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Contributors

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THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DARLINGTON

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH



1951



THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DARLINGTON

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MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH

1951

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF DARTMOUTH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER

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ANNUAL REPORT, 1951

DARLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Coun. Miss Palmer and Gentlemen,

I have the privilege of presenting to you the 70th Annual report upon the vital statistics and sanitary circumstances of your district for the year ending 31st December, 1951.

The general health of your district as judged by vital statistics compared favourably with that of last year and also with the health of the country as a whole.

The report shows that the general death rate as well as that of infants under one year was lower than in 1950 and that there were no maternal deaths. With regard to infectious disease there was an increase in the number of notifications but this was accounted for by an increased incidence of measles and whooping cough. There were no cases of diphtheria, poliomyelitis or enteric fever in your area and it was possible in connection with the two cases of food poisoning confirmed to isolate the source of infection.

It is noted that there has been some progress with regard to the improvement of water supplies in the outlying parts of the area and more public supplies are being taken into the home.

With regard to sewerage and sewage disposal there is still room for considerable improvement. It is satisfactory to note that the village of Aycliffe is to be dealt with next year ; improvements have and are being made to existing sewage works and schemes are being prepared for other villages.

There has been a steady improvement since 1937 in the voluntary conversion of earth closets to water carriage and our efforts in this direction must be maintained.

It would seem that a stage has been reached in housing when having largely met the need for new homes for the homeless attention might be given to dealing with the need for repairs, reconstruction and in certain cases demolition of existing old properties.

Continued progress is maintained on the housing survey and it is expected that this will be accelerated in 1952 so that the general condition of existing properties can be brought before you.

With regard to the supervision and inspection of food it is felt that good progress is being made for a Rural District although all retailers do not yet fully appreciate the need for every care in the handling of food stuffs.

In the administration of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act there is scope for improvement and although there may be difficulties preventing the appointment of a full-time operator the whole matter might be given careful consideration.

My grateful thanks are due to the Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor and the members of his staff for their work during the year and assistance in preparing the report, and I am also to acknowledge the courtesy extended to me by the members of the Council, the Clerk and other officials.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

M. W. Rodgers.

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

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS AND STAFF OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health

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

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor

J. D. COLLINS, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Certified Meat and Food Inspector.

Additional Sanitary Inspector

J. FALL, A.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.,
Certified Meat and Food Inspector.
(*Resigned 31st August, 1951.*)

J. F. ELLISON, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Certified Meat and Food Inspector.
(*Appointed 1st November, 1951.*)

Engineering Assistants

J. CUTHBERTSON E. STEELE

Sewage Works Manager

J. BLACK

Building Inspector

A. G. OXBOROUGH

Chief Clerk and General Assistant

F. H. HURWORTH

Pupil Sanitary Inspector

J. CLOUGH

Qualified Sanitary Inspector.

(*Called for National Service, August, 1950.*)

P. J. JEMMESON

Shorthand Typists

MRS. P. LAMBELL MISS M. H. HARRISON

SECTION B.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of Rural District in Acres	45,064
Resident Population (including armed forces stationed in the area)	12,040
Total number of houses at 31st December, 1951, including 15 Squatters' huts and 109 R.A.F. Married Quarters	3,325
Number of Inhabited Houses excluding R.A.F. Married Quarters at 1st April, 1951	3,025
Rateable value at 1st April, 1951	£88,618
Sum represented by a penny rate	£369 4s. 10d.
General Rate (excluding additional items and Special Rates) in certain parishes made in respect of the financial year ending 31st March, 1952	15s. 0d.

Social Conditions and Employment

The area is primarily an agricultural one with scattered sand and gravel quarries. In the northern part of the district a Trading Estate is established and a New Town is in course of erection.

A Royal Air Force School is situated at Goosepool, near Middleton-St.-George and brickworks are operating at Hurworth and Neasham in the southern part of the area.

Newton Aycliffe

Exceptionally bad weather and shortage of materials have, unfortunately, prevented the completion of the Corporation's programme for 1951, but progress has nevertheless been speeded up and development costing three quarters of a million pounds has been completed during the twelve months.

Out of a housing allocation of 511, 342 new dwellings were completed at the 31st December, and at that date work was proceeding on a further 612 houses. The housing allocation for 1952 was 650 houses.

Site works are pushing ahead in advance of house building and during 1951 contracts for the construction of estate roads and sewers were completed at an approximate cost of £121,000. Site works are now completed for the whole of Wards 'A' and 'B' which are planned to contain 1,596 dwellings, as well as shops and other buildings.

Eleven shops with flats above or adjoining, and garages at the rear are in course of erection in Ward 'A' Centre.

Further contracts have been let and completed for extending the sewerage system to provide drainage for seven housing precincts of about 800 dwellings and part of the town centre. These works include the construction of the first pumping station. The sewage from the New Town is being treated at the Council's disposal works

on the Aycliffe Trading Estate and surface water is discharged direct into the River Skerne.

There has been delay owing to the shortage of steel on the erection of a three form entry infants' school on the Sugar Hill Site but the school is expected to be completed by September, 1952. In the mean time children between 5 and 8 years are attending a temporary school in part of a block of flats leased to the Education Committee whilst the older children are attending schools in the neighbouring towns and villages.

Due to the growth in population the two lock-up garages used for temporary surgery facilities have become too small and a house has been leased to the medical practitioners for the purpose. The first floor of the house is being used part time by a dental surgeon. In co-operation with the Nuffield Foundation, and in agreement with the Durham County Council the Regional Hospital Board and the County Executive Committee the Corporation are seeking permission from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government to erect a permanent health services building in a central position in the New Town. This building will combine the family practitioners, the local authority services a physiotherapy department and possibly an industrial health service.

The first sports field consisting of $12\frac{1}{2}$ acres is being laid out for football, cricket and tennis and leased to the local Community Association and it is hoped that work will be shortly commenced on the construction of a children's playground in one of the precincts.

Further informal meetings were held early in the year with representatives of the local authorities affected to consider the Corporation's suggestion for altering their respective boundaries so as to bring the whole of the designatory site within the area of one local authority. It was not possible at these meetings to obtain agreement so that representation was made to the Durham County Council for the making of an order under Section 141 of the Local Government Act, 1933, extending the boundaries of your area to include the whole of the New Town.

Aycliffe Trading Estate

During the year employment on the estate was afforded for approximately 3,200 persons (an increase of 100 over 1950 total) of whom 2,000 were males. This figure takes no account of the number of Durham County Police who are stationed on the estate.

During 1951 some of the existing firms have taken additional premises and there have been five new tenants. These tenants have taken premises for various manufacturing processes and storage purposes including the manufacture of paint, joinery and foodstuffs. The number of tenants now operating on the estate is 91 including 8 premises let to various government departments, a decrease of one during the year.

A new canteen was opened near the north east entrance to the estate and has been increasingly well patronised.

The Estate Company has continued during the year to undertake the removal of trade refuse to a tip on the estate where some low lying land is being utilised. This is rapidly being filled and alternative arrangements will have to be made.

No. 205 Advance Flying School, Goosepool, Middleton-St.-George

In connection with the Aerodrome at Goosepool, Middleton-St.-George the housing position on the 31st December was as follows:

During the year 20 houses were completed and occupied making a total of 109 Married Quarters (including 13 temporary Officer Married Quarters).

Number of houses in course of erection—18 semi-detached Married Quarters.

Employment

There was a high level of employment in the district in agriculture and in all industrial establishments throughout 1951. A steady demand for skilled building operatives, particularly bricklayers for housing contracts persisted mainly at Newton Aycliffe. On the Aycliffe Trading Estate steady employment was provided for male and female workers in a variety of industries including light engineering, chemicals, furniture making, plastics, rayon processing and paint manufacture.

There was a state of full employment with practically no unemployment in the area.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births and Birth Rate

The number of live births in the district was 206 as against 184 the previous year.

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	102	97	199
Illegitimate	5	2	7
			<hr/> 206

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population—17.1.

The rate for England and Wales was—15.5.

Still Births

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	—	—	—
			<hr/> 4

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population—0.33.

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population for England and Wales was 0.36

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still) 19.05.

The total Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population is 17.44.

Maternal Mortality

Nil.

Infantile Mortality

Deaths of infants under 1 year—8.

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	7	1	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—
			<hr/> 8

Infantile Mortality Rate

Death rate of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births—40.2.

Death rate of illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births—0.00.

Death rate of all infants under 1 year per 1,000 live births—38.83.

Analysis of Causes of Death in two age groups under 1 month (neo-natal deaths) and 1 month to 1 year

Neo-Natal Deaths	Age Group 1 month to 1 year
Prematurity 2	Accident 1
Acute Broncho Pneumonia 1	Intussusception 1
	Congenital Heart Disease 1
	Broncho Pneumonia 2
<hr/> 3	<hr/> 5

3 of the 8 deaths (37.5%) were neo-natal.

Deaths and Death Rate	Male	Female	Total
	74	53	127

Death rate per 1,000 of the population—10.55.

Rate for England and Wales—12.5.

Table Showing Causes of Death

	Male	Female
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	1	—
Tuberculosis (Other)	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	3	1
Malignant Neoplasm Lung	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm Breast	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus	—	4
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	9	—
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	—	—
Diabetes	3	8
Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	3
Coronary disease, Angina	1	4
Hypertension with heart disease	15	15
Other heart disease	2	3
Other circulatory disease	3	6
Influenza	2	1
Pneumonia	3	—
Bronchitis	—	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	—	—
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	—
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	2	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	—
Hyperplasia of Prostate	—	—
Pregnancy, Child Birth and Abortion	1	—
Congenital malformations	10	4
Other defined and ill defined diseases	3	—
Motor Vehicle Accidents	7	—
All other Accidents	—	—
Suicide	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	—	—
All causes	Totals .. 74	53

Age Groups	Under 1	1-10	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61-70	71-80	81-90	Over 90
Deaths	8	2	—	5	3	5	10	28	39	24	3

CANCER

The following table gives the deaths from cancer in age groups and localisation.

Localisation	Age in years								Totals M F
	1-25 M F	26-45 M F	46-65 M F	66-75 M F	76 upwards M F				
Stomach	—	—	1	2	1	3	1	(4)	
Lung	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(—)	
Breast	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(—)	
Uterus	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	(2)	
Bowels	—	—	3	3	1	7	1	(8)	
Other Sites	—	1	—	1	1	2	3	(5)	
	—	1	4	6	4	12	7	(19)	

**TABLE OF BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR RECENT YEARS
AS COMPARED WITH ENGLAND AND WALES**

Estimated Population of Darl'ton R.D.C.	Years	GENERAL DEATH RATE			INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE			LIVE BIRTH RATE		
		Darl'ton R.D.C.		England and Wales Rate	Darl'ton R.D.C.		England and Wales Rate	Darl'ton R.D.C.		England and Wales Rate
		No. of Deaths	Rate		No. of Deaths	Rate		No. of Births	Rate	
9,480	1940	120	13.08	14.3	10	73.77	55	151	15.92	14.6
9,570	1941	106	11.07	12.9	11	76.2	59	143	14.9	14.2
9,570	1942	95	10.06	11.6	2	12.9	49	154	16.32	14
9,189	1943	111	12.07	12.1	9	51.84	49	154	16.75	16.5
9,216	1944	111	12.04	11.6	9	45	46	196	21.26	17.6
8,910	1945	122	13.69	11.4	7	45	46	155	17.39	16.1
9,382	1946	114	12.15	11.5	7	46	43	152	16.20	19.1
9,512	1947	115	12.09	12	8	41.88	41	191	20.08	20.5
10,030	1948	95	9.47	10.8	6	34.48	34	174	17.35	17.9
10,270	1949	98	9.5	11.7	7	37.6	32	186	18.1	16.7
10,650	1950	146	13.7	11.6	10	54.35	29.8	184	17.28	15.8
12,040	1951	127	10.55	12.5	8	38.83	29.6	206	17.1	15.5

**Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality
and Case Rates for Infectious Disease, 1951**

	Darlington R.D.C. England and Wales	
	Rate per 1,000 Home pop.	
Births :—		
Live 	17.1	15.5
Still 	0.33	0.36
Deaths :—		
All causes 	10.5	12.5
Typhoid and Para-		
Typhoid 	—	0.00
Whooping Cough ..	—	0.01
Diphtheria 	—	0.00
Tuberculosis 	0.083	0.31
Influenza 	0.75	0.38
Acute Poliomyelitis and		
Polio Encephalitis ..	—	0.00
Small Pox 	—	0.00
Pneumonia 	0.25	0.61
NOTIFICATIONS (CORRECTED):		
Typhoid Fever 	—	0.00
Para-Typhoid Fever ..	—	0.02
Meningococcal Infection	—	0.03
Scarlet Fever 	0.17	1.11
Whooping Cough ..	2.57	3.87
Diphtheria 	—	0.02
Erysipelas 	0.083	0.14
Small Pox 	—	0.00
Measles 	6.56	14.07
Pneumonia	0.33	0.99
Poliomyelitis (including		
Polioencephalitis)		
Paralytic 	—	0.03
Non-Paralytic 	—	0.02
Food Poisoning ..	0.17	0.13
	Rate per 1,000 live births	
Deaths under 1 year of age	38.83	29.6
Deaths from Diarrhoea and		
Enteritis under 2 years ..	—	1.4

	Rate per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. live and still)		No. of Deaths
Sepsis of pregnancy, child- birth and the puerperium	—	0.10	70
Abortion with toxæmia ..	—	0.00	3
Other toxæmias of preg- nancy and the puerperium	—	0.24	167
Haemorrhage of pregnancy and childbirth	—	0.13	91
Abortion without mention of sepsis or toxæmia ..	—	0.05	37
Abortion with sepsis ..	—	0.09	66
Other complications of preg- nancy, childbirth and the puerperium	—	0.18	125

A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths.

The total number of cases admitted to Isolation Hospital was 2 as against 5 for 1950.

Infectious Disease	Suspected	Confirmed
Scarlet Fever	2	2

LABORATORY WORK

Bacteriological Examinations

FAECES

No. of Specimens	Enteric Positive}	Dysentery Positive	Food Poisoning Positive	Culture Positive
5	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

SWABS (THROAT, NASAL, ETC.).

No. of Specimens	Diphtheria Positive	Hæmolytic Strep Positive	Vincent's Spirochaetes Positive	Staphylococcus Aureus Positive	Trichomonas Vaginalis Positive	Culture Staphalbus Positive
5	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

SPUTUM

No. of Specimens	Tubercle Positive	Streptococcus Viridans Positive	Staphylococcus Aureus Positive
2	Nil.	1	1

FOOD

No. of Specimens	Staphylococcus Pyogenes Positive
1	1

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Table of cases as notified set out in age groups.

	At all ages	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 and over	Age unknown	Total Deaths	Hospital	Home
		M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F	M F			
Scarlet Fever ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	—
Diphtheria ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis :	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Paralytic ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Non-Paralytic ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (Primary and Infl.) ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	4
Enteric Fever ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(includ. Paratyphoid)	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	79	1 2	15 3	11 12	17 16	1	—	—	—	—	—	79
Whooping Cough ..	31	1	4	2	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	31
Food Poisoning ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	3
	120	2 2	19 5	13 19	24 24	1	3	2	2	—	2	118

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Table of cases after correction set out in age groups.

	At all ages	Under 1		1-2		3-4		5-9		10-14		15-24		25 and over		Age unknown	Total Deaths	Hospital	Home
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M			
Scarlet Fever ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Diphtheria ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia ..		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis :		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(a) Paralytic ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Non-Paralytic ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (Primary and Infl.) ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	4
Enteric Fever ..		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
incl. Paratyphoid ..	0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ..	79	1	2	15	3	11	12	17	16	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	79
Whooping Cough ..	31	1	—	4	2	2	7	7	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31
Food Poisoning ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2
	119	2	2	19	5	13	19	24	24	1	—	3	1	2	2	2	—	2	117

120 cases of infectious diseases were notified (119 confirmed) as against 95 notifications in 1950.

DIPHTHERIA

Return for the year ending 31st December, 1951

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Primary Immunisation in the Authorities Area.			Number of Children who were given a reinforcing injection
Age at date of final injection.		Total.	44
Under 5	5—14		
111	14	125	

Diphtheria Notifications and Deaths, 1951

For the second year in succession no notifications were received and no deaths occurred.

TUBERCULOSIS

New cases and Mortality during 1951 :—

Age Groups	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respira'y		Respiratory		Non-Respira'y	
	male	female	male	female	male	female	male	female
Under 1 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6—10 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
11—15 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16—20 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
21—25 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26—35 ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
36—45 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
46—55 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
56—65 ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
66 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ..	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
	1		0		1		0	

The total number of new cases for 1951 was 1 (pulmonary) against a total of 3 cases of Tuberculosis (pulmonary) for the year 1950.

One death occurred during 1951 (pulmonary) against 4 deaths registered the previous year (pulmonary).

Table showing new cases and Mortality during the past 10 years

Year	New Cases				Mortality			
	Respiratory		Non-Respira'y		Respiratory		Non-Respira'y	
	male	female	male	female	male	female	male	female
1942 ..	8	1	1	3	—	1	1	1
1943 ..	1	4	1	1	2	1	—	—
1944 ..	—	2	—	—	1	2	—	1
1945 ..	1	2	1	2	1	1	—	—
1946 ..	1	3	1	—	1	—	1	—
1947 ..	2	2	1	—	1	1	—	1
1948 ..	4	3	2	1	—	1	—	—
1949 ..	4	2	—	—	2	2	—	1
1950 ..	1	2	—	—	3	1	—	—
1951 ..	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—

Number of Cases on register

Year	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1949	13	9	22	6	4	10
1950	11	9	20	6	4	10
1951	11	10	21	6	5	11

Food Poisoning Outbreaks

Two cases of food poisoning occurred during the year (There was a third notification in which the diagnosis was not confirmed).

- (a) Total No. of outbreaks .. 1
- (b) No. of Cases 2 (husband and wife)
- (c) No. of deaths 0
- (d) Organism responsible—staphylococcus pyogenes (coagulase positive) responsible for both cases.
- (e) Food involved—pressed cooked beef.

This pressed beef came from a Shop in Darlington County Borough and investigations were carried out by their Health Department.

I understand that investigations revealed that contamination of the food was due to a carrier employed at the food preparing premises.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47

No action was taken under this section.

HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTERED BY THE LOCAL HEALTH AUTHORITY (DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL) IN YOUR AREA

Residential Hostel Accommodation

The County Council provide hostel accommodation for aged, infirm and handicapped persons, but the accommodation at present is limited. Application for assistance should be made to the County Medical Officer, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham, Telephone No. Durham 980, Extension 133.

Home Nursing

A Home Nursing Service is provided by the County Council, and any requests for a district nurse should be made to the nurses in your area or to the Superintendent of the County Nursing Association, Hallgarth House, Hallgarth Street, Durham.

Vaccination and Immunisation

- (a) Vaccination against smallpox may be obtained free of charge on application to any medical practitioner who has agreed to give service within the National Health Service Scheme.
- (b) Immunisation against diphtheria may be carried out on application to maternity and child welfare centres or to any general practitioner operating under the National Health Service Act, free of charge.

Domiciliary Midwifery Service

Names and addresses of the midwives available can be obtained from the child welfare centres or medical practitioners.

Domestic Help

Domestic helps are provided by the County Council where necessary in cases of sickness, childbirth, infirmity or other household emergencies. A charge for the service is made in accordance with income scales. Application should be made through the district health visitors or the County Medical Officer, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham, Telephone No. Durham 1616.

Health Visitors

This service is maintained by the County Council and the health visitor is the connecting link between the home and the health activities of the County Council. Details of the health visitors serving the area may be obtained from the County Medical Officer, Shire Hall, Durham. Telephone No. Durham 980, Extension 305.

Ambulance Service.

Ambulance transport may be obtained on application to the nearest control, Telephone No. Darlington 3333. Except in cases of emergency applications should be made by medical practitioners, hospitals, midwives or dentists. Ambulances can be booked in advance on the production of a certificate from a medical practitioner certifying the need for transport.

Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

Facilities are available for the assistance of sick persons in any manner which may be necessary, e.g. the provision of extra nourishment, sick room requisites, invalid chairs, etc. Advice may be obtained on application to the County Medical Officer, Health Department, Shire Hall, Durham, Telephone No. Durham 980, Extension 35. A charge may be made for this service under certain circumstances according to income scale.

Mental Health Services.

A comprehensive scheme is provided by the County Council. Details and assistance can be obtained on application to the County Medical Officer, Shire Hall, Durham, Telephone No. Durham 980. Extension 237 or to the Duly Authorised Officer, Telephone No. Stockton 66911.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

Arrangements exist for mothers and children under 5 years to attend Darlington Borough Clinics where this is more convenient. County clinics to serve certain areas of the Rural District are held as shown in the following table. Advice can also be obtained on application to the County Medical Officer, 42 Old Elvet, Durham, Telephone No. Durham 980, Extension 301.

Address of Centre	Sessions	
Sedgefield Surveyor's Office	Ante-natal Clinic Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Tuesdays.
Shildon Friends Meeting House, Byerley Road.	Ante-natal Clinic Child Welfare Centre Ultra-Violet Ray Clinic	Alternate Wednesdays. Friday mornings weekly. Alternate Wednesdays. Monday mornings weekly. Friday afternoons weekly.
Chilton Red Cross Station	Ante-natal Clinic Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Wednesday afternoons. Alternate Wednesday mornings.
Middleton-St.-George The Parochial Hall	Ante-natal Clinic Child Welfare Centre	Alternate Monday afternoons.

Maternity Homes and Hospitals

These are controlled by the Regional Hospital Board but applications for admission should be made to the medical officers at the maternity and child welfare centres shown in the previous table.

Accommodation for unmarried mothers is available at maternity homes provided by the Regional Hospital Board, and the Durham Diocesan Moral Welfare Association also maintain homes for unmarried mothers and their babies. Application for admission should be made to the medical officers at the child welfare centres.

Homeless children can be admitted to residential nurseries or cottage homes administered by the County Council of Durham.

Convalescent Home

The E.F. Peile County Convalescent Home, Shotley Bridge (Tel. No. Shotley Bridge 27) is controlled by the County Council of Durham and admits nursing mothers and their babies and children under five years of age. Applications for admission should be made at the child welfare centres.

Clinics and Welfare Centres held in the County Borough of Darlington which are attended by Mothers from the Rural District

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres—

Corporation Road Methodist Schoolroom	—Monday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Thompson Street, Methodist Schoolroom, North Road	—Monday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Albert Road—Schoolhouse, Albert Road	—Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Eastbourne Nursery School, Belgrave Street	—Tuesday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Coniscliffe Road Methodist Schoolroom, Coniscliffe Road	—Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Cockerton Methodist Schoolroom, The Green, Cockerton	—Friday 10 a.m. to 12 noon. 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Haughton-le-Skerne Church Hall	—Friday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Ante-natal Clinics

Eastbourne Nursery School, Belgrave Street.	—Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Albert Road—Schoolroom, Albert Road	—Friday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Services administered by the Regional Hospital Board

Tuberculosis Services—

Clinics are held at Greenbank Maternity Hospital as follows—

MALE AND FEMALE	—Monday mornings, 9-30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
MALE	—Thursday mornings, 9-30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
FEMALE	—Friday mornings, 9-30 a.m. to 11 a.m.

There are In-patient beds at Darlington Memorial Hospital (Hundens Unit) available but most cases requiring remedial sanatorium treatment are sent to Poole Sanatorium, or other Sanatoria in the County.

Venereal Disease

Clinics are held at Greenbank Maternity Hospital as follows—

MALE	—Tuesday morning—10 a.m. to 12 noon. —Tuesday evening—5-30 p.m.—7 p.m. —Thursday evening—5-30 p.m.—7 p.m. —Friday evening, 5-30 p.m.—7 p.m.
FEMALE	—Monday afternoon, 2 p.m.—4 p.m. —Friday afternoon—2 p.m.—4 p.m.

Hospitalisation of Infectious Disease

There are 40 beds and cots available for this purpose at Darlington Memorial Hospital (Hundens Unit), in Cubicle Block accommodation.

General Hospital Accommodation

Emergency work and general medical and surgical cases are provided for at Darlington Memorial Hospital (210 beds). Beds are available for cases of chronic sick at East Haven, Darlington (Hospital Section) and Cambridge House (Hospital Section) Barnard Castle.

Maternity Services

There are 53 beds provided at Greenbank Maternity Hospital, Darlington. Cases may be sent to the consultative clinics at the Hospital.

Sanatoria

There are no sanatoria in the Darlington Group, but all cases requiring treatment will be dealt with in allocated beds as is possible, through the chest clinics detailed previously.

SECTION C.

WATER SUPPLY, SEWERAGE, AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND GENERAL SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

Water

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

Tees Valley Water Board.

Durham County Water Board.

Darlington Corporation.

Darlington Rural District Council.

The Council obtains bulk supplies from the Tees Valley Water Board and Darlington Corporation, water from the former authority being distributed through the Darlington Rural District Council mains in the Parishes of Brafferton, Coatham Mundeville, part of Aycliffe and Whessoe and from the latter in part of the parish of Barmpton.

All these supplies are satisfactory both in quantity and quality except at Sadberge where the quantity of water available is rather limited owing to the size of mains and lack of pressure therein.

Although the Council do not take regular samples except in special circumstances we are assured by the three suppliers mentioned above that they regularly sample the water.

In the parishes of Aycliffe, Brafferton, Middleton-St.-George and Neasham the pressure of water and the size of mains are, I understand, such that it is not practical to make extensions which are needed either in the parish or to adjacent parishes.

The majority of the houses not connected to the public mains are isolated premises served by private sources of supply (i.e. springs or wells). The parishes of Denton and Sockburn are served by private estate supplies from springs and wells. The hamlet of Low Dinsdale is served by private wells and springs.

2. Samples of water for chemical and bacteriological examinations have been taken as follows :—

No.	Date	Place	Supply	Reason taken	Observations
1	11/9/51	Tap at 9, Baliol Rd., Newton Aycliffe.	D.C.W.B.	Request from local medical practitioner	No contami- nation.
2	4/12/51	The Ashes Cottage, Near Low Dinsdale	Spring	Check sample (premises unoccupied)	Evidence of surface contami- nation.

With regard to Sample No. 2 the owners before letting the property will have certain works carried out to the spring head so that a further check sample can be taken.

The proportion of dwelling houses and the proportion of the population supplied from the public main is as follows :—

PARISH	No. of Houses in Parish	Approx. Population	Water Authority Supplying	Direct to the house		By means of stand pipe	Total houses supplied	% of houses supplied	Pop. supplied direct	Pop. supplied by stand pipe
				Open	Meter					
Archdeacon Newton	17	57	Church Commissioners Bulk from T.V.W.B.	—	11	—	11	64.7%	37	—
Newton Aycliffe	272	917	D.C.W.B.	272	—	—	272	100%	917	—
Aycliffe	247	832	D.R.D.C. & D.C.W.B.	175	12	59	246	99.6%	630	198
Barmpton	28	94	D.R.D.C. Bulk Supply	11	3	—	14	50%	47	—
Blackwell	146	492	from D'ton Corporation, Darlington Corporation	121	20	—	141	96.6%	475	—
Brafferton	49	165	D.R.D.C.	37	4	—	41	83.7%	138	—
Great Burdon	22	74	T.V.W.B.	17	3	—	20	90.9%	67	—
Coatham Mundeville	45	151	D.R.D.C. & D.C.W.B.	28	8	—	36	80%	121	—
High Coniscliffe	87	293	T.V.W.B.	64	14	—	78	89.7%	263	—
Low Coniscliffe	89	300	T.V.W.B.	78	9	—	87	97.8%	293	—
Denton	20	67	Raby Estates Private Supply	20	—	—	20	100%	67	—
Low Dinsdale	138	464	T.V.W.B.	121	5	—	126	91.3%	425	—
East & West Newbigen	9	30	T.V.W.B.	—	3	—	3	33.3%	10	—
Bishopton	96	324	T.V.W.B.	78	14	—	92	95.8%	310	—
Heighington	320	1,078	D.C.W.B.	197	51	25	273	85.3%	836	84
Houghton le Side	23	78	D.C.W.B.	3	8	—	11	47.8%	37	—
Hurworth	503	1,695	T.V.W.B.	458	23	—	481	95.0%	1,621	—
Killerby	23	76	T.V.W.B.	18	3	—	21	91.3%	71	—
Middleton-St.-George	*547	†2,882	T.V.W.B.	*517	15	—	*532	97.3%	†2,833	—
Great Stainton	21	71	D.C.W.B.	7	4	—	11	52.3%	37	—
Morton Palms	15	51	T.V.W.B.	5	7	—	12	80.0%	40	—
Neasham	100	337	T.V.W.B.	75	5	—	80	80.0%	270	—
Piercebridge	55	185	T.V.W.B.	43	4	—	47	85.4%	158	—
Little Stainton	15	51	T.V.W.B.	8	7	—	15	100%	51	—
Sadberge	165	556	T.V.W.B.	144	16	—	160	96.9%	539	—
Sockburn	10	34	Sockburn Estates	5	—	—	5	50%	17	—
Summerhouse	29	98	T.V.W.B.	27	2	—	29	100%	98	—
Walworth	32	109	Walworth Estates	19	2	—	21	65.6%	71	—
Whessoe	142	479	D.C.W.B.	124	8	—	132	93%	445	—
	3,265	12,040	D.R.D.C. D'ton Corp.	2,672	261	84	3,017	92.4%	10,924	282

* Includes 109 R.A.F. Married Quarters.

† Includes H.M. Forces stationed in district.

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

	Temporary	Permanent
Durham County Water Board	.20	3.10
Tees Valley Water Board	2.31	1.05
Darlington Corporation	3.70	4.90

3. No waters in the area are known to have plumbo-solvent action.

Improvements

WALWORTH

A start was made on the scheme estimated to cost £3,200 providing for the laying of approximately 4,700 yards of 4 inch and 400 yards of 3 inch water main from Heighington via Cross Lane and West Gate to Walworth.

It has been completed apart from the laying of some 200 yards of 3 inch main near Walworth Castle. The delay here was due to shortage of material.

Proposals

LOW MIDDLETON AND NEASHAM, SOCKBURN AND LOW DINSDALE SCHEMES.

The Council had before them for consideration the above two schemes, details of which were given in last year's report and decided to defer the matter owing to the high costs involved.

GENERAL

Orders have still not been made by the Durham County Water Board and the Tees Valley Water Board regarding enlarging and altering their areas of supply to take in parts of the Parishes of Aycliffe, Coatham Mundeville and Brafferton. It is expected that these will be made next year.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The arrangement for Sewerage and Sewage Disposal in the district is not entirely in accordance with modern standards, new works or extensions being required in the following parishes :—

Aycliffe, Bishopton, Blackwell, Brafferton, Coatham Mundeville, Transport Cafe Area, Great Burdon, Great Stainton, High Coniscliffe, Hurworth, Low Coniscliffe, Merrybent Estate, Middleton-St.-George, Neasham, Piercebridge, Sadberge, Summerhouse and Whessoe.

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 into an old type of septic tank. In the remaining villages and hamlets in the district, sewerage is conveyed along with surface water to septic tanks, some with old type filters or land irrigation.

Many houses of pre-war construction and houses sited away from sewer lines have their own cesspools. During the past seven years we have insisted that as far as possible small private sewage disposal works be installed.

Aycliffe Trading Estate and New Town Sewage Disposal Works

Approximately 52,250 gallons per day were dealt with by these Works from the New Town of Newton Aycliffe and 101,250 from the Trading Estate. These are only approximate gaugings but it is hoped that the recorders will be fixed next year, the construction of the flumes having been completed during the current year.

It has been reported that the Sewage Works were flooded on more than one occasion, due to building operations on the New Town permitting surface water to enter the main sewer and to avoid this negotiations are in progress with the Development Corporation regarding the construction of a storm water overflow. The effluent from the Trading Estate continues to be of a very peculiar character and certain of the premises where small pre-treatment works exist are visited by the Sewage Works Manager so that as far as possible every effort is made with the co-operation of the North East Trading Estate to avoid the discharge of acids or other unsatisfactory trade wastes into the Works. The Council is still continuing its policy of development of the land adjacent to the Works to improve the general appearance and it is hoped that trees and shrubs will be planted next year.

Improvements

HEIGHINGTON

Repairs to the sedimentation tank walls and the construction of the sludge drying beds were completed towards the end of the year. In the past difficulty has been experienced in the maintenance of these works due to the absence of proper sludge drying beds. It is hoped in the early future for a humus tank to be constructed.

SADBERGE

Existing sludge drying beds were re-made at these Works and here again it is hoped that a humus tank can be installed at an early date.

GREAT STAINTON

In 1946 the Council arranged to pay a contribution towards the cost of increasing the size of a proposed private septic tank and drain (to serve the village). During last year the sewerage of the village was completed apart from a very small portion which is to be done when council houses are erected on the adjacent site. It is expected that a start can be made on the provision of filter, sludge drying beds and humus tank next year to complete the scheme for this village.

ARCHDEACON NEWTON

The Council accepted sewers and sewage disposal works constructed by the Church Commissioners for maintenance purposes and they were vested in the Authority.

The sewers deal with two farms and four hinds' cottages.

AYCLIFFE—GRETN A GREEN WEDDING INN

Considerable complaint has been received during the past few years with regard to the unsatisfactory effluent from a small sewage

disposal works dealing with this property. The owners on our advice and with the consent of the Newton Aycliffe Development Corporation propose to lay a 6 inch gravity sewer approximately 300 yards to the nearest manhole in the main sewer on the New Town which is connected with the Aycliffe Sewage Disposal Works.

Proposals

AYCLIFFE

A scheme for the sewerage of the old village at Aycliffe together with the installation of a pumping station to discharge the sewage into the Aycliffe Sewage Disposal Works was approved by the Ministry and a starting date given for November, 1952. These works were estimated to cost £14,850.

MIDDLETON-ST.-GEORGE

A scheme for re-sewering and the provision of modern sewage disposal works at Middleton-St.-George is being prepared by the Council's consultant engineers : A. Brooksbank of Bradford, and a preliminary report was available towards the end of the year.

WHESOE

The Council considered alternative schemes for dealing with the built-up area of Whesoe Parish and accepted a scheme for the discharge of surface water and sewage into the Darlington Corporation's sewer at an estimated cost of £6,556 involving annual charges for loan repayment maintenance costs and annual charges payable to the Corporation estimated at £574.

The Corporation's engineers advised us that they were not prepared to accept combined sewage and accordingly a new scheme allowing for separation of surface water was got out to their approval. The estimated cost of the scheme exclusive of annual charges was £17,588.

Owing to the high costs involved the Council decided before plans and bills of quantities were got out to submit an outline drawing and estimate of the cost to the Ministry for their observations. The Ministry have since advised us to obtain further particulars of the annual charges payable to the Corporation in respect of pumping and treatment of sewage and we are awaiting their proposals.

GREAT BURDON

A scheme for laying of sewers complete with rising main and pumping unit for the discharge of sewage into the Corporation's sewer was approved by the Council for submission to the Ministry subject to the owners of Toft Hill agreeing to make a satisfactory contribution towards the additional expense involved in including this farm in the scheme. The cost of the scheme is estimated at £2,850, involving annual charges for loan repayment and maintenance costs and Corporation charges amounting to £227.

BRAFFERTON

A scheme is in course of preparation for this village and it is hoped that it will be ready for the Council's consideration in 1952.

REDWORTH

The rotary filter at these Sewage Disposal Works has not been functioning properly and there is no proper humus tank. It is proposed to enlarge the filter, fix a new rotary distributor and construct a humus tank in 1952.

Maintenance of Council Sewers and Sewage Works.

BLACKWELL SEWAGE WORKS-CLEANSING OF WATERCOURSE

In connection with a complaint received from the County Council with regard to silting up of a certain length of a watercourse known as Baydale Beck, part of which passes through the sewage works, the Council were asked to arrange for its cleansing. The work was actually carried out by arrangement with the County Council, when the rest of the watercourse was cleansed at an approximate cost of £70.

MIDDLETON-ST.-GEORGE

Due to a stoppage in the main sewer on the North side of the railway bridge, the sewer was found to be crushed. At the same time that this matter was dealt with, arrangements were made for a new concrete roof to be formed over a large cylindrical manhole in the road. The sewer was approximately 12 feet deep at this point and almost in the centre of the road.

During the summer months complaint was received from householders in the vicinity of The Square, Middleton-St.-George regarding a strong smell of petrol fumes in the drains. The sewers were found to be affected and immediate arrangements were made for them to be flushed. Further investigation pointed to a leakage from petrol tanks at an adjacent filling station. When one of these tanks was emptied, no further complaints were received.

The petrol licence in connection with this tank was cancelled and not renewed.

GENERAL

The Council carry out the maintenance, repair and cleansing of all sewers, and sewage disposal works in the district. The tanks at the sewage works are emptied periodically, filters attended to regularly and a careful check kept on the type of effluent discharged from the works. The ditches in which the effluent is discharged are cleansed and trimmed once a year.

Sewers are flushed and scraped as necessary and manholes examined.

The Council are responsible for the maintenance, repair and emptying of certain cesspools at Piercebridge, Whessoe, Middleton-St.-George, Aycliffe, Beacon Hill, Sadberge and Great Burdon.

All this work is done by direct labour, the Council employing five men for the purpose. The cost of this service for the financial year ending 31st March, 1952 was £6,220, which represents approximately 1/5d. rate.

Rivers and Streams (River Pollution Prevention)

On the 1st October, 1950, the River Board Act, 1948, came into operation. This Act rescinded the previous legislation by which authority was vested in the County and County District Councils, and in this area the Wear and Tees River Board was constituted for the administration of the Act.

Owing to the restricted facilities at present available for chemical analysis I understand it was considered to be more productive for the Board to proceed on anti-pollution work by the chemical examination of effluents with a view to drawing the attention of owners to unsatisfactory sewage disposal works.

We have received notification of the following particulars of analysis of Sewage Works effluent from the Board during the year.

Sewage Disposal Works	Analyst's Remarks	Our observations	Taken
Aycliffe (Trading Estate) Sewage Disposal Works.	Satisfactory	—	26/11/51
Aycliffe (Durham Road tank and filter).	Bad	These works are scheduled to be abandoned when the Aycliffe Sewage Disposal Scheme is completed.	26/11/51
Heighington	Fair	New sludge beds have been put down at these works and a new humus tank is proposed.	4/12/51
Redworth	Bad	The rotary filter is defective and improvements are scheduled for next year comprising a larger filter bed, a humus tank and a new dosing syphon.	4/12/51

During the period under review, no summarised information is available about the quality of rivers and streams within the area of the Board, but the following is a brief resumé from the Board's report regarding the condition of the rivers in our area.

Piercebridge Beck

J. J. Graham (Jubilee Quarries, Piercebridge)

A complaint was previously received in connection with waste waters from these quarries and now these are conveyed to a worked out portion of the quarries from which there will be no overflow to any stream for some considerable time. The owners have obviated the pollution due to waste water from the hoppers by diverting the drainage from the beck to a depression on land near the Washery Plant.

Barmpton (Eldon Brickworks Gravel Washing Plant)

During the year a complaint was received from the Darlington Brown Trout Angling Club concerning the condition of the effluent discharging from this plant. The owners realised their responsibility and arranged for the two existing ponds taking the drainage from the workings to be raised and strengthened. Arrangements were also made for the third pond.

Woodburn Beck, Low Goosepool

A complaint was received regarding the pollution of this beck with oil from a surface water drain serving the Royal Air Force Station at Goosepool. The construction of two oil interceptors has been put in hand.

Public Scavenging.

Towards the end of the year, serious delays were experienced in the collection of refuse, due to the increased number of houses being built in the area, inclement weather and the incidence of sickness amongst the Council's workmen. A special Committee considered a report on means of improving the service and it was decided that besides permitting overtime to be worked a new vehicle be ordered.

It is hoped that the new vehicle will be delivered in 1952 and it is proposed to form a new scavenging rota.

The vehicle will be garaged at Aycliffe making three vehicles working from this Depot.

The following shows the area that each of the vehicles serves and the frequency of collection.

1. Bedford Vehicle No. 1 (first registered 3rd November, 1946). Operated by Driver and two men in the parishes of Bishopton, Great Stainton, Little Stainton, Great Burdon, Barmpton, Whessoe, Coatham Mundeville, Brafferton, Aycliffe, Newton Aycliffe.
Collection—Once every two weeks (approximately).
2. Bedford Vehicle No. 2 (first registered 1st September, 1948). Operated by Driver and two men in the parishes of Low Coniscliffe, High Coniscliffe, Piercebridge, Summerhouse, Killerby, Denton, Walworth, Houghton-le-Side, Heighington, Aycliffe, and Newton Aycliffe.
3. Bedford Vehicle No. 3 (first registered 15th December, 1948). Operated by Driver and two men in the parishes of Middleton-St.-George, Morton Palms, part of Low Dinsdale and Sadberge.
Collection—Once every two weeks (approx.).
4. Bedford Vehicle No. 4 (first registered 22nd April, 1949). Operated by a Driver and three men in the parishes of Hurworth, Neasham, part of Low Dinsdale, Sockburn and Blackwell.
Collection—Once every two weeks (approx.).

This vehicle (4) is also utilised by Croft Rural District Council for the collection of refuse in the parish of Croft once a month, but arrangements are to be made for this practice to cease early next year.

Vehicles Nos. 1 and 2 are garaged on the Aycliffe Trading Estate and Vehicles Nos. 3 and 4 operate from a Depot at Middleton-St.-George. The two former vehicles scavenge the northern part of the area and the latter the southern portion. The wet refuse from privy middens, etc., is collected separately and tipped on various farm lands throughout the district and used as a fertilizer. The dry refuse, including tins and glass are disposed of on one of the Council's

tips. The Council have tips at Heighington, Piercebridge, Blackwell and Summerhouse and as far as possible every effort is made to carry out controlled tipping in the best possible manner. One of our difficulties is the absence of proper tips near the larger villages and this too will be reviewed in 1952.

The cost of this service during the financial year ending 31st March, 1952, was £5,931 representing approximately a rate of 1/4d. in the £.

Cesspool Emptying

The Council do not empty private cesspools in their area except in special circumstances when the cost is charged out to the persons concerned.

Public Conveniences

HEIGHINGTON

The public convenience was completed during the year at a cost of approximately £604, and opened to the public in October.

MIDDLETON-ST.-GEORGE

Tenders were received in connection with the erection of a public convenience at Middleton-one-Row. The lowest tender, amounting to £1,358 was submitted to the Ministry, but arising from this and the ownership of the Village Green, further complications prevented a starting date being fixed. It is hoped that the work will commence next year.

HURWORTH

The site of the public convenience near the bridge at Hurworth Place was agreed with the Authority concerned, and instructions given to the Architect to proceed with the preparation of detailed plans.

AYCLIFFE

No further progress has been made with regard to the public convenience at Aycliffe Village owing to the absence of sewerage arrangements in the village.

The Council have agreed with the Aycliffe Development Corporation regarding the siting of a public convenience at Newton Aycliffe on Precinct B. 2.

Closet Accommodation

During the year 8 ash closets and 12 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.

The Council paid £250 in grants during the year, an increase of £62 10s. 0d. over the previous year when 7 ash closets and 8 privy middens were converted.

The total conversions carried out since the commencement of the voluntary scheme in 1937 is 107 ash closets and 128 privy middens at a total cost to the Council of £1,980 6s. 9d.

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	5	2	2
Housing Inspections	59	15	12
Ash Pits and Privy	8	1	1
Water Closets	38	1	1
Drainage	9	4	4
Dangerous Buildings	—	—	—
Moveable Dwellings	27	—	—
Animal Nuisances	—	1	1
Other Nuisances	97	1	1
Totals	243	25	22

No. of General Inspections and Visits

Dairies	5
Sewage	158
Water Supplies	15
Foundations	39
Buildings in Course of Erection	118
Drains Inspected and tested	336
Completed Properties	70
Council houses—repairs, etc.	114
Food Inspection	43
Miscellaneous (Building Licences, etc.)	258
Infectious Diseases	12
Total ..	1168

Disinfestation

Disinfestation was carried out in two verminous dwelling houses during the year.

Plans under the Council's Building Byelaws

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

1. New houses, bungalows and shops .. .	34
2. Alterations, additions and conversions to houses ..	57
3. Garages, sheds, etc.	24
4. Agricultural Buildings	37
5. Drainage	34
6. Factories	14
7. Roads and Sewers	4
8. Others	9
Total ..	213

Inspections under Housing Acts

(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected in detail	103
(b) Number of visits made for the purpose	130
Category of houses inspected :—	
No. of dwelling houses fit in all respects ..	48
No. of dwelling houses requiring minor repairs ..	26
No. of dwelling houses requiring structural alterations or repairs	20
No. of dwelling houses unfit for human habitation	9

Housing Act, 1936

Official Representations were made under Section 11 of the above Act with regard to the undermentioned houses, and the Council agreed to take the following actions :—

1 house at Redworth	—Accepted undertaking under Section 11 (Paragraph 3) that the house should not be used for human habitation until the Council are satisfied that it is in all respects fit.
1 House at Redworth	—Prepared to consider Owner's offer to carry out works and submit details within 21 days.
Nos. 6 and 7 Darlington Road Middleton-St.-George.	—Demolition Orders made.
Simpson's Cottage, Hurworth	—Council accepted undertaking from Owner not to re-let for human habitation until made fit in all respects.

Housing Act, 1949—Improvement Grants

The following applications were approved under the above Act :—

1. Garden House, Middleton-one-Row (Council property).

The improvements were the provision of an electrical installation, bathroom and hot water supply, extra W.C. and new outbuildings at an estimated cost of £518, and a grant approved for half the cost.

2. The Rookery Cottage, Walworth—

The improvements were :—provision of bathroom and hot water supply ; W.C. conversion ; drainage ; bedroom enlargements and the fixing of larger windows at an estimated cost of £594, and a grant was approved for half the cost.

The work was commenced in the first case, but the owner withdrew his application in connection with the second.

Several enquiries were dealt with regarding other properties, but no further applications were made.

SECTION D.

HOUSING

1. GENERAL INFORMATION.

New Dwellings by Private Enterprise.

Building licences for the erection of 8 houses at a cost of £16,730 were issued on behalf of the Council during the year, making a total of 56 building licences issued at a total cost of £82,290 since 1945. Building licences for the erection of 4 houses at a cost of £8,350 were issued by the Ministry of Works during the year, making a total of 18 houses since 1945.

Erection of New Houses.

Licences issued by the Council :—7 houses were completed by private enterprise during the year, compared with 9 during 1950, making a total of 50 since 1945.

Licences issued by the Ministry :—2 houses were completed by private enterprise during the year making a total of 15 since 1945.

Civil Building Licences.

The Council as Licensing Authority issued 20 licences in connection with repairs and maintenance of houses, etc. amounting to £6,313.

Council Houses.

During the year a total of 45 houses was completed and occupied compared with 5 during 1950, making a total of 195 since 1944. All 45 were of traditional brick.

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Situation</i>	<i>Type of House</i>	<i>No. erected</i>
Middleton-St.-George	Thorntree Gardens	Trad. Brick	22
Heighington	High Side	Trad. Brick	9
Summerhouse	Summerhouse	Trad. Brick	2
Hurworth	The Oval	Trad. Brick	8
	Sanderson Road	Trad. Brick	4
		Total	45

Plans were approved for new houses as follows :—

4 houses at Great Stainton.

6 houses at High Coniscliffe.

HOUSING PROGRESS 1946—1951

Parish	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	Tot'ls
Aycliffe ..	—	—	8	18	—	—	26
Bishopton ..	—	8	—	—	—	—	8
Brafferton ..	—	—	8	—	—	—	8
High Coniscliffe	—	—	4	—	—	—	4
Heighington ..	—	—	4	—	—	9	13
Hurworth ..	2	20	13	—	—	12	47
Middleton- St.-George	—	—	8	21	5	22	56
Sadberge ..	—	6	8	9	—	—	23
Summerhouse	—	—	—	—	—	2	2
Walworth ..	—	—	—	4	—	—	4
	2	34	53	52	5	45	191

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

(a) Licensed Sites.

There is only one licensed site for six moveable dwellings in the area at Burtree Filling Station. The site has been run in a satisfactory manner, refuse being regularly removed from the site by the Council's Service and there is a mains water supply available.

(b) Moveable Dwelling Licences.

The number of licences issued in the area at the end of the year was 11, an increase of one since the end of 1950.

APPLICATIONS FOR COUNCIL HOUSES APPLICANTS RESIDING IN THE RURAL AREA

Village where house is required	No. with home of their own	No. without home of their own	AGRICULTURAL WORKERS		WITH HOMES		WITHOUT HOMES	
			No. with home of their own	No. without home of their own	Bedrooms required		Bedrooms required	
Aycliffe	21	30	—	—	10	8	23	7
Bishopton	3	3	1	2	2	1	2	1
Heighington	18	16	1	2	9	7	14	2
High Coniscliffe	12	2	4	—	4	4	2	—
Hurworth	10	29	—	—	6	3	24	3
Middleton-St.-George	42	40	3	—	21	19	31	7
Sadberge	11	7	4	1	7	4	6	1
Summerhouse	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Whesoe	4	2	—	—	2	2	2	—
Totals	121	130	13	5	61	48	105	21
								4

APPLICANTS RESIDING OUTSIDE THE RURAL AREA

Village where house is required	No. with home of their own	No. without home of their own	AGRICULTURAL WORKERS		WITH HOMES		WITHOUT HOMES	
			No. with home of their own	No. without home of their own	Bedrooms required		Bedrooms required	
Aycliffe	5	12	—	—	3	2	10	2
Bishopton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heighington	2	10	3	1	1	1	9	1
High Coniscliffe	2	4	—	1	2	—	4	—
Hurworth	9	4	1	3	8	1	2	2
Middleton-St.-George	11	31	1	1	7	4	29	2
Sadberge	10	6	—	1	6	4	5	1
Summerhouse	2	1	1	—	1	1	1	—
Whesoe	1	1	1	—	1	—	1	—
Totals	42	69	7	7	29	13	61	8
								—

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

It has not been found necessary to take any action under the Council's Byelaws, although 43 inspections were made of food premises. The difficulty in improving conditions is most apparent in dealing with the small village shop, where all types of commodities are on sale in a very restricted space. The dealers are not necessarily owners of the shops and the amount of business carried out does not warrant heavy expenditure on improvements. In many cases the businesses are old established ones comprising the front room of a dwelling house, often situated in a village where there is no proper means of sewerage and sewage disposal. In these cases, we have merely drawn the attention of the occupier to the condition of the premises and have pointed out to him the necessity of additional care in these circumstances and the best means of using the available facilities.

With regard to premises where meals are served, there are two public canteens, five works canteens (private) as well as the cafes and hotels indicated in the schedule below. Of the latter, only seven premises can be said to be operating as hotel restaurants. These premises were visited during the year and the owners advised as to minor improvements required, the general condition being mainly satisfactory.

There is also a school kitchen at Aycliffe which was visited, and arrangements made afterwards for the cleansing of the filter at the small Sewage Works dealing with the effluent.

	Public Houses, Hotels, Inns, Clubs, etc.	Cafes	Butchers' Shops	Fish Shops	General Dealers and Others
(a) Satisfactory in all respects ..	24	6	9	4	30
(b) Satisfactory in all respects except for sanitary accommodation	3	—	—	—	—
(c) Satisfactory in all respects except for washing facilities ..	4	—	—	1	3
(d) Satisfactory in all respects except for lighting and ventilation	—	—	—	—	2
(e) Satisfactory in all respects except for decoration and minor repairs	—	—	—	—	1
(f) Unsatisfactory (under more than one of the above headings) ..	8	—	—	—	8
	39	6	9	5	44

Condemnation of Food.

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

6 tins Boiled Ham. Total weight 78 lbs. 5 ozs.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938. Section 14.

Preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale.

There were no new applications for registration of premises for the above purpose, the total number of registered premises being three.

Ice Cream.

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the area.

Three applications were received for registration of premises for the storage and sale of ice cream. The premises were inspected, found to be suitable and registered. The total number of registered premises is now 21.

Milk.

There are 30 distributors of milk in the area of whom 27 are producer-retailers, and three retailers only.

The premises of one of these distributors are not satisfactory, and he is in process of trying to arrange for alterations or alternative accommodation. Meanwhile he is being instructed to use every care in the handling of the milk.

One distributor has Dealer's Licences for Pasteurised and Tuberculin Tested Milk and the following supplementary licences were issued to distributors from outside the district :—

Tuberculin Tested	..	4
Pasteurised	..	4
Sterilised	..	1

It was not found necessary for the Medical Officer to take any action under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, regarding prohibition of sale of any milk or directing its heat treatment before sale.

Slaughter Houses—Slaughtering.

The Government Scheme of Centralised Slaughterhouses was continued during the year and all slaughtering for the area was carried out at the Park Lane Slaughterhouse in Darlington.

The six slaughterhouses in the area were used occasionally for the slaughter of "Cottagers' Pigs."

One new and 20 renewal licences to slaughter animals were granted during the year.

SECTION F.

FACTORIES ACT 1937 AND 1948

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		
		Inspec- tions (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occu's. Pr'secuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	32	17	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authy.	104	27	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	10	10	—	—
Totals	146	54	—	—

2. Cases in which Defects were found.

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

	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of Cases in which prosec'n's were instituted (7)
	Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (5)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (6)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	*17	4	—	17	—
Total	17	4	—	17	—

There is one Outworker in the district making wearing apparel and there have been no notices served on him.

*Means of Escape in Case of Fire (Certificates).

SECTION G.

MISCELLANEOUS

Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act and Regulations, 1951.

The above Act operated from 1st November, 1951, and is designed to secure the use of clean filling materials in upholstered articles and other articles which are stuffed or lined.

It provides for the registration of premises where any of the prescribed filling materials are used, and for the licensing of premises where they are manufactured.

Authority is given under the Act for samples to be taken to ascertain the cleanliness of the materials used.

The Regulations prescribe the standards of cleanliness for each type of filling material, specify the prescribed analysis for the tests, fees to be charged and form of certificate. They also indicate the form in which records are to be kept by Occupiers of premises registered or licensed for the purpose of the Act.

There are no manufacturers in the district but four registered premises where these materials are used.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The provisions of this Act give rise to an increasing amount of time and labour being spent on Rodent Control. Not only is it the duty of the Local Authority to treat its sewers, sewage works and refuse tips at regular intervals, but also to inspect its entire district for evidence of rat or mice infestations. This latter operation is carried out on all routine inspections of all types of property.

During the year, the Council's sewers were test baited twice and tested once where evidence of infestation was found. The second test baiting again disclosed the presence of rats but was completed too near the end of the year for subsequent treatment to be carried out in 1951.

Three Sewage Disposal Works, three refuse tips and four business premises were found to be infested and successfully treated.

The public is becoming more "rat conscious" and complaints are being received in greater numbers, making it increasingly difficult to maintain an efficient service with the existing manpower.

Schools.

AYCLIFFE DIAMOND JUBILEE SCHOOL.

Owing to further difficulties, it was found impossible to carry out the conversion of the sanitary arrangements during the year. However the work will be carried out in 1952.

NEASHAM.

The disposal of sewage still remains a serious problem and prevents the carrying out of conversions.

GREAT STAINTON.

An approach was made to the School Authorities regarding the taking of a water supply from the Council's main and the conversion to water carriage of the existing sanitary accommodation. We were advised that there would be some little delay owing to the proposal by the Church authorities that the School be taken over by the County Council.

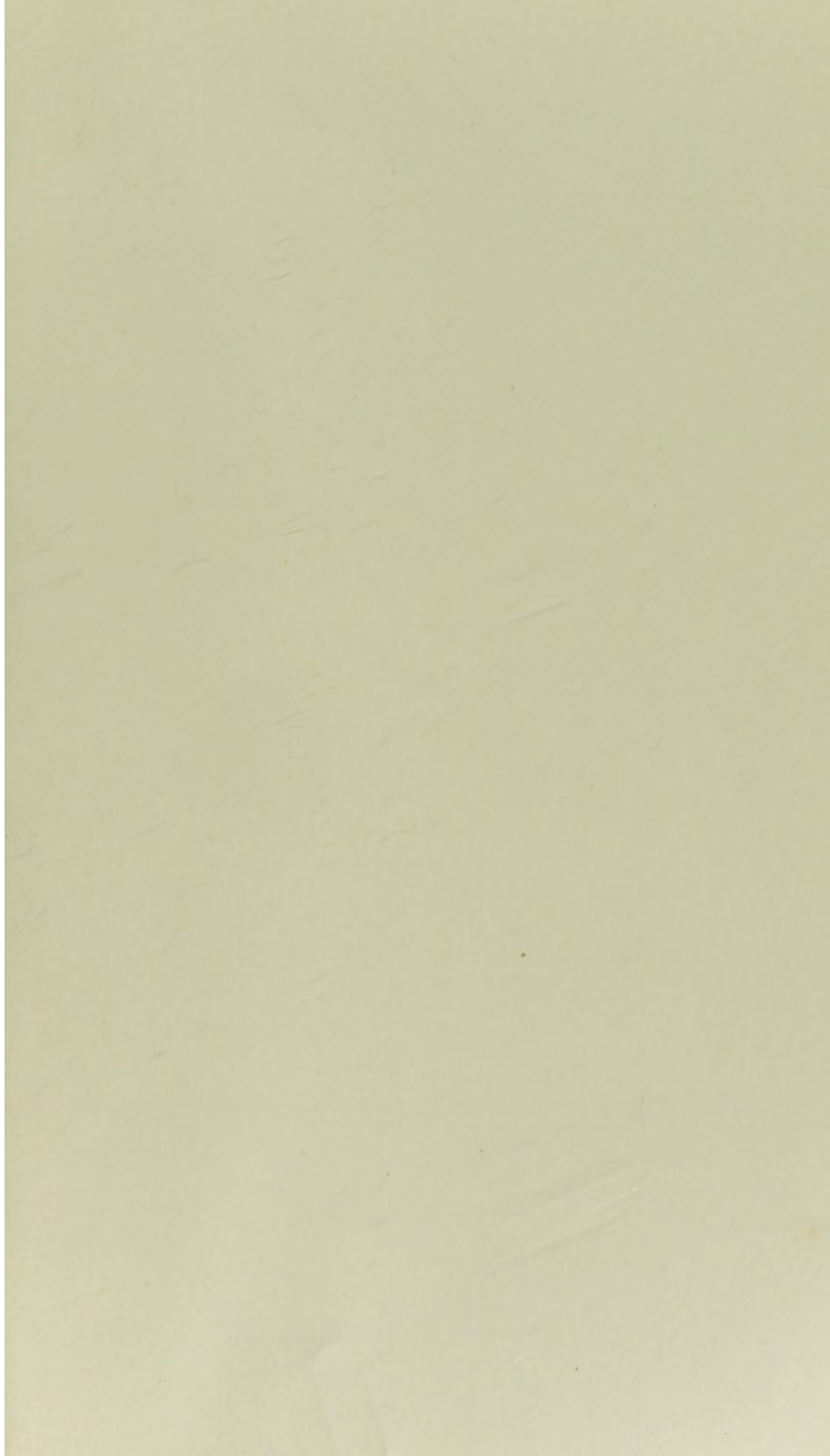
It is expected that this work will be commenced in 1952.

Byelaws in Force in District.

New Streets	9th May, 1938.
Building Byelaws	9th May, 1938.
Slaughter Houses	1st June, 1938.
Food Handling	8th May, 1950.

Petroleum (Regulation) Act, 1928—36.

Nine new and 50 renewal of application for licences to keep petroleum spirit were received during the year and all licences were granted.



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