# Contributors

Darlington (England). Rural District Council.

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# DARLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

# - ANNUAL REPORT

# OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR 1946

BY

M.W. RODGERS, M.B., CH.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.



#### CHAIRFAN AND I ENBIRS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DARLING "ON.

#### Gentlemen:

In the absence of Dr. C.A. O'Neil, F.B. CH.B B.A.O. it is my duty and privilege to present to you the annual report upon the health and sanitary circumstances of the Darlington Rural District Council for the year ending the 31st December 1946.

So far as the health of the population as a whole is concerned, and so far as it can be measured by the incidence of infectious and other diseases, the year 1946 may be described as being rather better than the average. The usual vital and mortal statistics do not vary much from the normal.

During the early part of the year six cases energy of contact with Smallpox arrived in the district (service-men returning from abroad). In each case an examination and enquiries were made but no case of Smallpox resulted.

The progress on schemes of housing, water supply, sewerage and sewage disposal appears very slow and it is hoped that the improvement will be more marked next year, although considerable difficulties brought about by shortage of labour and materials still lie ahead.

My grateful thanks are due to your Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector who together with his staff have diligently dealt with the work of the department, and I also would like to acknowledge the courtesy afforded by the Chairman and Members of the Council.

I am,

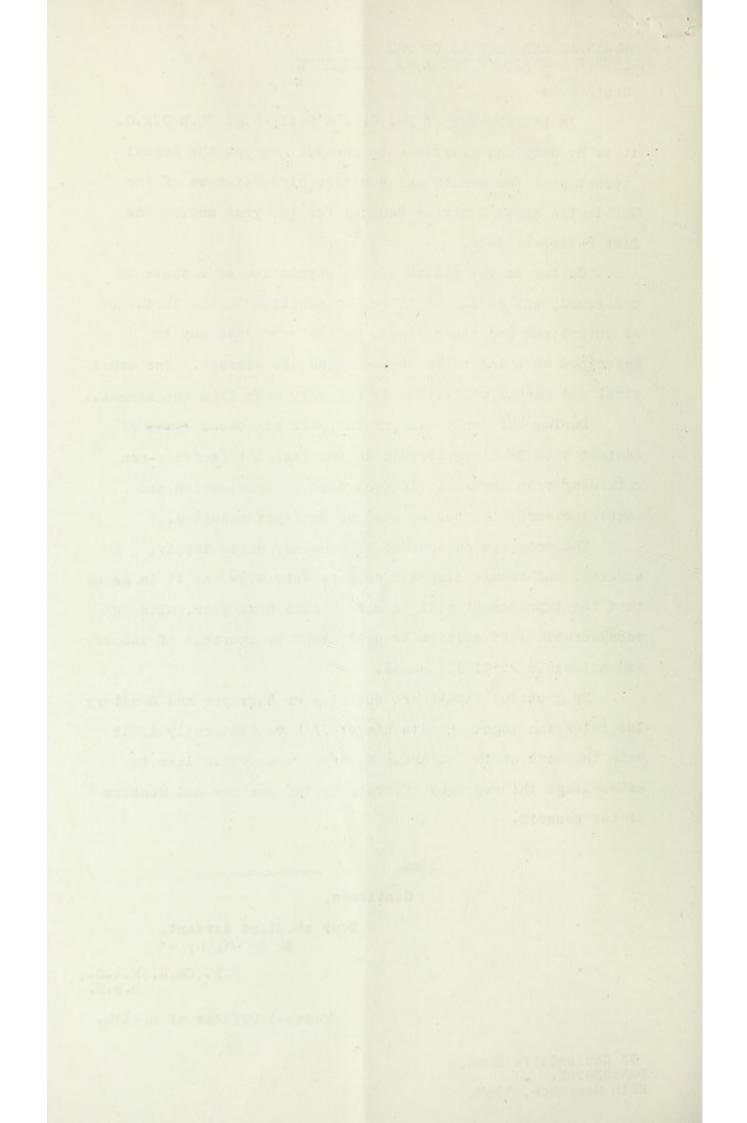
Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant, in ur Rodgers

> M.B., OH.B., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Medicol Officer of Health.

53 Coniscliffe Road, DARLINGTON. 28th November, 1947.



# SECTION A

#### GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Rural	District in .	Acres	45,064
			9,382
			2,548
		rate	
Rateable valu	e at 1st April	1, 1945	£75494

#### SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND EPPLOYEINT.

The chief industries are Agriculture, Lime Burning, and General Quarrying. Many of the population are engaged in works in the Borough of Darlington, the Urban District of Shildon and The Rural District of Stockton.

The conversion of the Royal Ordnance Jactory at Ayeliffe into a Tr.ding Estate has used good progress to date. There are 42 industrial undertakings operating as tenants on the Estate and employing approximately 2,600 people. Some of these undertakings have come from other parts of the country necessitating the importing of key men into the area. In view of this and the need for housing in connection with the Tracing Estate the Finister of Town & Country Planning has considered the necessity of a new town at Ayeliffe. Sites have been suggested one south of the existing village and the other to the north.

Resers. Crossley & Sons, Brick Factory at Hurworth is now in the course of crection and it is hoped that by the autuan of 1947 it will be in production.

Mesors. W. H. Arnott Young Limited contended in Pebruary with the demolition and site clearance of the Linthorpe and Dinedale Smelting Company Limited works at Middleton-St-George These comprised three large furnesses, engine chops and approximately six miles of railway sidings. Approximately 20-30 men have had employment during the year and 6,000 tons of iron and steel and 1,000,000 bricks have been salveged which will help to meet the present shortage of these materials. The Linthorpe & Dinscale Smelting Co. Ltd., has not operated since 1931 and I understand that the derelict works have been cleared to provide sites for light industrial undertakings.

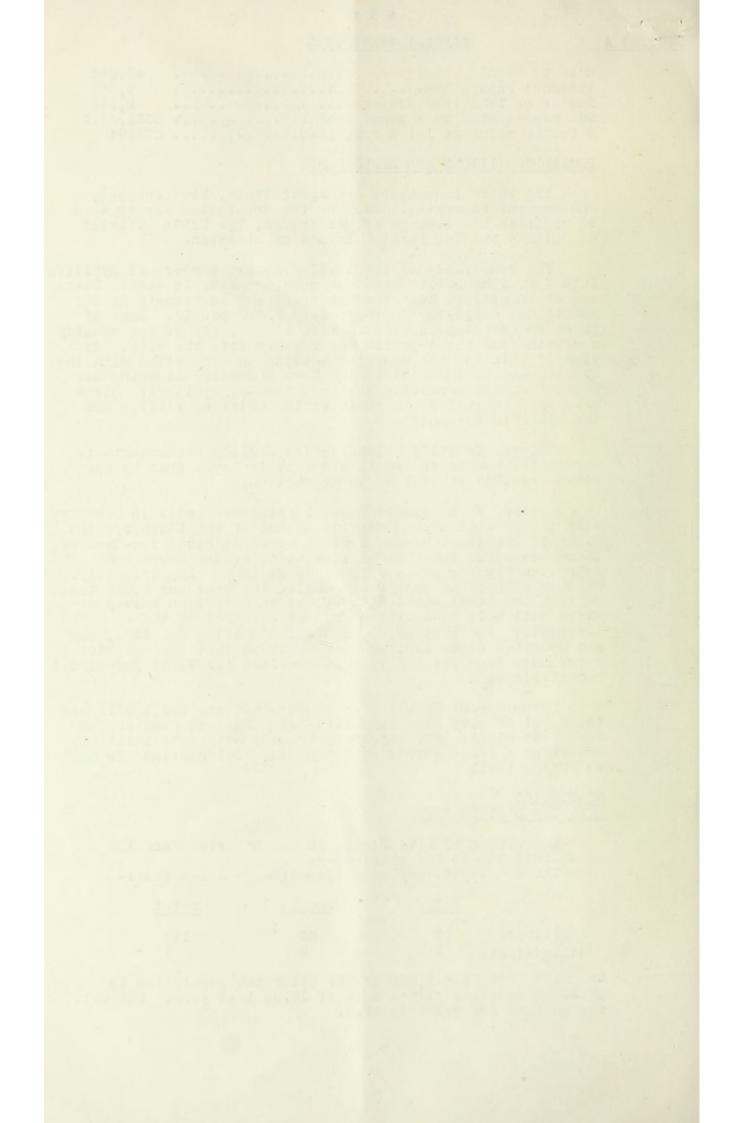
. Unemployment in the area during 1946 was negligable and those out of work were suffering from physical handloap or were past middle age. Aycliffe Trading Estate is still absorbing a large amount of labour and will continue to do so during 1947.

#### STATISTICS BIRTHS AND BIRTH RATE

The number of live Births in the District weame 152 as against 155 in the previous year. The sex legitimacy classification is drawn thus:-

	Male	 Female	Totel
Legitimate	82	63	145
Illegitimate	2	5	7

The Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 16.20 as compared with a rate of 17.39 last year. The rate for England and Vales is 19.1.



STILL BIRTHS

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	<u>Kele</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Totel</u>
Legitimate	2	7	9
Illegitimate	2	-	2

The rate per 1,000 of the population is 1.17 as compared with 0.22 last year, and a rate of 0.53 for England and Vales.

## JATERNAL ) CRTALITY

There was 1 death from Laternial Causes during the year out of a total of 163 registered births (152 live and 11 still).

# INFANTILE FORTALITY

Deaths of infants under one year of age were as follows:-

	hele	Ferale	Total
Legitimate	3	4 .	7
Illegitimate		-	-

The infantile mortality rate is 46.

The rate for England and Vales is 43.

# DEATHS AND DEATH RATE

During 1946 there were 114 deaths registered, 58 male and 56 female. The beath Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 12.15 which compares very favourably with a death rate of 13.69 for 1945 and a rate of 11.5 for Bugland and Wales.

# TABLE SHOVING CAUSES OF DEATH

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	1	-
Influenza	1	-
Cancer (all forms)	9	10
Diabetes	-	1
Intracranial Vascular lesions	6	11
Heart Disease	15	19
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System.	3	10
Bronchitis	2	1
		-
Pneumonia	2	72
Other Respiratory Diseases	2	-
Nephritis	1	2
Haternal Causes	-	1
Premature Birth	-	1
Congenital Falformation, Infantile Diseases	2	2
Rosa Traffic Acciaents	2	-
Other Violent Causes	3	1
All other Causes	7	3
Whooping Cough	-	7
Whooping Cough	1	-
-		and the set of the set
Total	58_	

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#### INFECTIOUS ISEASES.

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# CIVILIAN CASES NOTIFIED.

AGE			Who Cou	oping gh	Dip eri		l'ea	sles	Pn	eu-	pe	ral re-	Pol	Ant io- litis	-	halmia natoru¤
	E.	F.	24.	P.	16.	F.	1.,	F.	1.	F	14.	F,	E.	F.	Τ.,	P.,
0	-	-	1	-	-		-	-	-		-	-	-	-	2	-
1-3	1	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	- 1	-	-
3-5	-	1	3	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-10	4	8	1	1	3	-		1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
10-15	2	-	-	-	-	1	-		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-25	1	2		-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-		-
25	-	1	-	-	-	2	-	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
and		1000								222						
over		14. J. A.														
Total	8	12	5	2	6	4	1	3	3	4	-	1	-	1	2	-
												-		- 1		

Death Rate from Seven Frincipal Infectious diseases 0.11

Civilian Cases Removed to Isolation Hospital

Scarlet Fover 10 Puerperal Pyrexia 1 Diphtheria 9 Leasles (with complications) 1

Where necessary all premises were inspected and particulars taken. The precises and bidding were disinfected.

Humber of the above a set of liphtheria who had been Incuris a 'n those not incurised.

Age Group	Incunised	Not Immunised
C - 5	-	1
5 - 15	2	1
over 15	3	2

The number of children immunised ag inst Diphtheria curing the year was 47, of this total 5 were of the 5 - 15 groups and 42 of the 0 - 5 group. The percentage of immunised children in the area is 81 per cent, in the 5 - 15 group, and 51 per cent in the 0 - 5 group.

#### SHALLPOX

There were no class of smallpox in this area although there were 6 contacts arrived in the District. Each case was the subject of a medical examination and full inquiries were made.

# TUBLECULOSIS

There were 4 cases of Pulmonary and 1 case of Non-Pulmonary tuberculosis notified during the year.

	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary		
Vale	 1	1		
Témalo	3	-		

One death was registered from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and one death from non-pulmonary tuberculosis

1 N. Adult and 1 in the 1 - 5 age group.

1.100 bom . . . 74 1221 Conator Poer- tere to the second of th STATIST. 2010-000 2011-0 ong in the vertication of an and the second of the second ont dorth fire non-pullicator this to do at 1 1 is would send 1 the tes 1 - 5 agrounded.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES (Continued)

Two coses are in receipt of Meintenance Allewandes under the Ministry of Mehlth Scheme.

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The Service is administered by the Eurhan County Council.

# VINNERBAL DISBASIS

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This Service is also advinistered by the County Council. SECTION B. PUBLIC WEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Fedical Officer of Health:-C. A. O'Neill, N.B. CH.B., B.A.O. Samitary Inspector and Surveyor. J. D. Collins, M.R.S.L., A.R. San.I., M.S.L.A. Certified Camitary Inspector, Leat and Hood Inspector. Engineering Assistant:-S. Shore, April, 1946. Additional Samitary Inspector - Returned from H.K.Forces June, 10th. R.E. Dunn, M.S.L.A. A.R. San. I., Certified Camitary Inspector, Leat and Food Inspector. Fupil Assistant:-J. Clough, 1946. Chief Clerk and General Assistant:-F. H. Hurworth. General Clerk:-Hiss V. J. Vilkinson. (Temporary). Shorthand-Typist:-D. Kershaw.

SECTION C. SAMITARY CIRCUIDIANCES, WATER SUPPLY, SEVACE DISPOSAL.

WATER.

for

1. No samples of vater frzx chemical and bacteriological examination have been taken by the Council from the Tees Valley Water Board, Darlington Corporation or the Durham County Water Board. No complaint has been received regarding the quality of the water, as regular sampling for the purposes of analysis is carried out by these public bodies.

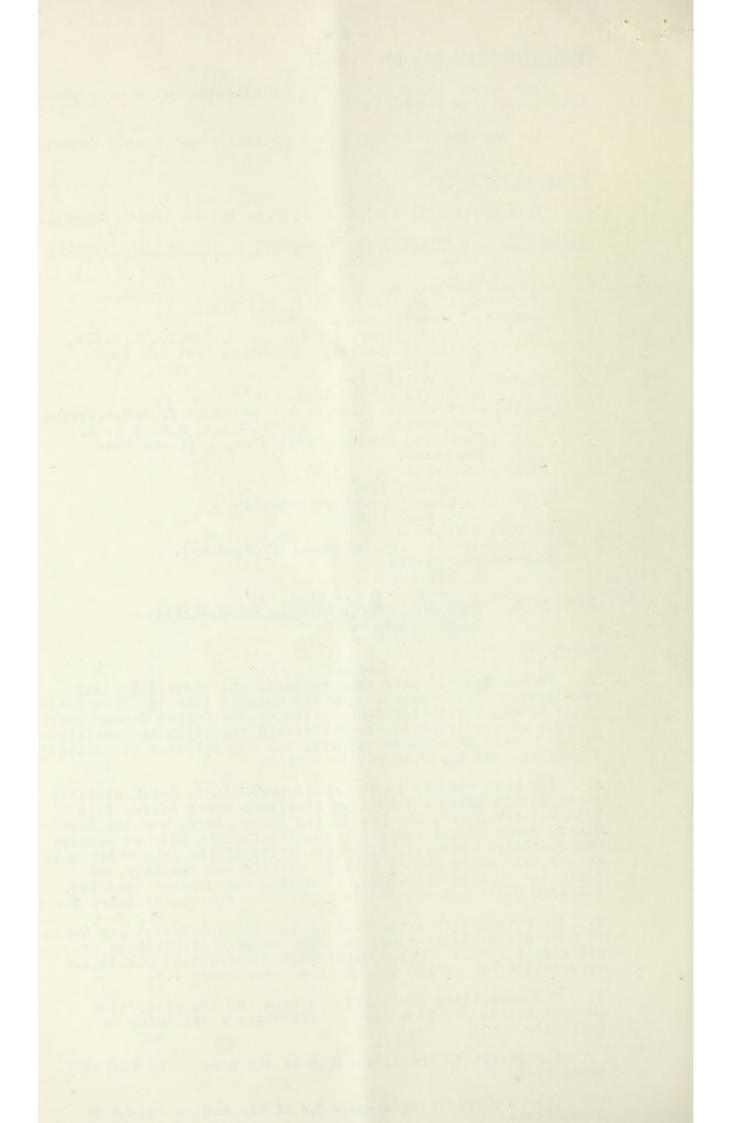
2. The water supply to the major part of the Eural District is by public mains (within the statutory areas of the Tees Valley Water Board, The Darlington Corporation, and the Durham County Mater Board) and has been satisfactory both in quality and quantity. However, there are parts of the area which have an unsatisfactory supply both in quality and quantity, as follows:- Houghton-le-Side, Houghton Bank, Great Stainton, Walworth Castle, and Malworth Gate, also several isolated farms.

5. No waters within the area of the Bural District are known to have Plumbo-Solvent action. The degrees of hardness are given as follows: Durham County Jater Board 2.5; Darlington Corporation 8; and the Tees Valley Water Board 4.8.

4. The proportion of dwelling houses and the proportion of the population supplied from public water mains bring as follows:- was

(a) Direct to the houses 90.8 of the houses and 79,8 of population.

(b) By means of Stand-pipe 7.6 of the houses and 6.8 of population.



## IMPROVELENTS.

3 ,

# (a) Redworth

As a direct result of the unsatisfactory sample of water taken from the public well at Redworth and following the installation of a stand pipe from the Durham County Water Board's mains last year, the owners of the 21 houses concerned after service of Statutory Notice laid on a piped water supply within each house.

#### (b) Bishepton

Further to the sampling of the public well and resultant unantisfactory analysis found last year, Statutory Notices were served on the owners of 21 houses where the occupiers took this water supply from the Well. Resulting from the action a piped water supply has been held within 16 houses from the frees Valley Water Bourd's mains. It was agreed in on, case not to require the notice to be carplied with on receipt of a letter from the owner promising that the premises concerned shall cease to be used for housing purposes immediately the ten of finds alternative accommodation. With regard to the other 4 houses it is hop a they will be dealt with next year.

# PROPOSED SCHETES

WATER SUPPLY & EL LIRAGE ACT, 1941.

#### (a) Houghton Bank and Houghton-le-Side.

In connection with the proposal mentioned in last year's report to afford a supply of water to Houghton bank and Houghton.le.Side particulars and estimates of the scheme have been considered by both the County Council and the Linistry of Health and approved. It is hoped that the main will be ready next year. This scheme is being carried out in conjunction with the scheme of Barnard Castle R.D.C. providing for the laying of a 6" main through the above area to Bolam at a cost of 25,700. Half of this cost to be borne by each Council.

## (b) Great Stainton.

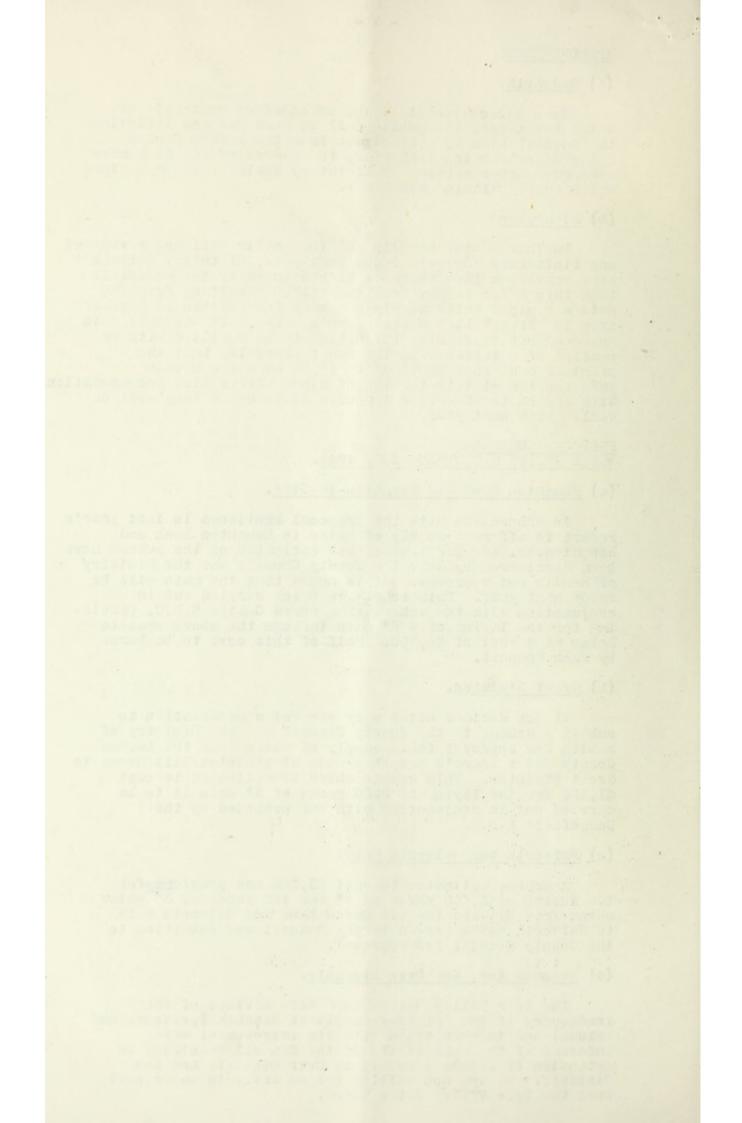
It was decided after very careful consideration to submit a scheme to the County Council and the Hinistry of Health for approval for a supply of water from the Durham County /ater Board's proposed wain at Stainton Hill House to Great Stainton. This scheme which is estimated to cost 21,424 for the laying of 2200 yards of 3" main is to be carried out in conjunction with one proposed by the Sedgefield R.D.C.

# (c) Walworth and Walworth Gate.

A scheme estimated to cost £3,200 and providing for the laying of 3,800 yards of 4" and 400 yards of 3" water mains from Heighington via Cross Lane and Walworth Gate to Walworth was approved by the Council and submitted to the County Council for approval.

# (d) Neasham Low, and Over Dinsdale.

The Tees Valley Vater Board were advised of the inadequacy of the existing supply at Neasham (pressure and volume) and in connection with its improvement were informed of the possibility of the Council requiring an extension to afford a supply to Over Dinsdale and Low Dinsdale. We are now waiting for an estimate and report from the Tees Valley Vater Board.



# SEVERAGE & SEVAGE DISPOSAL.

#### Improvements.

5 1

The survey having been made of the whole of the Rural District in connection with severage and sewage disposal preliminary estimates for Improvements, extensions, and new works amounting to 267,657 were submitted to and approved by the Council and the County Council.

The Parishes concerned being Archdeacon Newton, Ayeliffe, Bishopton, Blackwell, Brafferton, Coatham Fundeville Transport Cafe Area, Great Burdon, Great Stainton, High Coniscliffe, Hurworth, Iow Coniscliffe, Herrybent Estate, Hiddleton-St-George, Neasham, Piercebridge, Sadberge, Summerhouse and Whessoe.

Four small private drainage schemes were carried out during the year to isolated properties.

Rivers and Streams (River Pollution Prevention Act).

#### River Skerne

The County Council Report's indicate that some pollution was observed in the third quarter but after preventative measures had been taken the last quarterly report indicates that the river is free from serious pollution.

# River Tees.

The condition of the river shows evidence of pollution by deposits of Whinstone Dust before it enters this district.

No complaint has been received from the County Council regarding any pollution in this District.

#### Bishopton Beck.

Some pollution of this beck was reported in the County Council's second Quarterly Return but later returns show that the condition of the beck has improved.

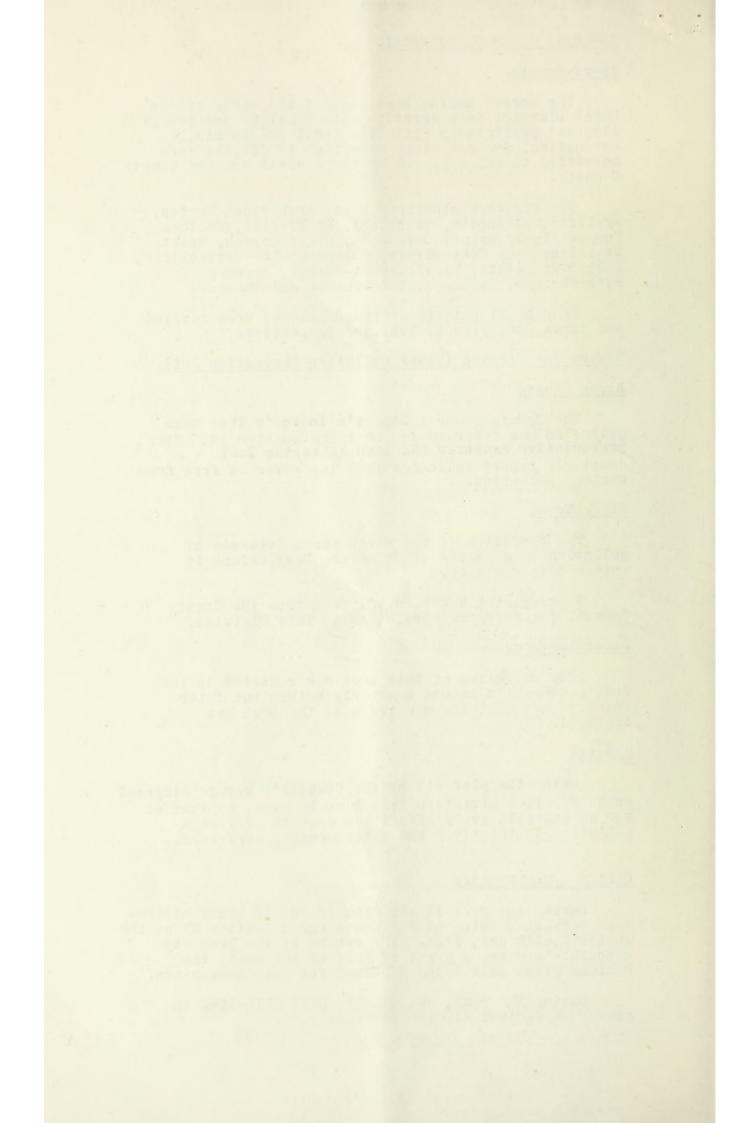
# General

During the year all of the Council's sewage disposal . works received attention from time to time, so that as far as possible every effort was made to prevent a pollution of the river and water courses concerned.

# CLOSET ACCONTODATION

During the year 11 ash closets and 16 privy middens were converted into water closets under Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The owners of the property concerned receive a grant of half of the cost, the maximum grant paid being 212-10-0 for each conversion.

During the year, the Council paid 2218-15-0 on grants as against 240 the previous year.



#### PUBLIC CIMANSING.

5 .

During the year Denton and Wolworth were added to the following districts where Fublic Scavenging is carried out:-

Low Coniscliffe,	Aycliffo	liddleton-one-Row
Merrybent	Coatham Fundeville	Neasham
High Coniscliffe	Brafferton	Low Dinsdalc
Piercebridge	Sadberge	Coostpool
Summerhouse	Little Stainton	Low Middleton
Killerby	Great Burdon	Sockburn
Heighington	Theseoc	Hurworth
Redworth	liddleton-St-George	Hurworth Place
School Ayeliffe	Great Stainton	Blacksell .

This work is carried out by direct labour, and for this purpose the Council own the following vehicles:-

(1)	lorris	30	c ort	ts. vchi	ele (first registered
(2)	Vulcan	2	ton	vchic1c	March, 1935). (first registered Jenuary,
(3)		2	"	u	(first registered February, 1926).

The third vehicle is sainly used for general sanitary work but in once of chargency it is made available for scavenging purposes.

In November the Council brought into use a new Bedford 3 ton vchicle to replace the Forris vehicle.

A new Ford 10 cert van was made available from 1st April, for the use of the sanitary and Scavenging foreman to carry out miscellaneous duties.

Wet seavenging (i.e. Gess Pool emptying) is carried out in the following Parishes where the Council are responsible for the maintenence, repair and emptying of certain cess pools.

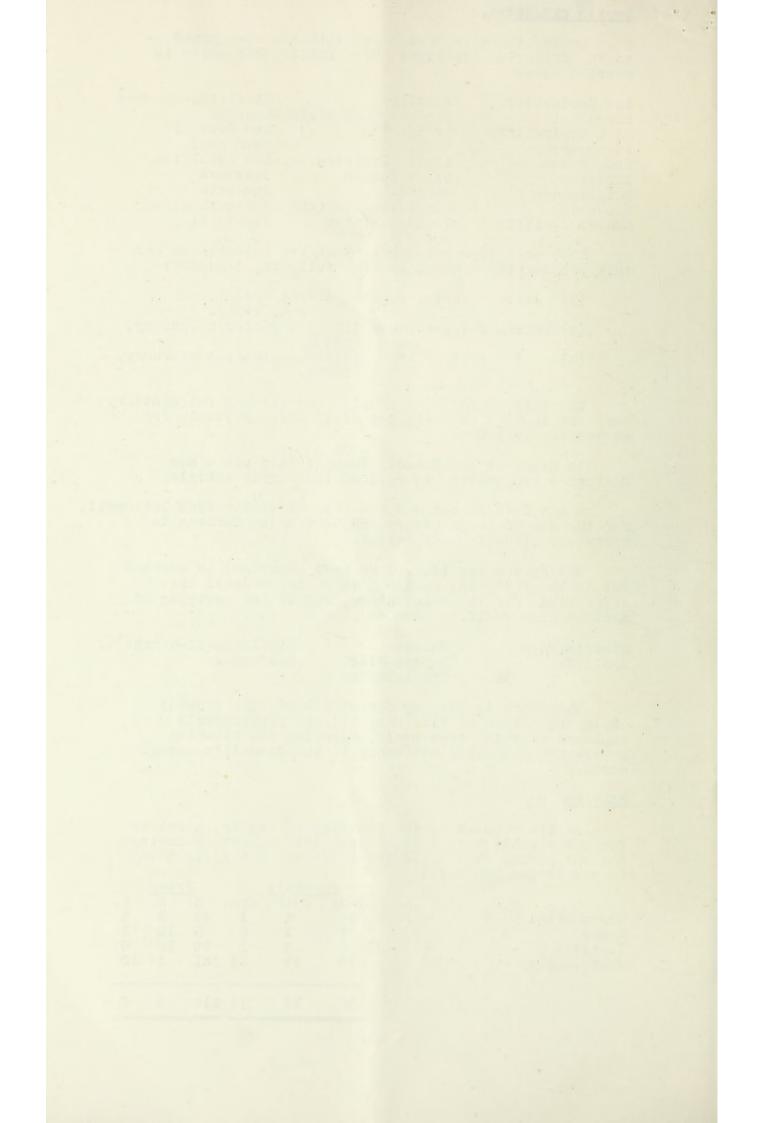
Piercebridge	Whessoc	liddleton-St-Gcorge
Aycliffe	Bercon Hill	Sadborge.
	Great Burdon	

This work is done by direct labour, the Council employing a team of five men, all are continuously employed emptying cass pools, scraping and fluching sowers and generally attending to the Council's bewage works.

#### SALVAGE

At the request of the binistry of Supply, a scheme for recoverable materials was put into operation during the war years. This year the following materials have been salveged and cold:

	Qu	Quantity			Frice		
	Ions	Cwts	Qrs.	2.	ε.	á.	
Serap Netal	34	6	1	44	3	5	
Bones	1	1	0	5	10	3	
Textiles	3 -	5	1	29	10	0	
Waste Paper	19	19	31	131	1	10	
	58	12	11	210	5	6	
						-	



# SALVAGE (Continued)

5 .

Last Year's total amounted to \$281-6-4 compared with \$312-4-44 for 1945.

One of the Council's vehicles is utilised by Croft Rural District Council for the collection of refuse and salwage in the Parish of Croft, for a period of three days in each six weeks.

#### SANITARY INSPECTION

Summary of Inspections and Re-Inspections under the Public Health Acts.	No. of visits.		informal notices
Water Sugaling	25	10	7
Water Supplies Defective Yard Paving	1	1	i
Housing Inspections	62	30	15
Ash Pits and Privies	13	13	10
Water Closets	16	10	7
Dairies	32	25	21
Com-Sheds	33	25	15
Drainage	34	20	15
Dangerous Buildings	3	3	2
	a.a		-
	219	107	91

No. of General Inspections and Visits.

Sewerage and Sovage Disposal .	55
Factories	4
Water Supplies	25
New Foundations	15
Buildings in Course of Construction	14
Drains Tested and Inspected	62
Properties Inspected on Completion	12
Council Houses	29
Miscellancous	122
	338

# DISINFESTATION

No verminous premises were notified, nor were any premises found to be in such a state during routine housing inspections.

# SCHOOLS

No improvement in the condition of the County Council school at blackwell has been made, although that authority was advised of the unsatisfactory condition prevailing last year.

#### SECTION D.

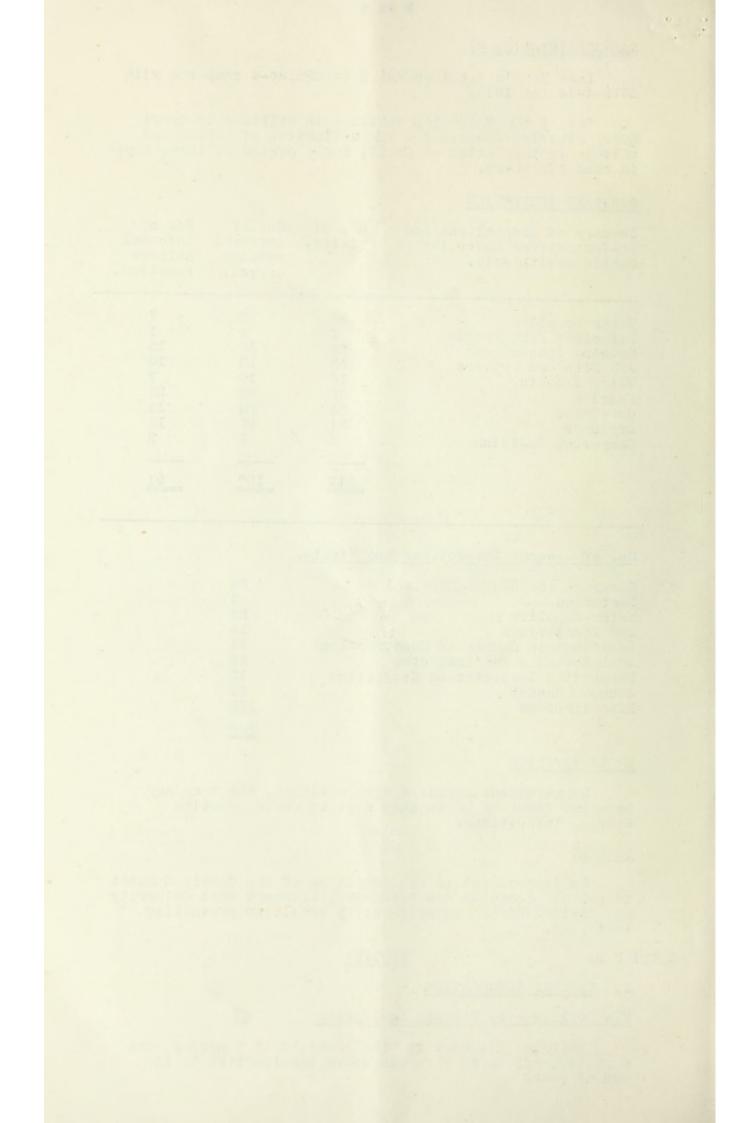
#### HOUSING

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

# New Dwellings by Private Enterprise

Building Licences for the erection of 7 houses were approved, and these were all under construction by the end of year.

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#### Council Houses.

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The erection of 15 houses at Strait Lane, Hurworth reported last year are nearing completion, and a further contract for the erection of 20 houses on this Estate was commenced in September.

The crection of 8 houses at Bishopton was commenced on the 9th September.

Plans are being prepared for further houses in other parts of the District and it is hoped they will be commenced next year.

The following is a list of applications received for Council Houses to date:-

PARISH	No.
Aveliffe	70
Bishopton	ίõ
Heighington	31
Hurworth	97
Killerby	3
Middleton-St-George	63
Sadberge	42
Redworth	_1
	323

#### CIVIL BUILDING LICENCES.

The Council as Licensing Authority were authorised to issue licences for all Building Vorks costing over 210 and under 2100 and costing over 2100, in the case of conversions or adaptations of buildings to give additional housing accommonation. During the year 235 licences were issued in connection with housing amounting to 214,838.10s,0d. and 92 licences were issued in connection with work other than housing amounting to 24,962.15s.0d. making a total of 219,801.5s.0d. as compared with 23.211.10s.10d. for

# PLANS AND TOWN PLANNING.

A Planning Scheme for the greater part of the District is in course of preparation by the South Durham Joint Planning Committee; the Council making all interim accisions after consultation with the executive Officer of the aforementioned Committee. A portion of the District immediately adjacent to Darlington is covered by the Darlington Corporation Planning Scheme, and is directly dealt with; by them.

The following list gives the formal applications dealt with during the year

	Approved.	Disapproved.
1. New Houses, Bungalows and Chops	13	3
2. Garages, Sheds and Outbuildings	15	1
3. Alterations, Additions, Conversions (Houses).	15	
4. Agricultural Buildings etc.	10	1
5. Factories	29	4

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The fellowing list-gives the from Ell distingtions dealt with during the year

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The following is a list of plans submitted under the Dyclows during the year.

1.	New Houses and Bungalows and Chops	19
2.	Garages, Sheds Itc.	22
3.	Alterations, Additions and Conversions	32
	Agricultural Buildings (Houses)	17
	Drainage	12
	Factorics	27
7.	Roads and severs	1

## 2. HOUSING STATISTICS

In accordance with the instruction received from the Medical Officer of Health a Housing Survey was commenced.

The rebord of work done under the Housing Act, Dtc. during the past year is as follows:-

1.	(2)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected	
		for housing defects (under Public Health or	-
		Housing Acts).	350

(b) Number of visits made for the purpose. 385

- 2. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Consolidated). Regulations, 1925, and Amendment Regulations, 1932. 288
  - (b) Number of visits made for the purpose. 300
- Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.
- Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.
- Number of dwelling houses found to be overorowded

# Remedy of defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in all respects in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority of their Officers.

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151

124

14

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# Section I

#### INSPECTION AND TUPERVISION OF FOOD

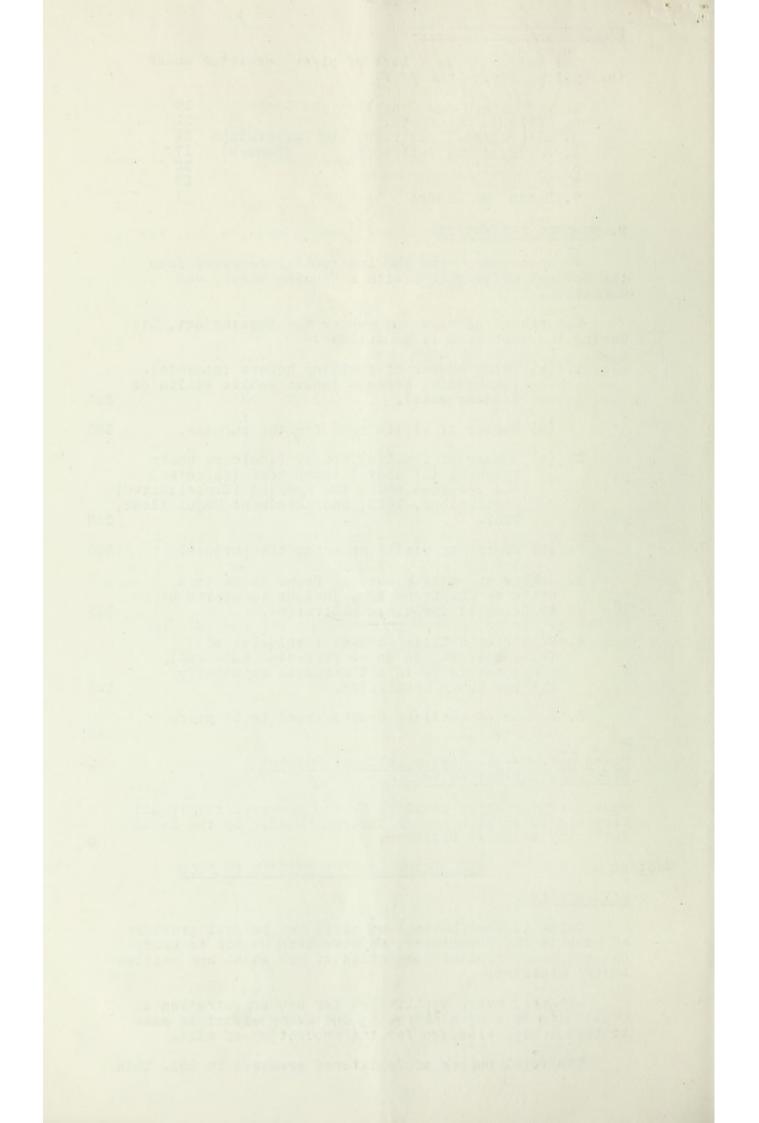
#### HILK SUPPLY

Owing to the shortage of staff and general pressure of work in the department, we have been unable to carry out the usual routine inspection of cow sheds and dairies in the district.

However, every application for new registration is dealt with by a special visit, and every effort is made to keep a high standard for the production of milk.

The total number of Registered premises is 251. This

- 12 -



# MILK SUPPLY (Continued)

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includes 60 producers of Accredited Filk and 2 producers of Tuberculin Tested Filk, One Supplementary licence to sell Tuberculin Tested Filk and two Supplementary Licences to sell Pasteurised Filk were issued.

The total number of cow sheds and dairies inspected during the year were 33; of these 6 were for registration under the Filk (Special Designation) Order.

#### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

No licences were issued in respect of slaughter houses during the year as none of the staughter houses are in use under the Government scheme for contratising slaughter houses. The Central Slaughter House for Darlington area is in Park Laws, Darlington, and no complaints have been received from local butchers in connection with this scheme.

## SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

1 New and 12 Renewal of Licences to Claughter Animals were granted during the year.

The following foodstuffs were examined and found to be unfit for food and were voluntarily surrendered:

> 6 cans turnip 8 cans beans 3 lbs Canned Feat Roll 10 lbs pickles 6 lbs Canned Pork

# SECTION F. HISCHILANDICUS

RATS AND MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

## "Infestation Order, 1943".

Since the survey of the district in 1944 baiting, trapping and gassing of rats at various Council Sewerage works have been carried out.

All complaints from private premises have been inspected and the necessary instructions given.

It is hoped to commence with a systematic treatment for rats in sewers next year.

# Demolition of and collection of A.H. Chelters.

All Forrison indoor A. R. Shelters have been collected as instructed by the linistry of Home Security. A commencement has been made by the contractor in the demolition of Brick A. R. Shelters.

# Petroleum (Regulations) Act, 1928 and 1936.

Four new and 17 Renewal of applications for licences to keep Petroleum Spirit were received during the year, and all licences were issued accordingly.

