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# ANNUAL REPORTS

ON THE

# HEALTH

OF THE

# COUNTY BOROUGH OF DARLINGTON,

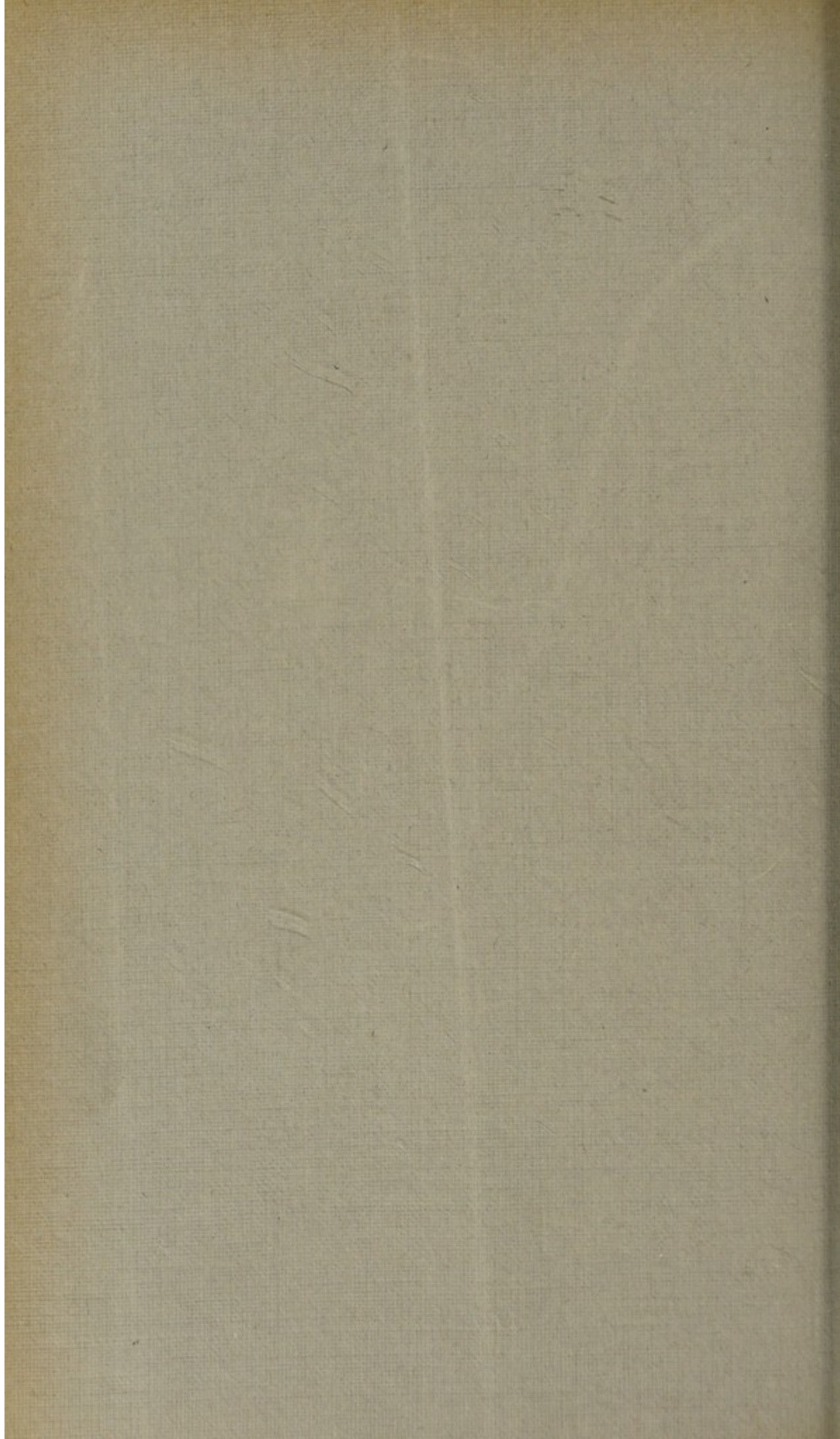
FOR THE YEAR 1926.

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DARLINGTON :

The Skerne Printing Co. (1927) Ltd., Garden Street.

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1927.



**County Borough of Darlington.**

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# Annual Reports

UPON THE

**HEALTH OF DARLINGTON,**

**For the Year 1926.**

**G. A. DAWSON, M.D., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.,**

Medical Officer of Health,

Medical Superintendent of the Borough Isolation Hospitals,

School Medical Officer,

Medical Certifier under M. D. Acts.

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DARLINGTON :

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## COUNTY BOROUGH OF DARLINGTON.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

FEETHAMS,

DARLINGTON.

*To the Chairman and Members of  
Health Committee,  
County Borough of Darlington.*

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present herewith the Annual Report on the work of the Health Department. This present Report is not so comprehensive as that of last year which, by the instruction of the Ministry of Health, was a retrospective survey.

The untimely demise of Dr. S. G. Mostyn, your respected Medical Officer for the past fifteen years, followed by the more recent death of Alderman E. Wooler, has removed men whose ripe experience and considered opinions have established a scheme of public health work which I have been honoured to carry on. Considering the exceptionally difficult year through which we have passed, by reason of industrial disputes and unemployment, I think progress has been maintained in all our schemes.

Attention may be directed to the following features of interest:—

- (a) The lowest birth rate ever recorded in Darlington, 17.9 per 1,000.
- (b) The lowest death rate recorded, equal to that of 1923, 11.9 per 1,000.
- (c) No deaths from scarlet fever, diphtheria and membranous croup, measles and german measles, though 215 cases of these diseases were notified.
- (d) The low death rate from diarrhoea and enteritis in infants.
- (e) The extension of facilities for consultations at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres and Ante-Natal Clinics, and the Registration of Private Maternity Homes in the area.
- (f) Arrangements for the nursing of cases of puerperal infection in our Fever Hospital.

I hope the Council will immediately take steps to bring the sanitary arrangements of the town up to the modern standard attained in other Corporation undertakings. Disgusting privy ashpits are still to be found in approximately one-third of the working class dwelling houses. All of these houses are supplied with water, so that the substitution of water carriage, with consequent economy in scavenging, should not be an excessive financial burden.

During this, my first year of office, I have pleasure in thanking the Committee, and the Officials in other departments, who have always given their whole-hearted co-operation. To my colleagues and staff in the public health department, who have so loyally carried out the spade work, I tender my very best thanks.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE A. DAWSON.

*July, 1927.*

## SECTION I.

**PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.**

\*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, Medical Certifier under the Mental Deficiency Acts, and Medical Examiner of Corporation Employees. (Died 22nd June, 1926.)

G. A. DAWSON, M.D., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H., Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Venereal Diseases Medical Officer and Assistant School Medical Officer. (Appointed July, 1925.)

Appointed Temporary Medical Officer of Health, &c., on 23rd June, 1926, and later appointed Medical Officer of Health, &c., on 1st October, 1926.

\*T. FERGUSON, M.D., M.R.C.P. (Ed.), D.P.H., Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Venereal Diseases Medical Officer. (Commenced duties 31st January, 1927.)

\*CONSTANCE CHARLOTTE ROBERTSON, M.B., B.S. (part time), Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer, Inspector of Midwives.

\*J. R. COPPING, A.R.San.Inst., Certificated Meat Inspector, Chief Sanitary Inspector, Inspector of Meat and other Foods, Inspector of Common Lodging Houses, and under the Shops Act, Food and Drugs Act, Rag Flock Act, Rat Officer, Inspector under the Milk and Dairies Act, Inspector and Official Sampler under the Fertilisers and Feeding Stuffs Act, 1926.

Assistant Inspectors :—A. E. Wade, C.R.San.Inst. and Certificated Meat Inspector; K. Elliott, C.R.San.Inst. and Certificated Meat Inspector; R. D. Pearson, C.R.San.Inst. (resigned 11th Dec., 1926); G. Latimer, A.R.San.Inst. and Certificated Meat Inspector. (Commenced duties 22nd March, 1927.)

Matron of Isolation Hospitals :—Miss C. E. J. Chaffer (resigned 30th Sept., 1926); Miss Flora Kinnear. (Appointed 1st October, 1926.)



## PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Health Visitors :—\*Miss K. Bishop, Certificates of the C.M.B. and of the R.San.Inst. for Health Visitors and School Nurses, for Maternity and Child Welfare, and for Sanitary Inspectors ; \*Miss H. Lawrence, State Registered Nurse, Liverpool University School of Hygiene Certificate ; \*Miss L. G. R. Crawford, Certificate of C.M.B., State Registered Nurse.

Clerical and Office Staff :—E. C. Stainsby, Miss F. E. Gibbon, Miss E. Stephenson, F. Ward, W. S. Smurthwaite.

Borough Analyst (part-time) :—C. J. H. Stock, B.Sc., F.I.C.

V.D. Orderly (part-time) :—T. Litton.

Disinfector (part-time) :—R. Johnson.

Rat Catcher (part-time) :—R. Burnside.

M. & C. W. Home Helps :—Mrs. B. Bointon ; Mrs. A. Snowden (resigned 19th June, 1926).

\*Contributions to salaries under Public Health Acts or by Exchequer Grants.

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## SECTION II.

**GENERAL STATISTICS AND FEATURES.**

The County Borough of Darlington is situated in a glaciated area through which the River Skerne flows. The subsoil consists of beds of sand, clay and magnesian limestone. A large part of the town is in consequence on lowlands on each side of the Skerne, and the climate is somewhat enervating, mild and humid. While it is the natural centre of the neighbouring agricultural district in Durham and in Yorkshire, its inhabitants are principally occupied in trades connected with various branches of the railway and engineering work.

**Area of the Borough.**—4,614 acres.

**Population.**—At the 1921 Census Darlington County Borough had the largest intercensal numerical increase in County Durham. This, in conjunction with a much higher rate of increase during the preceding decennium, accounts for the rapid growth from 45,506 in 1901 to 65,842 in 1921. The Registrar General estimates the mid-year population for 1926 at 70,700, an increase of 1,570 over last year. Owing to the low birth rate the natural increase has been only 6 per thousand compared with 11.5 for County Durham as a whole.

**Census Statistics, 1921—**

Average Rooms per Dwelling	....	....	4.41
Families per Dwelling	....	....	1.06
Persons per Family	....	....	4.39
Rooms per Person	....	....	0.94
Number of Private Families	....	....	14,483
Structurally separate Dwellings occupied	....	....	13,634
Population living more than 2 persons to one Room	....	....	10,912
Number of Families sharing a separate Dwelling	....	....	849

This represents 5.8 per cent. of the total families, and compares with 10 per cent. for England and Wales as a whole.

**Number of Inhabited Houses.**—On the 1st April, 1927, the Rate Books showed Assessments as follows :—

Self-contained Dwelling-houses	....	....	14,886
Dwelling-houses and Shops combined	....	....	684
Tenements—separate occupiers	....	....	488
			16,058
Lock-up Shops	....	....	466
Hotels, Public Houses and Clubs	....	....	82
Schools, Institutes and Halls	....	....	61
Offices	....	....	178
Warehouses, Stables, Garages and Workshops	....	....	629
Parcels of Agricultural Land	....	....	407
Miscellaneous	....	....	281
			18,162
Total	....	....	18,162

**Rateable Value.**—£471,703.

**Sum Represented by a Penny Rate :—**

- Poor Rate—£1,843.
- General District Rate—£1,799.
- General District Rate, 3/- in the £.
- Poor Rate, 6/- in the £.
- Total Rates levied, 9/- in the £.

### VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1926.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females</i>
<b>Births.</b> —Legitimate	.... 1,214	.... 642	.... 572
Illegitimate	.... 55	.... 22	.... 33

**Birth-rate, 17.9.**

**Deaths.**—Total 838, Males 454, Females 384.

**Death-rate, 11.9.**

For 1925 the birth-rate was 18.6 and the death-rate 12.7 per 1,000 of the population.

**Number of Women Dying in, or in consequence of Child-birth.**—From sepsis 3, from other causes 3.

**Deaths of Infants under one year :—**

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Rate per 1,000 births</i>
Legitimate	.... 76	.... 33	.... 90
Illegitimate	.... 5	.... 2	.... 127
Total	.... 81	.... 35	.... 91

The bodies of 54 children **stillborn** in Darlington were buried in the town cemeteries during the year.

Deaths from Measles (all ages) .....	0
"    "    Whooping Cough (all ages) .....	9
"    "    Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) .....	7

**Comparative Table of Vital Statistics, 1920—1926.**

Year	Estimated Population	Birth-Rate		Death-Rate		Infant Mortality	
		Darlington	England & Wales	Darlington	England & Wales	Darlington	England & Wales
1920	66,610	25.8	25.4	12.4	12.4	92	80
1921	66,400	23.9	22.4	12.3	12.1	98	83
1922	66,710	22.6	20.6	14.1	12.9	98	77
1923	67,390	21.5	19.7	11.9	11.6	67	69
1924	68,690	20.2	18.8	12.7	12.2	94	75
1925	69,130	18.6	18.3	12.7	12.2	106	75
1926	70,700	17.9	17.8	11.9	11.6	91	70

**CHEST DISEASES.**

Of a total of 838 deaths assignable to Darlington, Bronchitis and Pneumonia accounted for 127 or 15 per cent. This represents a mortality of 1.8 per 1,000 living compared with a figure of 1.7 for England and Wales as a whole.

**CANCER.**

The study of Cancer has led to the establishment in several parts of the country of Cancer Research Committees. Leeds and Manchester have one already in operation disseminating knowledge of the early signs of the dread disease and exhorting early consultation. Steps are now being taken to organise such work in County Durham and Newcastle, and it is suggested that Darlington should co-operate in the northern scheme.

The mortality in Darlington is 1.15 per 1,000 population, and compares favourably with the figure for England and Wales, 1.36. A table is appended showing the organs and the age groups most affected. The steady increase during the past six years is shown in the following table:—

	<i>Deaths in Darlington</i>		<i>Death Rate per 1,000</i>		<i>England &amp; Wales Death Rate</i>
1921 ....	60	....	0.92	....	1.21
1922 ....	67	....	1.03	....	1.22
1923 ....	65	....	1.00	....	1.26
1924 ....	60	....	0.92	....	1.29
1925 ....	72	....	1.11	....	1.34
1926 ....	81	....	1.15	....	1.36

**CORONER'S INQUESTS.**

Twenty-seven Inquests were held in the Borough and eight outside the Borough in connection with deaths assignable to Darlington, a proportion of 4.2 per cent. of the total deaths. There were also eleven inquests held in Darlington in the case of transferable deaths.

**UNCERTIFIED DEATHS.**

During 1926 there were 29 deaths, the causes of which were not certified by medical practitioners or the coroner, equivalent to 3.5 per cent. of the total deaths. Four of these were of children under one year of age.

**ACCIDENTS AND VIOLENT DEATHS.**

Thirty-one deaths were due to suicide, accidents or violence :— 7 to suicide, 10 to motor, cycle and street accidents, 6 to falls, 2 to drowning, and the remainder to other forms of violence.

**DEATHS IN INSTITUTIONS IN DARLINGTON.**

Feethams Poor Law Institution	....	....	97
General Hospital	....	....	98
Borough Isolation Hospitals	....	....	10
Nursing Homes	....	....	16
		<b>Total</b>	<b>221</b>
Deaths in other Institutions, Asylums, &c.....			16

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## SECTION III.

**SOCIAL CONDITIONS.**

**Poor Law Relief, Unemployment and National Health Insurance.**—Much useful information regarding social and economic conditions having a bearing on the health of the town is furnished in data kindly supplied by the Clerk to the Darlington Board of Guardians, the Manager of the Employment Exchange, and the Clerk to the National Health Insurance Committee.

**Poor Law Relief.**—The number of persons in receipt of relief on 1st January for each of the past five years was as follows :—

	Institutions			Outdoor Relief		
	Poor Law	Asylums	Total	Widows, Sick & Disabled etc.	Unem- ployed	Total
1st Jan., 1922	273	94	367	396	192	588
„ 1923	299	104	403	570	1,538	2,108
„ 1924	316	119	435	709	1,793	2,502
„ 1925	305	124	429	706	668	1,374
„ 1926	318	128	446	752	966	1,718
„ 1927	327	131	458	679	1,205	1,884

The number of assisted unemployed persons shown above is small on account of the Relief Work which was provided for the able-bodied men of the district.

Moreover, the Poor Law Administrative Area is not co-terminous with the County Borough and hence a few of the above persons may come from outside the Darlington Borough.

**Unemployment.**—The number of unemployed persons on the Live Register of the Exchange for the week ending 31st December, 1926, was :—men, 3,840 ; women, 219, indicating that 1926 has been, as one would have expected owing to the coal dispute, much worse than either of the two previous years, when the figures were :—1924—men, 2,464 ; women, 206. 1925—men, 2,811 ; women, 165.

**National Health Insurance.**—The total number of insured persons in the Borough was 26,390, of whom 24,854 were already on Doctor's lists. The number of prescriptions issued was 76,575, and the total cost of drugs and appliances, £2,810.

## SECTION IV.

**PREVALENCE OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.**

**Zymotic Diseases.**—During the year there were 23 deaths from the seven principal zymotic diseases, which are Smallpox, Measles, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Diarrhoea and Fever (including Typhoid, Enteric and Typhus). It is pleasing to report that there was not a single death from Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Measles or German Measles.

**Smallpox.**—Four small outbreaks of Smallpox, mainly of a mild type, which has practically been endemic in County Durham during the whole year made their appearance. The very mildness of the disease caused much worry to the public health staff, as invariably the first cases escaped detection until the secondary cases arose. Over 150 contacts of the seventeen cases notified were kept under daily supervision for sixteen days from first exposure to infection. The Medical Officer of Health was, in addition, called out in consultation in thirty instances in which Smallpox was suspected. Under the Prevention of Smallpox Regulations, 1917, free vaccination is offered to immediate contacts when the Medical Officer of Health visits the case, and this, in my opinion, is the secret of success in checking a threatened outbreak. Twenty-three contacts were thus protected.

All the seventeen cases were unprotected in the sense that they had never been vaccinated or had not been vaccinated within 30 years, the youngest vaccinated person being thirty-four years of age. Three suspects were admitted for observation.

As a precaution, Chicken-pox has been notifiable since 1923. Over 300 cases were visited and the diagnosis confirmed by the public health staff.

Sanitary Inspectors, Health Visitors, School Nurses and School Teachers all co-operated in bringing to the attention of the Medical Officer of Health suspicious cases. The Press afforded valuable assistance in preventive propaganda.

**VACCINATION.**

By reason of the increasing incidence of Smallpox in County Durham and the possibility that the coming winter will see its recrudescence in a more virulent form, I have ascertained, with the assistance of Mr. Tomlin, the Vaccination Officer, the following statistics for the past six years. Darlington is a very poorly vaccinated population as far as its children are concerned, 65 per cent. of the parents having expressed their conscientious objection.

**Vaccination Statistics (Statutory).**

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
Births Registered (uncorrected for transfers)	1612	1518	1461	1423	1318	1319
Successfully Vaccinated	287	263	377	314	277	301
Conscientious Objectors	1131	1116	954	959	929	862
Died unvaccinated, and others	194	129	130	160	112	156
% Births vaccinated	18%	17%	25%	22%	21%	23%

**Scarlet Fever.**—One hundred and seventeen, or 96 per cent. of the cases notified were treated in the Hospital without a death taking place. The disease was somewhat more severe than the usual mild form which has been so prevalent in recent years, but the use of the new treatment with anti-scarlatinal streptococcal serum in early severe cases has reduced not only the incidence of the many complications of severe Scarlet Fever, but also the duration of stay in Hospital by about half. The apparent expense of the serum is therefore more than balanced by the reduction in mortality and maintenance costs. Three cases treated had no complications and were less than three weeks in Hospital. The most common complications were cervical adenitis and tonsilitis, 5 per cent., Albuminuria and otorrhœa, 2 per cent.

**Diphtheria.**—All the thirty-two notified cases were treated in the Hospital successfully, the type of the disease being particularly mild. I am certain the early diagnosis by general practitioners and immediate serum treatment which is available have helped in this happy result in no small degree. Three mild cases of paralysis were observed during convalescence. Tracheotomy was performed in two instances for laryngeal obstruction.

Diphtheria anti-toxin is supplied to general practitioners for use in urgent cases or while awaiting the result of bacteriological examinations.

The Dick and Schick tests for susceptibility to Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria respectively were not brought into use, though in the event of increased virulence or incidence of either of these diseases I would strongly recommend their application, with the subsequent immunization of contacts.

**Pneumonia.**—Of the 145 cases of Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia notified 18 severe cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital from homes which were considered unsuitable for proper nursing. Six of these 18 cases died, a mortality of 33 per cent; of the 127 cases nursed at home 64 died, a mortality of 50 per cent.



One case with suppurative complications was transferred from the Isolation Hospital to the General Hospital for surgical treatment.

**Enteric Fever.**—Eighteen cases of Paratyphoid Fever (17 of which were removed to the Isolation Hospital) were notified during the year, mostly from districts where the sanitary conveniences were dry closets. The lack of ash during the coal dispute rendered the scavenging a most objectionable splashing procedure, and, I am of opinion, was responsible for the outbreak.

The only fatal case in the Borough was reported from the Maternity Department of the General Hospital, to which the patient had been removed before the diagnosis was made.

**Influenza.**—Seventeen notifications of Influenzal Pneumonia were recorded, most of these occurring during an outbreak in March and April.

**Measles.**—Of the 60 cases of Measles and German Measles 58 were notified by medical attendants and 2 by parents. There were no deaths. Last year there were 1,202 cases and 14 deaths.

**Whooping Cough.**—Whooping Cough was not notifiable in 1926, but nine deaths were reported compared with 25 in 1925.

**Diarrhœa.**—Deaths from this disease numbered 7, equalling the figure for 1925, representing a death rate only half that for England and Wales.

**Ophthalmia Neonatorum.**—Seven cases were notified and all were cured without suffering any impairment of vision. Two cots are reserved at the General Hospital for the treatment of these cases, at a charge of three guineas each per week while in use, and during the year one child received in-patient treatment, the duration of stay in Hospital being 8 days.

**Encephalitis Lethargica.**—Of the five notified cases of this disease four died. One case notified in a previous year died in the Hospital. One suspected case was removed to the Fever Hospital for observation.

**Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis.**—One case of mild form was notified.

**Malaria.**—One case with a history of infection abroad was reported.

No cases of Trench Fever, Dysentery, Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, Anthrax or Rabies were notified.

## PUERPERAL FEVER AND PUERPERAL PYREXIA, &c.

Under their agreement with the Health Committee, the Queen's Nurses' Association paid 35 visits to one case of Puerperal Sepsis, and 58 visits to 4 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia.

Five cases of Puerperal Fever with two deaths were notified, while six cases of Puerperal Pyrexia were notified from the 1st October, when the regulations came into force. The two deaths from Puerperal Fever were accounted for as follows:—

Case A.—Admitted to Maternity Ward, General Hospital.

After an unsuccessful attempt at instrumental delivery with much laceration by reason of congenital malformation of baby.

Case B.—Admitted to Feetham Poor Law Institution.

After delivery by a doctor and midwife at home.

Disinfection of the midwife and her outfit was carried out in each case notified.

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## SECTION V.

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## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

### Summary for Reference.

#### Professional Nursing in the Home.

- (a) The Queen's Nurses' Association receive a grant from the Council.
- (b) Midwives—21 in practice, not subsidised.

#### Hospitals.

- (a) *Borough Fever Hospital* for Infectious Cases. 105 beds.
- (b) *Smallpox Hospital*. 50 beds.
- (c) *Tuberculosis*. No Hospital is provided by the Authority, but the Durham County Council make arrangement for the admission of Borough cases to their own Sanatoria, to the General Hospital, Darlington, and Feetham Poor Law Institution, where there are 10 beds and 3 shelters.
- (d) *Maternity Ward*, General Hospital, Darlington. 12 beds.
- (e) *Children*. Ward at General Hospital. 25 beds.  
Feetham Poor Law Institution. 40 beds.

General medical and surgical cases are received in four large Private Nursing Homes, the General Hospital, with 119 beds, and Feetham Poor Law Institution, with 174 beds.

Institutional provision for unmarried mothers and illegitimate infants and homeless children is afforded only by the Poor Law Guardians in their Institution and Cottage Homes.

**Ambulance Facilities.**—Infectious cases are removed to Hospital in the Motor Ambulance belonging to the Authority, and kept at the Fever Hospital. Non-infectious and accident cases are dealt with by two Motor Ambulances kept at the Fire Station and driven by members of the Fire Brigade. They are available for calls within 15 miles of the town.

**Clinics and Treatment Centres.**—See under various headings.

**Day Nurseries.**—The Dent Memorial Nursery School has accommodation for about 60 children of the pre-school age. This school is visited weekly by the Assistant School Medical Officer, and any necessary treatment is carried out by the School Staff or at the School Clinic.

**School Clinics.**—The new School Clinic at 43, Northgate, has provided more suitable accommodation for the growing demands of the services provided. The building is modernly equipped with a treatment centre, consultation rooms, dental department, eye department and an X-ray apparatus for the treatment of ringworm.

The staff includes two Assistant School Medical Officers, one of whom attends every afternoon for consultations, one full-time Dentist, a part-time Ophthalmic Specialist, three School Nurses, and three Clerks.

**Tuberculosis Dispensary.**—*Feethams House.* The Tuberculosis Officer and a Nurse attend the Dispensary Tuesdays and Fridays for consultations. The scheme is administered by Durham County Council. See also under Tuberculosis.

**Venereal Diseases.**—Diagnosis and treatment Clinics are held at the General Hospital, Darlington, by the Venereal Diseases Medical Officer:—

Mondays, 2—5 p.m., women and children.

Tuesdays, 2—5 p.m., women; 6—8 p.m., men.

Fridays, 2—5 p.m., women; 6—8 p.m., men.

The irrigation room is open every day for intermediate treatment.

### A.—Fever Hospital.

The Borough Fever Hospital situated in Hundens Lane on the eastern side of the town is a well-built brick building, with the addition of a substantial temporary wing. It is built in on the enclosed corridor plan, with excellent opportunities for the isolation of different diseases in four wings, with two large wards and several small wards in each wing. The administrative block with kitchens and staff dining room is centrally situated, giving easy access to all the wards. Several structural improvements have been made, leading to economy in service.

Calculating at the rate of 2,000 cubic feet per bed, the Hospital would contain 105 beds. The diseases treated are principally scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, Acute Encephalitis Lethargica, Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, Pneumonia, and such other diseases of an infectious nature which the Medical Officer of Health, who is also the Medical Superintendent, considers of serious import. Arrangements have been made with the local Maternity and Child Welfare Committee for the reception of cases of puerperal infection.

The Hospital has been recognised by the General Nursing Council and the Ministry of Health as a Training School for Probationer Nurses desiring to obtain the Fever Nurse's Certificate or State Registration. It is quite evident that great difficulty would have been experienced in finding Probationer Nurses, whereas now numerous applications for opportunities of training are being received. Had the claim for recognition not been successful we would have been obliged to employ an all-trained Nursing Staff.

The staff consists of Matron, four Sisters, nine Staff Nurses and Probationers, with a domestic staff of Maids as required.

A Laundry, Steam Disinfecter and Motor Ambulance are provided on the premises.

### B.—Smallpox Hospital.

This Hospital, with accommodation for about fifty patients administered from the Fever Hospital, being situated about 100 yards from the latter building. It is kept in constant readiness, and has been used during the year at intervals for seventeen cases from the Borough. Cases are also received from five neighbouring Local Authorities, including Catterick Camp and Richmond Barracks.

The number of cases of infectious disease from neighbouring Authorities and troops quartered in the neighbourhood, was:—

	<i>Cases.</i>	<i>Deaths.</i>
Scarlet Fever	23	0
Diphtheria	8	2
Measles	14	0
Pneumonia	2	1
Smallpox	4	0

### Summary of Hospital Report for the Year 1926.

#### *Fever Hospital.*

Borough Patients	189
Extra Borough	47

#### *Smallpox Hospital.*

Borough Patients	20
Extra Borough	4
Total number of Patients	260
Total number of Patient Days	9390
Number of Deaths	9
Average number of Nursing Staff	15
Days of Staff Illness	42

**Darlington Queen's Nurses' Association.**—Home nursing is provided by the Queen's Nurses' Association, who are supported by voluntary subscriptions and by contributions from the County and Borough Councils and Friendly Societies. As in previous years, by agreement with the Borough Council they undertake the home nursing of expectant mothers, maternity cases, cases of puerperal infection, Measles, Whooping Cough, Epidemic Diarrhoea and Ophthalmic Neonatorum, at a fee of one shilling per visit, with a minimum total of £25 per annum. In September, 1920, the Council also agreed in connection with their joint scheme with the Durham County Council for the treatment of Tuberculosis, to pay the sum of tenpence per visit for tuberculous cases with open wounds nursed at home at the request of the Tuberculosis Medical Officer. Midwifery cases are undertaken, but not at the expense of the Local Authority.

**General Hospital, Darlington.**—This is almost purely surgical Hospital at present, as the accommodation is not sufficient for all the medical and surgical needs of the town. A new Hospital is under construction on a neighbouring site of 17 acres.

The increasing demands made on the accommodation are revealed by the figures for the past six years :—

	In-patients	Out-patients attendances
1921	1,066	40,421
1922	1,346	43,027
1923	1,519	46,134
1924	1,563	45,638
1925	1,600	46,428
1926	1,746	48,679

## SECTION VI.

### CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL WORK.

Chemical examination of water supplies, milk samples, food and drugs are carried out by agreement with Mr. Cyril H. Stock, appointed as part-time Analyst. Further details of examinations made will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's report appended.

Bacteriological work is carried out for the Venereal Diseases Department by the Medical Officer, Dr. Ferguson, and at the Armstrong College Laboratory. The examination of sputum and the bacteriological work carried out in connection with infectious diseases generally are also undertaken at the Armstrong College laboratory, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

	No. of Specimens	Results	
		Positive	Negative
Tuberculosis	153	43	110
Diphtheria	55	7	48
Enteric Fever	30	16	14
Venereal Diseases	216	—	—

In addition 201 specimens were examined at the Venereal Diseases Clinic.

## SECTION VII.

**PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION.**

Formal public health education is the latest departmental activity, and its conduct has received State endorsement in the Public Health Act of 1925, which empowers Local Authorities to arrange for publication of information on questions relating to health or disease, and for the delivery of lectures and display of pictures. Such public health instruction can be given individually or en masse. The Health Visitors and School Nurses have been assiduous in making use of the opportunities afforded when visiting in the homes, of imparting information on the particular problem of the moment, whether it be the feeding of the infant, its clothing, its nursing in minor infectious disease, the safeguarding of the family from infection with tuberculosis, or the guidance of the mother on her own health during pregnancy.

Addresses on health topics were delivered by the Medical Officer of Health at a number of ordinary meetings of various social, religious and educational organisations.

The local Press has always afforded valuable assistance from time to time by reporting addresses and accepting articles on current health subjects.

## SECTION VIII.

**MEDICAL EXAMINATION  
OF CORPORATION EMPLOYEES.**

Medical examinations of members of the staff and of applicants for posts in the following Corporation Departments were made during the year by the Medical Officer of Health :—

Tramways and Transport Department	....	26
Education Department	....	9
Borough Accountant's Department	....	3
Library	....	3
Fire Brigade	....	2
Borough Fever Hospitals	....	1
		<hr/>
Total	....	44

## SECTION IX.

**MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.**

**Midwives' Act, 1902-1918.**—The number of Midwives practising in Darlington during 1926 was 22, of whom 18 are fully trained, including the Sister-in-Charge of the Maternity Ward at the General Hospital. These Midwives are inspected periodically by Dr. Constance Robertson, who made 252 visits, of these 219 were routine visits, 2 were on account of cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 20 for the death of the child, 3 for cases of puerperal infection, 2 for the death of the mother, and 8 for other reasons.

During the year Midwives attended 846 births alone, and 189 under the superintendence of medical practitioners. Medical assistance was summoned on 122 occasions. The Local Super-vising Authority is responsible for the payment of fees to doctors called in by Midwives, and with the continuance of trade depression and unemployment the number of such accounts received remains high. All or part of the fee is recoverable according to the financial circumstances of the patient. Medical practitioners were paid £121, of which £77 was recovered from patients during 1926. No Midwives are employed or subsidised by the Local Authority.

**Milk Assistance Scheme.**—Milk is granted on the Clinic Medical Officer's recommendation to infants and to expectant and nursing mothers in necessitous cases falling within a certain income scale. During 1926—4,719 pounds of dried milk were sold at cost price, 1,537 were given free, and 40,009 pints of fresh milk were given free at a total cost to the Health Committee of £529. The income in all cases is verified by reference to employers and others.

**Ante-Natal Clinics.**—The very gratifying progress recorded in 1925, has been maintained during the year under review, 244 attendances being recorded compared with 117 in 1925. The importance of this work is so great that every effort is being made to increase the attendances, and an additional session per month will be in operation in 1927. Half of our infantile mortality occurs during the first four weeks of life, owing in great part to antecedent preventable conditions in the mothers. All women in their first pregnancy, all who have had previous miscarriages or difficult labours and expectant mothers suffering from any abnormality during pregnancy should seek skilled medical advice with a view to appropriate treatment being obtained before an emergency has arisen. Steps are also being taken to arrange dental treatment for mothers and children attending the Centres.



Ante-Natal examination and keeping of records is now part of a Midwife's routine practice. 329 visits were paid by Queen's Nurses to 164 expectant mothers.

**Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.**—Five Centres are in operation :—

Address	Date	Time	Average Attendance
Hopetown Hall, Whessoe Lane	Monday	2-30 p.m.	42
Albert Road Schoolhouse	Tuesday	10 a.m. ; 2-30 p.m.	83
East Road Wesleyan Sunday School	Wednesday	2-30 p.m.	41
Paradise Sunday School	Thursday	10 a.m. ; 2-30 p.m.	86
Cockerton Wesleyan Sunday School	Friday	2-30 p.m.	28

The Ante-Natal Clinic is held in Albert Road Schoolhouse the last Thursday of each month at 1-30 p.m.

The Centres have been open 258 times ; 13,780 attendances have been made by mothers with babies, and 438 by expectant mothers, the average attendance being 55.

**Home Help.**—One permanent home help and a rota of part-time home helps carry out this work while the mother is incapacitated. Charges are made according to financial conditions. Thirty-three applications were made for their services ; attendance was provided in 29 cases, at which 402 days' service was given.

**Maternity Bags.**—These bags were applied for in 24 cases and lent in 22. In 19 cases the bags were returned in good condition, but in the other three cases the usual deposit of 2/6 was not refunded because of articles missing from the bags. In two cases the contents had been pawned, and legal action was necessary before the goods were returned.

**Baby Day Celebrations.**—As in previous years, and through the kindness of Mrs. Baynes, these celebrations, organised by the Voluntary Committee, were held in Polam Hall grounds, 28th and 29th July. About 400 mothers with their children under five years were entertained to tea, and a series of short addresses were given by Miss Holm, Newcastle, on "Food Values," and by Dr. Christine Thomson, of the Durham County Council Staff, on "the Nervous Element of the Young Child." Councillor A. J. Best, Vice-Chairman of the Health Committee, and the Medical Officer of Health, also spoke. These outings are much appreciated and assist markedly in the Maternity and Child Welfare enthusiasm.

**Maternity Ward, General Hospital.**—This department, containing 12 beds, 2 of which are for isolation purposes, for the provision and maintenance of which the Borough Council are responsible, was opened in 1921. The patients are expected to contribute according to their means towards their maintenance and treatment. The number of admissions is increasing gradually, though there is still much unwillingness on the part of expectant mothers to enter a Hospital for their confinement. During the year 120 cases were admitted, compared with 103 for 1925. Of these expectant mothers, 112 were admitted from Darlington for a total of 1,605 patient days, an average stay of 14.3 days. Ninety-two cases were delivered by the Nursing Staff and 28 by Doctors. Caesarean Section was performed on one case.

There were four maternal deaths, one of which was due to puerperal sepsis. The infant mortality consisted of 14 stillbirths, six premature births, and one from congenital Heart Disease, a total of 21.

No cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum occurred. All the infants were breast fed, except in three cases where the mothers were ill or had died.

**Average attendances of Mothers with babies** at Maternity Centres during the last six years :—

Year	Albert Road	East Road	Paradise	Hope-town	Cocker-ton
1921	69.0	35.3	58.3	25.1	—
1922	73.8	30.0	53.4	35.5	—
1923	78.9	25.1	49.1	33.0	—
1924	66.8	34.3	53.1	31.9	18.5
1925	64.9	30.2	59.4	26.9	25.0
1926	82.7	41.1	85.5	42.3	27.8

**Total attendances of Expectant Mothers** at the Maternity Centres and Ante-Natal Clinic during the last six years :—

Year	At Maternity Centres	At Ante-Natal Clinic
1921	91	58
1922	233	73
1923	187	72
1924	190	61
1925	171	117
1926	194	244

**Dried and Fresh Milk Supplied** through Maternity Centres during the last six years :—

Year	Dried Milk sold to Mothers. lbs.	Dried Milk given free to mothers. lbs.	Fresh Milk given free to mothers. pints	Net Cost of Fresh & Dried Milk Supplied.
1921	7,264	2,200	5,432	£316
1922	4,286	1,844	27,110	£399
1923	4,332	896	23,129	£282
1924	4,831	959	15,195	£170
1925	3,486	736	20,615	£248
1926	4,719	1,537	40,009	£529

There are no **Day Nurseries** in Darlington. A description of the work done at the Nursery School and the School Clinic will be found in the report of the School Medical Officer.

### WORK OF THE HEALTH VISITORS.

During the year the Health Visitors paid the following visits :—

First visits to Infants under one year	....	1,165
Re-visits to Infants under one year	....	1,462
Children one to five years	....	1,570
Cases of Measles, one to five years	....	13
"    "    over five years	....	8
"    Whooping Cough	....	30
"    Diarrhœa	....	53
"    Ophthalmia Neonatorum	....	13
"    Infant Death	....	74
"    Still-birth	....	41
"    Puerperal Pyrexia	....	1
Expectant Mothers, first visits	....	193
"    "    re-visits	....	84
Cases of Mental Deficiency	....	92
Miscellaneous Visits	....	322

### Midwives calls to Doctors.

Summary of the causes for sending for Medical help.

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	Average	1926
<b>Mother :—</b>							
Worn Perineum ... ..	9	8	16	19	20	14.4	18
Prolonged, Tedious or Difficult Labour ... ..	24	23	30	31	24	26.4	18
Faulty Presentations ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Constrictions ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	4
Hæmorrhages ... ..	4	2	1	8	4	3.8	4
Rise of Temperature ... ..	4	6	2	4	11	5.4	7
Adherent Placenta ... ..	1	5	8	4	8	5.2	8
Albuminuria ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	0.2	1
Glebitis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Abortion ... ..	—	—	—	3	5	1.6	8
Contracted Pelvis ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Eclampsia ... ..	—	—	1	—	—	0.2	3
Relapse of Cord ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Miscellaneous ... ..	—	2	1	9	5	3.4	11
Total ... ..	42	46	59	79	77	60.6	94
<b>Child :—</b>							
Discharging Eyes ... ..	17	10	5	5	6	8.6	8
Debility, Feebleness, etc. ... ..	1	4	2	3	6	3.2	2
Immaturity ... ..	5	13	13	3	5	7.8	5
Malformations ... ..	3	3	2	4	4	3.2	1
Convulsions and Fits ... ..	5	2	2	3	5	3.4	—
Asphyxiation ... ..	—	—	—	—	1	0.2	—
Miscellaneous ... ..	2	1	—	4	1	1.6	12
Total ... ..	33	33	24	22	28	28	28

The following Table shows how the charges for the above cases had been dealt with at the conclusion of each year since 1921 :—

	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925	1926
	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases	Cases
Amount received by Health Committee from Doctor ... ..	47	43	39	45	47	43
Accounts sent in to Health Committee ... ..	28	36	44	56	58	79
Whole Fee refunded by Patient ... ..	5	7	16	13	14	17
Whole Fee remitted by Health Committee ... ..	4	6	8	6	16	24
One or part of Fee still owing ... ..	17	23	19	33	14	30
Part Fee remitted, remainder or part still owing ... ..	—	—	1	3	12	5
Part Fee remitted, remainder paid... ..	2	—	—	1	2	3
Amount paid to Doctors ... ..	£47	£57	£69	£58	£73	£121
Amount recovered from Patients ... ..	£20	£31	£48	£47	£38	£77
Net Cost to Council ... ..	£27	£26	£21	£11	£35	£44

## LIST OF MIDWIVES PRACTISING IN THE COUNTY BOROUGH OF DARLINGTON.

No. on Roll.	Date of Enrolment.	Name.	Address.
796	28 January, 1904...	Bartle, Harriet ...	8, Hammer St., Darlington.
20165	27 April, 1905 ...	Foster, Margaret ...	Gayles Cottage, Bright St.
43728	22 February, 1916	Gait, Sarah Ann ...	12, Thornton Street.
19855	27 April, 1905 ...	Geall, Florence Annie	The Green, Cockerton.
67753	<i>12. Dec 1925</i>	Adelaide Goodfellow, Violet	12 Vaughan Street.
42793	10 August 1915 ...	Jane Hale Alice ...	Queen's Nurses' Association Woodland Road.
38235	16 June 1913 ...	Hall Mary Cecilia ...	64 Duke Street Darlington
55344	11 October 1921	Hancock Ellen ...	14 Queen St., Darlington.
46105	11 August, 1917 ...	Hoskins, Sarah ...	12, Hammer St., Darlington.
58912	13 December, 1922	Jenkin, Jane ...	40, Willow Rd., Darlington.
60455	11 June, 1923 ...	Kirby, Ethel Mary ...	14, Vaughan Terrace, Darlington.
20239	27 April, 1905 ...	Lunn, Tamar ...	21, Aidam St., Darlington.
64546	11 October, 1924	O'Donnell, Ann ...	Queen's Nurses' Association, Woodland Road.
46944	9 February, 1918...	Oliver, Eleanor Purvis	Queen's Nurses' Association, Woodland Road.
64585	11 October, 1924	Redhead, Isabel ...	4, Myrtle Gardens, Darlington.
63631	14 June, 1924 ...	Slater, Ellen ...	13, Hopetown Lane, Darlington.
65529	9 February, 1925	Smith, Annie ...	87, Gurney St., Darlington.
59131	13 December, 1922	Taylor, Marjorie Alice Eliza	Queen's Nurses' Association, Woodland Road.
17902	23 March, 1905 ...	Trinham, Louisa ...	Superintendent, Queen's Nurses' Association, Woodland Road.
65116	19 February, 1925	Watson, Ellen ...	22, Four Riggs, Darlington.
60687	11 June, 1923 ...	Wrangham, Elizabeth Ann	Sister-in-Charge, Maternity Ward, General Hospital.

## REGISTER OF MATERNITY HOMES UNDER MIDWIVES AND MATERNITY HOMES ACT, 1926.

Miss Jane Jenkin, 40, Willow Rd., Darlington	....	2 beds available
Mrs. Isobel Yates, Argyll Nursing Home, Cleveland Terrace	....	8 beds.
Mrs. Gait, 12, Thornton Street	....	1 bed.
Miss Miller, Cleveland Nursing Home	....	6 beds.
Miss Potter, Coniscliffe Nursing Home	....	12 beds.
Miss M. Lazenby, Fairfield Nursing Home	....	2 beds.

## SECTION X.

**TUBERCULOSIS.**

There were 77 deaths from Tuberculosis during 1926, as follows:—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System .....	31	30	61
Other Tuberculous Diseases....	10	6	16

Under the Tuberculosis Regulations 187 cases were notified, 115 of males and 72 of females; 7 under 1 year of age; 5 between 1 and 2; 5 between 2 and 3; 4 between 3 and 4; 5 between 4 and 5; 30 between 5 and 10; 21 between 10 and 15; 16 between 15 and 20; 49 between 20 and 35; 21 between 35 and 45; 21 between 45 and 65; and 3 over 65 years of age. Of these 27 came from Harrowgate Hill Ward; 38 from North Road Ward; 3 from Eastbourne Ward; 25 from Cockerton Ward; 14 from Pierremont Ward; 35 from Central Ward; 22 from West Ward; and 18 from South Ward.

**New Cases and Mortality during 1926.**

Age-Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.				
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
...	...	1	2	4	...	...	1	3	
...	...	3	1	8	7	1	1	4	1
...	...	6	6	12	6	...	...	1	...
...	...	2	6	6	7	1	3	1	...
...	...	8	3	4	1	1	1	...	...
...	...	3	5	2	3	3	8	1	1
...	...	15	9	9	3	7	9	2	1
...	...	15	5	1	...	6	4	...	...
...	...	12	3	...	1	9	4	...	...
...	...	4	1	...	...	2	...	...	...
5 and upwards	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Totals ...	...	71	40	44	32	31	30	10	6

Of the above 77 deaths, 7 were cases which came to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health otherwise than by notification under the Regulations.

**PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS,  
1925, and PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925 (Section 62).**

There have been no action taken under the above.

**TUBERCULOSIS SCHEME.**

**Dispensary.**—The Dispensary at Feethams is open for the examination of notified tuberculous patients, suspected cases and their contacts—Tuesdays at 10 a.m. for men; Fridays at 10 a.m. for women and children.

As in previous years the work was carried out by the Durham County Council, who provide a Medical Officer and Nurse for attendance.

The Residential Institutions available for patients are provided also by the Durham County Council.

The number of new cases which have attended the Dispensary during the past six years is given in the following table:—

1920	....	317	1924	....	207
1921	....	256	1925	....	266
1922	....	178	1926	....	207
1923	....	218			

The number of persons who attended the Dispensary during 1926 was 538, and the number of attendances made was 2,491. About 90 per cent. of these patients reside in the Borough.

During the year 175 first visits and 1,660 re-visits were paid to houses by the Tuberculosis Health Visitors.

Shelters were provided for the use of 10 Borough patients and 6 shelters were still in use at the end of the year.

There is close co-operation between the Tuberculosis Medical Officer and the staffs of the Health Office, the School Medical Service and the General Hospital. Quarterly reports are sent in by general practitioners providing domiciliary treatment, and patients receiving such treatment usually attend at the Dispensary once a quarter. Where the diagnosis is doubtful the patients are kept under observation by the Dispensary Staff. Home contacts are supervised and examined systematically by the Tuberculosis Medical Officer either at the Dispensary or at their homes. The Tuberculosis Health Visitors visit and give advice in the homes of every case notified.

Advanced cases or those with discharging wounds are nursed and dressed in their homes by Queen's Nurses. Tenpence per visit is paid for this service. 1,564 visits were paid to 27 patients.

The majority of the non-pulmonary cases of Tuberculosis are treated in the Darlington General Hospital, where there are facilities for X-ray examination, surgical operative assistance and the provision of surgical apparatus.

The incidence is given in the following tables:—

**NOTIFICATIONS OF TUBERCULOSIS (Pulmonary and Non-Pulmonary) and DEATHS.**

Year	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Notified	Deaths	Notified	Deaths
1920	151	61	55	22
1921	124	66	32	17
1922	111	71	47	20
1923	135	69	80	15
1924	119	62	65	21
1925	134	58	56	24
1926	111	59	76	16

**PULMONARY CASES IN INSTITUTIONS.**

	Insured		Not Insured		Total	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Under treatment at the beginning of the year ... ..	3	0	1	0	4	0
Admitted ... ..	21	5	6	4	27	9
Discharged ... ..	14	3	0	1	14	4
Under treatment at the end of the year ... ..	10	2	7	3	17	5
Number of days treatment ... ..	1969	526	1213	315	3182	841

**NON-PULMONARY CASES IN INSTITUTIONS.**

	Insured		Not Insured		Total	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Under treatment at the beginning of the year ... ..	0	0	4	3	4	3
Admitted ... ..	4	0	8	8	12	8
Discharged ... ..	3	0	7	7	10	7
Under treatment at the end of the year ... ..	1	0	5	4	6	4
Number of days treatment ... ..	705	0	1930	1448	2635	1448

**VOLUNTARY CARE COMMITTEE.**

The excellent work of this Committee has been carried out as in previous years under the Honorary Secretaryship of the Medical Officer of Health. The Annual Report dealing with its work shews the manifold directions of its aims and achievements. Through the Care Committee, facilities are granted and arrangements made for the provision of nourishment, financial assistance, assistance in dental treatment, provision of footgear and clothing



for domestic use and Sanatorium, assisting and advising patients in obtaining suitable employment, giving friendly encouragement and advice to patients as to the mode of life, and the general supervision of the welfare of patients.

During the year ending 31st of March, 1927, 56 new applications were received and help was provided in 51 of these. Forty cases helped in previous years continued to benefit. The total number of cases dealt with since the beginning of the work of the Care Committee in 1919 up to 31st March, 1927, is 313.

The Care Committee have, during the year, rendered real assistance to deserving cases, and their work has been much appreciated by those who have been helped. The Tuberculosis Care Committee, far from being just purely a charitable organisation to help stricken families, is a necessary link in the work being undertaken by Local Health Authorities, not merely by ameliorating the sufferings of the patients and their families, by assisting them materially and otherwise when and where necessary, but in reaching the ultimate aim of such Authorities **in seeking to eliminate this dreadful scourge from the community, or at any rate making its prevalence a negligible quantity.**

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## SECTION XI.

### VENEREAL DISEASES.

In 1920 a scheme was drawn up making certain improvements as required by the Ministry of Health for the treatment of Venereal Diseases, in connexion with the Skin Department at the General Hospital, Darlington. The work is now carried out by a part-time Medical Officer, a part-time Male Orderly, and a member of the Nursing Staff of the Hospital. Clinics are more frequent and intermediate treatment can be given.

During the past five years much progress has been made in the thoroughness of the treatment and in the facilities presented to the patients, though there is still much need of additional accommodation which cannot be provided in the present buildings.

Patients requiring intern Hospital treatment are admitted on the recommendation of the Medical Officer, two beds being provided.

The appointment of the Medical Officer as part-time Schools Medical Officer has been the means of detecting infected families, leading to the more complete eradication of the diseases and consequent protection of further offspring.

The Department is open for the following sessions :—

**Males.**—Tuesdays 5-30 p.m.

Fridays 5-30 p.m. and by appointment with the Medical Officer.

**Women and Children.**—Mondays 2 p.m.

**Women Only.**—Tuesdays 2 p.m. Fridays 2 p.m.

**For Irrigation.**

**Males.**—Daily from 10 a.m.

**Women.**—Daily from 2 p.m. and by appointment with the Medical Officer.

In spite of the several changes in the staff during the past five years, attendances of men, women and children are slowly increasing, not only those from Darlington, but also those from the districts for 20 miles around. This does not mean that there is necessarily an increase in the incidence of venereal diseases, but rather that the diagnosis is now more readily made and that practitioners are realizing the assistance presented in a neighbouring clinic with a specialist officer at hand. A few Darlington residents have attended the neighbouring clinics at Stockton, Durham, Newcastle, etc.

Opportunities of instruction are given to medical practitioners at the Clinic, and those who are qualified receive free supplies of arsenobenzol compounds on application.

No action has been taken under the Venereal Diseases Act of 1917.

There is a local branch of the British Social Hygiene Council.

Laboratory work is carried out at the Clinic by the Medical Officer and at the College of Medicine, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Bacteriological Examinations for Darlington patients made at the Durham College of Medicine, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, during the year :—

	For detection of spirochetes	For detection of gonococci	For Wassermann reaction	C.S. Fluid for General Examination	C. S. Fluid for the Wassermann reaction
For Treatment Centre... ..	3	2	166	2	3
For Practitioners ... ..	—	3	35	—	2
Totals ... ..	3	5	201	2	5

### Specimens examined during past 6 years.

Year	At Treatment Centre	At Newcastle Laboratory
1921	—	156
1922	189	147
1923	264	137
1924	225	139
1925	218	153
1926	201	210

### Treatment of Venereal Diseases.

At the General Hospital, Darlington, 1926.

Number of Darlington Out-patients attending for first time:—

	Males	Females
Syphilis	31	27
Gonorrhœa	70	25
Soft Chancre	1	1
Not suffering from Venereal Disease	52	29
	154	82
Total Attendances	5,651	1,304

### Services at the Venereal Diseases Treatment Centre at the Darlington General Hospital, 1926.

Classified according to the areas in which the patients resided.

	Darlington	Durham	North Riding of Yorks.	Total
Number of cases from each area dealt with during the year <b>for the first time</b> and found to be suffering from:—				
Syphilis	58	17	13	88
Soft Chancre	2	—	—	2
Gonorrhœa	95	16	16	127
Conditions other than Venereal	81	18	4	103
Total	236	51	33	320
Total number of attendances of all patients residing in each area	6,955	697	238	7,891
Aggregate number of "In-patient days" of all patients residing in each area	10	31	10	51
Number of doses of arsenobenzol compounds given to patients residing in each area:—				
1.—Out-patient Clinic	393	90	81	564
2.—In-patient Dept.	—	—	—	—

**Number of Darlington County Borough Out-patients attending  
Clinic for first time.**

	Syphilis		Gonorrhœa		Soft Chancre		Other Cases		Total		Grand Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1920	65	42	55	14	2	—	8	5	140	61	201
1921	47	22	24	5	—	—	9	—	80	32	112
1922	36	22	17	12	3	1	13	12	69	47	116
1923	16	22	36	19	—	5	18	12	70	58	128
1924	25	13	49	36	3	1	24	40	101	90	191
1925	32	26	54	30	3	2	24	26	113	84	197
1926	31	27	70	25	1	1	52	29	154	82	236

**Total Attendances of all Patients.**

<i>Year</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>
1920	1,239	556
1921	881	353
1922	1,249	567
1923	2,977	1,311
1924	3,564	869
1925	3,448	759
1926	5,651	1,304

During the year 28 doses of Stabilarsan and 12 doses of Novarsenobillon were supplied free of charge to local medical practitioners who were qualified to administer this drug.

## SECTION XII.

**MENTAL DEFICIENCY.**

This work, which is administered and carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and the Deputy Medical Officer of Health, who are the certifying officers under the Mental Deficiency Act, comes under the Committee for Promoting the Welfare of Afflicted Persons and not the Health Committee. The Health Visitors assist in the supervision and reporting of home conditions.

Two types of cases are dealt with :—

(a) **Statutory Cases**, consisting of mental defectives under 7 and over 16 years, known to require special care and supervision ; ineducable mentally defective children between the ages of 7 and 16 years ; and children referred to the Local Authority under the Mental Deficiency Act, as being either incapable of further education in a special school or of being incapable of such education without detriment to other children. All these cases are dealt with under the Mental Deficiency Act, being placed in Institutions, or under guardianship or supervision.

(b) **Education Cases**, consisting of mentally defective children between the age of 7 and 16 years capable of education in the special school provided. These are dealt with by the Education Committee.

The Medical Officer of Health is also Schools Medical Officer, so that there is liason in the work.

**Number of Mentally Defective.**—Ascertainment of adult cases is not by any means complete, as several cases only come to the notice of the Medical Officer of Health through such channels as the Health Visitors in their routine home visits in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare, and the Police Courts.

The total number of mentally defective in the Borough known by medical examination is :—

	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	
(a) Statutory and Observa- tion Cases, all ages ....	40	.... 21	
(b) Education Cases, 7-16 yrs.	25	.... 41	
	—	—	
Total	65	62	—127

**Distribution.**

The 127 cases are distributed as follows :—

(a) Statutory Cases, &c.				
In Certified Institutions ....	5	....	4	
In Feethams Poor Law Institution ....	0	....	2	
Under supervision at home	35	....	15	
	—		—	
	40		21	61
(b) Education Cases.				
Attending Certified Schools	17	....	26	
Attending Elementary Schools ....	5	....	8	
At other Institutions ....	—	....	1	
Resident at home ....	1	....	2	
	—		—	
	23	....	37	60
(c) Transferred from care of Education Committee to Local Control Authority during 1926 ....				
	2	....	4	6

Health Visitors paid 92 visits during the year in connection *with* mental deficiency.

Two of the Statutory Cases died during the year.

The placing of these unfortunate cases in suitable institutions presents a great difficulty, firstly in discriminating which defectives should be removed, as the available institutional vacancies are very few, and secondly the financial burdens are heavy. The Board of Control are therefore urging Local Authorities to press forward their arrangements for care other than institutional. Such arrangements include increased home supervision, appointment of guardians, and the establishment of occupation centres.

At present under the Education Committee Scheme the Special School for mentally defective children, of which Miss Clegg is in charge, is doing excellent work, but unfortunately most of the children on their discharge at 16 years of age find themselves obliged to join the ranks of the unemployed. They cannot hold their own in the labour market, and in their endeavour to be busy they find the wrong thing.

The subjects of instruction at such centres are very elementary, inculcating ideas of cleanliness, neatness, discipline, muscle control and everyday things of life. For low grade children,

drill, sense training, singing, polishing and easy household work, such as setting a table, sweeping up crumbs, provide opportunities for amusement, companionship and occupation in a way which is impossible in the homes from which these cases usually come. The higher grade defectives receive instruction in plain sewing, hemstitching, raffia mats, basket work, and rug making.

The establishment of such a centre in Darlington would be a great asset in the work.

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### SECTION XIII.

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#### **SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**

Particulars of Sanitary administration are also given in the Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector printed herewith.

**Water Supply.**—In the past complaints have been made concerning the water which is supplied by the Corporation Waterworks by pumping from the River Tees at the extreme western end of the Borough. Occasionally it was highly coloured and contained organic matter and growth visible to the naked eye. This could only be expected, as the river, having an extensive moorland watershed area in both Yorkshire and Co. Durham, at times naturally contains much peaty matter, suffers sudden rises and falls according to the rainfall, has a low summer level and receives the sewage effluent from Barnard Castle and the surface water from the well cultivated farms in the neighbourhood. The Corporation therefore decided to supplement the existing steam pumping plant with electrically driven pumps and to replace the slow open gravitation sand filters by closed pressure mechanical filters. These are now in service. Purification of the water by the addition of a small quantity of lime and alumina ferric, which by their combination produce a gelatinous layer of chemical compound on top of a bed of sand, ensures effective filtration of the water, and at the same time removes the colour due to peat. In addition to this provision has also been made for chlorination if found necessary.

A constant supply is maintained and chemical and microscopical examinations are made periodically by the Borough Analyst.

The total number of houses supplied with water is approximately 16,000 within the Borough, and 400 outside.

No evidence of plumbo solvency has been found during the year.

**Rivers and Streams.**—There is very little trade pollution of the rivers and streams in the town. Some pollution is caused by the occupiers of gardens and allotments throwing refuse into the streams.

The River Skerne, which flows through the town only causes trouble during wet seasons by reason of a fixed weir which impedes the storm water, causing it to overflow into lowlying waste land at present used as a tip. The Cockerbeck is not so liable to pollution as formerly, as the allotment gardens in the valley have now been replaced by a well laid out park.

**Drainage, Sewerage and Closet Accommodation.**—The town is seweraged on the partially combined system, and storm overflows are provided discharging at convenient points, chiefly in the neighbourhood of the River Skerne. The sewage is conveyed to the Sewage Farm situated on the west bank of the Skerne, about a mile to the south of the town. Treatment of the sewage is carried out by broad irrigation.

As there are still approximately 6,000 privy ashpits in use in the town, the question of additional means of sewage disposal would have to be decided upon before conversions to water carriage on a large scale can be anticipated. During the year no notices under Section 36, Public Health Act, 1875, have been served. Water closets have been voluntarily substituted by the owners in 15 cases.

**Scavenging.**—The scavenging of the town has been fairly satisfactorily carried out. During the period of the coal dispute, the absence of ashes and the popularity of the gas stoves rendered the removal of the fluid contents of privy ashpits, pans and middens, a most objectionable task. The refuse is disposed of principally by depositing on tips which are covered with soil or clean ashes. A small proportion of privy refuse is conveyed to farms for use on the land.

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## SECTION XIV.

**LEGISLATION IN FORCE.****New Legislation Introduced during 1926.**

Many new Orders and Regulations were issued by the Minister of Health during the year, and it has proved quite a task keeping the practical work up to date with the legislation.

**Borough of Darlington (Whooping Cough) Regulations, 1926.**

In order to impress the seriousness of this apparently trivial complaint, the Minister of Health consented to the notification of first cases of Whooping Cough occurring in children under five years of age. The Regulations came into force on the 1st February, 1927.

**Milk and Dairies Order, 1926.**—This revokes the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders of 1885, 1886 and 1899, and all Regulations made thereunder, and in accordance with the development of modern hygienic knowledge, lays greater stress on cleanliness in the care of cows, and in the handling, conveyance, and distribution of milk.

**Public Health (Notification of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia) Regulations, 1926.**—Puerperal Fever has been notifiable since 1889, but the disease is ill-defined as it is not specific like Scarlet Fever or Diphtheria. To surmount this difficulty in diagnosis, these new Regulations require the notification by medical practitioners of all cases of Pyrexia occurring within twenty-one days of child-birth. Under these Regulations and with the approval of the Minister of Health arrangements have been made in Darlington for the special treatment of women suffering from Puerperal Pyrexia, for skilled home nursing by the Queen's Nurses, for institutional treatment at the Isolation Hospital, for bacteriological assistance at the Armstrong College Laboratory, and for consultations with the Medical Officer of Health.

**Midwives and Maternity Homes Act, 1926.**—This Act requires chiefly the registration of all persons in respect of their private maternity homes. Six persons have been registered in Darlington in respect of such homes, which have been inspected and are periodically visited by the Medical Officer of Health.

**Public Health (Ophthalmic Neonatorum) Regulation, 1926.**

These Regulations place the duty of notifying a case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum solely on the medical practitioner, who

must be called in by the midwife in attendance. The Minister suggests that the recovery of fees paid by the Council to medical practitioners answering such calls should not be pressed.

**Public Health Legislation in Force.**—The following Acts have been adopted in the Borough:—

Baths and Wash-houses Acts of 1846 and 1847.

Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889.

Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907 (except Sections 48, 82, 83, 92 and 94).

Public Health Act, 1925, Sections 13-23 ; 25-30 ; 32 ; 33 ; 35-39 ; 41-55 ; all inclusive.

The most important local Act dealing with Public Health matters is the Darlington Extension and Improvement Act, 1872. This Act conferred on the Darlington Council powers with regard to closing property unfit for human habitation of the same character as those contained in the most recent Acts.

Section 92 of the Darlington Extension and Improvement Act, 1872, requires that all private slaughter-houses in the Borough should be licensed.

On May 30th, 1911, an Order was obtained from the Local Government Board, under Section 50 of the Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907, declaring the trades of fat melter or fat extractor, fish fryer, gut scraper, rag and bone dealer, and candle maker within the Borough to be offensive trades.

Under the City of Leeds, etc. (Measles and German Measles) Regulations, 1920, Measles and German Measles are notifiable in Darlington.

Chickenpox was made notifiable in the Borough on 23rd December, 1923.

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## SECTION XV.

### HOUSING.

From the Census Statistics it is estimated that 5.8 per cent. of our families are sharing a house compared with 10.0 per cent. for the neighbouring County Boroughs in Durham. In pre-war days there was a housing surplus of sufficient size to keep rents from advancing out of proportion to the capacity of the people to pay and to permit of the free movement of the population by the process of "stepping," *i.e.*, advancing from the poorer to the better classes of housing.

At the present time this surplus does not exist, with the result that in some places rents have risen out of relation not only to the cost of construction but also to the value of money, and beyond it, so that the stepping movement of the families has to a very large extent ceased. By reason of the economic conditions even the weekly rent of 8/9, now being charged for the new Corporation kitchen houses is a barrier to many hoping to improve their environment. The effect of all this is that the worst class of housing, chiefly in the Park Street area, is the most crowded. Potential movers are deterred by the steepness in the ladder of rents from transferring from one class of property to another. Our worst areas therefore are crowded with people who are in addition to the habitual slum dwellers, because of the stoppage of the normal movement from poor to better houses.

Housing progress during the past six years :—

			Total new houses built		With State assistance
1921	....	....	95	....	86
1922	....	....	339	....	152
1923	....	....	300	....	53
1924	....	....	329	....	235
1925	....	....	510	....	414
1926	....	....	387	....	306

Comparative Table of percentage number of private families occupying one, two, three, four and more rooms according to 1921 census :—

AREA	One Room	Two Rooms	Three Rooms	Four or more rooms
County Durham	6.1	22.9	26.0	45.0
England and Wales	3.6	10.5	15.5	70.4
<b>Darlington</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>59.7</b>
West Hartlepool	4.0	10.1	28.4	57.5
South Shields	9.9	33.4	23.1	33.6
City of Durham	10.9	26.0	17.1	46.0
Gateshead	12.0	26.9	26.4	34.7
Sunderland	12.2	26.3	26.3	35.2

### Housing Statistics for the year 1926.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b) and (c) .....	387
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts—	
(i) By the Local Authority .....	50
(ii) By other bodies or persons .....	256
(c) By private enterprise .....	81

—Unfit Dwelling-houses—

Inspection—

(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .....	1,161
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidation Regulations, 1925 .....	339
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .....	—
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation .....	—

—Remedy of defects without service of Formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action taken by the Local Authority or their officers .....	709
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—Action under Statutory Powers :—

(a) Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925—

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

- (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close .... 314
- (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts—
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .... 314
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—
- (a) By Owners .... 205
- (b) By Local Authority in default of owners ....
- (c) Proceedings under Sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Acts, 1925 :—
- (1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders ....
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made ....
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit ....
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ....
- (5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ....
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## SECTION XVI.—STATISTICAL TABLES.

**BIRTH-RATE, DEATH-RATE and ANALYSIS of MORTALITY during the Year 1926.**

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1926, while those for the towns have been calculated on populations estimated to the middle of 1925. The Mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns).

	BIRTH-RATE per 1000 Total POPULATION	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.										RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS		
		All Causes	Enteric Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years)	Total Deaths under One Year	Causes of Death Certified by Med. Pract.	Inquest Cases	Uncertified Causes of Death	
England and Wales .. .. .	17.8	11.6	0.01	0.00	0.09	0.02	0.10	0.07	0.22	0.47	8.7	70	91.8	7.2	1.0	
105 County Boroughs & Great Towns (including London) .. .. .	18.2	11.6	0.01	0.00	0.12	0.02	0.10	0.10	0.22	0.43	11.8	73	92.0	7.5	0.5	
158 Smaller Towns (1921 Adjusted Populations 20,000—50,000) ..	17.6	10.6	0.01	0.00	0.07	0.02	0.11	0.06	0.23	0.40	6.6	67	92.6	6.3	1.1	
London .. .. .	17.1	11.6	0.01	0.00	0.20	0.02	0.05	0.12	0.17	0.48	11.8	64	90.6	9.4	0.0	
Durham County .. .. .	22.7	11.3	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.24	0.06	0.24	0.35	11.01	84	96.7		3.3	
<b>DARLINGTON</b> .. .. .	<b>17.9</b>	<b>11.9</b>	<b>0.01</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.13</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.18</b>	<b>0.34</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>92.3</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>3.5</b>	

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE IN DARLINGTON,  
1926. (Figures supplied by the Registrar General).

CAUSES OF DEATH	Sex	All Ages										Deaths of Residents and Non-Residents in Institutions	Deaths of Residents in other Institutions
		0—	1—	2—	5—	15—	25—	45—	65—	75—			
All causes	M. F.	81 35	11 17	13 10	12 7	14 24	54 53	116 96	78 68	75 74	...	...	...
Uncertified	M. F.	2 2	...	...	...	...	3	6 3	3 2	3 5	...	...	...
1. Enteric Fever	M. F.	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Small-pox	M. F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Measles	M. F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4. Scarlet Fever	M. F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Whooping Cough	M. F.	2 7	1 3	1 1	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 2	...	...
6. Diphtheria	M. F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Influenza	M. F.	1 4	...	1	...	...	1	...	3 1	...	...	...	...
8. Encephalitis Lethargica	M. F.	2 3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
9. Meningococcal Meningitis	M. F.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
10. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	M. F.	32 30	...	1	1 3	5 9	13 13	11 4	1 ...	...	12 6	...	...
11. Other Tuberculous Diseases	M. F.	11 6	2 ...	2 1	...	3 1	2 1	...	...	...	5 2	...	...
12. Cancer, Malignant Disease	M. F.	31 50	...	...	...	...	5 5	14 27	10 10	2 6	...	...	...
13. Rheumatic Fever	M. F.	3 2	...	...	2 1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
14. Diabetes	M. F.	1 5	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	...	1	...	...
15. Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	M. F.	26 31	...	...	...	...	1 2	6 9	9 10	10 10	2 2	...	...





## INFANT MORTALITY.

1926. 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 ...	41	5	5	3	54	20	14	10	14
{ Uncertified ...	1	...	...	1	2	1	1	...	...	4
Smallpox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chickenpox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Diphtheria and Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza ... ..	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Tuberculous Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Abdominal Tuberculosis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Meningitis ( <i>not Tuberculous</i> ) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	3
Convulsions ... ..	3	...	...	...	3	2	...	2	...	7
Laryngitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	1	...	1	3	4	...	1	9
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	2	5	8
Diarrhoea ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2
Enteritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2
Gastritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Gastro-enteritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	2
Syphilis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Ricketts ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Suffocation, overlying ... ..	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Injury at birth ... ..	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	2
Atelectasis ... ..	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Malformations ... ..	6	...	1	...	7	2	1	...	...	10
Premature Birth ... ..	23	2	2	1	28	4	...	...	...	32
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus ... ..	4	2	1	2	9	5	2	1	2	19
Other causes ... ..	2	...	...	1	3	...	3	...	...	6
Totals ... ..	42	5	5	4	56	21	15	10	14	116

Net Births in the year—Legitimate, 1,214 ; illegitimate, 55.

Net Deaths in the year—Legitimate infants, 109 : males, 76 ; females, 33.

Illegitimate infants, 7 : males, 5 ; females, 2.

## CANCER DEATHS—PARTS OF BODY AFFECTED.

PARTS AFFECTED	Under 35		35-45		45-55		55-65		65-75		75 and up		Total	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Peritoneum, Intes- tines and Rectum	1	...	2	2	...	...	2	2	1	2	...	...	6	6
Stomach and Liver	...	...	...	1	4	2	2	6	1	8	2	2	9	19
Reproductive Organs ...	...	...	...	3	...	6	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	11
Breast ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	4
Other Glands	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	1
Mouth and Throat	...	...	1	1	1	...	2	2	2	1	...	...	6	4
Bones ...	2	1	...	...	...	3	...	...	3	...	...	...	5	4
Other Parts	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	3	1
Totals ...	3	1	3	8	5	13	7	13	10	11	3	4	31	50

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN WARDS.—1926.

Disease	Harrowgate Hill	North Road	Eastbourne	Cockerton	Pierremont	Central	West	South	Total
Smallpox ...	8	1	1	2	2	2	—	1	17
Scarlet Fever ...	7	12	23	29	9	12	17	14	123
Diphtheria ...	5	2	7	4	1	6	3	4	32
Enteric Fever ...	1	3	1	7	2	1	2	1	18
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	16	14	13	14	9	17	16	12	111
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	11	14	13	11	5	10	6	6	76
Puerperal Fever ...	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	1	5
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	1	—	—	2	—	1	1	1	6
Erysipelas ...	6	2	7	3	4	1	4	1	28
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	—	2	2	1	—	1	1	—	7
Acute Anterior Polomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Acute Encephalitis Lethargica ...	1	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	5
Acute Pneumonia ...	23	31	10	18	9	24	11	19	145
Malaria ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Chicken-pox ...	60	85	45	54	21	34	35	68	402
Measles and German Measles ...	11	7	4	11	1	6	12	8	60
Total ...	151	173	128	158	64	117	109	137	1037

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1926.

DISEASE.	Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	65—	Total Cases Notified	Total Deaths	Cases Admitted to Isolation Hospital	Deaths in Isolation Hospital
Small-pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	4	4	1	5	...	3	...	17	...	17	...
Diphtheria ... ..	...	1	2	...	1	10	7	2	8	...	1	...	32	...	32	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	1	...	6	10	58	24	11	9	3	1	...	123	...	117	...
Enteric Fever ... ..	...	...	2	...	...	4	3	3	5 (1)	...	...	1	18	1	17	...
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4 (1)	1 (1)	...	...	5	2†	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	6	...	...	...
Pneumonia ... ..	5 (8)	9 (8)	7 (5)	3 (1)	6	14 (2)	11 (1)	14 (3)	25 (6)	16 (7)	23 (14)	12 (15)	145	70	18	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	...	...	...
Erysipelas... ..	2†	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	3	14	4	28	1	2	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 (1)	1	1 (1)	2 (2)	...	5	5	...	1*
Measles and German Measles ... ..	8	2	3	4	7	23	4	4	4	...	1	...	60	...	...	...
Malaria ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...
Chicken-pox ... ..	25 (1)	29	25	32	42	220	23	2	3	1	...	...	402	1	1	...
Acute Anterior Poliomy- elitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...

† 1 died in Feather Hospital and 1 in the General Hospital &amp; Admitted in 1925. Numbers in parentheses indicate deaths.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table shows the number of cases of **Infectious Disease** notified each month during 1926

	Small-pox	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	Enteric Fever	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other forms of Tuberculosis	Puerperal Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia	Erysipelas	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Measles and German Measles	Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	Acute Encephalitis Lethargica	Cerebro-Spinal Fever	Acute Pneumonia	Malaria	Dysentery	Chicken-pox	Totals
January	...	15	4	1	16	8	...	...	4	...	7	...	...	...	18	...	...	97	170
February	...	8	...	1	16	9	...	...	6	...	3	...	...	...	31	...	...	79	154
March	...	17	...	1	11	7	...	...	6	...	5	...	...	...	24	...	...	67	139
April	...	3	...	...	9	3	1	...	2	1	14	...	1	...	16	...	...	37	88
May	...	11	1	...	7	10	1	...	2	...	10	...	1	...	10	...	...	22	81
June	...	15	2	...	15	2	1	...	...	...	6	...	1	...	10	...	...	16	72
July	...	6	4	...	3	5	...	...	1	2	4	...	...	...	8	...	...	7	40
August	...	9	8	...	9	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	6	37
September	...	8	3	7	6	8	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	7	...	...	10	51
October	...	15	5	4	8	7	...	...	2	1	3	...	1	...	4	...	...	6	60
November	...	9	2	3	2	9	1	4	3	1	5	1	...	...	7	...	...	19	66
December	...	7	3	1	9	6	1	1	2	2	1	...	1	...	8	...	...	36	79
Total for 1926	17	123	32	18	111	76	5	6	28	7	60	1	5	...	145	1	...	402	1037
Total for 1925	...	154	83	5	134	56	7	...	42	4	1202	...	7	...	217	1	...	309	1276





11  
T. J. HARRINGTON, FARMER, 1870

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County Borough of Darlington.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR,

JNO. R. COPPING, A. R. San. I.,

FOR THE

Year ending 31st December, 1926.

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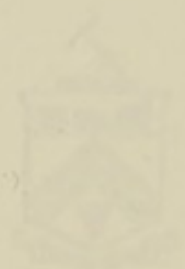
DARLINGTON.

—  
1927.



County Borough of Darlington.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

MR. R. GUYING, A.R.S.M.I.

FOR THE

Year ending 31st December 1926.

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DARLINGTON.

1927.

## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT, 1926.

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

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting for your information my Annual Report for 1926.

**General Sanitary Work.**—During the past year 2,390 Inspections and 4,657 Re-Inspections of houses were made under the Public Health Acts and the Housing and Town Planning Acts. 1,056 Informal Notices were served upon the owners of property in respect of 1,875 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 314 Statutory Notices for the abatement of 551 nuisances were served during the year. The total number of nuisances abated in compliance with notices served during the year was 1,972.

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

	Number of Nuisances dealt with by Informal Notices	Number of Nuisances dealt with by Formal Notices by Order of the Council	Number of Nuisances abated after Notice
Dwelling-houses and Schools—			
Foul Conditions .....	16	2	16
Structural Defects .....	809	209	798
Lodging-houses .....	6	—	6
Slaughter-houses .....	1	—	1
Bakehouses .....	2	—	2
Ashpits and Privies .....	378	113	421
Deposits of Refuse and Manure .....	17	1	18
Water Closets—			
Drains stopped up and Defective Fittings .....	115	42	134
Defective Yard Paving .....	60	19	61
House Drainage—			
Yard, Scullery, and Cellar Drains, and Down-pipes stopped up and Defective Drains and Traps .....	111	28	126
No disconnection from Sewer .....	29	6	35
Water Supply to Houses .....	5	2	5
Animals and Poultry Improperly kept .....	16	5	17
Defective Sinks or Slopstones .....	287	110	317
No Slopstones .....	14	11	3
No Pantries .....	8	3	11
Cowsheds .....	1	0	1
Totals for 1926 .....	1,875	551	1,972

**Living Vans, Tents, and Sheds.**—Notices were served in 13 cases in respect of contraventions of the Bye-Laws relating to the above, and same were duly complied with.

**The Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910.**—During the year 339 houses were inspected in accordance with the above Regulations. In 302 cases notices were served for the remedying of sanitary defects, and in 265 cases such notices were complied with.

**Increase of Rent and Mortgage Interest (Restrictions) Act, 1920.**—During the year no applications were received for Certificates under Section 2 (2) of the above Act.

**Sanitary Conveniences.**—During the year there have been 15 water-closets substituted for 13 privy-ashpits and two privy-pans. In 11 cases these substitutions were done by the owners voluntarily, and in the remaining 4 cases to meet the requirements of the Council in considering applications for the Registration of Milksellers.

The following is a list of the various forms of sanitary conveniences in use in the Borough :—

Water-closets	....	....	....	....	11,381
Combined Privy-ashpits	....	....	....	....	6,568
Privy-pans	....	....	....	....	166
Old Privy-middens	....	....	....	....	12
					<hr/>
				Total	.... 18,127

**Infectious Diseases.**—During the year 123 cases of Scarlet Fever, 32 cases of Diphtheria, 18 cases of Typhoid or Enteric Fever, 28 cases of Erysipelas, 5 cases of Puerperal Fever, 1 case of Malaria and 5 cases of Encephalitis Lethargica, 17 cases of Small-pox and 402 cases of Chicken-pox were notified. Detailed enquiries were made in each case and the necessary precautions taken against the spread of infection.

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 Tuberculosis, Cancer, etc.	4	183	—	209	177
Tuberculosis .....	—	29	—	44	20
Cancer .....	—	12	—	13	13
Measles, etc. ....	1	5	3	18	4
<b>Totals</b> .....	<b>5</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>214</b>

**Factories, Workshops and Work-places.**—The number of Workshops, including Bakehouses, on the Register at the 31st December, 1926, was 399, and the number of Factories, 177,

During the year 574 Inspections have been made and the following is a list of the defects found and dealt with :—

#### FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

	Found	Re-medied
Want of cleanliness .....	10	10
Want of ventilation .....	1	1
Other nuisances .....	2	2
Sanitary Accommodation—		
Insufficient .....	2	1
Not properly ventilated .....	1	1
Unsuitable or Defective .....	4	4
Want of cleanliness....	8	8
Not separate for sexes .....	1	1
Not separate approach .....	1	1
<b>Total</b> .....	<b>30</b>	<b>29</b>

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

**Outworkers.**—During the year I received 26 lists containing the names of 32 Outworkers, and 45 inspections of the premises of such Outworkers were made.

**Food and Drugs.**—During the year 155 samples were taken for analysis as follows :—

New Milk	....	....	....	....	....	105
Drugs—Provisions, etc.	....	....	....	....	....	50
						—
			Total	....	....	155

Of the 105 samples of Milk 48 were from Purveyors of Milk residing and carrying on business in the Borough, and 57 were from Purveyors of Milk carrying on business but not residing in the Borough. 75 samples were morning samples and 30 were afternoon samples.

The 105 samples of Milk were Formal Samples and the 50 samples of Drugs, Provisions, etc., were Informal Samples. 120 samples were of genuine quality and 35 were adulterated.

The 35 adulterated samples were of Milk, and of these 34 were slightly below standard and further samples were taken. Proceedings were taken in respect of the remaining sample of adulterated Milk, and a fine of £1 1s. and £5 5s. costs was imposed.

**Clean Milk Production.**—In the early part of the year it was my privilege to attend a special course of Lectures and Demonstrations at Armstrong College, Newcastle-on-Tyne, and several visits in conjunction therewith to Model Dairy Farms and Dairies, and the knowledge thus gained on the subject was of a most instructive character.

During the year 16 samples of Milk were taken and submitted for Bacteriological Examination, and in all cases where the results were not satisfactory, letters were written by the Town Clerk.

The following table gives the results of the examinations made :—

No.	No. of Bacteria per 1 c.c.	Bacillus Coli present in
1	Average equals over 500,000	.... 1/100 c.c.
2	” ” ” 500,000	.... 1/100 c.c.
3	” ” ” 194,000	.... 1/100 c.c.
4	” ” ” 480,000	.... 1/100 c.c.
5	” ” ” 119,000	.. 1/100,000 c.c.
6	” ” ” 2,320,000	.... 1/10,000 c.c.
7	” ” ” 12,100,000	.... 1/100,000 c.c.
8	” ” ” 8,400,000	.... 1/1,000,000 c.c.
9	” ” ” 28,000	.... 1/10 c.c.
10	” ” ” 123,000	.... 1/100 c.c.
11	” ” ” 4,320,000	.... 1/1,000 c.c.
12	” ” ” 48,000	.... 1/10,000 c.c.
13	” ” ” 103,000	.... 1/1,000 c.c.
14	” ” ” 10,000	.... 1/0 c.c.
15	” ” ” 48,000	.... 1/10 c.c.
16	” ” ” 380	.... ———

### MILK (Special Designations) ORDER, 1923.

The Special Designations under which Milk may be sold in pursuance of this Order are :—“ Certified,” “ Grade A (Tuberculin Tested),” “ Grade A ” and “ Pasteurised.”

No Designated Milk is produced in the Borough, but 1 Retailer's License was granted in November, 1926, for the Sale of Certified Milk, the supplies being obtained from outside the Borough.

### MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

This Order which was made by the Minister of Health in pursuance of his powers under the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915, came into operation on the 1st October, 1926, and revokes the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders of 1885, 1886 and 1889, and all Regulations made thereunder.

The Order contains many new Regulations affecting Milk Producers, Wholesale Dealers and Retailers, and 2 Special Circulars calling attention to the chief provisions of the Order were prepared by me and sent out respectively to all Cow-keepers and Dairymen, and all Retail Purveyors of Milk in the Borough.

There were 24 Milk Producers and 146 Milk Retailers upon the Register, at the 31st December, 1926, 22 Retailers having discontinued and 22 were added to the Register. Of the 22 Retailers who discontinued during the year in 6 cases it was on account of objections being raised that the premises were not suitable as Milkshops.

There are 36 persons retailing milk in the Borough who reside outside the Borough boundary—an increase of 2 as compared with the previous year.

**Milk and Cream Regulations, 1912 and 1917.**—The whole of the 105 samples of New Milk were examined for Preservatives, but in no case was any Preservative found. No samples of Cream were taken.

**Inspection of Meat and other Foods.**—The total number of beef and veal animals inspected at the time of slaughter or immediately afterwards was 5,824, which is about 90 per cent. of the total beef and veal animals slaughtered in the Borough.

There have been 116 cases of emergency slaughter, involving 54 cows, 21 bullocks, 21 heifers, 4 sheep, 4 bulls and 7 pigs and 5 calves notified to me for inspection, and as a result of these inspections the carcasses and all organs of 3 cows, 4 heifers, 4 bullocks, 2 sheep, 1 pig and 2 calves, and portions only of the carcasses of 4 bullocks, 3 cows and 1 heifer, and the organs only of 17 cows, 1 heifer, 1 bullock and 1 pig were condemned and destroyed.

Of the above cases, 79 animals were killed and dressed outside the Borough and 37 in Slaughter-houses in the Borough.

The total weight of food condemned and destroyed during the year was 9 tons, 12 cwts., 1 stone, 5 lbs.

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.**

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Stones</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
32 whole Carcasses and all Organs	6	3	0	8
Portions of Carcasses	0	1	2	0
37 sets of Lungs	0	2	7	3
69 Livers	0	9	0	8
10 Heads and Tongues	0	2	2	11
Stomachs and Mesenteries	0	0	6	5
Udders	0	2	6	12
Kidneys and Skirts	0	0	2	10
Pig's Pluck	0	0	1	2
Imported Meat	0	1	0	13
Fruit, Fish, Tinned Foods, etc.	2	8	2	3
<hr/>				
Total of Meat and other Foods condemned	9	12	1	5

**Slaughter-Houses.**—The number of licensed private slaughter-houses in use at 31st Dec., 1926, was 37, as compared with 40 on the 31st Dec., 1925—3 Licenses having lapsed during the year. The whole of the slaughter-houses are held on Annual License and during the year 5,373 inspections were made.

The question of concentrating the slaughtering in the Borough is still under consideration by the Special Sub-Committee, the matter having been somewhat delayed by the refusal of the Ministry of Health to sanction the Loan applied for in connection with the erection by the Corporation of a Slaughter-house at the Cattle Market to provide accommodation for the Butchers who would be dispossessed under the proposed scheme.

**PUBLIC HEALTH (Meat) REGULATIONS, 1924.**

There have been breaches of these Regulations by 2 Butchers during the year, and Warnings were given by letter in each case.

**Offensive Trades.**—During the year 8 applications were made for Fish Fryers' Licences, 1 was withdrawn and 7 refused. One application was made and granted for a Fat Rendering License, but the business was not commenced, and 1 application was made and granted for a Rag and Bone Dealer's License.

The number of premises now used for offensive trades and duly licensed is 38, as follows :—

- 1 Gut Scraper.
- 31 Fish Fryers.
- 1 Fellmonger.
- 1 Fat Rendering and Tripe Boiling.
- 2 Fat Rendering.
- 2 Rag and Bone Dealers.

There are also 30 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 are under supervision, and are kept in a fairly satisfactory conditions.

**Shops Acts, 1912-13, and Shops (Early Closing) Act, 1920, and Amendment Act, 1921.**—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, and 3 Orders under the Shop Hours Act, 1904, affecting Chemists and Druggists, Hairdressers and Barbers, and Boot and Shoe Dealers.

During the year there have been several contraventions of the above Acts and Orders, and personal warnings were given to the offenders.

#### **Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1908.**

There are 2 persons registered under the above Act. One application for registration was made during the year and same was refused.

#### **Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.**

The total number of rats actually killed by the Rat Catcher during the year was 1,489, but these figures do not include the rats that were poisoned.

The following are the principal places at which the rats have been destroyed :—

Snipe Tip	....	....	....	....	825
Pierremont Beck	....	....	....	....	128
North Road Tip	....	....	....	....	441
Sundry premises	....	....	....	....	95

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1,489

13 Informal Notices were served and all complied with.

**Common Lodging-Houses.**—There are 6 Common Lodging-houses on the Register, with accommodation for 435 lodgers.

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

Six Informal Notices were served during the year for the abatement of nuisances, and all 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 and Inspector of  
Meat and other Foods.*

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County Borough of Darlington.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER,

**G. A. DAWSON, M.D., D.P.H.,**

FOR THE

**Year ending 31st December, 1926.**

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DARLINGTON :

The Skerne Printing Co., Ltd., Garden Street.

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1927.

County Borough of Darlington

ANNUAL REPORT

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

G. A. GARRARD, M.D., D.S.M.

For the year ending 31st December 1936

## STAFF OF SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE.

*School Medical Officer—*

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

G. A. DAWSON, M.D., M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.  
(Commenced duties June, 1926).*Assistant School Medical Officers—*

ISOBEL C. BROWN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

THOMAS FERGUSON, M.D., M.R.C.P. (Ed.),  
D.P.H. (part time).

(Commenced duties 1st February, 1927).

*Ophthalmic Surgeon—*A. T. PATERSON, M.D., F.R.C.S.E., D.P.H.  
(part time).*Dental Surgeon—*

J. L. LIDDELL, L.D.S.

*Nurses—*

AGNES GARDNER (Senior Nurse).

CATHERINE GARDNER.

GLADYS M. WHITTAKER.

*Clerks—*

DORIS M. BURRELL.

MARY BAINBRIDGE (Transferred to Education Office, Dec. 1926)

ELIZABETH DENT (commenced duties 13th Sept., 1926).

MAY CHARLTON (commenced duties Dec., 1926).

## COUNTY BOROUGH OF DARLINGTON.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Darlington Education Committee.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit to you the report of the work done by the School Medical Department during the year ending 31st December, 1926.

The tragically sudden death of my dear friend Dr. S. G. Mostyn, who served you well for 15 years, has been an irreparable loss. He has established a scheme here in Darlington, which it has been an honour for me to pursue and develop.

By the transfer of the School Clinic from the Education Office to 45, Northgate, much more scope has been provided for dealing with the increasing numbers taking advantage of the facilities afforded. A record figure of 17,351 consultations speaks for itself. The gradual perfection of the scheme for the supervision of children found to be already suffering from defects is indicated by the increase in the number of re-inspections. It is also gratifying to note that 78 per cent. of parents were present at the medical inspection of infants, 45 per cent. in the case of older children, while in 1920 the respective figures were 50 and 25 per cent.

I wish to record my great appreciation of the work of my colleagues, Dr. A. T. Paterson, Dr. Isobel C. Brown, Mr. J. L. Liddell, and the Nursing Staff, and on their behalf I thank you for your kindly support. The willing co-operation of Mr. Whalley, Chief Education Officer, his staff and the head teachers in no small measure added to the year's success.

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE A. DAWSON.

# ANNUAL REPORT, 1926.

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## THE SCHOOL CHILD.

In 1907 when legislation first granted powers to Educational Authorities to inspect school children medically, comments were varied and the outlook as a whole was certainly gloomy. On the one hand some of the medical profession were of the opinion that their realm was being invaded, while on the other hand some of the public considered it an infringement of their liberties. Those who would have to pay the expenses were pessimistic. Experts were by no means sure what the benefits were likely to be unless inspection were coupled with treatment. This coupling has since been done, and the administration and machinery are working.

### **What is the position to-day?**

This result is far beyond the most optimistic expectations of the original proposers of school medical service as a branch of preventive medicine. It was, of course, clear that medical inspection without subsequent treatment would be useless as far as health of the children was concerned, though, no doubt, interesting from a statistical point of view. The duties of the School Medical Service fall naturally under three main headings, namely (a) inspection for the discovery of defects and disease; (b) curative measures; and (c) preventive measures.

The work of inspection includes the annual routine medical examination of 3 age-groups, or approximately one-third of the population in public Elementary Schools; of entrants, 8 year olds, twelve year olds, and all pupils over 12 years of age in Secondary and Continuation Schools; the examination of special cases outside the routine age-groups; the following up and re-examination of children who have been found suffering from defects; the dental examination of all the younger children with annual re-examination; and the examination of all children periodically by the Nurses for the detection and prevention of uncleanness. Curative measures as carried out in the Clinics, include arrangements for the treatment of minor ailments, defective eyesight, dental diseases and enlarged tonsils and adenoids.



The preventive measures are perhaps the most vital of the services rendered by School Medical workers. Ostensibly the object is to fit the child then and there to receive and to benefit from the education provided, but there is a greater work, to teach the child the way to health and to prepare the body and mind for a healthy adolescence.

### **Has the expenditure involved been justified ?**

I should say most definitely, "Yes." During the year 1925, in England and Wales two-and-a-half million scholars were medically examined. Twenty-three per cent. of the scholars examined were found to require medical or surgical treatment, which they have since had or are at present having. Tonsils and adenoids, eyes, ears, nerves hearts, lungs and deformities of all forms are included, and last, but not least, teeth and gums.

What a change from twenty-five years ago, when no one bothered about oral sepsis, otitis media, rhinitis, or tonsilitis, and as for "nerves," we called it a different name when I was at school !

What are now recognised as most important subjects, namely, the "child" heart, the "child" eye, the child "lung," received scant attention. Even the child before he attains school age is receiving our increasing attention in the Nursery School, where early education, not in the three "R's," but in personal hygiene is inculcated. Special schools for graded scholars (according to disease or mental capacity) are now provided, and the education to be imparted is in this way brought down to the level of what can advantageously be absorbed and assimilated.

This represents a great scientific advance and will show beneficial results in the future. Education is compulsory. It is only fair therefore that the scholars individually should be considered, so that they may gain the maximum benefit from what they are compelled to accept.

Darlington is keeping abreast of all the modern work in the supervision of the welfare of its school children. The Dent Memorial Nursery School was one of the first in the country, and is to-day regarded in very high esteem. The special provision which has been made for the physically and mentally defective is being extended. The new Elementary Schools are all being built on the ideal open-air plan. The School Clinic in its new quarters in Northgate is modernly equipped, with its treatment centre for minor ailments, its dental department, eye department, and X-ray apparatus for the treatment of ringworm.

The large percentage (almost 40 per cent.) of children with remediable defects, particularly noted among the entrants to our schools expresses the necessity for close co-ordination and a linking up with other health services. At present some attempt at improving the conditions of the toddlers is being made by the Infant and Child Welfare Scheme, but the demands made on our small staff of Health Visitors in ante-natal and maternity care prevent ambitious work. The Nursery School does excellent work, but it only provides for a very small fraction of our 2—5 children. The early attention to such common conditions as dental caries, squint, enlarged tonsils and adenoids, discharging ears, malnutrition and rickety deformities will reduce the gross aggravations or complications which in the past have entered our Elementary Schools, and lead not only to economy, but increased efficiency in our Infant Departments.

**Number of Schools.**—In 1926 there were in Darlington:—

- (a) 21 Primary Elementary Schools, comprising 40 departments.
- (b) Junior Technical School.
- (c) Girls' High School.
- (d) Grammar School.
- (e) Special School for mentally defective children.
- (f) Open-air School.
- (g) Nursery School.

The **Number of Children** in the Darlington Elementary Schools at mid-year, 1926, was:—

Boys	....	....	3,455	}	Total	....	10,681
Girls	....	....	3,535				
Infants	....	....	3,691				

## MEDICAL INSPECTION.

The number of children submitted to routine inspection in the Elementary Schools was 2,961; in addition to these 1,123 children were examined for special reasons, and 5,969 were re-examined. At the Secondary Schools 3 routine inspections were held, and 697 pupils were examined. The Nursery School was visited weekly.

In addition to the routine inspections, 161 children were medically examined as candidates for Scholarships in the Secondary Schools. Routine inspections at the Elementary Schools were in general made only twice during the year so as to avoid the loss of time which often occurs when there is only a small number of children to be examined at a school.

Of the 2,961 children submitted to routine inspection in the Elementary Schools (see Table II.), 1,080 were found to be suffering from defects (other than uncleanness, defective clothing and footgear, and dental diseases) which required treatment; 809 had defects which necessitated their being kept under observation. Details of these defects are set out in the Tables at the end of this Report.

**Weight of School Children.**—The following table compares the weight of the school children examined in 1925 and 1926, with corresponding weights before the war, and also with average weights of Elementary School children in England and Wales, as given in "The Health and Physique of School Children," published by the Ratan Tata Foundation in 1913.

*Weights in Pounds.*

	Age 5		Age 8		Age 12	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
England & Wales 1913	38·5	37·6	52·2	49·8	73·0	73·9
Darlington, 1910 ...	38·2	37·1	...	...	...	...
„ 1914 ...	39·3	38·0	...	...	71·0	70·7
„ 1925 ...	44·6	44·1	54·9	51·9	78·6	72·9
„ 1926 ...	41·3	40·1	53·2	52·0	76·5	71·3

The fall in weight of the five year old children in 1926, compared with 1925, may be explained by the fact that for 1925 the figure was abnormally high, and though the economic difficulties during the coal strike and the measles epidemic of the previous year may have had some influence, the figure for 1926 still compares favourably with that of other towns, and of England and Wales as a whole. The general increase shown over pre-war figures is worthy of note.

**Uncleanliness.**—Routine medical inspection does not, for obvious reasons, afford a good measure of the prevalence of uncleanly conditions. The routine surprise surveys by the Nurses are a better guide to the actual state of affairs; 148 children were found during the routine inspections to have nits in their hair, and 4 had vermin on the body. Of the former number, 139 were girls. See also pages 10 and 29 below.

**Tonsils and Adenoids.**—Of the children examined during routine inspections 574 (19.3 per cent.) were found to have adenoids, or unhealthy tonsils, or both. Operation was advised in 120 cases (4 per cent.), but in the less severe cases palliative measures were recommended and explained to the parents. The want of correct training in handkerchief drill and nose breathing predisposes to this defect, with its subsequent deformities of the shoulders and chest diseases.

**Tuberculosis.**—Seventeen cases of definite pulmonary tuberculosis were found in the course of medical inspection. One case of suspected pulmonary tuberculosis was referred for treatment, and 3 for observation. Of non-pulmonary forms cervical glands were involved in 6 cases, and bones, joints and the skin in 4 cases. In addition to these many of the cases returned under Bronchitis are being kept under careful observation.

**Skin Disease.**—There were 72 children referred for treatment on account of skin disease. Several of these children were excluded from school until treatment was completed and they were certified free from infection by a medical officer.

**Vision.**—The percentage of the 8 and 12-14 year old children found to have defective vision needing treatment, is shown in the following table:—

	8 Years			12-14 Years		
	No. examined	No. referred for treatment	Per-centage	No. examined	No. referred for treatment	Per-centage
Boys ...	557	43	7.7	402	30	7.4
Girls ...	541	31	5.7	446	41	9.1

**Ear Disease and Deafness.**—Sixty-seven (2 per cent.) children were found to be suffering from ear disease or deafness, and were referred for treatment. Infectious diseases (especially measles) and adenoids are the exciting causes in nearly all cases.

**Infectious Diseases.**—The cases of infectious disease notified by teachers during the past two years were as follows :—

	1926.	1925.
Influenza	4	31
Scarlet Fever	25	26
Measles and German Measles	11	428
Whooping Cough	66	118
Diphtheria	3	7
Typhoid Fever	2	0
Chicken Pox	78	98
Mumps	20	105
	209	813

**Smallpox.**—Three school children, unvaccinated, suffered, but in no cases were the schools infected.

No schools were closed during the year on account of infectious diseases.

**Following Up.**—In order to secure the greatest possible benefit from the facilities provided it is most expedient to follow up children requiring treatment. The School Nurses paid 367 visits to 21 schools, and made 712 home visits in connexion with the cleanliness of the children. For this purpose 19,716 examinations of children were made, and in 1,594 cases (8.08 per cent.) nits were found in the hair; verminous bodies were found in 20 cases. All these children were inspected at intervals of two or three weeks, and at the end of the terms nits were found in only 241 cases, all of which showed improvement. For the purpose of following up defects other than uncleanness, the School Nurses paid 2,061 home visits.

**Anthropometric Survey.**—At the suggestion of the Board of Education an inquiry was made during 1926 into certain factors governing the growth and development of healthy children of school age, with a view to obtaining a series of anthropometric figures from all parts of the country likely to be of service to School Medical Officers and others in preparing a standard for the estimation and comparison of type, racial characteristics, nutrition, physique, etc. Records were taken in respect of each individual child, of the height, sitting height, weight, chest measurement, colour of the hair, colour of the eyes, together with evidence relating to social and environmental conditions.

600 children, accompanied by their parents, from whom family history was obtained, were impartially selected in the course of routine inspection for the purpose of compiling this special report.

The information collected has now been sent to the Board of Education, and it is anticipated that some interesting comparative data will be available for subsequent reports.

**Teachers.**—Twenty-three teachers were medically examined during the year by the School Medical Staff.

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## MEDICAL TREATMENT.

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The Clinic for the treatment of minor defects was removed to the more commodious premises in 45, Northgate, in April. This building, originally occupied as a Nurses' home, had extensive improvements carried out, central heating being installed.

The accommodation provided is as follows:—

*Ground Floor.*

Waiting room for 50 children and parents.

Treatment Clinic and store room.

Medical Officer's room.

*Upper Floor.*

X-ray apparatus.

Dental Department.

Eye Department.

Clerical and Records room.

The number of separate attendances was 17,351, of which 12,000 were for treatment, and 5,351 for advice.

**Minor Ailments.**—Impetigo again provided the majority of our cases, accounting for 791. There were 130 new cases of ringworm, compared with 89 in the previous year, and 16 cases still under treatment from 1925. Three cases were treated at home. Of the 143 cases treated at the Clinic, 49 were of the scalp, 7 of these were treated by epilation with X-rays, and 42 by other methods. Ringworm of the body, which is very much more amenable to treatment, accounted for 94 cases; of the 143 cases, 115 were cured and re-admitted to school during the year, leaving 28 still under treatment.

Fifty-five cases of scabies were treated, and precautionary instructions given on disinfestation.

119 children received treatment on account of ear diseases; the great majority of these were suffering from ear discharge. Such cases invariably arise from diseased conditions in the throat, and advice or appropriate treatment of the exciting cause is also given.

**Tonsils and Adenoid Enlargement.**—During 1926 operations were performed on 236 cases of adenoid growth and enlarged tonsils at the General Hospital, of these 173 were sent from the School Clinic, and the remainder from other sources in the town. In the case of minor defects not requiring operation, and for those who have undergone the operation, advice in remedial exercises is given to encourage healthy breathing.

**Eye Defects.**—428 children were examined for defective vision by retinoscopy during the year; in 86 glasses were not advised.

Glasses were provided for the following defects:—

Myopia	....	....	....	....	64
Hypermetropia	....	....	....	....	90
Astigmatism	....	....	....	....	188

Under the Committee's Scheme, spectacles are obtained at contract prices, and in necessitous cases the expenses are defrayed. It is advisable that these cases should be re-examined annually, particularly myopes, whose defect becomes seriously aggravated under strain. On the whole the objections of parents whose attention has been drawn to the fact of the necessity for the provision of spectacles and the ultimate benefit, are not as numerous as in previous years.

**Provision of Meals.**—Three Centres were open during the year for the provision of free meals for school children. 23,989 meals were provided for 153 children, as follows:—

At Borough Road School	....	....	....	13,380
At Rise Carr School	....	....	....	8,571
At St. Augustine's School	....	....	....	2,638

The diet was approved by the School Medical Officer and the Head Mistress of the Beaumont Street Domestic Subjects Centre, and the arrangements were inspected from time to time by the School Medical Officers.

**The Training College and School Clinic.**—In order that future school teachers may have a more intimate knowledge of the school medical work, arrangements for a number of pupils of the Training College to attend the Clinic three days per week have been in operation for the past year. The principal and staff of the College very much appreciate this opportunity for the pupils to acquire a first hand practical knowledge of school hygiene, of common diseases in their early form, and of simple points in the diagnosis and treatment of defects. The enthusiastic co-operation of the teaching profession with the school medical service is essential for the continued success of the welfare of the child, and all we can do to secure this is, in my opinion, an excellent service.

**Co-operation of Parents.**—Parents are invited to attend routine inspections and at the School Clinic. Their presence is welcomed as it gives the Medical Officer the opportunity of giving personal help and advice, and helps to break down prejudice which in some areas still exists. Suggestions can thus be made, both for the remedy of existing defects in the child, and also for the prevention of future ill-health by attention to what appear very trifling common-place weaknesses. During 1926, at the medical inspection of infants, parents were present in 83 per cent. of the cases, but with older children this percentage was 45 per cent.

**Co-operation of Head Teachers and School Attendance Officers.**—(a) *Medical Inspection Generally.*—In the course of visitation by Attendance Officers of homes where excuses of illness are put forward as the cause of absence of children from school, the parents are instructed to obtain medical attention from the family doctor or at the School Clinic.

(b) *Following-up of Children.*—The Attendance Officers receive daily lists of children who have attended the Clinic, and reports as to their fitness to attend school. In the case of those unfit, the date for the next visit to the Clinic is given on the list for information. Further, a daily list is also furnished of children who should have attended the Clinic, but have failed to do so. The parents of the latter are promptly visited and warned as to the consequences of failure to attend as ordered.

(c) *Medical Treatment of the Children.*—Any special treatment of children attending the Clinic recommended by the Medical Officer is carefully noted by the Officers, in order to see that instructions are carried out, and cases recommended for hospital treatment are similarly dealt with.

By daily lists supplied of all children attending the Clinic and due to attend, together with reports as to fitness or otherwise, the work of the School Medical Department is co-ordinated with that of the School Attendance Department.

I much appreciate the cordial co-operation of the Head Teachers. The success of the work is ultimately dependent on the enthusiasm of the teacher, and many an obstructing parent melts down under the moral suasion of the child's teacher. The latter then realises the immediate purpose of medical inspection is to fit the child for the education which he is ready to give.

**Employment of Children and Young Persons.**—The advice of the School Medical Officers is available for the Employment Officer, and at the final examination of a school child an effort is made to call the attention of the parents to any physical condition which should influence them in the choice of an occupation for the child.



The chief employment for boys in this area is in the Building and Engineering Trades. Owing to the continued trade depression few vacancies in these trades are being notified. Many boys seeking apprenticeships are compelled to find interim employment as errand boys and labourers.

Girls are employed in Domestic Service, Wool Spinning, Shops, Offices, and in the Tailoring and Dressmaking Trades. Many apprentice Dressmakers and Tailoresses are now totally unemployed, and several are employed on unsystematic short time. Shop Assistants and Clerks have great difficulty in finding employment.

The Juvenile Employment Bureau is in touch with the employers in the district, and 254 children have through its agency been placed in employment. Suitable candidates are notified of vacancies in the Civil Service, Post Office, Army, Navy and Air Forces, the Railway and similar services.

Bye-laws governing the employment of children and young persons are in force, and the streets are patrolled by the School Attendance Officers. Minor offences are brought to light in this manner and dealt with, but these irregularities are generally due to ignorance of, rather than intent to evade the bye-laws.

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## DENTAL DEPARTMENT,

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Throughout the year dental inspection and treatment was carried out by one whole-time Dental Surgeon (Mr. Liddell). By the appointment of a Clerk to assist in this work the Committee have wisely relieved Mr. Liddell for additional inspections and treatment. Mr. Liddell has kindly provided the following report:—

I beg to present the report of Dental work done in the year 1926. This is the first year that you have had a full-time Dental Surgeon for the complete year, so that it is difficult to draw comparisons. You will see, from the tables, that both inspections and treatments are greatly in excess of previous years. The percentage of those who took advantage of the treatment offered has, however, fallen off. This I consider is mainly due to the amount of unemployment in the Borough, and that parents are expected to pay a small fee for work done.

A Junior Clerk was appointed and commenced work on September 13th, 1926. This allowed more time to be devoted to purely Dental work, and the returns have increased accordingly.

All children who were examined the previous year were re-examined during this year, also new age groups were taken in hand. It is proposed to pursue this policy in future years, so that when a child has once been examined, it shall be followed up every year until the termination of its school career.

It was found impracticable to do much conservative work or temporary dentitions. Work was concentrated upon clearing mouths of septic, temporary teeth, and doing everything possible for conserving the permanent teeth.

May I take this opportunity of thanking the doctors, nurses and teaching staffs, for their help during the past twelve months. (Tabulated figures dealing with the work of the Dental Department are to be found in tables IV. and V. of the Appendix.)

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## PHYSICAL TRAINING.

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Physical Training in the Elementary Schools of the Borough continues to be carried out in accordance with the Board of Education Syllabus, 1919.

The "Tables" of exercises are adhered to generally, and are carried out in an intelligent manner, plenty of free movement being included, whilst retaining the formal movements and discipline necessary to make the training effective.

The training is carried out consistently during winter and summer. Cold weather, provided it is dry, does not prevent the lessons being taken in the open air. If the weather is unsuitable the lessons are taken in the classrooms, verandahs, or halls (halls are available in nine departments).

Organised games—Football, Stoolball, Rounders, Netball and Cricket, are the principal games played, together with many other minor games with and without apparatus. These games are taken in all Senior Departments, and in most of the Junior Departments.

The Darlington Schools' Athletic Association arrange league tournaments for Football (Senior and Junior), Netball (Senior and Junior), and Cricket. They also arrange an Annual Swimming Gala. Suitable trophies, such as Shields and Cups, etc. are provided, and are keenly contested for.

The Borough is well provided with playing fields and open spaces in the various Parks.

It is regretted that it is not considered possible to prepare and reserve certain portions of these open spaces as playing pitches for the school children during (and possibly after) school hours. If this were done and the pitches correctly marked out and equipped, it would add considerably to the value of the training, both educationally and physically. There does not appear to be any difficulty in preparing tennis courts, bowling greens and putting greens, mainly for the use of adults.

Swimming instruction was carried out during the period, May to September, the teaching staff being the same as last year, viz., two men and two women part-time teachers, together with the Organiser of Physical Training. Provision was made for dealing with 1,200 scholars weekly from the Senior Departments. There was an average weekly attendance of 946.6. The Corporation Baths were used on four mornings per week, Tuesday and Wednesday for girls, Thursday and Friday for boys. The Baths were comparatively free from the general public during the mornings, and this enabled the teachers to give the progressive lessons more thoroughly and efficiently than was the case when the classes attended in the afternoons.

264 one length ( $33\frac{1}{3}$  yds.) and 98 five lengths ( $166\frac{2}{3}$  yds.) certificates, making a total of 362 certificates, were awarded by the Education Committee. In addition many certificates were awarded by the Darlington Amateur Swimming Club for swimming distances of a  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile to 1 mile. Several scholars also gained the Northumberland and Durham Swimming Association's General Proficiency Certificate for swimming, diving and life saving.

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## SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

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**Mentally Defective Children.**—Through lack of other provisions in the past there has been a tendency to make provision for children of "lower rather than higher" mental grade in the Special School. This was the natural outcome of the fact that, in so far as these worst children were already in attendance at the Public Elementary School, they would be the first to be recommended by the Head Teacher for transfer. From my own experience in Oldham and elsewhere, I found there was, moreover, a greater range of mental defect among the children admitted to the Special School than obtains now. It was not an uncommon thing for children to be of sufficiently high grade to be recommended for transfer back to the public Elementary School after a few years at the Special School, while

at the same time the School contained also children who made no progress whatever in the simplest work. But the retention of these low grade children, natural as it was in view of the fact that there was, generally speaking, no other provision available, tended to stamp the schools as "silly" schools, and so led to prejudice against them on the part of the parents whose children, however educationally backward, may have presented few obvious traits of defect of conduct and bearing.

Latterly, however, with the passing and operation of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913, the onus of caring for children of lower mental grade and anti-social tendencies, has been removed from the Education Authority and placed on the Local Control Authority. Coincident with this practice of eliminating from the Day Special School the lower grade child, there is growing up an increasing concern and care for the child at the other end of the scale of mental subnormality, namely, the innately dull and therefore backward child, and, associated with him the child of normal intelligence but retarded mentally from accidental causes. For the worst type of case the Special School is not proving as serviceable as was formerly believed in developing citizenship out of unlikely material. In such cases supervision, occupation and segregation are to be recommended, and are generally necessary. For the higher grade defective special educational training is, however, the obvious means of development. Each case must be adjudicated on its demerits, and patient, intensive and experimental methods are our only hope, followed up by consistent supervision and after-care by the co-operation of the Education Committee and the Committee for the Welfare of Afflicted Persons.

At the Special School Miss Clegg does excellent work under very trying conditions. It has long been recognised that the school buildings are totally inadequate for the amount and nature of the work to be done. The enclosed situation of the premises deprives facilities for the occupational training so valuable to these children, while the limited accommodation available renders it impossible to admit to the school more than a proportion of the children who could with advantage be educated there. Another factor which is bound to react unfavourably on the value of the school is the difficulty, by no means peculiar to Darlington, of obtaining places in resident institutions for suitable children.

It is hoped that more adequate buildings will soon be available, and that the new school will take its place as an essential unit in a comprehensive Darlington scheme for combating what is undoubtedly a grave social menace. Miss Clegg's record of

achievement under the present unsatisfactory conditions indicates very clearly the good results which may be anticipated in a happier environment.

**Blind, Deaf, Defective and Epileptic Children.**—The arrangements for dealing with these children remain as in previous years. 11 children were examined for Forms 302 and 306 during the year, and the highest number of mentally defective children on the books was 43. 4 children were reported for admission to a Residential Special School; 6 were notified to the Local Authority under the Mental Deficiency Act.

These figures are summarised in Table III. of the Appendix.

**Open-air School.**—The open-air school situated at Dodmire was open for the whole year. Though situated on a clay subsoil and of temporary wooden structure, good results are obtained. Unfortunately there is only accommodation for girls. Sixty-six cases were selected and admitted, chiefly suffering from anæmia, debility, inactive tuberculosis or glandular enlargements. A daily bath, gardening, open-air dancing, physical drill, open-air desk work, all come in the routine. Cod liver oil emulsion and a mid-day meal, consisting of soup, potatoes, meat and vegetables and pudding are provided free to necessitous cases, and at cost price to those who are fit to pay. Medical inspection of all the children is carried out at least once a month. On the average the weight of the children has increased by 9 per cent., and there has been a decided improvement in their physical condition.

I trust the Committee will soon consider the question of similar provision of boys.

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## FAIRFIELD NURSERY SCHOOL.

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Weekly visits were paid during the year to the School by the Assistant School Medical Officer. At these visits routine examinations were made of each new child admitted, and of every child in the School. Special and defective cases were examined from week to week.

The majority of the children admitted were found to be suffering from some defect, *e.g.*, enlargement of tonsils and adenoids, rickets, defective vision, or a general pre-tubercular condition of chest or glands.

Every child in the School is given cod liver oil emulsion daily, and the great majority have Parrish's chemical food in addition. During the fine weather the children live entirely in

he open air, even meals being taken out of doors. Special cases are given sun treatment and massage, and many cases can be cited where great improvement was shown, even after a few weeks of such treatment.

Children who on examination are found to be suffering from defective vision and decayed teeth, have the opportunity of treatment at the School Clinic, and all surgical cases, *e.g.*, bone deformities and the enlargement of tonsils and adenoids are referred for treatment to the General Hospital; cases of definite tuberculosis are referred to the Tuberculosis Dispensary for further examination and treatment.

Minor ailments and skin conditions receive treatment at the School, and all children found to be suffering from slight enlargement of tonsils and adenoids are given nasal and oral hygiene. This treatment is carried out by a trained Nurse who visits the School daily.

It is gratifying to note the large attendance of parents at the Medical Officer's visits, and to find from them that they fully appreciate the benefits their children obtain from attendance at the School. It is a matter of great regret that more poor children from unsatisfactory home surroundings cannot be accommodated.

Fifty-two children were examined on admission, 68 re-examined, and 72 examined as special cases.

Three cases of tonsils and adenoids were operated on at the General Hospital; nine children received treatment at the School Dental Clinic.

Minor ailments were dealt with at the School by the staff.

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## SECONDARY SCHOOLS.

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**Grammar School.**—Three routine medical inspections were carried out during the year. Of the work the Headmaster, Mr. Taylor, writes:—

The Schools Medical Service continued to give great help to the Grammar School, and is undoubtedly proving a boon to parents. The health of the School is showing an improvement, and the physique of the boys has increased markedly since the advent of the School Doctor and the Gymnasium.

**High School for Girls.**—Quarterly visits were paid to the High School by the Assistant School Medical Officer, when there were examined all entrants and pupils already in attendance. General physical conditions were found to be exceptionally good. This was brought out most markedly in the improvement shown in the condition of the pupils on entering the school and who were examined one year later. Much of the credit of the improvement is due to the Physical Culture Mistress, who spends much time in giving remedial exercises for physical deformities brought to her notice by the Medical Officer.

The great majority of cases of defect were found to be those of vision—which is, of course, accounted for by the fact that increased strain of secondary education brings such defects into greater prominence.

The Medical Officer is pleased to note the increase in attendance of parents at the inspections, and to find that the parents are now, in most cases, anxious to have any defect remedied without delay.

	<i>Pupils Attending</i>	<i>Pupils Examined</i>
Grammar School ....	384	270
Junior Technical School	217	185
Girls' High School ....	294	242
<b>Total</b> ....	<b>895</b>	<b>697</b>

At the ages specified by the Board of Education the examinations were as follows:—

Age ...	8	12	13	14	15	16	17	Total
Boys ...	15	143	68	72	38	17	10	363
Girls ...	—	58	39	42	37	16	14	206

In addition to these, special cases were examined at the following ages:—

Age ... ..	7	9	10	11	Total
Boys ... ..	2	3	6	81	92
Girls ... ..	—	—	12	24	36

The inspections were carried out on much the same lines as in the Elementary Schools, with the addition of chest measurements.

The following table gives the average chest measurements in inches :—

	Age 8		Age 12		Age 13		Age 14	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
	Inspiration ... ..	24·8	—	27·3	28·9	28·4	31·2	30·2
Expiration ... ..	23·1	—	25·2	26·7	26·0	29·2	27·5	29·9

	Age 15		Age 16		Age 17	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
	Inspiration ... ..	31·6	32·3	32·7	33·6	33·8
Expiration ... ..	28·7	29·8	29·9	31·5	30·8	31·4

Number of pupils in whom no defect was found—306.

The following defects were found during the course of medical inspection :—

Disease or Defect	Age 8		Age 12		Age 13		Age 14		Age 15		Age 16		Age 17		Total
	B	G	B	G	B	G	B	G	B	G	B	G	B	G	
Various Teeth (four or more ... ..)	3	-	4	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	-	-	-	2	19
Enlargement of Tonsils	-	-	1	15	3	7	5	8	-	2	-	1	-	-	42
adenoids ... ..	-	-	1	5	-	3	-	5	-	4	-	-	-	2	20
Enlargement of Glands	1	-	5	6	4	2	4	1	1	6	-	1	-	-	31
Quint ... ..	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
External Eye Disease	-	-	2	2	-	5	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Ineffective Vision	-	-	11	11	5	5	6	11	2	7	-	1	-	4	63
Nasal Discharge ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	—
Deafness ... ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Ineffective Speech	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	2
Other Diseases ... ..	-	-	6	22	1	7	1	13	1	11	-	6	-	5	73



Defects found and referred for treatment, or to be kept under observation :—

Defect or Disease	Routine Inspection				Re-examinations			
	Treatment		Observation		Treatment		Observation	
	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls
Uncleanliness (Head) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Eye—								
Blepharitis ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Corneal Ulcer ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Defective Vision ...	34	1	12	9	18	12	8	10
Squint . . . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ear—								
Defective Hearing ...	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	3
Nose and Throat—								
Enlarged Tonsils ...	14	18	3	1	15	11	11	3
Adenoids ... ..	5	5	1	1	9	3	4	2
Enlarged Cervical Glands (non- Tuberculous) ...	6	4	5	1	3	5	5	4
Heart Disease—								
Organic ... ..	—	1	1	2	—	1	1	3
Functional... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anæmia ... ..	3	12	—	3	—	3	—	—
Lungs ... ..	—	3	17	13	3	6	15	8
Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis—								
Pulmonary—Definite	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Suspect.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary—								
Spine ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other forms ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Deformities—								
Rickets ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dental Caries ... ..	16	13	—	1	24	4	3	1
Skin—								
Scabies ... ..	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Defects or Diseases ... ..	15	6	20	15	4	6	13	21

Re-examinations 244



**TABLE II.—A.** Return of Defects found by Medical Inspection in the Year ended 31st December, 1926.

DEFECT OR DISEASE	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
	No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Malnutrition... ..	4	25	—	—
Uncleanliness ... .. (See Table IV., Group V.)	152	4	1	—
<b>SKIN—</b>				
Ringworm :				
Scalp ... ..	8	—	2	—
Body ... ..	2	—	—	—
Scabies ... ..	13	—	—	—
Impetigo ... ..	25	—	9	—
Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous) ...	13	12	—	—
<b>EYE—</b>				
Blepharitis ... ..	28	2	7	—
Conjunctivitis ... ..	7	—	2	—
Keratitis ... ..	1	—	—	—
Corneal Opacities ... ..	4	—	1	—
Defective Vision (excluding Squint) ... ..	151	62	44	7
Squint ... ..	44	33	7	4
Other Conditions ... ..	9	1	2	1
<b>EAR—</b>				
Defective Hearing ... ..	8	14	4	6
Otitis Media ... ..	41	2	13	—
Other Ear Diseases ... ..	1	1	—	—
<b>NOSE AND THROAT—</b>				
Enlarged Tonsils only ...	228	13	6	—
Adenoids only ... ..	82	4	7	—
Enlarged Tonsils & Adenoids	224	5	5	—
Other Conditions ... ..	31	6	5	—
Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous) ...	11	90	2	1
Defective Speech ... ..	—	13	—	6
Teeth—Dental Diseases ...	326	5	—	—
<b>HEART &amp; CIRCULATION—</b>				
Heart Disease :				
Organic ... ..	—	15	—	2
Functional ... ..	1	3	—	—
Anæmia ... ..	20	37	—	2
<b>LUNGS—</b>				
Bronchitis ... ..	43	520	5	2
Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	—	—	—	—

TABLE II.—*continued.*

DEFECT OR DISEASE  (1)	ROUTINE INSPECTIONS		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
	No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
	Requiring Treatment  (2)	Requiring to be kept under observation but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment  (3)	Requiring Treatment  (4)	Requiring to be kept under observation but <i>not</i> requiring Treatment  (5)
<b>TUBERCULOSIS—</b>				
Pulmonary :				
Definite ... ..	11	5	1	—
Suspected ... ..	1	3	—	—
Non-Pulmonary :				
Glands ... ..	6	—	—	—
Spine ... ..	—	—	—	—
Hip ... ..	—	—	—	—
Other Bones & Joints ...	1	1	—	—
Skin ... ..	2	—	—	—
Other Forms ... ..	—	—	—	—
<b>NERVOUS SYSTEM—</b>				
Epilepsy ... ..	—	8	—	—
Chorea ... ..	1	3	—	—
Other Conditions ... ..	3	1	—	—
<b>DEFORMITIES—</b>				
Rickets ... ..	5	28	5	—
Spinal Curvature ... ..	—	2	—	—
Other Forms ... ..	2	24	1	1
Other Defects & Diseases ...	56	149	5	16

B. Number of *individual children* found at *Routine Medical Inspection* to require treatment (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

GROUP  (1)	NUMBER OF CHILDREN		Percentage of Children found to require Treatment  (4)
	Inspected  (2)	Found to require Treatment  (3)	
<b>CODE GROUPS :—</b>			
Entrants ... ..	1,015	396	39·01
Intermediates ... ..	1,098	424	38·54
Leavers ... ..	848	260	30·66
Total (Code Groups) ... ..	2,961	1,080	36·47
Other Routine Inspections ...	285	75	26·31

TABLE III.—Return of all Exceptional Children in the Area.

		Boys	Girls	Total
Blind (including partially blind).	(i.) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally blind.	2	3	5
	(ii.) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially blind.	12	3	15
	(i.) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the totally deaf or deaf and dumb.	—	—	—
	(ii.) Suitable for training in a School or Class for the partially deaf.	1	2	3
Mentally Defective.	Feeble-minded (cases not notifiable to the Local Control Authority).	17	26	43
	Notified to the Local Control Authority during the year.	5	8	13
Epileptics.	Suffering from severe epilepsy.	—	—	—
	Suffering from severe epilepsy.	2	1	3

Epileptics (continued).	Suffering from epilepsy which is not severe.	Infected pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis.	Non-infectious but active pulmonary and glandular tuberculosis.	Delicate children ( <i>e.g.</i> , pre or latent tuberculosis, malnutrition, debility, anaemia, etc.).	Active non-pulmonary tuberculosis.	Crippled Children (other than those with active tuberculous disease), <i>e.g.</i> , children suffering from paralysis, etc., and in- cluding those with severe heart disease.	Total		
							Boys	Girls	Total
	Attending Public Elementary Schools... ..	...	...	...	...	...	6	4	10
	At no School or Institution ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the... Ministry of Health or the Board ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
	At other Institutions ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	8	6	14
	At no School or Institution ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
	At Sanatoria or Sanatorium Schools approved by the... Ministry of Health or the Board ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
	At Certified Residential Open-Air Schools ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
	At Certified Day Open-Air Schools ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	11	11
	At Public Elementary Schools ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	23	14	37
	At other Institutions ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
	At no School or Institution ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
	At Certified Residential Open-Air Schools ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
	At Certified Day Open-Air Schools ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	49	49
	At Public Elementary Schools ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	23	16	39
	At other Institutions ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
	At no School or Institution ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
	At Sanatoria or Hospital Schools approved by the Ministry... of Health or the Board ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	5	—	5
	At Public Elementary Schools ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	5	7	12
	At other Institutions ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
	At no School or Institution ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
	At Certified Hospital Schools ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
	At Certified Residential Cripple Schools ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
	At Certified Day Cripple Schools ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
	At Public Elementary Schools ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	23	26	49
	At other Institutions ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
	At no School or Institution ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3

Physically  
Defective.

**TABLE IV.—Returns of Defects Treated during the Year ended 31st December, 1926.**  
TREATMENT TABLE.

GROUP I.—MINOR AILMENTS (excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Group V.).

DISEASE OR DEFECT (1)	Number of Defects treated or under treatment during the year		
	Under the Authority's Scheme (2)	Otherwise (3)	Total (4)
<b>SKIN—</b>			
Ringworm—Scalp ... ..	49	3	52
Ringworm—Body ... ..	94	—	94
Scabies ... ..	55	—	55
Impetigo ... ..	791	—	791
Other Skin Disease ... ..	198	1	199
MINOR EYE DEFECTS ... .. (External and other, but excluding cases falling in Group II.).	178	6	184
MINOR EAR DEFECTS ... ..	119	9	128
MISCELLANEOUS ... .. (e.g., minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.).	854	29	883
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>2,338</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>2,386</b>

GROUP II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT (excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.).

DEFECT OR DISEASE (1)	No. of Defects dealt with			
	Under the Authority's Scheme (2)	Submitted to Refraction by private practitioner or at hospital, apart from Authority's Scheme (3)	Otherwise (4)	Total (5)
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) (Operations for squint should be recorded separately in the body of the Report) ... ..	428	—	9	437
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes (excluding those recorded in Group I.). ... ..	33	—	—	33
<b>Total ... ..</b>	<b>461</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>470</b>

Total number of children for whom spectacles were prescribed—

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme, 344. (b) Otherwise, —

Total number of children who obtained or received spectacles—

(a) Under the Authority's Scheme, 304. (b) Otherwise, 9.

TABLE IV.—*continued.*

## GROUP III.—TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

NUMBER OF DEFECTS				
Received Operative Treatment			Received other forms of Treatment	Total number Treated
Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital	By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme	Total		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
173	63	236	127	363

## GROUP IV.—DENTAL DEFECTS.

1) Number of children who were :—	(2) Half-days devoted to :—
(a) Inspected by the Dentist :	Inspection, 69 ; Treatment, 308 ;
Aged :	Total, 377.
Routine Age Groups {	(3) Attendances made by children for treatment, 2871.
5 ... —	(4) Fillings :—
6 ... 49	Permanent Teeth, 848 ; Tem-
7 ... 871	porary Teeth, 3 ;
8 ... 890	Total, 851
9 ... 935	(5) Extractions :—
10 ... 48	Permanent Teeth, 866 ; Tem-
11 ... 85	porary Teeth, 3161 ;
12 ... 1130	Total, 4027
13 ... 1074	(6) Administrations of general
14 ... 123	anæsthetics for extractions, 2.
over 14 ... 122	(7) Other operations :—
Specials ... .. 1109	Permanent Teeth, 481 ; Tem-
Re-examinations ... .. 42	porary Teeth, 24 ;
	Total 505.
Grand Total ... .. 6478	
(b) Found to require treat-	
ment ... .. 3954	
(c) Actually treated ... .. 2333	
(d) Re-treated during the	
year as the result of	
periodical examina-	
tion ... .. —	

## GROUP V.—UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

- (i.) Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses, 18.35
- (ii.) Total number of examinations of children in the Schools by School Nurses, 19,716.
- (iii.) Number of individual children found unclean, 1,594.
- (iv.) Number of children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority, —.
- (v.) Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—
  - (a) Under the Education Act, 1921, —.
  - (b) Under School Attendance Bye-Laws, 1.



TABLE V.—Dental Examinations.

SCHOOL	No. of Children examined			No. requiring treatment			No. of parents consenting to treatment	Per-centage
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total		
Albert Road ...	166	168	334	95	102	197	97	49·2
Alderman Leach ...	24	30	54	13	20	33	14	42·4
Arthur Pease ...	14	56	70	6	29	35	5	14·2
Beaumont Street	165	179	344	90	105	195	79	40·5
Bondgate ...	105	63	168	54	29	83	25	30·1
Borough Road ...	117	97	214	70	52	122	43	35·2
Cockerton ...	80	71	151	44	49	93	39	41·9
Corporation Road	147	363	510	86	202	288	140	48·6
Dodmire ...	112	118	230	69	62	131	49	37·4
Gurney Pease ...	56	60	116	34	30	64	7	10·9
Harrowgate Hill	216	194	419	129	115	244	111	45·5
Holy Trinity ...	37	59	96	23	28	51	21	41·1
Kendrew Street ...	32	41	73	14	25	39	27	69·2
North Road ...	80	102	182	51	51	102	42	41·2
Open-Air ...	—	21	21	—	11	11	4	36·3
Reid Street ...	356	116	472	208	72	280	124	44·2
Rise Carr ...	116	110	226	51	39	90	46	51·1
Special ...	16	14	30	8	4	12	8	66·6
St. Augustine's ...	160	181	341	92	80	172	64	37·2
St. Cuthbert's ...	40	41	81	20	24	44	14	31·8
St. John's ...	145	120	265	73	72	145	54	37·2
St. William's ...	62	79	141	34	44	78	17	21·8
Central Commercial	156	172	328	101	103	204	94	46
Junior Technical...	111	—	111	71	—	71	34	47·9
Grammar ...	359	—	359	61	—	61	30	49·1
<b>Total ...</b>	<b>2872</b>	<b>2455</b>	<b>5327</b>	<b>1497</b>	<b>1348</b>	<b>2845</b>	<b>1188</b>	<b>41·7</b>

