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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

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ANNUAL REPORT, 1947

DARLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Gentlemen,

I have the privilege of presenting to you the 66th Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health on the health and sanitary circumstances of your district for the year ending the 31st December, 1947. The report has been greatly delayed partly due to the fact that statistics from the Registrar General are not normally available until June, but chiefly owing to the pressure of work in the department. If this report is compared with that of 1946 it is gratifying to note that the birth rate increased and that mortality rates generally were reduced; while as far as infectious disease is concerned the figures were greatly reduced in connection with diphtheria and scarlet fever. I can, therefore, state that 1947 was rather a better year as far as the health of the district was concerned than the average.

Housing being of paramount importance I am pleased to report that during 1947 much was done to meet the housing needs of the district and although the number of applications for Council houses is still very high it is hoped that in 1948 you will be able to make even more progress.

It would be wrong of me not to mention the need for improving arrangements for dealing with sewerage and sewage disposal although I am well aware that due to the national economic position and the shortage and high cost of building materials and labour it is almost impossible to deal with this matter at the present.

I am interested to note the establishment of the trading estate and the possibility of many of the inhabitants of this district enjoying full employment. It would seem wise and expedient that a new town be established to make housing available for the workers. This report is interesting in my opinion because of the information relating to the new town and trading estate.

Many changes in the staff have occurred but every effort should be made to prevent this occurring as the district is a large one and it takes quite some time for new comers to become really acquainted with it.

I would take this opportunity of expressing my gratitude to your Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector (Mr. Collins) who, together with his staff, have diligently helped with the work of the department and have given me the greatest assistance in preparing this report.

I would like to thank the Chairman and members of the Council for the kind way in which they have received me and I have also to acknowledge the assistance given me by the Clerk of the Council and his staff.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

M. W. RODGERS,
Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS AND STAFF OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health ... C. A. O'Neill, M.B., Ch.B.,
B.A.O. (Resigned 31st May,
1947).

M. W. Rodgers, M.B., Ch.B.,
B.A.O., D.P.H. (Appointed
2nd June, 1947).

Sanitary Inspector and Sur- J. D. Collins, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
veyor Certified Meat and Food
Inspector.

Additional Sanitary Inspector R. E. Dunn, M.S.I.A.,
A.R.San.I. (Resigned 30th
Sept., 1947).

J. Fall, A.R.San.I. (Appointed
10th November, 1947).

Engineering Assistant ... S. Shore (Resigned Septem-
ber, 1947).

J. Cuthbertson (Appointed
17th November, 1947).

Chief Clerk and General
Assistant F. H. Hurworth.

Pupil Assistant J. Clough.

Shorthand Typists Miss D. Kershaw (Resigned
24th May, 1947).

Miss M. H. Harrison
(Appointed June, 1947).

Miss L. Burton (Appointed
June, 1947).

SECTION B.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of Rural District in Acres ..	...	...	45,064
Resident Population ...	...	...	9,512
Number of Inhabited Houses ...	...	...	2,642
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	...	...	£335/ 9/7d.
Rateable value at 1st April, 1947 ...	...	...	£80,515

Social Conditions and Employment.

The chief industries are Agriculture, Lime Burning and General Quarrying. This does not, of course, include the industries operating in the new Trading Estate at Aycliffe or the work on the New Town.

(i) The work of converting this ex Ordnance Factory to industrial use gathered momentum during the year 1947. By the end of the year the number of industrial firms had increased to 44 and the number of their employees from 2,600 to 3,400. In addition five of the principal Banks had offices on the Estate.

The industrial firms provide considerable diversification of trades, ranging from the manufacture of piano accordians and plastic dolls to paints and resins, and from drugs and chemical to metal furniture.

Of particular interest is the manufacture by East Anglia Chemical Co. Ltd., of Plasma Dextran, which is a successful substitute for human blood plasma. This product is widely used in clinical trials and research work. The plasma may be administered by means of tissues, intra-venously, etc.; and is also used as a vehicle for the introduction of drugs into the human body for the treatment of disease.

Among the communal services provided by the Estate Company is the Estate Surgery which is equipped and staffed for the treatment of minor injuries. The Surgery is provided with the most modern equipment, including X-Ray apparatus and is available to any person on the Estate.

The Estate has an efficient sewage works which, it is anticipated, with enlargement will ultimately cater for the needs of not only the trading estate but of the new town and the old village of Aycliffe. Water is supplied by the Durham County Water Board to the two Estate reservoirs, and the Estate distributes the water from the reservoir to the traders.

As a safety measure during the days of the Royal Ordnance Factory, heating was supplied to all Estate buildings from a central boiler plant on the perimeter of the Estate. This central plant with its attendant twenty four miles of piping was, of necessity, uneconomical to operate and maintain. In 1947 the scheme for providing factories with their own individual plants began to take shape and by the end of the year preparation work was completed. In addition, and in order to conserve fuel, the roofs of the majority of factories are being insulated by an asbestos spray process.

The installation of a 6-in. gas main between the Trading Estate and Darlington was completed during the early part of 1947. This supply had to be speedily introduced to meet Traders' minimum requirements and is one of the early difficulties which has been overcome.

Other communal facilities available to workers on the Estate are the canteens and Estate hostel, where key workers may obtain sleeping accommodation.

(ii) In April, 1947, the Ministry of Town and Country Planning made a designated order for a new town at Aycliffe. The area designated was some 880 acres, triangular in shape, lying north of the Simpasture Branch Railway Line, which forms its southern boundary. Its eastern boundary is formed by the Great North Road, extending from the railway crossing north into the Sedgefield Rural Area to a point just north of the Copelaw Approved School. From here it bears west to Woodham Burn which forms its boundary until it crosses into Shildon Urban area, finally joining up with the Bishop Auckland Weardale Railway, west of the junction with Simpasture Branch Railway.

The Ministry have engaged the services of the Grenfell Baines Group of Planners, of Preston, to prepare the outline plan and those of Messrs. Balfour and Sons, of Victoria Street, Westminster, in connection with the preparation of sewerage and surface water schemes. Early in July the New Town Corporation had its first meeting in Darlington. The Corporation consists of the following:—

Chairman—Rt. Hon. Lord Beveridge, K.C.B., F.B.A.

Vice-Chairman—W. N. Davis, O.B.E. (Bp. Auckland Urban D.C.)

Members—T. H. Summerson, J.P. (Darlington R.D.C.)

A. J. Alsop, F.C.R.A., F.C.I.S. (late Mayor of Darlington)

T. Benfold, C.B.E., J.P. (Chairman Durham C.C.)

Mrs. T. J. Cahill, F.R.I.B.A. (Architect in Private Practice.)

G. C. Gibson (Shildon U.D.C.)

(iii) The war-time aerodrome at Goosepool having been brought on to the list of permanent aerodromes, made necessary the erection of Married Quarters by the Air Ministry. Plans were prepared and a start was made on the erection of some 50 houses.

(iv) The new Brickworks in course of erection for Messrs. Crossley and Sons, of Hurworth, commenced production in December of this year, employing 48 men.

Employment in the area during 1947 continued to be very good.

The unemployed people were mainly in the higher age groups and were of an unskilled type. There is a very persistent demand for female labour, both on the Trading Estate and in the Town. Unemployment amongst Agricultural Workers has been negligible. To sum up, unemployment in the area is below 1% of the insured population, which is less than the average.

Statistics.

Births and Birth Rate.

The number of Live Births in the District was 191, as against 152 in the previous year.

The sex legitimacy classification is drawn thus:—

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	91	88	179
Illegitimate	5	7	12

The Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 20.08, as compared with a rate of 16.20 last year. The rate for England and Wales is 20.5

Still Births.

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	6	—	6
Illegitimate	—	1	1

The rate per 1,000 of the population is 0.736, as compared with 1.17 last year, and a rate of 0.50 for England and Wales.

Maternal Mortality.

There was one death from Maternal Causes during the year out of a total of 198 registered births (191 live and 7 still).

Infantile Mortality.

Deaths of infants under one year of age were as follows.

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	—	1	1

The infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births is 41.88.

The rate for England and Wales is 41.0

Deaths and Death Rate.

During 1947 there were 115 deaths registered, 62 male and 53 female. The Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 12.09. The rate for England and Wales is 12.

Table Showing Causes of Death.

	Male	Female
Scarlet Fever	—	1
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	—	1
Acute Inf. Encephalitis	—	1
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	3	1
Cancer of Breast	—	1
Cancer of all other sites	8	3
Diabetes	—	1
Intracranial Vascular lesions ...	7	5
Heart Diseases	23	20
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	3	2
Bronchitis	3	1
Pneumonia	2	4
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	—
Diarrhoea under 2 years	—	—
Other Digestive Diseases	1	—
Nephritis	2	—
Puerperal and Postabortive Sepsis	0	1
Other Maternal Causes	—	—
Premature Birth	1	1
Congenital Malformations Birth Injuries		
Infantile Diseases	1	2
Suicide	1	—
Road Traffic Accident	1	—
Other Violent Causes	—	1
All Other Causes	4	6
	—	—
	62	53
	—	—

Infectious Diseases.

Civilian Cases.

AGE	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Diphtheria		Measles		Acute Pneumonia		Puerperal Pyrexia		Acute Polio myelitis		Ophthalmia Neonatorum	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—3	—	—	2	1	—	—	10	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3—5	—	1	1	1	—	—	9	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	1	2	3	—	—	35	32	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
10—15	—	1	—	—	—	—	4	6	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
15—25	—	2	—	—	—	1	2	5	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
25 & Over	—	2	—	—	—	1	1	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	—	7	6	5	—	2	63	64	3	1	—	—	2	1	—	—

Death rate from Seven Principal Infectious Diseases 0.105.

One non-civilian case of measles in the age group 25 and over and two cases of scarlet fever, one in the 15 to 25 age group and one in the 25 and over age group were notified.

Civilian Cases Removed to Isolation Hospital.

Scarlet Fever 4; Whooping Cough 1; Diphtheria 3 (1 suspected); Measles 4; Polio Myelitis 6 (3 suspected); Pneumonia 1.

Poliomyelitis.

Six cases of poliomyelitis were notified during the year. All these cases were removed to hospital and in three of them the diagnosis was confirmed. Subsequent progress in all three cases was good. Two of the cases are still attending the out-patients department of the Darlington Memorial Hospital but are progressing very satisfactorily. The third case was of a very mild nature and did not need to attend as an out-patient.

Immunisation.

Generally, immunisation proceeded fairly satisfactorily and no case of diphtheria occurred under the age of 15 years.

The number of children immunised against diphtheria during the year was 52. Of this total 4 were in the 5 to 15 years age group and 48 in the 0 to 5 years age group.

Tuberculosis.

There were 5 cases of tuberculosis notified during the year.

			Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
M.	...	...	2	1
F.	...	...	2	—
			—	—
			4	1
			—	—

2 deaths were registered from pulmonary tuberculosis, one male and one female, and one death from non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

HEALTH SERVICES.**Clinics.**

There are no clinics in the Rural District. The following services are administered by the County Council :—

1. Venereal Disease.
2. Tuberculosis.
3. Maternity and Child Welfare.

Infectious Disease Hospital.

This service is administered by arrangement with the Darlington Fever Hospital.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES, WATER SUPPLY, SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Water.

1. The water supply to the major part of the Rural District is by public mains owned by the following statutory undertakers :—

Tees Valley Water Board.
Durham County Water Board.
Darlington Corporation.

The Council takes a bulk supply from the Tees Valley Water Board, which is distributed by mains in the parishes of Brafferton, Coatham Mundeville, Aycliffe and part of Whessoe. These supplies are satisfactory both in quality and quantity.

The houses not connected to the Council's Water Mains are isolated premises or in small hamlets and are served by private sources of supply (i.e. springs or wells), or by public well as in the villages of Great Stainton and Houghton-le-Side. These supplies are not entirely satisfactory in their present form in respect of quality or quantity.

2. No samples of water for chemical or bacteriological examination have been taken by the Council from the above-mentioned Statutory Undertakers Mains.

No complaints have been received regarding the quality of the water.

There are no installations for the treatment of water apart from filtration and chlorination.

The following is a list giving degrees of hardness for each supply :—

Durham County Water Board	2.5
Darlington Corporation	8
Tees Valley Water Board	4.8

3. No waters in the area are known to have Plumbo Solvent action.

4. It has not been necessary to take any action in respect of any form of contamination of water supplies.

5. The proportion of dwelling houses and the proportion of the population supplied from public water mains is as follows :—

- (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.

There is insufficient information available for accurate details to be submitted for each parish but it is hoped that data will be available in 1948.

Improvements.

Houghton-le-Side and Bolam.

The Durham County Water Board have now completed the laying of a water main from Heighington through our district, via Houghton Bank to Bolam. The cost of this work was approximately £5,700 and is to be borne equally by Barnard Castle Rural District Council and our own Council.

Proposed.

Houghton-le-Side.

In connection with the laying of a water main as an extension to the above scheme, down to the village of Houghton-le-Side, this work has not yet been commenced although an early start is expected to be made next year.

Proposed Schemes.

Water and Sewerage Act, 1944.

Great Stainton, Walworth and Walworth Gate, Neasham, Low and Over Dinsdale.

No further progress has been made in connection with these schemes, full details of which were given in last year's report.

Water Supplies—General.

It is suggested by the Ministry of Health (Spen's Report) that the boundaries of the Statutory Areas of Supply of the Tees Valley Water Board and the Durham County Water Board be amended to include the whole of our district; the Durham County Water Board being responsible for the northern part and the Tees Valley Water Board for the southern part of the area.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

The arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal in the major part of the Rural District is not entirely in accordance with modern standards as was indicated in last year's report when new works amounting to £67,637 were submitted and approved by the Council and County Council.

The villages of Redworth, Heighington and Sadberge are served by fairly modern schemes although some improvements are required, particularly at Sadberge where part of the village is still drained to an old type of septic tank. In all of the remaining villages and hamlets in the district sewage is conveyed along with surface water to septic tanks, with old type filters or land irrigation. Many houses of recent construction have their own cesspools. Where these houses have been sited away from sewer lines, we have insisted since the war, that in place of cesspools small sewage plants should be constructed.

Apart from the extension of the Council's sewers in connection with their new housing sites at Hurworth and Sadberge, no major improvements have been carried out by the Council.

Improvements.

It has not been found possible to prepare plans, section and detail of the schemes of sewerage and sewage disposal mentioned in last year's report.

However, incidental to the construction of drainage and sewage work to Southfield Farm, Great Stainton, a portion of the main drainage line was laid at an increased size and the sewage works were constructed and sited so as to permit of future use in connection with the sewerage and sewage disposal of the village.

Rivers and Streams (River Pollution Prevention Act).

Skerne.—The County Council reports indicate that routine inspection and sampling was carried out during the year and although occasional pollution was observed, this proved temporary and generally the river was free from coal slurry, sewage and trade effluents.

Tees.—The majority of samples taken from this river proved satisfactory. However, pollution was observed during the year in the higher reaches of the river, and at the confluence of the Skerne, there was slight pollution by solids in suspension, although oxygenation was satisfactory.

Bishopton Beck.—No complaints have been received during the year regarding pollution of this beck.

General.

Again every effort was made to prevent any pollution of the rivers and streams, by regular attention to all the Council's Sewage works.

Closet Accommodation.

During the year 17 ash closets and 3 privy middens were converted into water closets under Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936. The owners of the property concerned received a grant of half of the cost, the maximum grant paid being £12 10s. 0d. for each conversion, except in two cases where application was made in 1945 and a maximum grant of £5 was paid.

During the year the Council paid £235 in grants as against £218 15s. 0d. the previous year.

Public Cleansing.

Scavenging.

Public Scavenging is carried out throughout the whole district except isolated farms and premises which make their own arrangements.

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

1. Bedford 3-ton Vehicle (first registered Nov., 1947).
2. Vulcan 2-ton Vehicle (first registered Jan., 1935).
3. Vulcan 2-ton Vehicle (first registered Feb., 1926).

An order was placed in July for a new Bedford 3-ton Vehicle to replace the Vulcan (Reg. 1926).

A Ford 10-cwt. Van is available for the use of the Sanitary and Scavenging foreman, to carry out miscellaneous duties which include taking the Council's rent collector to the various villages.

One of the Council's vehicles is utilised by Croft Rural District Council for the collection of refuse and salvage in the Parish of Croft once a month.

Wet Scavenging.

Wet scavenging (i.e. Cesspool emptying) is carried out in the following Parishes where the Council are responsible for the maintenance, repair and emptying of certain cesspools

Piercebridge, Whessoe, Middleton-St.-George, Aycliffe, Beacon Hill, Sadberge, Great Burdon.

This work is done by direct labour, the Council employing a team of five men. All are continuously employed emptying cesspools, scraping and flushing sewers and generally attending to the Council's Sewage works.

Salvage.

The scheme for recoverable materials was continued during the year and the following have been salvaged and sold :—

	Tons.	Cwts.	Qts.	Price.
Scrap Metal ...	32	2	2	£32 2s. 6d.
Waste Paper ...	20	2	3	£129 2s. 3d.
Bones ...	—	5	2	£1 8s. 10d.
Textiles ...	3	3	0	£26 13s. 9d.
Totals ...	55	13	3	£189 7s. 4d.

Last year's total amounted to £210 5s. 6d.

Sanitary Inspection.

Summary of Inspections and Re-inspections under the Public Health Acts.	No. of visits	No. of informal notices served	No. of informal notices remedied
Water Supplies ...	6	1	1
Defective Yard Paving ...	1	1	1
Housing Inspections ...	75	20	13
Ash Pits and Privy ...	7	6	5
Water Closets ...	35	2	1
Drainage ...	31	12	10
Dangerous Buildings ...	2	1	1
Animal Nuisances ...	3	2	2
Totals ...	160	45	34

No. of General Inspections and Visits.

Cowsheds	52
Dairies	52
Sewerage and Sewage Disposal ...	44
Water Supplies	28
New Foundations	48
Buildings in Course of Erection ...	51
Drains inspected and tested ...	41
Completed Properties	48
Council Houses	36
Food Inspections	17
Miscellaneous (Building Licences, etc.)	152
Disinfections	18
Total ...	587

Disinfestation.

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

Schools.**(i) Blackwell School.**

No improvement has been made in connection with this although the Durham County Council and Managers were informed of the defective Sanitary arrangements.

(ii) Sadberge School.

Complaint was received of the Sanitary Arrangements of this School and details forwarded to the Durham County Council and Managers for action.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.**1. General Information.****New Dwellings by Private Enterprise.**

Building Licences for the erection of 13 houses at a total cost of £16,145 were issued.

New Dwellings under Special Conditions (Housing Associations, etc).

Building Licences for the erection of 6 houses at a total cost of £20,878 were issued.

Conversions and Adaptations.

Accommodation was provided for four families at a total cost of £935.

Council Houses.

During the year the following houses were completed and occupied:—

- 11 Houses in Strait Lane, Hurworth.
- 11 Houses in Emmerson Road, Hurworth.
- 8 Houses in Cobby Castle Lane, Bishopton.
- 6 Houses in Norton Road, Sadberge.

—
36
—

Plans were approved and work commenced on further houses as follows:—

- 20 Airey type—different parts of the district.
- 14 Middleton-St.-George.
- 6 Sadberge.

Temporary Housing—Goosepool Aerodrome.

In the early part of the year the Council accepted requisition of 13 Nissen huts and outbuildings which became occupied by Squatters when vacated by the Royal Air Force personnel. The Ministry of Health and the Council approved plans for adaptations to these 13 Nissen huts and the altera-

tion of the ablution block into two dwellings at an approximate cost of £1,580. During the year good progress was made on this work of adaptation which when complete will provide a sink and tap in each dwelling house, W.C. accommodation, electric light and laundry facilities. The dwellings were let at a rental of 8s. 0d. per week and were a contribution to the general needs of housing in the area.

Applications for Council Houses.

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

Residing in Rural Area.				Not Residing in Rural Area.			
Hurworth	...	...	80	Hurworth	...	...	35
Middleton-St.-George	...	...	100	Middleton-St.-George	...	...	27
Redworth	...	...	9	Redworth	...	...	1
Sadberge	...	...	56	Sadberge	...	...	27
Brafferton	...	...	1	Brafferton	...	...	—
High Coniscliffe	...	...	3	High Coniscliffe	...	...	2
Piercebridge	...	...	1	Piercebridge	...	...	—
Aycliffe	...	...	89	Aycliffe	...	...	37
Bishopton	...	...	19	Bishopton	...	...	7
Heighington	...	...	32	Heighington	...	...	5
Killerby	...	...	2	Killerby	...	...	1
Anywhere in Area	...	...	29	Anywhere in Area	...	...	11

Civil Building Licences.

The Council as Licensing Authority are authorised to issue licences for all building works costing over £10 and under £100, and costing over £100 in the case of adaptations or conversions of buildings to give additional housing accommodation. During the year 268 licences were issued in connection with housing amounting to £18,024, and 99 licences were issued in connection with work other than housing amounting to £5,406, making a total of £23,430, as compared with £19,801 5s. 0d. for last year.

Town and Country Planning Act, 1947.

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

	Approved.		Disapproved	
1. New Houses, Bungalows and Shops	...	22	—	—
2. Garages, Sheds and Outbuildings	...	11	—	—
3. Alterations, Additions, Conversions	...	...	...	...
(Houses)	...	11	—	—
4. Agricultural Buildings, etc.	...	14	—	—
5. Factories	...	34	—	—
6. Quarries	...	8	2	—

Plans under the Council's Building Byelaws.

The following is a list of plans submitted under the Byelaws during the year :—

1. New Houses, Bungalows and Shops	26
2. Garages, Sheds, etc.	20
3. Alterations, Additions and Conversions (Houses)	23
4. Agricultural Buildings	11
5. Drainage	20
6. Factories	35
7. Roads and Sewers	3

2. Housing Statistics.

Owing to pressure of more essential work in the department it was impossible to make the same progress with the Housing Survey as in the previous year. You will note too that I have not included any inspections under the Public Health Acts in this part of the Report as was done for 1946 (this part of the Report is entirely Housing Survey).

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected in detail	24
(b) Number of visits made for the purpose ...	28
2. (a) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	1
(b) Number of dwelling houses found in need of repairs	23
3. Number of dwelling houses found to be over- crowded	nil

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Although unable to carry out routine inspection of cow-sheds and dairies during the year, each application for new registration or for a Special Designations licence, and all complaints have been dealt with by a special visit, and every effort has been made to keep a high standard for the production of milk.

The total number of registered premises is 254. This includes 36 producers of Accredited Milk and 14 producers of Tuberculin Tested milk. One supplementary licence to sell Tuberculin Tested milk and two supplementary licences to sell Pasteurised milk were issued.

Meat and Other Foods.

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

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

2 new and 14 renewal of licences to slaughter animals were granted during the year.

The following foodstuffs were examined and found to be unfit for human consumption and were voluntarily surrendered :—

- 1 cwt. Sanpax rusks.
- 12 lbs. Corned Beef.
- 6 lbs. Roast Beef.
- 3 tins Minced beef (each 12 ozs.).

SECTION F.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

Test Baiting of all Councils Sewers and the initial treatments followed by two maintenance treatments were carried out in accordance with the Ministry's directions.

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

Baiting was successfully carried out at the Council's Sewage Disposal Works and Tips.

Demolition of Surface Air Raid Shelters.

The Contractor completed the demolition of all brick Air Raid Shelters during the year.

Petroleum (Regulation) Act, 1928-36.

Eleven new and nineteen renewal of applications for licences to keep petroleum spirit were received during the year and all licences were granted.

Factories Act, 1937.

In accordance with a request from the Minister of Labour and National Service, the following table has been drawn up showing particulars on the administration of the above Act.

PART I OF THE ACT.**1.—Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspect- tions (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecutd (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	40	37	Nil.	Nil.
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	73	15	5	Nil.
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority † (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
TOTAL ...	113	52	5	Nil.

2.—CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were institut'd (7)
	Found (3)	Rem- edied (4)	Referred To H.M. In- specter (5)	By H.M. In- specter (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	—	1	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable tempera- ture (S.3) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)... ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient ...	3	3	—	3	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	1	1	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork) ...	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	5	5	—	5	—

There are no outworkers in the district.

Byelaws in Force in District.

	Date of operation.
New Streets	9th May, 1938.
Building Byelaws	9th May, 1938.
Slaughter Houses	1st June, 1938.



