

[Report 1948] / Medical Officer of Health, Sedgefield (Union) R.D.C.

Contributors

Sedgefield (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1948

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**THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF SEDGEFIELD.**



**ANNUAL
REPORT**

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE

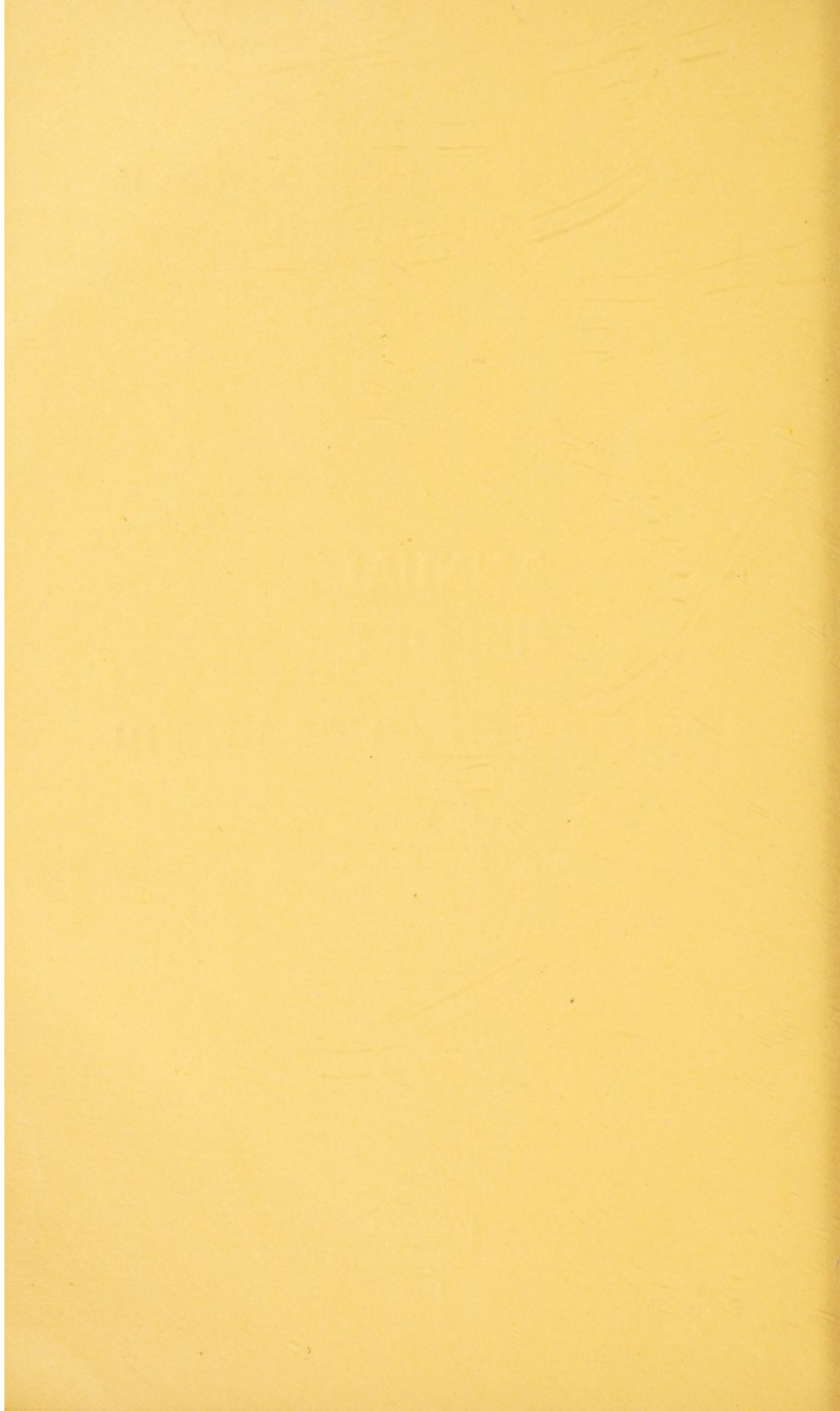
YEAR ENDING

31st DECEMBER, 1948.

FERRYHILL :

A. Blamire, Electric Printing Works,

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SEDGEFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

COUNCIL OFFICES,
SEDGEFIELD,
STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the 71st Annual Report upon the Vital Statistics and Sanitary work of your district for the year ending December 31st, 1948.

I commenced duty as Medical Officer of Health on 15th December of that year in succession to Dr. Madge Hopper.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Birth Rate.

The live birth rate of 17·81 per 1,000 of the estimated population shows a decline on that for 1947 which was 20·03. There were 55 fewer live births in 1948 than in 1947.

The rate for England and Wales shows a similar decline from 20·5 in 1947 to 17·9 in 1948.

General Death Rate.

This rate shows a slight decline from 10·33 in 1947 to 10·25 in 1948.

It is slightly lower than the rate for the Country generally as has been the case for the last 20 years.

The rate for England and Wales is 10·8.

Heart Diseases continue to head the list of causes of death. They accounted for 91 or 26% of the deaths.

Cancer took second place and accounted for 62 or 17·7% of the deaths.

As will be observed in the table on page 7 the biggest number of deaths occurred in the 70—80 age group.

Infantile Mortality.

The death rate of all infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births was 47·69.

This figure shows an increase from that of 1947, which was 37·7.

There were 29 deaths in 1948 compared with 25 in 1947, an increase of 4.

Of the 29 deaths 16 or 55·2% occurred in the first month of life giving a neonatal mortality rate of 26·3 per 1,000 live births.

The number of deaths from Prematurity increased from 3 in 1947 to 8 in 1948 but is less than the figure for 1946 which was 13.

Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age.

There was one death under this heading giving a rate of 1·64 as compared with 3·3 for England and Wales.

In 1947 the figure for this district was 1·51 compared with 5·8 for the country generally.

Maternal Mortality.

The Maternal Mortality Rate was nil in 1948.

In 1947 the rate was 2·94.

Tuberculosis.

The Mortality rate for the respiratory form of the disease shows a slight decline from 0.423 in 1947 to 0.380 in 1948.

The Mortality rate for the Non-Respiratory form of the disease increased from 0.030 in 1947 to 0.087 in 1948.

There was an increase of 5 in the number of notifications of the pulmonary type in 1948 and a decrease of 1 in the notifications of the non-pulmonary type in 1948 as compared with 1947. (Notifications from the Mental Hospital are excluded in the above remarks).

Infectious Disease.

The notifications of these diseases are set out in a separate table in the report.

There was a large increase in the number of notifications as compared with 1947.

The biggest increase was in Measles from 117 in 1947 to 421 in 1948.

The next largest increase was in Whooping Cough from 13 in 1947 to 92 in 1948.

There was also an increase in cases of Scarlet Fever from 111 in 1947 to 141 in 1948.

Pneumonia increased from 10 cases in 1947 to 29 in 1948.

There were 5 positive cases of diphtheria in 1948 and no deaths.

Poliomyelitis.

No case of Poliomyelitis occurred in the district during the year.

Typhoid and Paratyphoid.

No case of typhoid or paratyphoid occurred in the district during the year.

Food Poisoning.

No case of the above was notified during the year.

Dysentery.

16 cases were notified, of these 14 were from the Mental Hospital. The remaining 2 cases were children living in a house at Chilton Buildings. Bacteriological examinations of specimens from other members of the same household showed that 3 of these were carriers of the Dysentery Bacilli. The 2 patients and the 3 carriers were removed to the Isolation Hospital. No further case occurred in the locality.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, this work was transferred on 5th July, 1948, to the Durham County Council.

Scabies.

28 cases were notified compared with 37 in 1947 and 47 for the first 6 months of 1946. This shows a welcome decline in the incidence of the disease.

Housing.

The need for many more new houses is urgent in order to alleviate overcrowding and families, sometimes several in number, 'living in' and to re-house the occupants of condemned and almost derelict houses.

During 1948 1521 applications for Council houses were received. This excludes applications for Aged Persons Bungalows and is an increase of 335 on the number of applications received during 1947.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

The details shown under this heading have been supplied by the Sanitary Inspectors, Mr. Clough and Mr. Curry.

I wish to express to the Council my appreciation of their support and I should also like to take this opportunity of thanking the Clerk of the Council, the Sanitary Inspectors, members of the Health Department, and other Council Officials for their valuable help.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

M. W. RODGERS,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area 39,212 acres.

Population 34,125.

No. of inhabited houses 9,171 + 33 ex-army huts occupied by squatters.

Rateable Value £117,839.

Sum represented by a penny rate £453 15 2d.

Vital Statistics.

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Births—Live births.			
Legitimate	303	283	586
Illegitimate	13	9	22
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	316	292	608

Live Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population 17·81.

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Still births.			
Legitimate	9	2	11
Illegitimate	2	—	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	11	2	13

Still birth rate per 1,000 of the resident population 0·38.

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Total births (live and still)	327	294	621
Total birth rate per 1,000 of the resident population	18·20.		
Still birth rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)	20·93.		

Infantile Mortality.

Deaths of infants under 1 year :	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Legitimate	11	17	28
Illegitimate	—	1	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	11	18	29

Infantile Mortality Rate.

Death rates of all infants under 1 year per 1,000 Live births: 47·69.

Death rate of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 Legitimate

Live births: 47·78.

Death rate of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000
illegitimate live births 45·45.

Deaths.	Total.	Male.	Female.
	350	192	158

Death rate per 1,000 of estimated population : 10·25

Maternal Deaths.

Deaths from Puerperal and Post-Abortive Sepsis	nil.
Other maternal causes	nil.

Causes of Death.

	Males.	Females.
ALL CAUSES	192	158
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	—
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	4	9
Other Tubercular Diseases	1	2
Syphilitic disease	1	—
Influenza	2	1
Measles	1	—
Acute Poliomyelitis, Polioencephalitis	—	—
Acute infectious encephalitis	—	—
Cancer of Buccal cavity and oesophagus-M uterus-F	3	6
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	8	8
Cancer of breast	—	3
Cancer of all other sites	24	10
Diabetes	1	3
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	20	22
Heart Disease	48	43
Other diseases of Circulatory System	6	4
Bronchitis	19	9
Other respiratory Diseases	2	—
Pneumonia	8	5
Ulcer of Stomach or duodenum	3	—
Diarrhoea under two years	—	1
Appendicitis	—	—
Other digestive diseases	3	2
Nephritis	7	3
Puerperal and post-abortion sepsis	—	—
Other maternal causes	—	—
Premature birth	1	7
Congenital malformation, birth injuries	6	7
Suicide	—	—
Road traffic accidents	—	2
Other violent causes	9	2
All other causes	15	9

Age Groups	0-1	1-5	5-10	10-20	20-30	30-40	40-50	50-60	60-70	70-80	80-90	90
Deaths ...	29	2	4	6	9	16	24	45	63	109	41	2

Cancer.

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

			Ages in years.					Totals.
			1-25	26-45	46-65	66-75	76 up	
Stomach	—	1	10	1	4	16
Breast	—	1	—	1	1	3
Prostate	—	—	1	1	2	4
Uterus	—	2	2	2	—	6
Liver	—	—	1	—	—	1
Lungs	—	2	1	2	—	5
Bowels	—	—	4	6	3	13
Other sites	—	—	6	6	2	14
			—	6	25	19	12	62

Table of Birth and Death rates for the past 20 years (1929-1948) as compared with Rates for England and Wales.

Year.	General Death Rate.		Infantile Mortality Rate.		Total Birth Rate.	
	Sedgefield	England and Wales	Sedgefield	England and Wales	Sedgefield	England and Wales
1929	11.7	13.4	85.5	74	19.9	16.98
1930	11.4	11.4	69.4	60	19.6	16.99
1931	10.9	12.3	86.1	66	17.8	16.47
1932	11.1	12.0	71.5	65	17.8	15.96
1933	11.3	12.3	86.5	64	16.8	15.02
1934	11.3	11.8	88.8	59	15.5	15.42
1935	11.7	12.1	70	57	18.55	15.32
1936	10.9	12.1	77	59	18.4	15.41
1937	12.2	12.4	74	58	18.15	15.50
1938	11.41	11.6	73	53	17.84	15.70
1939	11.33	12.1	65	50	17.38	15.59
1940	13.83	14.3	50.81	55	17.74	15.15
1941	10.78	12.9	73	59	17.80	15.70
1942	9.71	11.6	71.80	49	19.44	16.34
1943	10.53	12.1	65.30	49	18.45	17.01
1944	10.73	11.6	48.74	46	21.61	18.11
1945	9.96	11.4	58.29	46	20.56	16.56
1946	10.65	11.5	45.80	43	20.59	19.63
1947	10.33	12.0	37.70	41	20.54	21.00
1948	10.25	10.8	47.69	34	18.20	18.32

Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality and Maternal
Death Rates in the year 1948,

						England and Wales	Sedgefield Rural District
						(Rates per 1,000 population)	
Births :—							
Live	...	...	...	...	...	17.9	17.81
Still	...	...	...	...	...	0.42	0.38
Deaths :—							
All causes	...	...	...	...	...	10.8	10.25
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	—
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	0.51	0.47
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	0.41	0.38
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	0.02	—
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	0.00	—
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	0.03	0.087
Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	0.01	—
						(Rates per 1,000 Live Births)	
Deaths under one year of age	...	...	...	...	...	34	47.69
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under two years of age	...	...	...	...	...	3.3	1.64
						(Rates per 1,000 Total Births) (i.e. Live and Still)	
Abortion with Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	0.11	—
Abortion without Sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	0.05	—
Puerperal Infections	...	...	...	...	...	0.13	—
Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...	...	0.73	—

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

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Table of cases as notified in the whole district set out in age groups. Civilians only.

	At all ages	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over	Total deaths	Hospital	Home
Scarlet Fever ...	146	—	3	4	11	6	56	51	7	5	2	1	—	—	136	10
Diphtheria ...	11	1	—	—	1	—	3	4	1	1	—	—	—	—	11	—
Erysipelas ...	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	8	—	—	3	8
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	5	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Dysentery ...	16	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	8	2	4	—	—	16	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	5	—	1	1	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
Polionyelitis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Pneumonia (Prim. and Influz.)	28	1	—	1	1	—	2	—	—	4	7	11	1	—	7	21
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	419	13	37	44	62	57	201	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	416
Whooping Cough ...	92	7	6	13	22	15	29	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	86
TOTALS ...	737	24	47	64	97	78	293	60	10	26	13	24	1	—	194	543

INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Table of cases after correction in the whole district set out in age groups.

	At all ages	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 and over
Scarlet Fever ...	141	—	3	3	10	6	56	50	6	4	2	1	—
Diphtheria ...	5	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	8	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	16	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	8	2	4	—
Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	29	1	—	1	1	—	2	1	—	4	7	11	1
Paratyphoid ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	421	13	37	45	63	57	201	4	—	1	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	92	7	6	13	22	15	29	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	725	23	46	63	96	78	292	57	8	24	13	24	1

Diphtheria. During 1948 11 cases of Diphtheria were notified as against 9 in 1947. Of these 11 cases 5 turned out to be positive cases and 6 negative. No deaths occurred.

Paratyphoid. No cases of Paratyphoid occurred in the district.

Smallpox. No cases of smallpox occurred in the district.

SCARLET FEVER.

141 Positive Cases of Scarlet Fever were notified in 1948 as against 111 in 1947.

Location	All ages	Under 1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35 and over	Home	Hospital
Chilton Buildings ...	39	—	2	1	1	1	16	15	3	—	—	1	38
Ferryhill ...	25	—	—	1	—	1	15	7	1	—	—	1	24
East Howle ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Fishburn ...	8	—	—	—	1	—	3	4	—	—	—	1	7
Trimdon ...	25	—	1	1	6	2	6	9	—	—	—	3	22
Sedgefield ...	12	—	—	—	1	—	5	3	1	2	—	3	9
Cornforth ...	15	—	—	—	—	1	7	3	—	2	2	1	14
Bishop Middleham ...	5	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	5
Rushyford ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Copelaw School ...	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	1	—	1	—	10
TOTALS ...	141	—	3	3	10	6	56	50	6	4	3	10	131

Laboratory Work.

The undermentioned table shows the use made of this during the year :—

Bacteriological Examination					
Results for :			<i>Positive.</i>	<i>Negative.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Tubercle Bacillus	...	...	23	94	117
Diphtheria Bacillus	...	...	13	108	121
Haemolytic Streptococci	...	...	12	104	116
Staphylococcus Aureas	...	...	9	—	9
Dysentery	...	...	8	27	35
Bacillus Pertussis	...	...	—	1	1
Paratyphosum	...	...	—	2	2
Meningococcus	...	...	1	4	5
			66	340	406

Notification of Tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis (New cases and Mortality during 1948).

Age Periods		New Cases.				Deaths.			
		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
		Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1—5	...	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
5—10	...	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	1
10—15	...	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—
15—20	...	3	5	1	1	—	1	—	1
20—25	...	2	4	—	—	1	—	—	—
25—35	...	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
35—45	...	4	9	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	...	2	2	—	—	1	6	—	—
55—65	...	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
65 and over	...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
		16	25	6	4	4	9	1	2
		41		10		13		3	
		51				16			

Of the above new cases 15 respiratory cases were notified from the Winterton Mental Hospital.

The deaths do not include those in the Mental Hospital which are transferable to localities outside this district.

Tuberculosis.

The total number of new cases of the pulmonary form of the disease notified from the area, excluding the Mental Hospital was 26. This was an increase of 5 from the figure for 1947 which was 21.

New notifications of the non-pulmonary form of the disease numbered 10 a decrease of 1 from the number for 1947.

Deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis showed a decrease from 14 in 1947, to 13 in 1948. In the non-pulmonary form of this disease the number increased from 1 in 1947 to 3 in 1948.

Tuberculosis Mortality Rate	(Respiratory) 1947	0.423
Do.	(Respiratory) 1948	0.380
Do.	(Non-respiratory) 1947	0.030
Do.	(Non-respiratory) 1948	0.087

See Comparative table re Tuberculosis Statistics for past 10 years on page 14.

No. of cases on register at 31st December, 1948.

Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total cases
Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	
123	136	259	97	90	187	446

Scabies.

Scabies became a Notifiable Disease in the Rural District on June 17th, 1946.

Number of cases of Scabies notified during 1948	28
Number of cases treated at the Cleansing Centre	22
Average number of treatments required per person	2
Total number of treatments	49

ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

On the 5th July, 1948, the ownership of the Sedgefield Isolation Hospital passed from the Council to the Regional Hospital Board by virtue of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

The undermentioned table shows the admissions to the hospital from 1st January to 4th July and from 5th July to 31st December, 1948.

	Up to 5th July.	5th July—31st Dec.
Scarlet Fever	72	64
Diphtheria	9	4
Diphtheria Carriers	1	—
Meningitis—Cerebro-spinal	—	1
Meningitis—Tubercular	—	1
Meningitis—Pneumococcal	2	1
Chicken pox	—	1
Scabies	1	—
Whooping Cough	7	—
Parotitis	6	—
Measles and Pneumonia	2	1
Erysipelas	2	—
Dysentery	3	2
Gastro Enteritis	1	—
Tonsillitis	—	2
	106	77

183 cases were admitted to the Sedgefield Isolation Hospital during 1948, as against 134 in 1947.

4 deaths occurred in the Sedgefield Isolation Hospital during the year, 1 from Tubercular Meningitis, 1 from Measles and Pneumonia and 2 from Pneumococcal Meningitis.

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS FOR RECENT YEARS.

	NEW CASES.						DEATHS.						NO. ON REGISTER AT END OF YEAR.					
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1939	11	7	18	16	6	22	7	5	12	3	1	4	59	62	121	72	75	147
1940	33	8	41	10	5	15	8	7	15	2	4	6	64	62	126	77	73	150
1941	17	34	51	14	9	23	12	6	18	4	—	4	67	80	147	87	78	165
1942	22	30	52	10	14	24	4	5	9	3	2	5	81	94	175	88	89	177
1943	15	27	42	7	8	15	4	4	8	5	3	8	78	106	184	94	96	190
1944	17	19	36	5	8	13	2	7	9	4	5	9	83	102	185	83	91	174
1945	24	21	45	15	10	25	5	3	8	—	3	3	101	116	217	98	100	198
1946	20	16	36	5	5	10	8	7	15	6	1	7	108	117	225	90	90	180
1947	14	18	32	7	4	11	8	6	14	1	—	1	116	125	241	96	89	185
1948	16	25	41	6	4	10	4	9	13	1	2	3	123	136	259	97	90	187

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Under the National Health Service Act work carried out under this heading was transferred to the Local Health Authority, the Durham County Council being the Local Health Authority for this area.

The figures given below are up to 5th July, 1948.

Immunisation in relation to Child Population.

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 4th July, 1948.

Age at 31/12/48	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	Total
Born in year	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1939-1943	1934-1938	under 15
Number ... immunised ...	—	191	284	269	326	1,748	2,391	5,209
Estimated mid year child pop- ulation 1948			2,962			5,247		

Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation in the area.

	<i>Under 5 years.</i>	<i>5 to 14.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Total number of children who were given a re-inforcing injection.</i>
Jan.—July 1948 =	216	36	252	346

For the year 1948, the figures show that 36.13% of the total child population of the Rural District under 5 years and 78.89% of the 5 to 15 years child population has completed a full course of immunisation.

Comparative figures for the year 1947, were 37.67% for the children under 5 years and 84.97% for the 5 to 15 years children.

In 1946 the figures were 34.55% of children under 5 years and 87.44% 5 to 15 years.

Refresher or Reinforcing Injections.

These injections have been mainly given at clinics held at the schools. Since the injections were started in 1946, a total of 941 have been given, *i.e.* in 1946 = 410, 1947 = 185 and 1948 = 346

Ambulance Service.

By the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946 it became the responsibility of the Local Health Authority (The Durham County Council in this instance) to make provision for securing that ambulances and other means of transport are available, for the conveyance of persons suffering from illness or mental defectiveness or expectant or nursing mothers, from places in their area to places in or outside their area.

From 5th July, 1948, when this provision became operative, until 14th December, 1948, a day-time control to cover the Sedgfield Rural District was established, on behalf of the County Council, in my office.

During this period ambulances were provided to transport almost 1,200 patients.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47.

Action was not taken under this Section.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

Your Council employ a part-time Medical Officer of Health, two full-time Sanitary Inspectors and an assistant, together with clerical assistance.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.**Housing.**

During the year 162 houses were constructed by the Council and occupied. These comprised of 92 three bedroom type traditional houses and 70 aluminium two bedroom type prefabricated bungalows.

The situation of these 162 houses let during the year was as follows:

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>No. of Houses.</i>	<i>No. of Bungalows.</i>
Ferryhill	24	23
Chilton Lane	12	
Chilton Buildings	10	
Sedgefield	6	
Trimdon	12	16
Bishop Middleham	20	
West Cornforth	8	31
	92	70

1948 saw the completion of the Council's first post-war housing programme of 134 houses and a commencement made with the letting of the houses erected under the second programme.

The number of private houses constructed and occupied during 1948 was 26 as against 23 in 1947.

The following table shows the number of new houses, occupied in this district since the termination of hostilities in 1945.

	<i>By local authority.</i>	<i>By private enterprise.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Year ending 31st Dec., 1945	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
" " 1946	24	16	40
" " 1947	62	23	85
" " 1948	162	26	188
Total to end of 31st Dec., 1948	248	65	313

On the 31st Dec., 1948, the number of applications for Council houses in this area was 1,521 an increase of 335 on last years figure.

There were in addition 250 applications for Aged Persons Bungalows. This gives a total of 1,772 applications.

The remainder of Rogerson Street, West Cornforth, was demolished and the site thoroughly cleared of debris and levelled so as to be ready for future building.

Housing inspections were carried out at Bell Street, Bidge Road, Dale Street, Dene Street, East Street, George Street, Hopes Buildings, Maughan Street, New Road Terrace, Railway Terrace, Station Road, Simpsons Buildings, and West Street, West Cornforth. The whole of these were recorded and prepared for classification.

Drainage and Sewage.

The whole of your District is drained and sewered. The sewage disposal works consist for the most part of detritus and precipitation tanks with filter beds, together with land for final treatment. In other parts of your district precipitation and land irrigation are employed, whilst Bradbury and Mordon are drained with settling tanks only.

Table on page 18 shows particulars of Sewage Works within your district.

At Trimdon Village 1,409 yards of 15" sewer were laid for the purpose of serving the new Trimdon Central Site and at Trimdon Colliery approximately 30 yards extension to a sewer was carried out for the purpose of carrying out water closet conversion work and the laying of water in a number of houses.

A temporary length of sewer at Bishop Middleham was provided to replace a length which had collapsed owing to colliery subsidence.

In the remainder of the district maintenance work has been carried out to the sewers and sewage disposal works.

Sanitary Conversions.

During 1948, 26 ash-closets, etc., were converted to the water carriage system.

The following table shows the total number of closets in the district at 31st December, 1948.

	<i>Water Closets.</i>	<i>Ash-closets & Privies.</i>
Ferryhill ...	2919	50
Chilton ...	1754	18
Trimdon ...	1140	283
Cornforth ...	1353	50
Bishop Middleham	379	39
Sedgefield (incl. Hospitals)	1134	52
Fishburn ...	634	31
Mainsforth ...	76	13
Remainder of district	170	258
including Aycliffe school		
	<hr/> 9559	<hr/> 794

In 1930 the number of ash-closets and privies in the area was 5,771, now the number has been reduced to 794. Of these remaining ashclosets the majority are attached to houses that have been condemned, and to outlying farms.

PARTICULARS OF SEWAGE WORKS WITHIN THE SEDGEFIELD RURAL DISTRICT.

	Approximate Population draining to Sewage system	Capacity of settling Tanks in Gals.	Capacity of filter beds in cubic yards	Capacity of humus Tanks in gals.	Sludge drying area in sq. yards	Dry weather flow in gals. per day.	Pumping Plant
Sedgefield ...	3,000	17,670	690	7,872	350	52,000	2—4" clack pumps cap- able of del- ivering 20,000 gals, per hr. each
Fishburn ...	2,500	50,000	1,788	13,400	500	60,000	
Trimdon Village ...	900	12,000	200	1,500	120	9,000	
Trimdon Colliery ...	4,500	90,000	3,490	—	120	34,000	
Chilton Buildings	4,600	22,500	1,250	—	300	35,000	
West Cornforth ...	4,200	51,250	—	—	200	35,000	
Ferryhill (Southside) ...	5,400	82,200	2,180	16,400	400	99,000	
Ferryhill (Northside) ...	3,500	16,000	1,780	—	200	50,000	
Bishop Middleham	1,000	17,100	400	—	100	10,000	
Ferryhill and Chilton Joint ...	4,800	60,000	1,684	17,200	660	96,000	do.

Systems are all partially separate.

Pithead baths are additional.

Public Cleansing.

A fleet of six Karrier Bantam Refuse Collectors and one Morris were engaged in refuse collection. During 1948 an order was given for a Karrier C.K. 3 to replace the Morris which was about 10 years old.

The following shows the district that each of the above mentioned vehicles serve.

<i>Vehicle.</i>	<i>District.</i>
Karrier Bantam No. 1	Portion of Ferryhill and Chilton Lane.
Karrier Bantam No. 2	Remainder of Ferryhill not covered by No. 1, and Dean Bank.
Morris No. 3	
Karrier Bantam No. 3	Sedgefield and Fishburn.
Karrier Bantam No. 4	Chilton Buildings, Windlestone Parish Portion of Woodham Parish, and Chilton Lane Council houses.
Karrier Bantam No. 5	Cornforth Parish.
Karrier Bantam No. 6	Trimdon Grange. Trimdon Colliery—Portion of. Trimdon Village—Portion of.

Bradbury, Mordon, Stillington and the remaining portion of Trimdon Colliery are visited by one of your vehicles which is engaged part time in refuse collection, whereas Mainsforth, Bishop Middleham, East Howle, and the remaining portion of Trimdon Village have the refuse collected by Contractors.

It was decided during the year to acquire an additional Karrier Bantam Refuse Collector to undertake the work carried out by Contractors, and the portions of the district where one of your other vehicles is engaged part time for refuse collection. The necessary order was made for this vehicle.

The majority of dry ashpits in the area were replaced with dust bins during the year and representations are being made to have the small number of remaining ashpits replaced.

Refuse disposal is by means of controlled tipping, there are five tips, all disused quarries, over the district and under the Council's Control.

One new tipping site was acquired at Ferryhill Station to replace a site at Mainsforth which was completely filled in during the year.

Tipping was also carried out at Bishop Middleham to reinstate the level of some land over which the Council's sewer passed which has sunk because of colliery subsidence.

The work of refuse collection and disposal was carried out in a normal manner during the whole year.

Collections are made twice weekly at seventy-five per cent of the houses in the district, the remainder receive attention once per week.

Salvage Collections.

These collections are chiefly made at the same time as the refuse collections and included a special salvage effort during May and June. The quantities of salvage sold during the year were as follows:

Waste paper	...	...	84 tons.
Rags	...	...	2 tons 14½ cwt.
Scrap Iron	...	...	3 tons.

and the value of these waste materials was £2,184 18s 4d.

**Summary of work done in the Sanitary Inspector's Department
during the year 1948.**

(1) Public Health Acts.	Number of Informal Written Notices by Inspector.	Number of Formal Notices by Order of Authority.	Number of Nuisances abated after Notice.
Dwelling houses :			
Foul conditions ...	1	—	1
Structural Defects ...	308	2	256
Overcrowding ...	6	—	6
Lodging houses ...	—	—	—
Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops ...	9	—	9
Bakehouses ...	2	—	2
Slaughterhouses ...	—	—	—
Ashpits and Privies ...	5	—	2
Deposits of Refuse and Manure ...	12	—	12
Water Closets ...	70	—	67
Defective Yard Paving ...	1	—	1
House Drainage ...	114	—	113
Water Supply ...	3	—	2
Pigsties ...	2	—	2
Animals Improperly kept ...	2	—	2
Other Nuisances, etc. ...	29	1	26
Totals ...	564	3	501

Water Supplies.

The Ferryhill, Chilton, West Cornforth, Mainsforth, Trimdon, Fishburn, Bishop Middleham, Sedgfield and Bradbury Townships have their water supplied by the Durham County Water Board. Most outlying farms and cottages in these Townships obtain water from wells and springs.

With the exception of the outlying premises water is supplied to the Stillington Township by the Tees Valley Water Board.

Several houses at Sedgfield Station, in the Bradbury Parish, and Bishopton Crossing, part of which is in the Elstob Parish and the remainder in the Parish of Stillington, obtain their water from a piped supply running alongside the Sedgfield to Stillington railway line. The ownership of this pipe line was transferred from the London and North Eastern Railway Company to the Durham County Water in 1947.

During 1948 one farm near Mordon Village which had a well supply was connected to this pipe-line.

In 1939 a water main was laid by the Durham County Water Board, from Bradbury to Aycliffe, which is outside this district. This enables premises in certain parts of the Parish of Woodham to obtain a piped supply. The remainder of the premises in the Parish of Woodham and the majority of those in the Windlestone Parish are supplied with water by meter from the Durham County Water Board through a privately owned pipe-line.

Butterwick, Old Acres, Elstob, Preston-le-Skerne, Embleton, Foxton and Shotton obtain their water supplies chiefly from privately owned wells and springs.

In the Parish of Mordon there is a pump and a well which is maintained by this Authority, the remainder of Mordon Parish obtains water from privately owned wells.

A scheme was prepared by this Council under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, 1945, whereby it was anticipated that practically all farms and outlying premises together with Mordon Village would be supplied with a piped water supply. Although the scheme was approved in principle by the Ministry of Health in 1947 no further definite progress was made during 1948 to get this scheme under way.

A sample of water as supplied by the Durham County Water Board to the consumer was taken from a house at Windlestone Colliery. An extract of the analyst's report is submitted herewith:

			<i>Parts per 100,000.</i>
Chlorine as Chlorides	...	...	7.45000
Nitrogen as Nitrates	...	...	.0688
Ammonia	...	...	.0024
Albuminoid Ammonia	...	...	.0058
Oxygen Absorption	...	...	.1009
Injurious Mentals	...	...	None
Total solid Matter dried @ 100° C	...	...	47.0000
pH value of Sample	...	...	—
Temporary hardness	9.4 degrees		
Permament hardness	1.8 "		
Colour of sample on Hazen Scale	...	...	10
Appearance of Sample in 2 foot tube	...	...	Not clear.
Odour when heated to 50° C.	...	...	None.

MICROSCOPICAL EXAMINATION.

Large deposit from $\frac{1}{2}$ gallon, consisting of earthy matter, vegetable debris, fungus growths and very many micro-organisms mainly diatoms.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION.

Number of Colonies on Nutrient Agar	
At 37° after 72 hours.	6 per ml.
Number of Colonies on Nutrient Agar	
At 20-22° C. after 72 hours.	12 per ml.
Presumptive B. Coli Test at 37° after 72 hours.	Positive in 20 ml.
Clostridium Welchi Test at 45° in 40 ml.	Negative.

OBSERVATIONS.

Although the sample affords no evidence of pollution by sewage, or other foul drainage when judged both by the chemical analysis and the bacteriological tests, the results of the microscopical examination show that there is a considerable degree of contamination by matter of surface origin, and to remedy this defect the mains in the area should be flushed.

A copy of this was forwarded to the Water Board who took immediate steps to have the water mains in the locality flushed out.

The undermentioned table shows the number of houses in the various parishes where the water supply is obtained by water mains direct to the houses or by means of standpipes and the estimated population so served.

Parish	No. of houses with pipe supply direct to houses	Estimated population obtaining water as aforesaid	No. of houses with stand-pipe supply	Estimated population deriving water from stand-pipe supplies
Bishop Middleham	337	1,200	—	—
Bradbury ...	43	160	8	30
Butterwick ...	—	—	—	—
Chilton ...	1,715	6,340	—	—
Cornforth ...	1,272	4,700	—	—
Elstob ...	6	22	—	—
Embleton ...	1	4	—	—
Ferryhill ...	2,960	10,950	—	—
Fishburn ...	636	2,370	3	12
Foxton and Shotton	—	—	—	—
Mainsforth ...	75	280	—	—
Preston-le-Skerne ...	2	8	—	—
Mordon ...	4	15	—	—
Sedgefield ...	634	2,310 (excluding inmates D.C.M.H.)	2	7
Stillington ...	43	163	—	—
Trimdon ...	1,076	3,981	150	550
Woodham (excluding Aycliffe Approved School ...)	34	127	—	—
Windlestone ...	32	118	6	22

As a result of representations made to property owners 24 houses had water laid into them and arrangements made for a further 16 houses to have water laid in. This is in the Trimdon Parish, where the largest number of standpipes exist, when this is carried out it will mean that only houses already condemned obtain water from standpipes in this parish.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Since January, 1940, all slaughtering of animals intended for human consumption and for sale is carried out in premises occupied by the Ministry of Food, no such slaughterhouses exist in this district. The meat for this area is obtained from a centre in Stockton.

Tinned food, fish, etc., are dealt with in retail shops and canteens the persons in charge co-operate very well in notifying the Sanitary Inspectors of any doubtful food-stuffs, when these are inspected and surrendered.

During the year 126 certificates were issued against 307 stones of food found to be unfit for human consumption.

Visits to shops and food preparing premises were carried out.

In one instance representation was made to the Ministry of Works to enable the owner of a foodshop to acquire a building licence to carry out repair work and improvements to his premises.

Leaflets on food hygiene published by the Central Council for Health Education were sent out to all food shops and food preparing premises in the district.

No case of food poisoning was notified during the year.

Milk Supplies.

At the 31st December, 1948, there were 115 premises entered in the register under the Milk and Dairies Orders for milk production, and 55 persons registered as retail purveyors of milk. Good co-operation is maintained with the milk production staff of the County Agricultural Executive Committee and improvements were carried out on several farms.

The water supply of several farms is a point that requires attention. The scheme as submitted under the Rural Water Supplies and Sewerage Act, when carried out would overcome this.

Three applications were received from farmers to be registered for milk production. After visits accompanied by a representative from the County Agricultural Executive Committee and consideration by the Council the applications were granted.

Accredited milk is produced at 11 farms and Tuberculin Tested at 1 farm within this district. A large quantity of Pasturised Milk was made available for retail sale in this district at the latter part of 1948 by the opening of the Milk Marketing Board's Pasteurising Plant at Langley Bridge and it is hoped that during 1949 all milk retailers will be retailing Pasturised Milk.

Rodent Control.

During the year two complete rounds of maintenance treatment of sewers and sewage works have been carried out, while refuse tips were examined every three months and test baited where necessary, complaints of infestations at 23 areas of houses and other premises have been investigated and the necessary surface treatment carried out.

Sewers.

The total number of manholes on sewers in your area is 1292 and in each treatment it was found necessary to bait 1190 of these, and each manhole is examined four times on every maintenance treatment.

The details are:—

Manholes treated	...	2380
Pre-bait takes	...	511
Poison takes	...	292
Amount of poison taken		331 ozs.
Estimated kill according to Ministry of Food Formula		
827 rats.		

Sewage Works.

The number of baiting points at sewage works for test baiting was 400, pre-bait takes numbered 376, poison bait takes 210, poison taken 297 ozs., and estimated kill 742 rats.

Refuse Tips.

Baiting points on tips numbered 221, pre-bait takes 186, poison bait taken 99, poison taken 160 ozs. and estimated kill 400 rats.

Surface Infestations.

These infestations and treatments were chiefly made as a result of complaints from dwellinghouses and the method of treatment employed was in every case block treatment, so as to include drains and sewers.

In most cases defective drains and gullies were found to be the cause of the infestations and in each case the necessary repairs were carried out.

On these surface infestations 71 ozs. of poison bait was taken, with a resultant estimated kill of 177 rats.

These rats and mice infestations include among other places a Colliery Canteen, and Colliery yard, a Public Institution, an Approved School and buildings near a hospital, while the demolition of old buildings have also been the cause of temporary infestation of surrounding property.

The total quantity of poison bait taken and rats destroyed are as follows:—

	<i>Poison bait taken.</i>	<i>Rats destroyed.</i>
Sewers	331 ozs.	827
Sewage Works	297 „	743
Refuse Tips	160 „	400
Surface Infestations	71 „	177
	<hr/> 859 ozs. <hr/>	<hr/> 2,147 <hr/>

This work has been carried out in accordance with the Directions of the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries, Infestation Branch and to the satisfaction of their Officers.

Private Street Works.

Following an enquiry held at the County Court, Durham, at which your Surveyor and Senior Sanitary Inspector gave evidence the following streets were made up at West Cornforth during the year:—Front West Street, Back Dale and West Streets, Back Front and Bell Streets, Back High Street and Dene Street, Front Dene and Ryhope Streets, Back Ryhope Street, Back High Street and Front Scott Street, Back Station Road and Front Green Street, Cross Street between Front Green and Mechanic Streets and Back Scott Street, Back Green and Mechanic Streets, Front Mechanic Street, Back Mechanic and Grey Streets, Front Grey Street, Back Grey Street, Cross Street leading from Front Mechanic Street to Back Grey Street. One hopes that the making up of these streets is the forerunner of many such sanitary improvements in your district as many unmade streets exist in connection with much more modern property.

Factories Act, 1937.

Particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.
Part 1 of the Act.

Inspections for the purpose of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspect- ions (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occup'rs prosec'd (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	12	30	3	—	1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	2	48	50	—	—	2
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	3	8	16	—	—	3
TOTAL ...		68	96	3	—	

Particulars (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remed- ied (4)	To H.M. In- spectors (5)	By H.M. In- spectors (6)		
Want of cleanliness (S.1.) ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2.)	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable temperature (S.3.)	6	—	—	—	—	—	6
Inadequate ventilation (S.4.) ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective Drainage of floors (S.6.) ...	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.) ...							
(a) Insufficient ...	9	—	—	—	—	—	9
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	10	3	3	—	—	—	10
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ...	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
TOTAL ...	60	3	3	—	—	—	60

M. W. RODGERS, Medical Officer of Health.



