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COUNTY BOROUGH OF DARLINGTON.

REPORT



OF THE

ACTING

Medical Officer of Health

1945.

WILLIAM E. ORCHARD, M.D., D.P.H.,

ACTING

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT OF CORPORATION HOSPITALS.

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COUNTY BOROUGH OF DARTINGTON



REPORT

OF THE

ACTING

Medical Officer of Health

1945

WILLIAM A. BROOKING M.D. D.P.H.

Agent

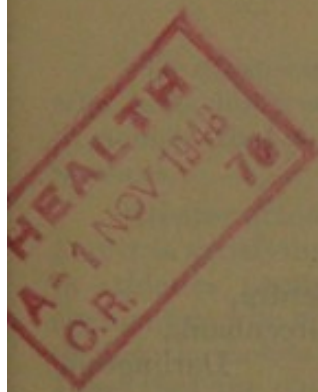
Medical Officer of Health

County Borough of Dartington

General Practitioners and Consultants

Report for the year 1945

Printed by the County Borough of Dartington



COUNTY BOROUGH OF DARLINGTON

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER

for the

Year Ending 31st December, 1945

DARLINGTON:

THE SKERNE PRINTING CO. (1927) LTD., GARDEN STREET.

ANNUAL REPORT, 1945.

Health Centre,
Greenbank,
Darlington.

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

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for 1945 for the School Medical Service.

As you know, the work for this year has been carried on under very great difficulty, particularly with regard to the professional staff. Dr. W. M. Ryan left at the end of February and was succeeded by Dr. A. McGarrity on the 1st April. Dr. Paul was carrying the administrative burden of the whole department and could not therefore devote any time to School Medical Inspections, during his period as Acting Medical Officer of Health.

It is greatly to the credit therefore of the School Medical Service Staff that the work of this department showed no falling off in its standard although being severely curtailed. The work carried on confined itself therefore to Routine Inspections and to the handling of Minor Ailments, with as much attention as possible being paid to the special needs of Handicapped Pupils. No special investigations were made by the Medical Staff.

The establishment of the Child Guidance Clinic in 1944 has continued its most necessary work, a development which is of the greatest importance and without which no School Medical Service can be complete.

With reference to the Dental Report: It is interesting to note the improvement in the dental condition of younger children, which the Senior Dental Officer has commented upon. He attributes this to several factors and makes the interesting observation, that the shortage of sweets and confectionery has had something to do with this satisfactory state of affairs. From the statistics given, the increase in the number of fillings would tend to show that the importance of conservative treatment is being more fully appreciated by parents. It is hoped that this is an indication of a change in the mind of the people from "cure" to "prevention". It is noteworthy that the increased ante-natal attention paid to the nutrition of mothers is reflected in the teeth of their children. The consideration of the child at all stages of its development is of the highest importance.

The difficulties under which the School Dental Service worked have been made lighter by the enthusiastic and conscientious attention to their part-time duties by Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Smailes, to whom I would offer my gratitude for their services to this department.

The downward trend of Ophthalmic diseases is noted by Mr. Paterson who adds his testimony to the already well established beliefs of modern hygienists that a new vista has opened with the improvement of Health Services.

Greater attention to physical development in the schools has been given and it is satisfying to record an increase in the interest shown by the children in athletics, particularly in swimming. I feel however, that greater encouragement can be given to children by the free use of the public baths, not only during the holidays, but also throughout the season, if not the whole year. I feel that the old public baths should be reserved for the youth of this town and come to be regarded by them as a natural resort for the outlet of their energy.

Nutrition Table :—

A.	=	19.8%
B.	=	78.7%
C.	=	1.5%
D.	=	—

From the table shown above it will be seen that the war years have not produced a lower nutritional state in the school population. The statistics must however be read having due regard to the difference in physical standards adopted by the various Medical Officers who have made the inspections, but gross departures from the normal would have undoubtedly produced significant figures had they been present. The inspections carried out are insufficiently detailed to give an idea of the incidence of malnutrition as opposed to subnormal nutrition, but it can be said that there has been no falling off in the nutritional standard, in Darlington, no doubt as a result of rationing. Rationing, on a national scale, ensures that an adequate diet is made available to everyone. This diet may lack variety but the essential constituents are there and the Government has recognised the needs of the growing population by various supplementary allowances. For a beleaguered garrison, as was the population of this island during the war, this nutritional well-being of the child is a monument to Government supervision and control.

I wish to express to the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee my warmest thanks for the expression of their confidence in electing me as the School Medical Officer. I look forward to a continuance of the support and encouragement which I have received at their hands since I returned to Darlington. I wish also to acknowledge with gratitude the help I have received from the Chief Education Officer, the Staff of the Education Office and the Teaching Staff. No comments of mine would be complete without drawing to your attention the work of the School Medical Service Staff, who have continued to give of their best under frequently great difficulties.

W. E. ORCHARD,
Acting School Medical Officer.

MEMBERS OF THE EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

COUNCILLOR B. DODD, (The Mayor), (from Nov. 1945).

COUNCILLOR R. LUCK (*Chairman*), (till Nov. 1945).

COUNCILLOR H. P. BELL, J.P. (*Vice-Chairman*), (till Nov. 1945),
(*Chairman*), (from Nov. 1945).

ALD. A. J. BEST, J.P.

ALD. S. HARDWICK, J.P.

ALD. W. HESLOP, J.P.

ALD. J. D. HINKS, J.P.

ALD. W. G. CHANDLER, M.B.E., J.P. COUN. H. BUCKBOROUGH, (from Nov. 1945).

ALD. T. E. HUDSON.

COUN. J. BANKS, (till Nov. 1945). COUN. J. NEASHAM, (from Nov. 1945).

COUN. R. F. SCOTT, O.B.E., (till Nov. 1945). COUN. MRS. M. LYONETTE, J.P., (from Nov. 1945).

COUN. C. HARRISON, (till Nov. 1945). COUN. MRS. A. E. NELSON, (from Nov. 1945).

COUN. J. CLAYTON, F.R.I.B.A.

LADY STARMER, (till Nov. 1945). COUN. MRS. M. M. TAYLOR, J.P., (from Nov. 1945).

MISS O. M. STANTON, M.A.

COUN. J. D. SINCLAIR, O.B.E.,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

COUN. J. W. WATSON, (till Nov. 1945).

COUN. M. LYONETTE, (*Vice-Chairman*)
(from Nov. 1945).

SCHOOL MEDICAL AND DENTAL SERVICE STAFF.

Acting School Medical Officer.

W. E. ORCHARD, M.D., D.P.H. (Returned from Military Service 18/10/45).

Assistant School Medical Officers.

F. A. PAUL, L.R.C.P., D.P.H., (Acting School Medical Officer till 18/10/45).

WINIFRED M. RYAN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (till 28/2/45.)

ANNABELLA MCGARRITY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.O.M.S. (from 1/4/45).

Ophthalmologist.

A. T. PATERSON, M.D., F.R.C.S. (Ed.), D.P.H. (Part-time).

Senior Dental Officer.

J. L. LIDDELL, L.D.S. (Returned from Military Service 1/9/45).

Dental Officers.

N. WILKINSON, L.D.S. (Part-time) (Resigned 31/12/45).

T. H. SMAILES, L.D.S. (Part-time) (Resigned 31/12/45).

Psychologist.

H. G. ARMSTRONG, M.A., Ed.B. (Part-time) (Returned from War Service 4/6/45).

Psychiatrist.

BRENDA E. RIDLEY, B.A., M.B., B.Ch. (Part-time).

Senior School Nurse.

GLADYS M. WHITTAKER.

School Nurses.

DORIS M. GOODINSON.

HILDA M. GARDINER (from 1/8/45).

LAURA ADDISON.

MARGARET BORWELL (from 24/9/45).

KATHLEEN SHERRY (till 7/4/45).

Clerks.

AUDREY C. SMITH (Senior Clerk).

DOREEN DODGSON.

PATRICIA HARRIS.

RITA BURN (from 12/3/45).

JOSEPHINE CONWAY (till 6/10/45).

MARGARET E. BURRELL (from 17/10/45)

ELLA OYSTON (till 17/3/45).

School Population.

School Population 2—5 years	....	....	359
„ „ 5 years and over	....	....	10,701
Total School Population			11,060

Average Attendance in Primary and Modern Secondary Schools				87.1%
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Routine Medical Inspection.

2,604 routine inspections were carried out in the Primary and Maintained Secondary Schools, and the classification of nutrition was as follows:—

A.	=	19.8%
B.	=	78.7%
C.	=	1.5%
D.	=	—

Classification of Nutrition in Elementary Schools from 1938—1944 was as follows:—

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
A.	22.2%	18.3%	24.8%	23.5%	30.9%	18.7%	20%
B.	61.7%	61.7%	59.1%	61.1%	61.6%	74.9%	71.9%
C.	15.7%	19.8%	15.7%	15.1%	7.4%	6.4%	8%
D.	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.1%	—	0.1%

School Meals and Milk.

770,416 meals were distributed during the year, of these 45,026 were free, an average of 4,489 per day.

2,167,477 bottles of milk were supplied during the year, of these 99,131 were provided free of cost.

Minor Ailments at the School Clinic.

2,220 minor ailments were treated, including 430 cases of impetigo and 288 cases of scabies. In all 13,473 attendances were made for treatment and advice.

Artificial Sunlight Treatment.

The number of cases treated during the year was 125.

General Debility	....	....	....	....	74
Catarrhal Conditions	....	....	....	....	21
Malnutrition, e.g., Clinical Rickets	....	....	....	....	13
Rheumatism	....	....	....	....	3
Blepharitis and other eye conditions	....	....	....	....	1
Other conditions, alopecia, etc.	....	....	....	....	13

School Nurses.

During the year the Nurses paid 384 surprise visits to the schools and 1,621 children were found to have unclean heads. Home visits and advice in school resulted in the number being reduced to 977 at the end of the year.

2,311 home visits were paid by the Nurses, for the purpose of following up defects other than cleanliness.

During 1944, 1,248 children were found to have unclean heads and by the end of the year the number was reduced to 804. The increase in verminous conditions of the head and body is deplorable. Greater attention must be paid to this aspect of the child's welfare by his parents, for cleanliness begins at home.

Tonsils and Adenoids.

226 cases received operative treatment at the Memorial Hospital.

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

233 children completed a full course of immunisation and 167 were given Re-inforcing injections.

Percentage of School Population immunised — 53%.

To be effective within a community, 75% of the child population at least must be fully immunised. It will be evident from the above figure that the state of protection of children against Diphtheria is not as it should be. Greater attention to this subject is being paid with the aim of 75% protected constantly in view.

SCHOOL MEALS SERVICE.

MENUS:

WEEK 1.

Monday. Meat Pie, Leek Gravy,
Mashed Potatoes, Mashed Swedes,
Barley Kernel Pudding and Sultanas.

Tuesday. Roast Topside of Beef,
Gravy, Mashed Potatoes, Cooked
Diced Carrots, Steamed Sultana
Pudding, Custard Sauce.

Wednesday. Cold Corned Beef,
Cooked Greens, Mashed Potatoes,
Baked Date Pie, Custard Sauce,
Oatmeal Biscuits for all Schools.

Thursday. Exeter Stew & Dumplings.
Mashed Potatoes, Raw Grated
Carrots and Cheese,
Baked Jam Tart, Custard Sauce
Made only with Custard Powder.

Friday. Cornish Pasty, Leek Gravy,
Mashed Potatoes, Marrowfat Peas,
Raw Shredded Cabbage, Barley
Kernel Pudding and Jam or Orange
Juice Jelly.

WEEK 2.

Steamed Mince Roly Poly. Leek
Gravy. Mashed Potatoes, Cooked
Diced Carrots, Peas Pudding.
Fruit and Custard Sauce.

Corned Beef Shepherd's Pie (as
recipe), Leek Gravy, Mashed
Potatoes, Raw Shredded Cabbage,
Mashed Cooked Swedes.
Steamed Jam Roly-Poly and
Custard Sauce where possible **or**
Milk Pudding.

Hot Roast Beef, Leek Gravy,
Mashed or Baked Potatoes,
Marrowfat Peas, Raw Grated Carrots
Steamed Date Pudding,
Custard Sauce.

Meat Pie, Leek Gravy, Mashed
Potatoes, Cooked Cabbage,
Peas Pudding.
Milk Pudding **or**
Orange Juice Jelly Mould and
Custard Sauce made thicker.

Savoury Mince as recipe, Mashed
Potatoes, Raw Grated Carrots and
Swedes, Steamed Sultana Roly-Poly
Custard Sauce, Fingers of Cheese.

REPORT OF OPHTHALMOLOGIST.

There is little new that can be added to what has been said in previous years. The number of children suffering from minor eye diseases continues to decrease, and is in fact infinitesimal to what it was twenty years ago—this pleasing fact is due I am sure to better feeding, greater cleanliness, and ready access to the Clinic for treatment of early cases.

The Scheme for the provision of free glasses is working satisfactorily on the whole.

Once more I would like to express my appreciation of the valuable assistance I have received from Nurse Whittaker in the conduct of the Ophthalmic Department of the School Clinic.

ARTHUR T. PATERSON,
M.D., F.R.C.S. (Ed.), D.P.H.

DENTAL REPORT.

During the year, all schools were visited and all children in attendance were inspected. One Modern, eight Primary and Barnard Street Schools were inspected a second time. The total number of inspections 12,406, includes re-inspections, of which no record has been kept, but the number is estimated at 1,500.

The work done corresponds very closely with that of the previous year, with the exception of fillings, which show an increase of 51%.

A remarkable improvement was noticed in the dental condition of the mouths of the younger children, compared with the condition found in the pre-war period.

This is probably due to several factors ; increased pre-natal care, free distribution of cod liver oil and orange juice, the daily ration of milk, and one good, wholesome meal at school. It is also probable that the shortage of sweets and confectionery has something to do with this satisfactory state of affairs.

J. L. LIDDELL,
Senior Dental Officer.

Handicapped Children.

Blind and Partially Sighted—Three are in Residential Institutions

Deaf and Partially Deaf—Two are in Residential Institutions, and seven travel to Stockton School for the Deaf.

Physically Handicapped—Five are in Hospital, ten are at the Open Air School, twenty-two are in ordinary schools and seven are not attending school.

Delicate—64 are in attendance at the Open Air School, two are in Residential Institutions, twenty are in ordinary schools and three are not attending school.

Epileptic—One is in a Residential Home.

Rheumatism—64 cases were found.

Salters Lane Open Air School.

There were 74 children in attendance at the end of the year. 20 children were admitted during the year and 24 were discharged. The benefit of a period of attendance at this school has been amply demonstrated throughout the years during which it has been established, and the early prejudice shown by parents is gradually being overcome. Improvements to accommodation provided are urgently required and it is to be hoped that they will not long be delayed if this school is to attain a higher standard even than that which it at present enjoys.

Barnard School for Educationally Sub-normal Pupils.

At the end of the year 69 children were in attendance, 18 children have been admitted and 9 left.

CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC.

The report from the Educational Psychologist shows that most gratifying results are being achieved in this sphere. The need for a Residential Home-School for maladjusted children stands out, both from his point of view, and as a result of my own observations. Maladjustment begins at home, and no correction, however well intentioned, can hope to succeed completely if the influence of a bad home environment continues.

The correction of faults and wrong influences resulting from such an environment cannot be done by occasional sessions with a Psychologist. It necessitates continuous contact between child and teacher, and, gradually a different attitude to life is built up in the child's mind. Only in this way can the vicious circle be broken, and awaken the instincts for normal living which may be dormant or in danger of being extinguished.

The figures given here include the first five months of 1946, but the figures for 1945 have not been extracted as it is felt that it is more satisfactory to present the complete year's work.

Report for the Year Ending 31st May, 1946.

Total number of cases examined during the year—126. Classification as follows:—

<i>Educational Difficulties</i>	<i>Behaviour Disorders</i>	<i>Nervous Disorders</i>	<i>Habit Disorders</i>	<i>Pre-Psychotic Disorders</i>
72	26	18	8	2

1,048 attendances were made during the year and this figure represents an attendance of almost 80%.

Number of successful and unsuccessful cases dealt with:—

<i>No. Successfully adjusted</i>	<i>No. partially adjusted</i>	<i>No. of doubtful adjustments</i>	<i>No. unsuccessfully adjusted</i>
88	20	9	9

Nursery Schools and Classes.

541 inspections were carried out in the above schools.

Nutrition. 3% of the children were placed in Category "C" in the nutrition table. This is higher than the corresponding category amongst Primary and Maintained Secondary School children, but as it only represents 6 out of

200 children, I do not attach much significance to it, but the nutrition of Nursery School children will be observed continuously from now on and be included in the general nutrition survey.

Cleanliness. The Cleanliness of children attending Nursery Schools and Classes is of a very high standard, it being a requirement for nursery school attendance. Very few parents need to be reprimanded for neglect of this vital matter. In addition to continual supervision by the School Nurses, the Nursery School Staff, as part of their training, pay very great attention to the cleanliness of the children. This can also be regarded as part of the training of the child.

Attendance. Normally the children are so happy in their surroundings that absenteeism is not a great factor. Parents are asked to withdraw their child if attendance is irregular unless illness is the cause. There is always a waiting list for entrants.

Clothing. The condition of the clothing is excellent in spite of present day difficulties.

The general health of the Nursery Schools and Classes is in line with that of the other schools.

Medical Examinations of Staff.

57 teachers, clerks and others were examined and certified fit to commence duty or able to return to duty after prolonged illness.

Infectious Diseases and Deaths amongst School Children.

	Cases	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	130	—
Diphtheria	73	2
Measles and German Measles	850	—
Whooping Cough	19	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	2	—
Tuberculosis	6	3
Total	1,080	5

"Co-operation of School Attendance Officers"

School Attendance.

- | | | |
|-----|--|--------|
| (1) | Certificates from private practitioners forwarded to Clinic | 901 |
| (2) | Details of transfers, new admissions and leavers, etc. | Weekly |
| (3) | Notices received from the Clinic of children excluded from School | Daily |
| (4) | Medical records of migrants forwarded to, or received from other authorities | Daily |

Children and Young Persons Act.

- | | | |
|-----|---|--------------------|
| (1) | Medical examinations for purposes of Employment of Children Byelaws | 60 |
| (2) | Medical examination for entry to Approved Schools | Y.P's. Chn.
3 3 |
| (3) | " " " " " Remand Home | 3 8 |
| (4) | " " " " " to take part in entertainment | — |

Children and Young Persons Act. (cont.)

(5) Special medical examinations in connection with Juvenile Court	2
(6) Special medical examinations of children in need of care or protection	5

REPORT ON PHYSICAL EDUCATION, 1945.

1. Physical Education in the Schools.

(a) *Demonstration and Physical Training Film for Teachers.*—A demonstration of work in a Junior School for boys and girls was given by the Organiser of Physical Training. Its object was to show the free approach to the lesson and the type of apparatus which appealed to younger children.

The demonstration was followed by the showing of the Essex Agility Apparatus Film as an example of experiments which are being made to find some form of portable apparatus for use in Junior and Infants Schools.

(b) *Boys' Gymnastics.*—The lack of qualified teachers to take apparatus work with older boys has been acute during the war years. In one school this was particularly the case and in order to help this situation voluntary classes were taken for eight days during the school holidays by the Organiser of Physical Training. There were two classes each morning for those boys who cared to attend and enjoy full use of the apparatus in the Gladstone Street School Gymnasium, the attendance averaged 40 boys daily.

2. Swimming.

This year has seen a great increase both in facilities and in the response of all school children.

Swimming During School Time—May to July.

(1) *Instructors.*—One full-time and two part-time Instructors were appointed.

(2) The Committee obtained the sole use of the second class Baths for schools for 13½ hours in the mornings and 10 hours in the afternoons during each week.

(3) A record average weekly attendance of 2,000 children was reached and these were under instruction in classes of 20 to obtain the maximum benefit from the twenty minutes they were in the water.

(4) For the first time, free transport was provided for schools situated at an unreasonable walking distance from the Baths. School-time formerly wasted in walking was thus saved and the children ran no risk of strain from too much exercise.

(5) All schools have been affiliated to the Royal Life Saving Society and 14 medallions were awarded.

(6) On two afternoons a uniform testing was carried out. This year newly designed Certificates for each grade were awarded as follows:—

Grade.	No. of Awards.
Mile	15
Half-mile	19
Quarter Mile	38
Length	261
Breadth	171

Swimming During Summer Holidays—July and August (Excluding August Bank Holiday Week).—An experimental scheme was introduced to enable school children to attend the Baths free-of-charge during four weeks of the Summer Holiday to receive tuition from the Committee's Instructors, three of whom were in attendance. The sole use of the Baths was obtained for five mornings and four afternoons in each week. The average attendance was 1,000 children weekly.

3. Physical Activities in connection with the Youth Service.

(a) *Courses.*—Four Courses in Recreative Physical Training were organised in conjunction with the Central Council of Physical Education to continue the work carried out in similar Courses in previous years. Three members of the Courses have passed the National Leaders Test.

(b) An Association of Leaders of Physical Training has been formed to give assistance in developing the work in Youth Clubs and Centres.

(c) *Demonstrations.*—A Demonstration of Puck Hockey a new Indoor Game was given by the Organiser of Physical Training as a guide for Clubs who wish to take part in a tournament.

(d) *Tournaments*—

(1) *Turner Cup Football Competition.*—Won by Albert Road Youth Centre.

(2) *Puck Hockey Competition.*—Won by St. Augustine's R.C. Girls' and Eastbourne Boys' Youth Centres.

(e) *Coaching.*—Hockey coaching for members of affiliated clubs was given each Saturday on the playing field of the High School for Girls by the Organiser of Physical Training and the Gymnastic Staff of the High School for Girls. These practices were well attended by an average of 24 members.

(f) *Facilities.*—Halls for Indoor Games and Pitches for Football were made available for clubs affiliated to the Youth Advisory Committee and in the case of Football Pitches, it was shown that there is need for more playing field accommodation.

(g) *Youth Rally.*—In December a Youth Rally was held at the Baths Hall and included a programme of physical activities. More than 200 members took part in the following activities:—

Table Tennis, Floor Games, Skipping to Music, Boys' Physical Training, Girls' Gymnastics, Sword and National Dancing.

(h) *Central Classes*—

(1) *A Gymnastic Class for Girls*—drawn from various Organisations was held for ten weeks in the Grammar School Gymnasium with a membership of 45. The class was taken by the Organiser of Physical Training.

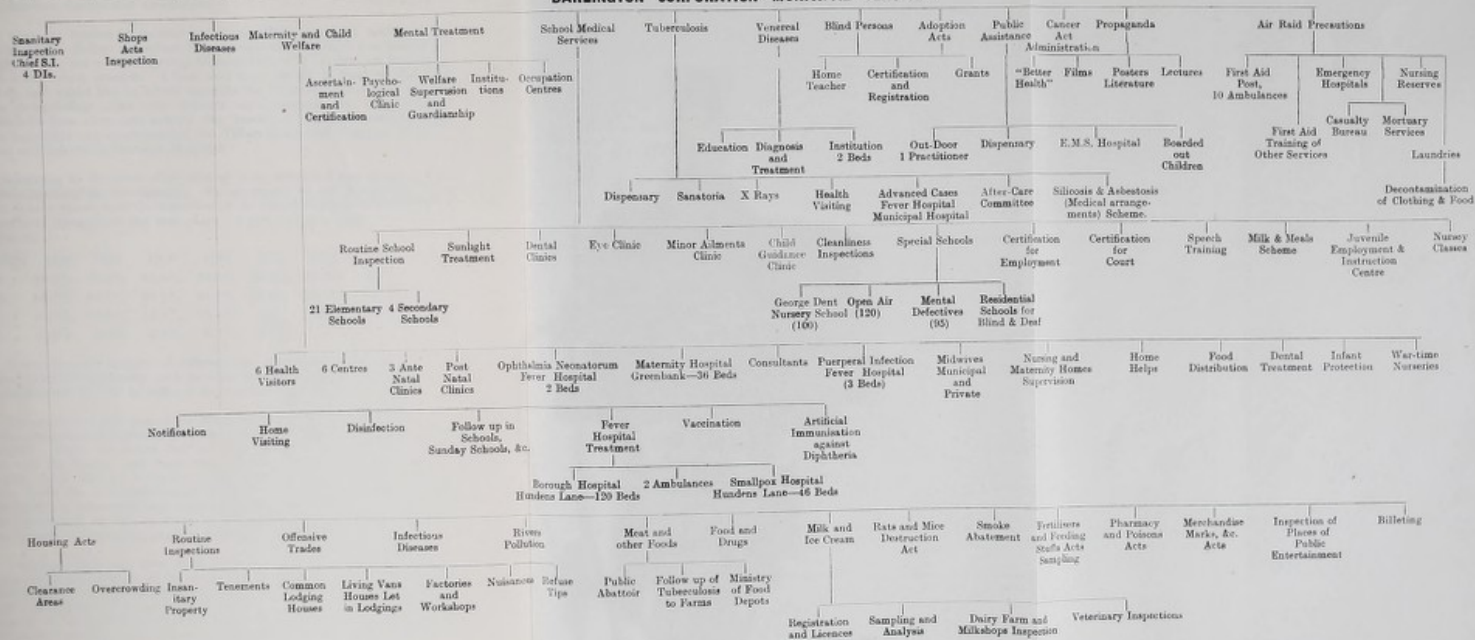
(2) *National Dancing Class.*—For ten weeks at the High School for Girls' with a membership of 27 and was taken by the High School Gymnastic Staff.

Swimming—Special arrangements were made during the period May to July inclusive, to provide free instruction for members of Youth Organisations on one night in the week for two hours at the second class Baths. An average of 130 members attended in each week.

(Signed) J. O. M. HOWE,
Organiser of Physical Training.

HEALTH SERVICES IN DARLINGTON COUNTY BOROUGH—1945.

DARLINGTON CORPORATION—MUNICIPAL SERVICES.



ANNUAL REPORT, 1945.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health of the town for 1945. Before my return from service in the Army, you were good enough to elect me as your Acting Medical Officer of Health, an honour of which I am deeply sensible. I took over from Dr. F. A. Paul on the 18th October, and would like to record the debt the Health Services owes to him in his stewardship under very difficult circumstances. He was for some considerable time alone and carried the burden of the administration and at the same time ran single-handed the Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Clinics and Infectious Diseases Hospital.

Returning to the town after several years abroad, I was struck by the excellent health of the townspeople. In my report to the Education Committee I have shown how the nutrition of the school children has maintained a high level throughout the war years. I give below a table showing this assessment:—

<i>Standard</i>	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945
A.	22.2%	18.3%	24.8%	23.5%	30.9%	18.7%	20.0%	19.8%
B.	61.7%	61.7%	59.1%	61.1%	61.6%	74.9%	71.9%	78.7%
C.	15.7%	19.8%	15.7%	15.1%	7.4%	6.4%	8.0%	1.5%
D.	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.1%	—	0.1%	—

A considerable amount of information of general application can be derived from an age group such as this, but of course, in any community the children are the last to suffer if there is any food at all to be had.

The controlled planning of the Food Services contributed largely to this result, contrasting favourably with the nutritional state of people in other countries. There, one found that privilege and wealth divided the populations into the "haves" and "have nots", but here with the assurance of an adequate basic diet for everyone, social and financial inequalities mattered little. Until the re-establishment of the normal circulation of foodstuffs in the world it is essential that rationing should continue, and this statement is not prompted by any motives of international benevolence. Only by a continuation of rationing can the nutritional level be maintained.

Physical illness has been kept at bay, but mental weariness is more marked in England than on the continent of Europe. Herein lies the unassessed danger to the health of the people which must not be minimised. A spirit of determination can be maintained in the face of a continued threat, but with the disappearance of that threat, the relief of tension removes the stimulus to endurance, and it is true to say that the most dangerous period is now upon us. There can be no doubt that the relief of the restrictions of war time will be the greatest factor in restoring the nation's quietness of mind to normal.

Psychological exhaustion shows itself in the disruption of family life and the relaxation of moral standards. Venereal disease is on the increase. Mental ill health, shown by the increase in "absenteeism", intolerance, lack of concentration, over excitement and disinterestedness are not the signs of disease but are pointers to a disturbance of mental balance which demand self discipline if it is not to develop into frank psychopathy. The provision of adequate sanitary services, the supervision of the physical environment of the population are only the beginnings of a health service. The "mens sana" does not automatically follow on the "corpore sano". I look forward to a development of our "psychological diagnostic services", which will provide for the resolution of domestic and individual difficulties before the strain of combating them has resulted in mental damage and social disturbance. I contemplate an extension of our "Psychiatric Clinic", which, valuable as it has proved to be, is only the beginning of its real function in the Health Service of the town.

The work of the "Psychological Clinic" while of the utmost value, is not as yet the true "preventive psychological medicine", that modern conditions of living demand. The cure of established psychopathies is good but to prevent their development is even better. Not all mental ill health is shown by a strange demeanour and unconscious eccentricities. A depression of the spirit leads to incorrect reactions to the problems of everyday life. Simple, commonplace problems assume wrong proportions and are imperfectly resolved, if they are resolved at all. The final breakdown is usually accepted by the patient's friends as evidence of mental instability, probably inherent. This, is so far from the truth that, were it not so widely believed, it would be unnecessary to state it. The final breakdown is the result of continuous small loads which by themselves are of no great weight, but which in the aggregate break the strongest spirit. The psychological medicine of the future will endeavour to correct the trend towards wrong judgement and reaction. The initial cause may not be domestic. It may be found at work or in other daily contacts. The psychologist knows the effect on a personality predisposed to psychological wounding and can indicate the dangerous snags and thus prevent the otherwise inevitable catastrophe.

The Maternity Service has struggled with inadequate accommodation, and many women who have wished to have their babies in hospital have been turned away. A system of priorities cannot be worked, since any "normal" case may develop an abnormality during the pregnancy or near term, and these cases must be admitted. The emergency cases admitted to hospital have included a number from the county areas of Durham and the North Riding. Such cases are admitted only after consideration of their circumstances, and few of those so far investigated have been turned away. It is emphasised that, had these cases not been admitted, their lives and their babies' lives would have been placed in grave jeopardy. It is a pleasure to record the good work of the staff in the Maternity Hospital, a staff unperturbed by any difficulty.

Every effort must be made in the near future to increase the number of beds to 50. This can be done by alterations in the present accommodation at Greenbank, and by increasing the "turn over" of the Maternity Hospital

by shortening the period of stay in Hospital. The whole period of the puerperium however, should be lengthened, not curtailed. Poor housing conditions at home, the strain of present day house-keeping, prevent the recently confined mother from having a period of necessary recuperation. A "Convalescent Home" is the most satisfactory way by which this problem can be solved. The Public Health Act 1936, envisages the establishment of such convalescent homes and the stimulus of our present urgent accommodation requirements will no doubt result in the acquisition of a suitable house. Here mothers with their babies can prolong this convalescence until they are fit to return to their homes. An interchange of the staff necessary to run this home with the staff at Greenbank will provide an opportunity for the rest of the nurses and midwives.

Infectious Diseases.—The table shows the notifications for the more serious infectious diseases for the past 10 years (excluding military cases).

	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	Scarlet Fever	Measles and German Measles	Whooping Cough	Cerebro- Spinal Fever	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Tuberculosis (other forms)
1936	174	466	796	65	—	—	98	41
1937	130	215	769	147	1	—	103	38
1938	97	173	306	24	2	—	110	29
1939	43	201	88	161	4	—	66	9
1940	58	139	2463	132	35	—	79	21
1941	161	73	400	457	28	1	80	36
1942	306	153	1867	83	10	—	111	34
1943	305	101	861	264	15	—	122	25
1944	208	169	111	67	4	—	72	15
1945	112	191	1618	64	6	1	66	8

The measles epidemic at the beginning of the year resulted in 2 deaths, but there were no deaths from whooping cough. Unfortunately no proved means of artificial immunisation has so far been discovered for these common complaints, which are responsible for much permanent damage. The remedy, in the present state of our knowledge, is early diagnosis, and no child should be left too long without a medical opinion, as it is the early stages that need the skilled supervision of the doctor. Isolation in properly equipped hospitals for those children who cannot be adequately nursed at home is not only desirable but essential. Hitherto these diseases have been regarded with unjustifiable complacency. The sequelae are as distressing as those following the more "serious" diseases. When accommodation is available in the Borough Isolation Hospital medical practitioners in the town should be encouraged to send in weakly or complicated cases, particularly when the home circumstances are poor, as is so often the case.

Immunisation.—45% (53% for children 5—15 years) of the children of Darlington are adequately protected against diphtheria. Not until at least 75% of the child population at risk is fully immunised can the disease be virtually stamped out, as has been done in several communities in Canada and the United States. Greater attention is therefore necessary to this most

important part of our preventive medical activities. The dangerous ages are between 6 months and 5 years. No child is "too young" to be immunised; rather it should be understood by parents that the resistance of the very young to diphtheria is lowest at those ages when parental tenderness withholds the child from the benefit of this painless and simple procedure. During the year there were 4 deaths from diphtheria in unprotected children, but no deaths in those who had been fully immunised.

Tuberculosis—The conditions under which people in this country have been living for the past six years are ideal for the spread of tuberculosis—long hours of work in poorly ventilated factories and offices, returning to homes which, by reason of the blackout, were also ill ventilated, the strain of continuous anxiety, the lowered physical resistance following on these factors which I have described above under war weariness, all of which, set against the background of an only-just-adequate diet, have resulted in those conditions in which the disease can flourish.

Medical supervision of the country, as a whole, has been (when viewed against the background of the shortage of doctors) amazingly good; but of necessity, only the most urgent sickness could be dealt with. The proper supervision of contacts of this infectious disease could not be carried out. The increase in tuberculosis is definite, but the undiagnosed Tuberculosis in the country must be many times greater. The work of the tuberculosis Service in the immediate post war years must be directed to finding out cases which are at present not sufficiently clinically obvious to demand medical attention. When we know how many cases we have to deal with, we will have to make strenuous efforts to increase the means of dealing with them. Therefore the most important single item of our tuberculosis service in Darlington which we have yet to provide is an efficient X-ray apparatus. In the approving of this provision, I feel that a very large step forward has been taken by the Committee.

The shortage of nurses throughout the country is even more marked in sanatoria. It is useless to diagnose cases of tuberculosis and fail to provide them with treatment. It will therefore become necessary to improvise accommodation for these patients, more particularly as many homes today are grossly overcrowded and in which it is quite impossible to isolate a case of such a dangerous disease.

There were 1,302 attendances at the dispensary during the year. This was a slightly smaller figure than in the previous year (1,309). There are more patients on the Tuberculosis Register this year than any previous year.

The slight decrease in the number of attendances at the Clinic where one would expect to find an increase reflects the serious position of our medical staff which is much depleted. Consequently the more chronic cases have been asked to attend less frequently. In the early months of the year 8 patients were in receipt of grants under Memo. 266T. Throughout the year 7 more were given allowances under this scheme and at the end of the year 8 patients were in receipt of allowances.

Venereal Diseases—The world wide increase in the social diseases is echoed in the number of cases attending the Darlington Clinic. Penicillin has augmented the weapons in our armoury in the treatment of the two commoner diseases, but the most successful therapeutic agent in V.D. control is still "education".

Under Regulation 33B, 83 notifications were received. "Follow up" of contacts (contact tracing) is more often than not impossible, since the description of consorts is almost always too sketchy to be of value. It is chiefly by the co-operation of the Armed Forces Medical Services that contact tracing has been successful in a comparatively few cases. In all, 22 cases were followed up and 15 were examined. Two were found to be suffering from syphilis and 7 from gonorrhoea.

376 new cases came under treatment in 1945. This was a slight increase on the 1944 figure when the number of new cases treated was 352. Of the 376 cases however, 227 were found to be non-venereal. The corresponding figure for 1944 was 224. During the year 48 new cases of syphilis occurred showing a small improvement on last year when the number of such cases was 55. The increase in gonorrhoea has been marked, there being 101 new cases, whereas last year's figure was 73. The defaulter rate continues to be high. With the total number of patients on our register of 348, 49 ceased to attend. This is inevitable in emergency periods as sudden transfers of work from place to place are constantly occurring.

I acknowledge with gratitude the help and encouragement I have had at your hands and look forward to its continuation. I wish also to thank the members of the staff of the Health Department in all its branches for their welcome and for their support. Team work and the team spirit was never better demonstrated.

I have the honour to remain, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. E. ORCHARD,

Acting Medical Officer of Health.

STAFF.

Acting Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer, Chief Tuberculosis Officer, Medical Certifier under Mental Deficiency Acts.	WILLIAM E. ORCHARD, M.D., D.P.H. (from 18th October, 1945.)
Acting Medical Officer of Health	FRANK A. PAUL, L.R.C.P. & S., D.P.H., (till 18th Oct. 1945).
Deputy Medical Officer of Health, Venereal Diseases Medical Officer, Assistant School Medical Officer	WILLIAM E. ORCHARD, M.D., D.P.H. (on Active Service till 18th Oct., 1945).
Acting Deputy Medical Officer of Health....	FRANK A. PAUL, L.R.C.P. & S., D.P.H. (from 18th Oct., 1945).
Temporary Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Maternity and Child Welfare	(Vacant).
Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Tuberculosis and Public Assistance	FRANK A. PAUL, L.R.C.P. & S. D.P.H.
Temporary Part-time Assistant Medical Officer for Maternity and Child Welfare	KAMELL GIRGIS, M.D., F.R.C.S. D.P.H.
Assistant Medical Officer, Public Assistance Committee	C. D. STONE, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. (on active Service).
Temporary Assistant Medical Officer	ARTHUR INGHAM, M.B., Ch.B.
Assistant Medical Officer of Health for Schools and Public Vaccinator	WINIFRED M. RYAN, M.R.C.S. L.R.C.P. (till 10th Feb., 1945).
do. do.	ANNABELLA MCGARRITY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.O.M.S. (from 1st April, 1945).
School Dental Officer	J. L. LIDDELL, L.D.S. (on Active Service till 1st Sept., 1945).
Temporary Dental Officer (half-time)	N. WILKINSON, L.D.S. (till 31st Dec., 1945).
	T. H. SMAILES, L.D.S. (till 31st Dec., 1945).
Public Analyst	C. J. H. STOCK, B.Sc., F.I.C.
Chief Sanitary Inspector	A. E. WADE.
Deputy Chief Sanitary Inspector	F. WARD.
Sanitary Inspectors	J. H. BURROWS. J. R. WHITE (from 1st Mar. 1945).
	A. F. THEAKSTON, (from 1st Dec., 1945).
Shops Inspector	H. R. KIRK (seconded as Staff Officer, Civil Defence Casualty Services till 1st July, 1945).
Temporary Shops Inspector	JAMES SMITH (till 30th June, 1945).
Senior Health Visitor	MISS A. M. MCILWAINE, S.C.M., S.R.N.
District Health Visitors and Child Life Protection Officers	MISS E. H. FLEETHAM, H.V.C., S.C.M., S.R.N. MISS M. MILESTONE, H.V.C., S.C.M., S.R.N.

District Health Visitors and Child Life Protection Officers (continued)	MRS. V. W. ANDERSON, H.V.C., S.C.M., S.R.N. MISS E. WINCH, H.V.C., S.C.M., S.R.N. MISS E. HUNTER, H.V.C., S.C.M., S.R.N. MISS V. I. SMILES. MISS GAYNOR L. PRITCHARD, S.R.N., S.C.M., R.S.F.N. MISS KATE I. KEMP, S.R.N., S.C.M. MISS A. MORAN, S.R.N., S.C.M. MISS R. ROBINSON (till 28th Feb., 1945). MISS N. BLACK (from 11th June, 1945).
Part-time Child Life Protection Officer	
Matron Infectious Diseases and Smallpox Hospitals	
Matron Maternity Hospital	
Superintendent Nurse Municipal Hospital	
Mental Welfare Supervisor	
Mental Welfare and Blind Welfare Officer....	

*Municipal Midwives.**Matrons of Nurseries.*

MRS. E. HARRIS, S.C.M.	Station Road—	MRS. E. ALEXANDER, S.C.M. (till 7th July, 1945).
MRS. F. R. HAWLEY, S.C.M.	Hundens Lane—	MRS. M. FORSTER, S.R.N.
MRS. I. WILSON, S.C.M.	Albert Hill—	MISS D. S. OWEN, S.R.N.
MISS E. SHAW, S.C.M. (from 1st Jan., 1945).	North Road—	MISS R. GREEN, S.R.C.N. (from 1st Sept., 1945).
Maternity and Child Welfare Home Helps		MISS L. ROBINSON (Permanent). MRS. M. BOTTERILL (Temp.) MRS. C. E. RISPIN " MRS. M. HODGKINSON " E. K. CORLETT. E. C. STAINSBY. MISS DORIS HUTTON. MISS F. E. GIBBON. MRS. D. A. MOUNSEY (till 31st Dec., 1945). MISS D. HUTTON. MISS F. I. GOODWILL. I. BURNLEY } S. DALEY } D. G. WARDE } MRS. E. WARD. H. EVANS. MISS E. SCOTT. MRS. M. I. L. HOWLETT. MISS I. STOCKDALE. MRS. M. McDERMID (from 11th Jan., 1944). MAUREEN DAVISON (from 8th Oct., 1945.) J. T. H. LITTON. C. F. COOKE. J. R. OXLEY.
Registrar of Births, &c.		
Chief Clerk		
Vaccination Officer		
Clerical Staff		
Temporary Clerks		
Messenger Girl		
V.D. Orderly		
Home Visitor for Blind		
Ratcatcher (part-time)		

VITAL STATISTICS.

The figures for birth and death-rates are based on our own returns corrected for inward and outward transfers.

During the year ended 31st December, 1945, the number of births assignable to the Borough was 1,371, 720 males and 651 females. Excluding the deaths of 138 non-residents, there were 969 deaths, 470 males and 456 females and 43 transfers. These figures give a birth-rate of 17.5, and a death-rate of 12.4 per 1,000 of an estimated population of 78,280 compared with 19.8 and 12.5 last year. Figures for England and Wales, birth rate 16.1, death rate 11.4.

The deaths occurred at the following ages :—

Under 1 week	....	21	} Total 55	1— 2 years	....	7
1— 2 weeks	....	2		2— 5 „	....	7
2— 3 „	....	0		5—15 „	....	15
3— 4 „	....	0		15—25 „	....	24
1— 3 months	....	8	} Total 55	25—45 „	....	54
3— 6 „	....	16		45—65 „	....	273
6— 9 „	....	3		65—75 „	....	268
9—12 „	....	5		75 years and upwards	....	266

Still-births registered, 55 ; Infantile Mortality Rate, 40.1 per 1,000 births.

Infantile Mortality (England & Wales) 46 per 1,000 births.

Illegitimate Infants Born, Males, 63 ; Females, 66 ; Total, 129. Died, 6.

Institutional Deaths :—	Residents.	Non-Residents.	Total.
Municipal Institution	139	15	154
Memorial Hospital	150	102	252
Borough Isolation Hospital	22	—	22
Greenbank Maternity Hospital	8	7	15
Nursing Homes	6	3	9
Institutions outside Borough....	28	—	—

Inquests held, 42.

Uncertified Deaths, 49.

Deaths occurred from the following causes :—

WARD	Harrowgate Hill	North Road	Cockerton	Northgate	Pierremont	Central	North-East	Eastbourne	West	South	TOTAL	Inward Transfers	GRAND TOTAL
1 Typhoid and paratyphoid fevers ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
2 Cerebro-spinal fever ...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	...	2
3 Scarlet fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
4 Whooping cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
5 Diphtheria ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	4	...	4
6 Tuberculosis of respiratory system ...	2	6	2	7	4	10	5	8	2	5	51	2	53
7 Other forms of tuberculosis ...	...	2	...	1	...	1	...	1	1	1	7	...	7
8 Syphilitic disease ...	1	...	...	2	1	2	...	...	...	1	7	1	8
9 Influenza ...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
10 Measles ...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	2
11 Acute poliomyelitis and polioencephalitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
12 Acute infectious encephalitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
13M Cancer of buccal cavity and œsophagus ...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	5	...	5
13F Cancer of uterus ...	2	2	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	1	9	1	10
14 Cancer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	1	3	1	3	3	6	2	2	1	23	...	23
15 Cancer of breast ...	2	1	...	3	1	...	1	2	3	...	13	...	13
16 Cancer of all other sites ...	10	2	7	3	4	5	14	11	7	6	69	6	75
17 Diabetes ...	1	...	2	1	...	1	1	1	...	...	7	...	7
18 Intra-cranial vascular lesions ...	5	7	3	4	9	9	7	5	8	10	67	...	67
19 Heart disease ...	9	15	13	9	12	11	11	24	17	15	136	11	147
20 Other diseases of the circulatory system ...	14	11	13	7	4	11	9	24	12	15	120	4	124
21 Bronchitis... ...	5	9	2	5	2	6	4	3	4	8	48	2	50
22 Pneumonia ...	2	8	5	4	...	7	2	6	7	3	44	3	47
23 Other respiratory diseases ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	...	...	8	...	8
24 Ulceration of the stomach or duodenum ...	...	1	1	...	1	1	3	...	3	...	10	...	10
25 Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) ...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	4	...	4
26 Appendicitis ...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	3	...	3
27 Other digestive diseases ...	2	1	2	1	3	1	4	2	2	4	22	...	22
28 Nephritis ...	...	3	2	1	1	1	3	1	5	...	17	1	18
29 Puerperal and post-abortive sepsis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	1
30 Other maternal causes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	...	2
31 Premature birth ...	2	3	1	1	...	...	4	2	1	1	15	1	16
32 Congenital malformations, birth injury, infantile disease ...	2	...	...	1	1	...	4	1	1	1	11	1	12
33 Suicide ...	...	...	2	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	4	1	5
34 Road traffic accidents ...	...	...	2	...	1	2	2	...	...	2	9	...	9
35 Other violent causes ...	...	2	...	...	...	4	1	1	...	...	8	3	11
36 All other causes ...	26	15	9	18	19	19	16	30	12	31	195	6	201
Totals ...	92	92	73	70	67	100	103	131	91	107	926	43	969

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

DISEASE.	Borough Cases				Cases removed to and Deaths in Isolation Hospital							
	Total Cases Notified		Total Deaths		From Borough				From Rural and other Districts			
					Cases		Deaths		Cases		Deaths	
	C.	M.	C.	M.	C.	M.	C.	M.	C.	M.	C.	M.
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	191	1	...	...	150	1	...	...	24	31	...	...
Diphtheria	112	1	4	...	107	1	4	...	10	4	...	...
Typhoid and Para-typhoid Fevers	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	16	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	7	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Babies with Mothers	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia	43	1	44	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Measles and German Measles ...	1618	...	2	...	15	...	...	...	8	6	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	66	12	51	...	39	1	13	...	1	...	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	8	...	7	...	2	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	64	...	...	...	3	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Fever	6	...	2	...	4	...	2	...	5	7	...	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	1	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Other Conditions	...	...	...	...	49	3	...	...	11	13	...	...
Malaria Relapse	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Icterus Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	2139	16	112	...	383	7	22	...	61	65	...	1

MUNICIPAL INSTITUTION (Hospital Section), YARM ROAD :—

	Men.	Women.	Children.	Total.
In	59	60	5	124
Admitted	224	171	40	435
Discharged	133	107	37	277
Deaths	89	64	1	154
Remaining	61	60	7	128

Rate-aided persons of unsound mind not included above :—

Residential	8 Men.	12 Women	Total 20
Out-relief	4 „	8 „	„ 12

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

NOTIFIED BIRTHS :—	Males		Females		Total	
	Leg.	Ill.	Leg.	Ill.	Leg.	Ill.
Live-Births	695	31	644	30	1,339	61
Still-Births	30	1	20	3	50	4
Total	725	32	664	33	1,389	65
By Midwives	...	358	323	...	681	...
By Doctors	...	4	7	...	11	...
By Parents	...	0	0	...	0	...
By Midwives in Institutions ...	...	394	367	...	761	...
By Doctors in Institutions	...	1	0	...	1	...

	Patients In at	Admitted	Discharged	Deaths	Remaining	Days' Treatment
Greenbank Maternity Hospital	Jan. 1/45, 25	707	696	1	35	10,104

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.—4 on Register, 4 new, 6 children were returned to their parents, 2 now on Register. 41 Visits and 102 office interviews. In addition many telephone enquiries were dealt with regarding suitable homes, adoptions, etc.,

CENTRES.—Mothers and babies, attendances, 18,360. Ante-Natals 6,249. 24,126 lbs. Dried milk sold. 1 lb. free.

DENTAL TREATMENT.—Mothers 8; Children under 5 years 6; Total 14. Total attendances, 31; Extractions, 41; Dentures supplied to 1 person. Anæsthetics, 3; Fillings, 1; other operations 8.

MATERNITY HOME HELPS.—Cases, 60. Day's Service, 757.

DOMESTIC „ „ „ 6. „ „ 262 $\frac{1}{4}$.

MIDWIVES' ACTS.—Emergency calls to Doctors, 149. Inspector's Visits 144.

HEALTH VISITORS :—	First Visits	Re- Visits	Total Visits
Expectant Mothers	264	40	304
Infants under 1 year	1261	3007	4268
Children 1 to 5 years	—	6057	6057
Infectious Diseases	805	14	819
Infant Deaths	43	—	43
Still-Births	44	—	44
Miscellaneous Visits	516	5	521
Maternal Deaths	1	—	1
Illegitimate Children	62	372	434
Adoptions	14	17	31
Evacuees	148	—	148

QUEEN'S NURSES' ASSOCIATION :—

Maternity Cases	116	1992	2108
Midwifery Cases	164	2676	2840
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	2	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	14	15
Acute Primary Pneumonia	6	96	102
Children under 5 years	102	511	613
Miscarriages	14	116	130
Measles with Pneumonia	1	14	15
Chicken Pox and Mumps	1	5	6
Ante-Natal Cases	—	2235	2235
Post-Natal Cases	—	286	286

VACCINATION :—

Births Registered, 1468; Successful Vaccinations, 357; Conscientious Objections, 995; Insusceptibility, 0; Died before Vaccination under 1 year, 54.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.—531 under 5 years, 191 at 5—15 years. Total since 1935, 9586.

VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC.

	Darlington			Other Authorities	
	Males	Females		Males	Females
Suspected Venereal Diseases—New Cases	98	134	....	68	98
Non-Venereal Diseases	39	88	....	38	52
Total Attendances of all persons	2,084	1,621	....	619	763
In-patient Days	—	—	....	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

Sanatoria	In			Admitted			Discharged			Deaths			Remaining		
	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.	M.	F.	C.
Stannington	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Hollywood Hall	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blencathra	3	1	—	4	3	—	3	3	—	—	—	—	4	1	—
Borough Isolation Hospital	—	3	—	22	20	2	9	13	—	8	5	1	5	5	1
Memorial Hospital	1	—	2	1	—	6	2	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	2
Municipal Institution	11	1	—	13	—	2	19	1	2	4	—	—	1	—	—
Poole Sanatorium	5	6	—	16	20	—	14	16	—	—	1	—	7	9	—
Winterton	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Orthopædic Hospital, Kirbymoorside	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

Apparatus provided for 4 necessitous patients as follows :—

New Surgical Boots & Shoes (3 cases). New Spinal Support (1 case).

Railway Warrants issued—13.

Fares paid—4.

X-ray examinations—

Dr. Fothergill 304 Ultra Violet Rays—1.

DOMICILIARY VISITS :—

Health Visitors	73	499	572
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Queen's Nurses' Association	8	42	50
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Total	81	541	622
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Dispensary Attendances—1,302.

Other Consultations—14.

Doctors' Home Visits—12.

Letters—409.

Average Attendances.

War-time Nurseries.

	On Roll.	Day.	Night.
Hundens Lane	42	27	10
Station Road (closed 7/7/1945)	15	10	—
Albert Hill	29	17	12
North Road	45	25	15
Eastbourne (closed 31/8/1945)	36	23	—
CLASSES.—St. William's R.C.	31	26	—
Rise Carr	71	46	—
Borough Road	60	40	—
Corporation Road	100	72	—

REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1945.

Analysis of Inspections, 1945.

Under Public Health and Housing Acts	2,783
Van Dwellings	85
Common Lodging Houses	56
Overcrowded Houses	68
Interviews with Owners and Builders	782
Yards and Courts	40

Total Inspections of Housing Conditions	3,814
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Abattoir	706
Emergency Slaughter	894
Bakehouses	74
Cowsheds	85
Milk Retailers	114
Ice Cream Premises	77
Fried Fish Shops and Offensive Trades	44
Markets	146
Food premises other than Bakehouses	203
Sampling	445
Canned Food and Provisions	247

Inspections with reference to Food	3,035
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Verminous Premises	75
Pharmacy and Poisons Act	21
Visits after Infectious Disease	485
Factories, Workshops, etc.	138
Drain Testing	20
Rat Inspections	365
Piggeries	33
Investigation of Complaints	865
Places of Public Entertainment	1
Sundry Inspections	29
Scabies	7
Ineffective Visits	413
Swine Fever Contacts	3

Total of other Inspections	2,455
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1. Housing Conditions	3,814
2. Food	3,035
3. Other Inspections	2,455

Total Visits	9,304
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Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

During the year, 172 samples were taken and sent for analysis by the Public Analyst. These comprised 11 samples of foods, 1 of whisky and 160 of milk.

The 11 samples of foods and the sample of whisky were of genuine quality. Of the 160 samples of milk, 122 were informal, 24 formal and 14 Appeal to Cow samples; of these, 18 informal, 9 formal and 6 appeal to cow samples, were below standard; 3 informal and 2 formal samples were genuine but below standard; this was shewn by the respective freezing points.

I have no doubt but that much of the trouble caused by fat deficiency was not due to adulteration, but rather to failure to correctly apportion the stripping to the milk to which it belonged. Farmers and producers have been greatly handicapped by having to employ unskilled labour, coupled with difficulties met with at peak periods in farming.

The Appeal to Cow samples in 6 cases shewed that the cows in these herds gave milk below standard. It is to be hoped, that when farmers can get adequate and skilled labour, more care in milking will shew an improvement in quality.

Milk (Special Designations) Orders, 1936-1943.

Twenty-one licences were in force under the Orders as :—

Accredited—11 Producers, 2 Supplementary, 1 Bottling.
Tuberculin Tested—4 Bottling.
Tuberculin Tested Certified—1 Supplementary.
Pasteurised—2.

Ninety one samples sold or produced under Special Designations were taken and sent for Bacteriological Examination.

These comprised Tuberculin Tested 36, Accredited 26 and Pasteurised 29.

Of the above :—18 samples of Tuberculin Tested, 21 of Accredited and 24 Pasteurised passed all respective tests.

3 of Tuberculin Tested failed in the Methylene Blue Test but satisfied the B. Coli. test.

10 of Tuberculin Tested passed the Methylene Blue Test but failed the B. Coli. test.

5 of Tuberculin Tested failed in both tests.

3 of Accredited failed in the Methylene Blue Test but passed that for the B. Coli Test.

1 of Accredited passed the Methylene Blue Test but failed the test for B. Coli.

1 of Accredited failed in both tests.

1 of Pasteurised failed in the Methylene Blue Test and gave a positive reaction for the presence of B. Coli. in 2 of 3 tubes of 0.001 ML.

1 of Pasteurised gave a total count of 108,000 bacteria per ML.

1 of Pasteurised failed in the Methylene Blue Test but passed the other tests.

1 of Pasteurised failed in the Methylene Blue Test and gave a positive reaction for the presence of B. Coli. in 3 tubes of 0.001 ML.

1 of Pasteurised failed in all tests.

In these latter two cases, investigation shewed that the plant had broken down. This was soon rectified and subsequently an entirely new plant was installed.

Bacteriological Examination of Undesignated Milk.

Eighty four samples of undesignated milk were taken and sent for Bacteriological Examination. Although a standard for cleanliness has not been set by the legislature, we have decided that undesignated milk sold in the Borough shall be deemed to be unsatisfactory unless it complies with the standard required for the designation previously known as Grade A Milk i.e., the sample should not give a total count of more than 100,000 bacteria per ML. with negative reaction for the presence of B. Coli. in more than 1 tube of 3 tubes of 0.01 ML. The sample should also pass the Methylene Blue test as for designated milk.

This is a fairly high standard for ordinary undesignated milk and one that cannot be enforced by law, but if gross deviations from the standard be found severe warnings are given.

Details of Undesignated Samples.

Number of samples complying with the above standard	40
Number giving a total count of 60,000 and less bacteria per ML. with a positive reaction for the presence of B. Coli. in 2 or 3 tubes of 0.01 ML.	10
These samples also passed the Methylene Blue Test as is required for T.T. and Accredited Milk.	
Samples giving total counts of 212,000, 235,000 and 298,000 bacteria per 1 ML. with a negative reaction for the presence of B. Coli. in each of 3 tubes of 0.01 ML.	3
Samples giving total counts of 106,000, 346,000, 520,000 and 875,000 bacteria per 1 ML. with positive reactions for the presence of B. Coli. in 1 of 3 tubes of 0.01 ML.	4
Samples giving total counts of 72,000, 123,000, 176,000, 206,000 and 488,000 (x) bacteria per 1 ML. with positive reaction for the presence of B. Coli. in 2 and 3 tubes of 0.01 ML.	5
Samples giving total counts of 3,000, 6,000, 40,500, 41,000, 42,000, 57,500, 73,000 (x), 85,000 (x), 86,000, 130,000, 170,000 (x), 230,500, 322,000 (x), and 331,000 (x), bacteria per ML. with a positive reaction for the presence of B. Coli. in 1, 2, or 3 tubes of 0.001 ML	14

(x) These samples failed in Methylene Blue Test.

Samples giving total counts of 40,000, 194,000, 238,000, 434,000, 462,000, 504,000, 600,000 and 618,000 with positive reactions for the presence of B. Coli. in 1, 2, or 3 tubes of 0.0001 ML. 8

The last 7 samples in this group failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test.

In each case where supplies were considered to be unsatisfactory, letters of warning were sent to those concerned. I must here refer to the very valuable help given by the Public Analyst who in each case added his remarks to each report where unsatisfactory samples were found. These remarks helped in a large measure towards the interpretation of the Laboratory report.

Having regard to the very difficult position on many of the farms engaged in milk production caused by lack of skilled labour, feeding stuffs, transport, etc., and the adverse weather conditions during important periods in farming, I do not think the above results are bad. They are not so good as we would desire and fall below the pre-1939 years, and I have no hesitation in stating that constant sampling and warnings, where necessary, have resulted in supplies being much safer than they would otherwise have been. We hope for much improvement when conditions become nearer to normal.

Bacteriological Examination of Milk.

18 samples of milk were sent for Animal Inoculation for the detection of Tubercle Bacilli. One sample gave a positive result. Investigation at the farm failed to find any animal suffering from Tuberculosis, but it transpired that a cow had been sent to a knackery after the sample had been taken. This animal was stated to have been tuberculous.

Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.

During the year 1945 the total number of animals slaughtered was 24,847 including 894 emergencies.

This number is made up of 1,282 cows, 4,432 bovines, 12,728 sheep, 840 pigs and 5,565 calves.

The total weight of food condemned and destroyed was 80 tons 13 cwts. 4 stones; of which 34 tons 15 cwts. 5 stone 8 lbs. were on account of Tuberculosis. All the above was surrendered voluntarily.

In addition to the above, 7 tons 11 cwts. of food were examined by the Officers of this department and referred to the Ministry of Food, Salvage Department.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all the members of the staff, including the Medical Officer of Health, for the very valuable co-operation given so freely at all times.

A. E. WADE,
Chief Sanitary Inspector.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Maternity Hospital.—The Maternity Hospital at Greenbank had a record year during which there were 707 admissions. It is hoped in the near future to increase the number of maternity beds to meet the growing demand.

The total number of attendances of mothers and infants at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres was 18,360 which is a slight decrease compared with the previous year.

Illegitimate Children born in 1945.—There were 65 illegitimate births notified during 1945 (including three stillbirths), and one un-notified birth. In addition the Health Visitor visited fifteen illegitimate children of married women (see table below). Of the three children who died two were from prematurity (twins two-days old and 9 hours old), and one from convulsions (3 days old). Six babies were adopted, one in Darlington, and five out of the town, by arrangement with outside Adoption Societies. Eight children were legitimised by marriage.

The general care of the illegitimate children remains good. Nine have needed frequent supervision and have been visited monthly or two monthly, others three monthly according to the home conditions. Those attending day nurseries were seen there each month.

All children are reported on as often as possible, but with short staff more frequent supervision, which is so desirable, is not possible. It is hoped to improve this in future.

Illegitimate Children, 1945.

1—Notified as illegitimate	....	....	....	....	65
Un-notified	....	....	....	....	1
2—Un-notified as illegitimate but found as such on					
routine visiting	....	....	....	....	15
Stillbirths (included in 1 and 2)	....	....	....	....	3
Deaths under 1 year	....	....	....	....	3
Transfers out (adopted)	....	....	....	....	5
Adopted in town	....	....	....	....	1
Transfers in	....	....	....	....	6
Legitimate by marriage of parents	....	....	....	....	8
Removals, including transfers out	....	....	....	....	11

Premature Infants.—The following Table gives the information about premature Infants :—

Number of premature babies notified who were born—

(i)	(a)	At home....	....	....	....	—	21
	(b)	In hospital	....	....	....	—	39
(ii)	The number of those born at home—						
	(a)	who were nursed entirely at home	....	....	....	—	17
	(b)	who died during the first 24 hours	....	....	....	—	4
	(c)	who survived at the end of one month	....	....	....	—	12
(iii)	The number of those born in hospital—						
	(a)	who died during the first 24 hours	....	....	....	—	5
	(b)	who survived at the end of one month	....	....	....	—	30

Home—Of the children (21) born at home 17 were nursed entirely at home. Three were moved to the Maternity Ward and one to the Isolation Hospital (prematurity). This child died. All deaths during the first 24 hours were due to prematurity. Of those who survived at the end of one month one died from pyloric stenosis at the age of 4 months. All others have made good progress.

Hospital—39 premature babies were born. There were 5 deaths during the first 24 hours from prematurity.

3 others died at 4 days	}	from prematurity.
8 days and		
25½ hours		
1 other „ at 2 days from Haemorrhagic disease of the newly born.		

Scabies and verminous Heads.—There were 288 cases of scabies and 1,621 cases of verminous heads. The treatment with benzyl benzoate has given excellent results in the former condition, and even the worst cases are generally cured after three applications. Very satisfactory results have been obtained in the latter conditions by the use of lethane oil.

WATER SUPPLY AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL, ETC.

Water Supply—The following information has been kindly provided by the Water Engineer, Ernest Minors, Esq., B.Sc., M.Inst.C.E., to whom I am indebted:—

The supply is pumped from the River Tees, is treated with alumina ferric and with sodium aluminate and is passed to the settling tanks where it remains for a period of about 6 hours. Water is then pumped through pressure filters and after filtration is treated with chlorine and ammonia. To counteract all possibility of plumbo solveney lime is added before the water leaves the works and the p H value is not allowed to fall below 7.5. Analyses continue to be made every week by the Borough Analyst of the raw, filtered and chlorinated water and in every instance these have been satisfactory from a bacteriological standpoint.

During the war years consumption of water increased much more rapidly than in the years prior to 1939 but it will be seen from the following table that the peak consumption for the time being was reached in 1944 there being a very slight decrease in the number of gallons pumped in 1945.

<i>Year ending 31st March.</i>	<i>Gallons pumped.</i>
1939	1,286,590,000
1940	1,363,100,000
1941	1,593,520,000
1942	1,670,190,000
1943	1,726,350,000
1944	1,863,230,000
1945	1,861,210,000

A further battery of seven pressure filters were erected in 1945 and have been in operation now for a period of 6 months.

So far as quantity of water is concerned, that there are ample supplies available in the River Tees is shown by the following records taken when the River was flowing at its lowest recorded level in 1938.

	<i>Galls. per day.</i>
Water pumped by Tees Valley Water Board	6,500,000
Water pumped by Darlington Corporation	4,700,000
Flowing over Weir	22,000,000
Total	33,200,000

The water is pumped direct to the town to a service reservoir at Harrowgate Hill which was enlarged and covered in, just prior to the outbreak of War. The capacity of the Reservoir is now 7 million gallons.

In order to guard against the possibility of typhoid infection it has been and will be the regular practice to examine all employees of the Water Undertaking before they commence work.

The approximate total number of dwelling houses within the Borough is 23,400 and the whole of these are supplied from the water mains direct into the houses except 75 which are served by stand pipes.

Rivers and Streams.—The slow running River Skerne enters the town at its east boundary at Haughton-le-Skerne, from whence it flows west and then south. It is crossed by 12 road bridges and is the natural channel for floodwater in the case of heavy rain.

Although in 1942 the evidence of pollution was well marked at the point where the River enters the town, recent analyses have shown that there is an improvement in the quality of the water, nevertheless, it will take some years before the River bed cleanses itself of the colliery washings deposited over a period of years.

Analyses will continue to be made.

Active steps have been taken to see that pollution does not take place in the Town itself and the majority of the manufacturers concerned are co-operating with the Corporation to see that offensive effluents are not discharged into the River.

The larger articles of refuse put into the River by irresponsible persons are now removed twice a year by the Corporation.

Swimming Baths.—The Public Swimming Baths are situated in Gladstone Street, and consist of two large pools. The First Class Bath is used largely in the summer and covered during winter to form a spacious Public Hall accommodating an audience of 1,500. The Second Class Pool is kept open during the greater part of the year.

Every precaution is taken in Darlington by continuous filtration and chlorination to produce a clear, sparkling, attractive water free from germs of disease, and of a bacterial purity approximating to that of drinking water. The continuous treatment, completed every four hours, affords also important economies in heating and water supply. Accurate dosage of coagulant (sodium aluminate) and gaseous chlorine is ensured by routine checking.

Sewage and Sewage Disposal.—Now that the war is at an end it is hoped to continue the policy of the Council to construct storm water relief sewers and gradually to introduce the partially separate system, carrying the greater amount of surface water away in separate sewers. It is hoped to commence construction of a new main outfall sewer from the centre of the town to the Sewage Disposal Works during the coming year. The whole of the sewage is treated at the Stressholme Sewage Works where one half of the flow receives preliminary treatment in sedimentation tanks and is then treated by broad irrigation on the Stressholm Farm. The remainder is dealt with by the Sewage Purification Works completed in 1942 which consist of detritus and sedimentation tanks, percolation filters, humus and storm water tanks. A satisfactory effluent is being produced at the new works being slightly better than the effluent from the land which has been greatly improved by the relief it has been possible to give as a consequence of the construction of the Purification Works.

Disposal of the Dead.—Three large Cemeteries one of which is in course of extension and a Crematorium provide adequate places for disposal.



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