms of Tuberculosis.	Puerperal Fever.	Erysipelas.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Measles and German Measles.	Cerebro-Spinal Fev.r.	Totals.
January	10	23	1	7	11	..	3	3	146	..	204
February	7	23	1	9	9	..	5	1	75	..	130
March	12	26	1	14	10	..	4	2	74	..	143
April	7	20	..	6	14	..	3	1	39	..	90
May	8	20	..	6	4	..	3	..	8	1	50
June	6	24	3	10	12	..	..	2	5	..	62
July	5	20	..	10	2	..	2	3	8	..	50
August	4	8	..	1	..	..	4	1	4	..	22
September	6	13	..	8	3	..	..	2	3	..	35
October	3	8	..	5	3	..	1	1	3	..	24
November	6	6	2	3	2	1	3	3	2	..	28
December	5	5	1	7	..	..	3	3	3	..	27
Total for 1916	79	196	9	86	70	1	31	22	370	1	865
Total for 1915	166	138	7	116	52	2	47	20	..	..	548

Scarlet Fever.—This disease was less prevalent than in the previous year. Of the 79 cases notified, 73, over 92 per cent, were removed to the Borough Isolation Hospital. Among these there was only one death.

Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup).—The number of cases notified was 196. One hundred and eighty-nine, over 96 per cent, of these were removed to the Borough Isolation Hospital. There were 21 deaths from Diphtheria; of these 17 occurred in Hospital. These figures give a case-mortality of 8.7 per cent.

Enteric (or Typhoid) Fever.—Nine cases of Enteric Fever were notified during the year, 8 of which were admitted to Hospital. Three deaths occurred, two of which were in the Hospital.

Puerperal Fever.—One case of this disease was notified and one death was registered during the year.

Erysipelas.—Thirty-one cases of Erysipelas were notified.

Diarrhoea.—Thirty-six deaths occurred from Diarrhoea; of these 21 were under one year of age and 4 from one to two.

Measles caused 12 deaths. This disease and German Measles became notifiable at the beginning of the year. In all, 370 cases were notified, 60 by parents and the remainder by medical attendants. 330 cases were notified as Measles and 40 as German Measles. The ages of the cases notified were as follows:—

—Under one, 43, with 2 deaths; one year, 51, with 5 deaths; two years, 42, with 1 death; three years, 52, with 2 deaths; four years, 37; five years, 49 with 1 death; six years, 33; over seven and under ten, 22; ten to fifteen, 14; over fifteen, 27. There were four deaths in January, 3 in February, 1 in March, and 3 in April.

Whooping Cough caused 19 deaths; 11 of which were under one year of age, 5 from 1 to 2, and 3 from 2 to 3.

Twenty-two case of **Ophthalmia Neonatorum** were notified during the year. Two of these occurred in cases attended by an uncertified midwife.

Tuberculosis.—There were 96 deaths from Tuberculosis during 1916, as follows:—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	42	28	70
Tuberculous Meningitis	6	1	7
Other Tuberculous Diseases	6	13	19
	54	42	96

Under the Tuberculosis Regulations, 156 cases were notified, 82 of males, and 74 of females; 2 under 1 year of age; 24 between 1 and 5; 41 between 5 and 15; 33 between 15 and 25; 41 between 25 and 45; 11 between 45 and 65; and 4 over 65. Of these patients, 21 came from Harrowgate Hill Ward; 23 from North Road Ward; 26 from Eastbourne Ward; 23 from Cockerton Ward; 7 from Pierremont Ward; 28 from Central Ward; 9 from West Ward; and 19 from South Ward.

I regret that I have not up to the present been able to obtain information with regard to the treatment of Tuberculosis patients in the Borough. I hope to be able to either submit this information later as a special report or to include it in the report for next year.

Bacteriological Examinations.—The Table below gives the results of the examination of specimens sent to the Durham College of Medicine or the Northern Command Laboratory at York, from Darlington during the year:—

	Number of Specimens Submitted.	RESULTS.	
		Positive.	Negative.
Diphtheria	57	16	41
Enteric Fever.. ..	11	5	6
Tuberculosis	56	16	40

TABLE 1.—CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE OF "RESIDENTS" IN
DARLINGTON, 1916.

CAUSES OF DEATH.			Sex.	All Ages.	0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	Deaths in Institutions and Non- Residents.
All causes ..	..	..	M. F.	496 418	110 65	29 22	19 20	20 20	19 18	55 55	115 84	129 134	M. 115 F. 62
Uncertified	..	..	M. F.	18 15	2 1	3 2	1 1	1 .	1 .	2 1	4 1	5 8	
1. Enteric Fever	..	..	M. F.	1 2	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 1	1 1	.. ..	.. ..	1 1
2. Small-pox	..	..	M. F.	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
3. Measles	..	..	M. F.	5 7	1 2	4 1	3 1	.. 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 1
4. Scarlet Fever	..	..	M. F.	1 8	.. 5	.. 2	1 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 1
5. Whooping Cough ..	..	..	M. F.	11 13	6 1	3 2	2 4	6 3	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	12 6
6. Diphtheria and Croup	..	..	M. F.	8 14	3 ..	1 ..	3 ..	3 ..	.. ..	1 2	5 2	4 8	1 ..
7. Influenza	..	..	M. F.	12 ..	.. ..	1 ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1..	....	....	....
8. Erysipelas	..	..	M. F.	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..
9. Pulmonary Tuberculosis	..	..	M. F.	42 28	.. 1	1 2	.. 1	2 4	8 5	25 13	6 5	1 ..	7 3
10. Tuberculous Meningitis	..	..	M. F.	6 1	.. ..	2 1	1 1	1 3	2 ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	2 1
11. Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	M. F.	13 26	2 ..	2 ..	3 ..	1 ..	1 ..	1 5	1 22	2 20	4 6
12. Cancer, Malignant Disease	..	..	M. F.	47 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	5 2
13. Rheumatic Fever ..	..	..	M. F.	1 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	1 1	....	....	....	....
14. Meningitis	..	..	M. F.	4 2	1 ..	.. ..	2 ..	1 1	1 1	.. ..	.. ..	.. ..	2 3

TABLE 1.—Continued.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Sex.	All Ages.	0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	Deaths in Institutions, Residents, &c.
15. Organic Heart Disease ..	M.	32	..	..	..	..	1	2	18	11	9
	F.	40	..	..	..	1	1	3	13	22	6
16. Bronchitis ..	M.	50	6	1	4	1	..	..	11	27	13
	F.	36	7	2	..	..	1	1	6	19	2
17. Pneumonia (all forms) ..	M.	48	16	9	1	1	1	6	10	5	8
	F.	33	6	6	5	2	..	4	5	5	5
18. Other Respiratory Diseases ..	M.	8	..	..	3	1	1	1	1	1	..
	F.	11	1	..	..	..	1	2	4	3	..
19. Diarrhoea and Enteritis ..	M.	24	15	2	1	2	..	1	3	1	..
	F.	12	6	2	..	..	..	1	2	1	1
20. Appendicitis and Typhlitis ..	M.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	F.	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
21. Cirrhosis of Liver ..	M.	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
	F.	4	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	..	..
21a. Alcoholism ..	M.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	..
	F.	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
22. Nephritis and Bright's Disease ..	M.	5	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	2	..
	F.	10	..	..	..	..	..	2	4	4	..
23. Puerperal Fever ..	M.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F.	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
24. Parturition, apart from Puerperal Fever ..	M.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
	F.	7	..	..	..	..	3	4	..	..	1
25. Congenital Debility, &c. ..	M.	33	33	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
	F.	24	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
26. Accidents and Violence apart from Suicide	M.	19	3	1	..	2	2	7	4	..	11
	F.	9	3	1	..	3	..	..	2	2	4
27. Suicide ..	M.	8	..	..	..	..	1	4	3	..	3
	F.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
28. Other defined Diseases ..	M.	135	24	3	..	1	2	4	37	64	30
	F.	93	8	3	3	2	3	12	16	46	18
29. Causes ill-defined or unknown ..	M.	7	..	1	1	..	..	..	3	2	..
	F.	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..

The figures in this table were supplied by the Registrar-General.

TABLE II.

INFANT MORTALITY.

1916. NET DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES AT VARIOUS AGES
UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE.

CAUSES OF DEATH.			Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 weeks	4 Weeks—3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year
All causes	Certified		34	8	13	6	61	36	38	27	16	178
	Uncertified		1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	2
Smallpox .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chickenpox .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Scarlet Fever .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	..	3	4	4	11
Diphtheria and Croup .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Erysipelas .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculous Meningitis .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2
Other Tuberculous Diseases .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>) .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Convulsions .. ..			..	..	1	1	2	3	1	..	..	6
Laryngitis .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Bronchitis .. ..			..	..	1	..	1	6	4	3	..	14
Pneumonia (all forms) .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	4	8	3	6	21
Diarrhœa .. ..			..	1	..	..	1	2	1	..	..	4
Enteritis .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	6	5	4	..	15
Gastritis .. ..			..	..	1	..	1	2	2	1	..	6
Syphilis .. ..			..	..	1	..	1	2	..	2	..	5
Rickets .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	3
Suffocation, overlying			1	..	..	..	1	2	1	1	..	5
Injury at birth .. ..			..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atelectasis			3	..	..	..	3	..	..	..	..	3
Congenital Malformations			2	3	1	1	7	..	5	..	1	13
Premature birth			19	..	4	..	23	1	..	..	..	24
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus			9	4	3	2	18	6	2	..	..	26
Other Causes			1	..	1	2	4	2	3	4	1	14
Totals			35	8	13	6	62	37	37	27	16	179

Net Births in the year :—Legitimate, 1,405 ; illegitimate, 73.

Net Deaths in the year :—Legitimate infants, 163 ; illegitimate infants, 16.

These figures are compiled from the weekly returns of the local Registrar, and in some cases are not in accurate agreement with the figures in Table I.

TABLE III.—CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED AND REMOVED TO HOSPITAL DURING
THE YEAR 1916, CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO WARD AND AGE.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole Borough.							Total Cases notified in each Ward.							Total cases removed to Hospital.		
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						Harrowgate Hill	North Road	Eastbourne	Cockerton	Pierremont	Central	West		South	
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65										65 and upwards.
Smallpox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ..	196	1	44	108	29	10	4	..	22	39	14	25	33	22	28	189	..
Erysipelas	31	..	2	2	1	9	13	4	3	5	3	3	2	5	8	73	..
Scarlet Fever	79	..	15	39	16	9	..	..	12	10	11	23	6	8	5	..	..
Typhus Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever	9	..	..	2	3	4	..	..	2	..	..	..	2	1	3	8	..
Relapsing Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Continued Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis ..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Poliomyelitis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	22	22	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	2	1	4	4	6	..	..
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	86	..	4	14	24	33	9	2	5	22	10	3	17	4	11	..	..
Other forms of Tuberculosis ..	70	2	20	27	10	7	2	2	16	4	13	4	11	5	8	..	..
Measles & German Measles ..	370	42	183	120	16	9	..	..	41	17	31	35	34	43	46	..	..
TOTALS	865	67	268	312	101	81	28	8	103	99	84	94	109	93	116	270	..

BOROUGH ISOLATION HOSPITALS { Borough Fever Hospital, Hunden's Lane, Darlington, 112 beds used for Enteric and Scarlet Fevers and Diphtheria. Four Ward Blocks and Discharge Block.
Borough Smallpox Hospital on the Eastern Boundary of the Borough—35 beds.

TABLE IV.—SUMMARY OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS, 1916, TAKEN DAILY
AT THE SOUTH PARK, DARLINGTON.

MONTH.	Barometer Reading. (Inches.)		Temperature Registered. (Degrees Fahr.)		Total Rainfall (in inches).	Greatest Rainfall in any 24 hours. Depth (in ins.)	Date of Greatest Fall.	Number of days on which rain fell .01 inches or more.
	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.				
January ..	30.4	29.4	57	30	0.77	0.37	1st	9
February ..	30.3	28.7	50	23	3.42	0.82	22nd	22
March ..	30.2	28.8	55	22	3.83	0.54	15th	26
April ..	30.2	28.9	72	26	0.93	0.24	19th	12
May ..	30.3	29.2	80	28	2.92	0.70	12th	16
June ..	30.1	29.3	74	35	2.26	1.90	24th	16
July ..	30.3	29.4	79	42	1.53	0.35	20th	15
August ..	30.3	29.2	82	38	2.31	0.50	15th	11
September ..	30.3	29.4	74	31	1.55	1.14	3rd	9
October ..	30.2	28.7	66	23	1.54	0.36	30th	20
November ..	30.3	28.4	59	21	1.71	0.38	19th	15
December ..	29.9	28.7	54	19	2.12	0.42	12th	15
Totals ..	..	..	..	..	24.89	..	..	186
Averages ..	..	..	..	..	2.07	..	..	15.6

REMARKS ON THE YEAR.

It will be seen from the above record that the driest month of the year was January, while the wettest month was March. The first six months of the year show 14.13 in. of rain; the last six months show 10.76 in. It will be noticed that March had 26 days on which rain fell out of 31. The rainfall for the whole year is normal, as the average rainfall for Darlington is 25 inches per year.

JAMES MORRISON, Superintendent.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF DARLINGTON.



ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year 1916,

OF THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR,

JNO. R. COPPING, A. R. SAN. I.,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1916.

DARLINGTON:

JAMES DODDS, PRINTER, LITHOGRAPHER, ETC., NORTHGATE.

1917.

ORIGINAL

1791

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1916.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Health and Sanitary Committee.

Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting for your information my Annual Report for 1916, which, under the continued War conditions, is only a brief outline of the work done.

The work of the department has been maintained as far as possible, but owing to the decreased staff the house to house inspection under the Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909, has had to be discontinued, only 23 such inspections having been made during the year.

General Sanitary Work.—During the past year 1,335 Informal Notices were served upon the owners of property in respect of nuisances existing thereon, and in very many cases the nuisances were abated without further action being necessary. The remaining cases where the notices were not complied with were included in my monthly reports submitted to you. Upon your instructions 610 Statutory Notices for the abatement of nuisances were served during the year, including 64 notices for the substitution of Water Closets and Ashbins in place of the old type of privies and ashpits.

The following is a summary of the various headings under which such Statutory Notices were served;—

	Number of Informal Notices by Inspector.	Number of Formal Notices by order of Council.	Number of Nuis- ances abated after Notice.
Dwelling Houses and Schools—			
Foul Conditions	67	2	69
Structural Defects	580	334	608
Overcrowding	5	...	5
Lodging Houses	7	1	8
Bakehouses	8	...	8
Cowsheds	1	...	1
Slaughter-houses	5	...	5
Ashpits and Privies	151	97	163
Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...	20	...	20
Water Closets—			
Drains Stopped up and Defec- tive Fittings	155	46	158
Defective Yard Paving—	74	50	83
House Drainage—			
Defective Traps	11	5	6
No Disconnection from Sewers	11	5	6
Other Faults—			
Yard, Scullery, & Cellar Drains, and Down Pipes stopped up and Defective Drains	154	35	179
Water Supply to Water Closets ...	9	1	10
Pigsties	1	...	1
Animals and Poultry Improperly kept	15	2	17
Offensive Trades	1	...	1
Smoke Nuisances	2	...	2
Defective Sinks or Slopstones ...	48	20	4
Houses not provided with Sinks or Slopstones	7	12	...
Living Vans—Contravention of Bye- laws	3	...	3
Totals	1335	610	1400

Sanitary Conveniences.—The work of dealing with the old insanitary privy-middens which constitute nuisances has been continued during the past year, and 64 notices were

served under Section 36 of the Public Health Act, 1875, for the substitution of Water Closets and Ashbins in their stead.

During the year 302 Water Closets were substituted for old privy-middens.

The following are particulars of the number of notices served and conversions made during the five years 1912-13-14-15-16:—

Year.	Notices Served.	Complied with at 31st Dec., 1916.	Outstanding at 31st Dec., 1916.
1912	743	735	8
1913	777	626	151
1914	589	430	159
1915	111	73	38
1916	64	28	36
	2284	1892	392

Infectious Disease.—The following are particulars of the fumigation of houses and other buildings and the disinfection of bedding, clothing, etc., during the year:—

	Fumigations.				Lots of Bedding and Clothing Disinfected.
	Hos- pitals.	Houses.	Schools and other Buildings	Rooms.	
Infectious Disease other than Tuber- culosis, Cancer, etc. ..	5	256	14	266	268
Tuberculosis ..	..	85	..	132	42
Cancer ..	..	6	..	6	13
Measles, etc. ..	1	18	6	19	5
Total ..	6	365	20	423	328

Factories and Workshops.—The number of Workshops, including Bakehouses, on the Register at the 31st December, 1916, was 356, and the number of Factories, 136.

The whole of the above have been regularly inspected, and the following is a list of the defects found and dealt with:—

	Found.	Re-medied.
Sanitary Accommodation—		
Insufficient	3	3
Unsuitable or Defective... ..	6	6
Not Separate for Sexes... ..	8	8
Want of Cleanliness	24	24
Yard and Water Closet Drains stopped up and Defective	1	1
Structural Defects	13	12
Accumulation or Deposits of Refuse... ..	1	1
Total	56	55

Four notices of defects to be dealt with under the Public Health Acts were received from the Factory Inspector, and in each case the premises were inspected, notices served where necessary, and the defects remedied.

Outworkers.—During the year I received only 11 lists containing the names of 11 Outworkers, and the premises of such Outworkers were also inspected.

Food and Drugs.—During the year 84 samples were taken for analysis as follows:—

Milk	72
Provisions, etc.	12
Total	84

Of the 72 samples of Milk, 50 were from Purveyors of Milk residing and carrying on business in the Borough, and 22 were from Purveyors of Milk carrying on business but not residing in the Borough, 60 of such samples were morning samples, and 12 were afternoon samples.

67 samples were Formal samples and the remaining 17 were Informal samples. 67 samples were of genuine quality and 17 were adulterated. With respect to the 17 adulterated samples—in 2 cases proceedings were taken and fines of £5 and £2 5s. 6d. costs, and £5 and £8 costs respectively were imposed; in 3 cases the samples were taken in reference to the above proceedings. In 3 cases further samples were ordered to be taken which was done, and in 9 cases no steps were taken.

The following are particulars of the average percentages of fat and non-fatty solids:—

	Fat.	N.F. Solids.
Average percentages for the whole 72 samples	3.62%	8.60%
“ “ for 60 morning “	3.43%	8.50%
“ “ for 12 afternoon “	4.59%	9.10%

Inspection of Meat and other Foods.—The total number of animals inspected at the time of slaughter or immediately afterwards was 4,558.

There have also been 20 cases of emergency slaughter, involving 13 cows, 19 pigs, 3 bulls, 2 heifers, and 1 sheep, notified to me for inspection, and as a result of these inspections the carcass of 1 cow, portions only of one carcass, and the organs of 5 carcasses, were condemned and destroyed.

The total weight of food surrendered and destroyed during the year was 5 tons, 11 cwts., 2 stones, 7½lbs.

The whole of the food condemned was voluntarily surrendered to me by the owners and destroyed.

The following is a brief summary of all food condemned during the year:—

SUMMARY.

MEAT.					Tons.	Cwts.	Stones.	Lbs.
21 whole carcasses and all organs					2	13	4	2
Portions of carcasses (Tuberculosis)					...	5	4	6½
Portions of carcasses (Injuries and Unsound)	...	...	...	...		2	1	12
29 sets of Lungs						1	5	8
50 Livers						5	4	2
Stomachs and Mesenteries						2	6	9
Plucks	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Udders and Kidneys						...	9	3
Total	...	...	...	...	3	12	4	7½
Fruit and Vegetables					1	15	0	0
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	3	6	0
Total of Meat and other Foods condemned	...	...	...	...	5	11	2	7½

Slaughter-Houses.—The number of slaughter-houses in the Borough at 31st December, 1916, was 37, the whole of which are licensed; the use of one slaughter-house having been discontinued during the year.

The whole of the slaughter-houses are regularly inspected and fairly well kept. During the year it was necessary to serve notices in respect of 5 slaughter-houses. In all the 5 cases the requirements of the notices were complied with.

Offensive Trades.—The number of premises used for offensive trades now upon the Register is 10, as follows:—

- 1 Gut Scraper.
- 1 Tripe Boiler.
- 3 Fish Fryers.
- 1 Fellmonger.

2 Fat Rendering and Tripe Boiling.

2 Fat Rendering.

There are also 24 Fried Fish Shops in the Borough, not on the Register, having been established prior to the date of the Order under which they were Scheduled as Offensive Trades.

The whole of the premises have been regularly inspected, and are kept in a fairly satisfactory condition.

Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.—There were 21 Cowsheds and 101 Milksellers upon the Register at the 31st December, 1916, being an increase of 1 cowshed and 1 milk-seller as compared with the previous year, 8 milkshops having been discontinued, and 9 milksellers and 1 cowshed added to the Register.

All the premises have been inspected from time to time and may be said to be fairly well kept.

Living Vans, Tents, and Sheds.—It has been necessary to serve notices in 3 cases where there has been contraventions of the Byelaws relating to the above, and these were promptly complied with, whilst in several other cases a verbal notice was sufficient.

Shops Acts, 1912-13.—There are still 2 Compulsory Orders in operation affecting respectively shops in which is carried on the Sale of Meat, and shops in which is carried on the Sale of Fruit, Vegetables and Flowers, which were exempted trades under the Act, and the Orders were made on the petition of the traders. In 4 cases there were contraventions of the latter Order and letters of warning were written to the Shopkeepers by the Town Clerk.

Common Lodging-Houses.—There are now only 7 Common Lodging-houses on the Register, with accommodation for 371 lodgers, there having been 3 lodging-houses discontinued during the year.

The whole of the Lodging-houses are regularly and frequently inspected, and the same are kept in a fair good condition, and the Byelaws fairly well observed.

Seven Informal Notices were served during the year for the abatement of nuisances, and 5 of such notices have been complied with.

Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909.—During the year 23 houses were inspected, and 1 Informal Notice was served under the Public Health Acts in respect of certain defects, and has been complied with.

Under the Powers of the Darlington Extension and Improvement Act, 1872, a Closing Order was made in respect of 1 house let in 5 tenements, which was reported to be unfit for human habitation, and the house was permanently closed.

Enquiries were made into several cases of alleged overcrowding where complaints were received from outside sources, and in five cases overcrowding was found to exist and notices served, which were complied with.

In conclusion I take this opportunity of tendering to you my thanks for the support I have at all times received from you, and also to my staff for the valuable assistance rendered in the work of the department.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

JNO. R. COPPING,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

July, 1917.

County Borough of Darlington.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

School Medical Officer,

S. G. MOSTYN, M.A. M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1916.

DARLINGTON:

JAMES DODDS, PRINTER, LITHOGRAPHER, ETC., NORTHGATE.

1917.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
DARLINGTON EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my report for the year ending December 31st, 1916, and wish to draw your attention to the following points:—

- (i) The growing work of the School Clinic, which could be extended with advantage when circumstances permit.
- (ii) The full report of Dr. Hern, acting School Ophthalmic Surgeon.
- (iii) The definite suggestion of the School Dentist, with which I am in full agreement, that an extra half-day per week, for "casual cases," should be added to his work.

The success of the work during the year has been greatly helped by the sympathetic attitude of your Committee, and the courteous co-operation of all members of your teaching and administrative staff.

Your obedient Servant,

S. G. MOSTYN.

HEALTH OFFICE,
FEETHAMS,
DARLINGTON,
23RD MARCH, 1917.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1916.

Although routine Medical Inspection of the Schools has been suspended since April, 1915, children needing attention have been sent to the School Clinic by the School Nurse, the Teachers, the School Wardens, and parents. In spite of this interruption of the inspections, the number of separate attendances at the School Clinic is more than 75 per cent. greater than in the previous year, shewing the increasing popularity of this part of the School Medical Service. During 1916, the School Nurse obtained clerical help with the records which are needed to carry on her work, or are required by the Board of Education; in consequence of the time thus set free the number of visits to schools and home visits shews an increase over the corresponding number for the previous year. The work done at the School Clinic has been very satisfactory. I would call special attention to the report of Dr. Hern on the ophthalmic work done during the year, and to the Dental Report by Mr. Horsley, who has carried on Mr. Holburn's work since Mr. Holburn left for military duties at the end of January.

There has been little infectious disease among school children during 1916.

The number of cases notified by the teachers during the course of the year was as follows;—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	13
Measles and German Measles	...	...	...	43
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	86
Diphtheria	...	...	...	35
Ringworm	...	...	...	6
Chicken Pox	...	...	...	80
Mumps	...	...	...	20
Other Conditions	...	...	...	1

 284

In addition to the above, 151 cases of ringworm were either reported at the School Clinic by the parents or were found by the School Nurse during her visits to the schools and homes.

The home visits paid by the School Nurse during the year were as follows:—

General visits to follow up advice of the School Medical Officer	...	...	575
Visits on account of verminous condition	...	...	1001
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	414

 1990

Eighteen examinations for Pupil Teacher candidatures, and six for Industrial Schools were made during the year.

The Open-Air School was not opened during the summer.

THE SCHOOL CLINIC.

The treatment of **minor ailments** was carried on under the supervision of the School Medical Officer. Cases for treatment were reported by the parents, teachers, or the attendance officers, or were found by the School Nurse during her visits to the schools. The number of separate attendances at

this department was 9,382, of which 8,028 were for treatment and 1,354 for advice.

157 new cases of **Ringworm**, of which 98 were of ringworm of the scalp, came under treatment in addition to 42 from the previous year. The 59 cases of ringworm other than ringworm of the scalp were treated by ointments, as were also some early cases of ringworm of the scalp. 112 cases of ringworm of the scalp were treated by X Rays. Of the 199 cases under treatment, 146 were cured and readmitted to school during the year, leaving 53 still under treatment.

Cleanliness Inspection.—The School Nurse paid 447 visits to 18 schools, and 1,001 home visits in connexion with the cleanliness of the children. The number of children examined was 6,267; of these, 828 were found to have nits in their hair, and 8 had verminous bodies. In the case of the 688 children, treatment was advised and explained; these children were then inspected every two or three weeks. The number found free from nits at the end and beginning of the terms was 97, 240, 329, 362, 485, and 415, and the remaining 370 in all cases shewed improvement.

After special warning to the parents of the importance of cleanliness, in the beginning of the September term, 16 children were excluded on account of their verminous condition, and their parents were then prosecuted for their non-attendance; on September 5th. 13 of these parents were fined 6s. 6d. each, and on September 12th, three were fined 8s. each. This action of the magistrates has had good results.

DR. HERN REPORTS:—

Defective Sight.—From December 1st, 1915, to December 31st, 1916, 542 cases have been referred to me by the teachers and Nurse Gardner as having deficient sight or in some way requiring investigation by an Ophthalmic Surgeon; the results are as follows:—

- 24 were found to be near sighted.
 131 were found to be far sighted, mostly too far sighted to read easily and comfortably, and some could not read ordinary print at all without the help of glasses.
 35 were near sighted with near sighted Astigmia (irregular curvature of the watchglass of the eye).
 197 were far sighted with far sighted Astigmia.
 100 were near sighted with far sighted Astigmia.
 55 had simple Astigmia; far sighted 47, near sighted 8.
-

542

Eighteen were found to have disease of the eyes and were referred to the Hospital for treatment; to have adapted glasses would have aggravated the diseases.

Nine had deficient power of accommodation (i.e., of adjusting the eye by altering the shape of the lens for the different distances). In these, directions were carefully given to the parents how to deal with this, as glasses only aggravate the trouble as one does not expect to strengthen an arm by putting it in a splint.

On reviewing the above figures, I am much impressed by the accurate observation of the teachers in the cases referred to me, in two cases only could I find no defect.

There were 204 cases of squint, which is usually the result of far sight in internal, and of near sight in external squint, for the following reason that when looking at a near object we not only accommodate the eyes for that distance, but we converge (or draw the eyes inwards), and as these actions proceed from one centre in the brain we in overdoing the accommodation overdo the convergence, with the result that the eyes go too far in and cross, or squint, in the far sighted eye, and too far out in the near sighted eye. It is impossible to emphasize too much the importance of curing these squints,

for if allowed to continue the eye which **squints most** always goes blind; a fearful calamity for a child to become half blind at the beginning of its career, especially since it is curable by glasses or by glasses with an operation which in no way endangers the child's life or health. I have no hesitation in saying that a parent who allows a child to continue to squint is guilty of culpable neglect and should be prosecuted.

I find only about 4 per cent of the cases examined are born with a deficiency of eyesight incapable of improvement by glasses or other treatment.

I am surprised at the small number of simple spherical corrections (155) and the large proportion of simple or mixed Astigmia, but I can safely predict that if these glasses are worn constantly during the school period, at least two-thirds of these eyes, having the strain on them removed by the glasses, will develop towards the normal (or usual) instead of going still further wrong as they must do if the glasses are not worn or had not been prescribed. Then what of the remaining third? In every case the parents have had carefully explained to them that an occupation must be chosen for these in which glasses can be worn; by this much disappointment will be prevented, caused by preparing a child for a calling and suddenly finding when submitted to the eye examination that the sight is deficient.

It is interesting to notice that in 100 cases the eyeballs were found to be near sighted in the horizontal meridian and far sighted in the vertical, due doubtless to the pressure of the eyelids in altering the shape of the eyeball, especially where the nutrition of the child and its surroundings are not entirely satisfactory.

These cases have been selected by the teachers from a large number of children, and will give, I feel pretty sure, the average amount of eye trouble amongst children generally in the schools.

In the case of most of the parents I find an anxiety to do the best for their children; in a few there has been much obstruction through ignorance of the fact that in order to treat an eye with glasses or in any other way the anatomy and physiology of the eye and of the body generally must be thoroughly known.

The value of this work to these children can scarcely be overestimated, for it is very important that the best should be made of them for their sakes and for the sake of the whole community.

We have been surprised at the time necessarily taken up in dealing properly with these cases, **firstly** in explaining to the parents the necessity of using Atropine to paralyse (put out of action) the natural tendency of the eye to adjust itself to the different distances (we call accommodation) and thus make **sure** of one's results, for if this is not done one can only make a shrewd guess. **Secondly**, after a necessary delay of 2 days—it takes all this time to fully paralyse the accommodation—measuring very carefully **every eye** as to the presence or absence of Astigmatism and carefully adapting the glasses, taking at least 20 minutes to do properly and explaining to the parents the prospects of these eyes and how they should be treated. **Thirdly**, inspecting the fit of the frames and the strength, etc., of the lenses in the cases for which glasses are prescribed.

I should be ungrateful did I not record the unfailing kindness and help I have received from Mr. Boyde, the School Medical Officer, Nurse Gardner, and Miss Stainsby.

J. HERN.

Dental Work.—The report of Mr. Horsley, who has acted as School Dentist since March, will be found at the end of this report.

Though work has been carried on with difficulty during the year, the experience gained has clearly shewn that the

School Clinic is doing good work, a great part of which would otherwise have been neglected. The scope of the work could be increased with profit to the community as soon as the return of normal times admits of such extension.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

Health Office,

S. G. MOSTYN.

Feethams, Darlington,

16th March, 1917.

Table I.—Treatment of Defects of Children at the School Clinic during 1916.

Condition	Number of defects for which Treatment was considered necessary.			Results of Treatment	
	From previous year	New	Total	Remedied	Improved
Clothing .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Footgear .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Cleanliness of Head ..	3	16	19	19	..
Cleanliness of Body ..	..	2	2	2	..
Nutrition .. ..	..	2	2	..	2
Nose and Throat	2	37	39	21	18
External Eye Disease ..	10	122	132	114	18
Ear Disease	5	29	34	19	15
Teeth .. ..	..	609	609	609	..
Heart and Circulation ..	..	..	..	..	..
Lungs	2	10	12	10	2
Nervous System .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Skin { Impetigo	7	419	426	377	49
{ Scabies	9	135	144	102	42
Rickets .. ..	..	2	2	..	2
Deformities .. ..	..	..	..	..	..
Speech .. ..	..	2	2	..	2
Tuberculosis non-pulmonary	2	22	24	5	19
Mental Condition .. ..	..	1	1	1	..
Vision and Squint .. ..	..	542	542	330	190
Hearing .. ..	..	12	12	5	7
Ringworm	42	157	199	146	53
Alopecia .. ..	..	7	7	6	1
Seborrhœa	3	4	7	5	2
Boil and Abscess	1	32	33	30	3
Burn	1	2	3	3	..
Scald .. ..	..	1	1	1	..
Injury	4	119	123	109	14
Miscellaneous .. ..	..	70	70	46	24
Total	91	2354	2445	1960	463

DENTAL REPORT.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in being able to report that the Dental Work carried out during the year has been most successful, and I believe great progress has been made.

Six or seven weeks elapsed between my predecessor's resignation on joining the Army in January, and my taking up office, and consequently the results of the work accomplished in one or two instances, appear from the accompanying tables, to compare rather unfavourably with the previous year. It is pleasing to note that the numbers attending the Clinic have greatly increased, but as children of all ages attending the schools are entitled to the privilege, I am inclined to think, that the necessary work of attending to children who are examined at the schools, and whose ages range between eight and nine years, a most important age, as the teeth are then in a transition stage, the temporary teeth being then replaced by permanent ones—is being somewhat hampered and curtailed; as there is generally such an influx of cases for fillings and extractions, that it is almost impossible to give the necessary time to fillings. For this reason I suggest an extra half-day a week should be devoted to "casual" cases, and the time at present allotted should be given solely to children found to need treatment on examination at the schools.

I am pleased to say that the teachers are shewing a great interest in the children's teeth, and though "Tooth-brush drill," which I should like to see in the school curriculum, seems at present to be out of the question, I think the children are being kept up to the cleansing of the teeth, both by parents and teachers. I also think a short lecture to the children, on the teeth, periodically, would drive home to a greater extent the essential bearing that good teeth have on the general health. Owing to the limited time at present spent on the children, it is impossible to follow up all the cases treated

through the school career, and for this reason I suggest that children should be examined, and treated where necessary, both on entering and leaving the school, and by doing this I am sure a good many teeth might be saved, which are sacrificed, for amongst the youngest children, dental disease in an advanced condition is not uncommon, and the earlier the defects are detected and remedied the better for all concerned.

That the Dental Clinic has become popular is exemplified by the attendances, and the parents are now anxious to have their children's teeth seen to, for many come for advice even if toothache and other defects have not made themselves manifest.

The year has again proved that the Dental Clinic is essential, and it will be a boon, when the time comes, when this most useful work can be extended.

F. HORSLEY.

TABLE II. Dental Examinations.

SCHOOL.	No. of Children examined.			No. requiring treatment.			No. of parents consenting to treatment.	Per cent.
	Boys.	Girls.	Total.	Boys.	Girls.	Total.		
Albert Road ..	31	31	62	15	10	25	17	68·0
Beaumont Street ..	45	56	101	27	21	48	40	75·0
Bondgate ..	40	30	70	15	13	28	21	75·0
Borough Road ..	34	25	59	19	15	34	19	55·8
Cockerton ..	6	5	11	3	1	4	3	75·0
Corporation Road	42	41	83	20	20	40	36	90·0
Dodmire ..	26	27	53	10	15	25	20	80·0
Gurney Pease ..	12	14	26	8	5	13	12	92·3
Harrowgate Hill ..	48	35	83	22	20	42	38	90·4
Holy Trinity ..	13	27	40	6	9	15	12	80·0
Kendrew Street ..	29	18	47	15	9	24	14	58·3
Reid Street ..	56	40	96	21	17	38	29	76·3
Rise Carr ..	18	32	50	9	16	25	21	84·0
St. Cuthbert's ..	15	11	26	7	4	11	6	54·5
St. John's ..	30	26	56	12	15	27	22	81·4
North Road ..	..	22	22	0	7	7	5	71·4
St. William's ..	11	9	20	5	4	9	7	77·7
St. Augustine's ..	29	31	60	14	10	24	16	66·2
Practising ..	..	13	13	..	6	6	2	33·3
Total ..	485	493	978	228	217	445	340	72·8

TABLE III. Dental Treatment.

No. of children treated.			Temporary Teeth.		Permanent Teeth.		Scalings, Dressings, Etc.
			Fillings.	Extractions.	Fillings.	Extractions.	
1916	Boys ..	198	13	339	79	105	19
	Girls ..	306	17	319	104	86	45
Total, 1916 ..		504	30	658	183	191	64
Total, 1915 ..		287	37	583	184	121	48

