

[Report 1972] / Medical Officer of Health, Sedgefield (Union) R.D.C.

Contributors

Sedgefield (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1972

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/aznu4ctf>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF SEDGEFIELD



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDING

DECEMBER 31st, 1972

Printed by A. Blamire and Son, Printers and Stationers
FERRYHILL



THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF SEDGEFIELD

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDING

DECEMBER 31st, 1972

Printed by A. Blamire and Son, Printers and Stationers
FERRYHILL

THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL
OF SEDGECFIELD



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the

YEAR ENDING

DECEMBER 31st 1932

Printed by A. Blain & Son, Printers and Stationers
SHEFFIELD

<https://archive.org/details/b30076560>

SEDGEFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman of the Council—1972/73:

Councillor J. J. W. WILLIAMS.

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor S. R. HASWELL.

Councillors:

Mrs. F. A. Armstrong.	A. Innes.
Mrs. J. Atkinson.	J. Lee.
J. R. Bailey.	J. D. Mason.
E. Bell.	P. W. McCourt.
A. Birkbeck.	Mrs. M. N. McGowan.
G. E. Bull.	A. Miller.
T. H. Conley.	Miss J. Mowbray (resigned Sept., 1972).
J. B. Cummings.	G. T. H. Pearson.
J. T. Cummings (from December, 1972).	J. Richardson.
J. F. Dent (died Dec., 1972).	Mrs. E. Robinson.
P. Duignan.	Mrs. A. Rowland.
R. Ellis.	T. Shields, B.E.M.
T. Flatman.	W. Slee.
J. G. Gargett.	Dr. E. Sutherland.
N. Gargett.	G. W. Terrans.
A. W. Gregory.	A. E. Tills.
Mrs. M. Gunn.	S. Veitch.
D. Guthrie.	J. Wallis
K. Howard.	J. F. Wilson.
G. S. Hutchinson.	R. D. M. Youngson.
G. K. C. Hutton.	

Public Health Officers and Staff of the Local Authority.

Medical Officer of Health:—

DOROTHY DONALDSON NICHOL, M.B., B.S.,
B.Hy., D.P.H., M.F.C.M. (Joint appointment with
Stockton R.D.C. and Durham C.C.).

Council Offices, Sedgefield, Stockton-on-Tees, Teesside,
TS21 2BP. (Tel. Sedgefield 20555).

Senior Public Health Inspector:—

E. CURRY, M.A.P.H.I., Certified Meat and Food
Inspector.

Public Health Inspectors:—

F. GARDNER, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., Certified Meat
and Food Inspector.

E. M. PETCH, M.A.P.H.I., D.M.A., Certified Meat and
Food Inspector, Certified Smoke Inspector.

Assistant to Public Health Inspectors:—

W. KENNEDY.

Clerks:—

E. A. GALLAGHER.

T. L. WALKER.

COUNCIL OFFICES,
SEDFIELD,
STOCKTON-ON-TEES.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for 1972. The encouraging features are as follows—

The still birth rate has fallen and there have been no deaths from respiratory tuberculosis during the year as against three in the previous year.

There has been an increase of 449 meals in the Meals on Wheels Service and again it was carried out efficiently by all concerned.

Other statistics show the birth rate has been a little lower and the infant mortality rate a little higher.

The local adjusted death rate is higher than the rate for the previous year and so it is for England and Wales. The majority of deaths in the Rural District of Sedfield are caused mainly by heart disease, cerebrovascular disease and cancer (especially lung cancer) in that order. This follows the pattern throughout England and Wales.

The increase shown in infectious disease was mainly due to the outbreak of food poisoning in an old people's home. This was promptly dealt with.

In giving my report I thank the Chairman and members of the Council for all their effective help and assistance, and as you will see from the contents of the report as a whole the efficient hard work carried out by the staff during the year. I also thank other officials both in the Rural District and the County for their co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

D. D. NICHOL,
Medical Officer of Health.

AREA, POPULATION AND PERSONS PER HECTARE

	Area (Hectares)	1961 Population	1971 Population	Increase/ Decrease	Persons per Hectare
Sedgefield R.D.	15,806	36,893	35,019	-1,874	2.22
Civil Parishes—					
Bishop Middleham	845	1,078	1,066	-12	1.26
Bradbury and the Isle	854	172	102	-70	0.12
Butterwick and Oldacres	625	51	40	-11	0.06
Chilton	980	6,242	5,701	-541	5.82
Cornforth	674	4,006	3,515	-491	5.22
Elstob	299	63	31	-32	0.10
Embleton	1,386	80	74	-6	0.05
Ferryhill	887	10,562	10,128	-434	11.42
Fishburn	984	2,853	2,591	-262	2.63
Foxton and Shotton	730	50	26	-24	0.04
Mainsforth	263	229	176	-53	0.67
Mordon	636	138	136	-2	0.21
Preston-le-Skerne	1,084	78	81	+3	0.07
Sedgefield	2,129	4,605	5,337	+732	2.51
Stillington	467	162	154	-8	0.33
Trimdon	1,026	6,052	5,327	-725	5.19
Windlestone	481	184	195	+11	0.41
Woodham	1,458	288	339	+51	0.23

A hectare is equivalent to 2.471 acres.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area: 15,806 Hectares.

Number of Inhabited Houses: 12,173.

Rateable Value: £2,183,301.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate: £20,469.

Main Industries and Employment.

There was no significant change in the industrial situation during the year. The main industries in the district continued to be agriculture, limestone quarrying, general engineering, clothing manufacture and, at the one remaining colliery, coal and coke production; whilst hospital services, public transport and local government authorities provided employment for fairly large numbers of persons. The only notable development in the year has been the Rediffusion factory.

Accurate unemployment statistics are still not available because the district is not coterminous with any particular employment exchange area, it being covered by three separate exchanges, none of which maintains statistical records relating solely to the Sedgefield Rural District.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Sedgefield Rural District			England and Wales (Total)
	Males	Females	Total	
Estimated mid-Year Home Population ...	—	—	34,980	49,028,900
Live Births—				
Total ...	237	232	469	725,405
Legitimate ...	225	209	434	662,907
Illegitimate ...	12	23	35	62,498
Still Births—				
Total ...	1	3	4	8,794
Legitimate ...	1	3	4	7,846
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	948
Total Live and Still Births—				
Total ...	238	235	473	734,199
Legitimate ...	226	212	438	670,753
Illegitimate ...	12	23	35	63,446
Deaths of Infants—				
Under 1 year				
Total ...	3	1	4	12,494
Legitimate ...	3	1	4	11,177
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	1,317
Under 4 weeks				
Total ...	2	—	2	8,373
Legitimate ...	2	—	2	7,503
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	870
Under 1 week				
Total ...	2	—	2	7,142
Legitimate ...	2	—	2	6,365
Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	777
Deaths—all ages—	320	291	611	591,907

	Sedgefield Rural District	England and Wales
Live Birth Rates, etc.—		
Live births per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	13.4	14.8
Area comparability factor	1.11	1.00
Local adjusted rate	14.9	14.8
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	1.01	1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births	7	9
Still Birth Rate—		
Still births per 1,000 total live and still births	8	12
Infant Mortality Rates—		
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	9	17
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	9	17
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births	—	21
Neonatal mortality rate—		
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	4	12
Early neonatal mortality rate—		
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	4	10
Perinatal mortality rate—		
Still births and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and still births	13	22
Death Rates, etc.—all ages—		
Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate)	17.5	12.1
Area comparability factor ... ..	.83	1.00
Local adjusted rate	14.5	12.1
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	1.20	1.00

ANALYSIS OF STATISTICS

The estimated population for 1972 was 34,980 compared with 34,860 in the previous year.

Comparability factors for your district are:

Births 1.11.

Deaths 0.83.

These make allowances for differences in age and sex distribution and the death comparability factor also takes account of the presence of residential institutions. The use of comparability factors makes it possible to compare the crude birth and death rates with those for England and Wales and with similarly adjusted rates for other districts.

Live Births.

The live births numbered 469, a decrease of 33 on the previous year's and making a rate of 13.4 per 1,000 of the population. When adjusted in accordance with the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General, this rate becomes 14.9 which is slightly higher than the similarly adjusted rate for 1971 and the rate for England and Wales for 1972, which were 14.8.

Still Births.

The still births decreased by three on those recorded during the previous year. The total number of still births was four, giving a rate of 8.0. This rate was lower than the rate for England and Wales, which was 12.0.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year.

Infant deaths numbered one more than in 1971 (four as compared with three), and two of these deaths occurred during the first week of life.

CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS—

	Under 4 weeks		4 weeks and under 1 year	
	M	F	M	F
Birth injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	2	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	1	1
	2	—	1	1

Table of rates for certain diseases.

	Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 population)
Deaths, all causes	17.4
Malignant neoplasms, lung and bronchus ...	0.829
All other malignant neoplasms	1.172
Ischaemic heart disease	4.459
Other forms of heart disease	1.0005
Cerebrovascular disease	2.401
Other diseases of circulatory system	0.714
Pneumonia	1.658
Bronchitis and Emphysema	1.0005

The main causes of death were heart disease, malignant neoplasms, cerebrovascular disease, pneumonia, bronchitis and emphysema, and other diseases of the circulatory system in that order.

Heart diseases were responsible for 191 deaths (31.2 per cent.), malignant neoplasms for 70 deaths (11.4 per cent.), cerebrovascular disease for 84 deaths (13.6 per cent.), pneumonia for 58 deaths (9.5 per cent.), bronchitis and emphysema for 35 deaths (5.7 per cent.), and other diseases of the circulatory system for 25 deaths (4.1 per cent.).

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Corrected notifications of infectious diseases received during the year totalled 170 as compared with 80 for 1971. The following table compares the district's rates with those for England and Wales.

					(Rates per 1,000 Population)	
					Sedgefield Rural District	England and Wales
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	3.173	2.971
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	0.085	0.042
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	0.714	0.228
Respiratory Tuberculosis ... ..	...	...	...	...	0.057	0.177
Dysentery ... ..	...	...	...	...	0.028	0.184
Food Poisoning ... ..	...	...	...	...	0.8004	0.111

Ischaemic Heart Disease	...	M	93	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	12	26	40	14
Other forms of Heart Disease	...	F	63	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	8	18	33
Cerebrovascular Disease	...	M	19	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	3	9
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	...	F	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	6	9
Influenza	...	M	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	11	17
Pneumonia	...	F	47	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	8	37
Bronchitis and Emphysema	...	M	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	8
Asthma	...	F	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	12
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	...	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Peptic Ulcer	...	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Appendicitis	...	M	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	4	4
Cirrhosis of Liver	...	F	46	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	12	29
Other Diseases of Digestive System	...	M	28	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6	11	9
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	F	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	5
Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Other diseases, Genito-Urinary System	...	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diseases of Skin, Subcutaneous Tissue	...	M	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	...	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Congenital Anomalies	...	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	...	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Symptoms and Ill-defined Conditions	...	M	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All other Accidents	...	F	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	1	5
Suicide and Self-inflicted Injuries	...	M	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	7
	...	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
TOTAL—ALL CAUSES	...	M	320	2	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	5	25	66	111	101
	...	F	291	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	15	35	70	166

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Infectious disease notifications received during the year were as follows. All were confirmed.

Disease.	At all Ages.		Under 1		1 & 2		3 & 4		5-9		10-14		15-24		25-44		45-64		65 and over.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Measles ...	63	48	3	3	12	9	14	12	30	24	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	—	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	11	14	—	—	1	1	2	2	7	8	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Dysentery ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning ...	5	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	4	4	—	17
TOTALS ...	81	89	3	3	13	11	16	14	37	34	3	2	2	2	2	1	1	4	4	18

Table of Confirmed Cases of Infectious Diseases by Parishes.

PARISH.	Measles.	Whooping Cough	Scarlet Fever.	Respiratory Tuberculosis.	Dysentery.	Food Poisoning	TOTALS
Bishop Middleham	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bradbury	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Butterwick	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chilton	2	—	8	—	—	—	10
Cornforth	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Elstob	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Embleton	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ferryhill	11	3	14	—	—	27	55
Fishburn	3	—	—	—	—	—	3
Foxton and Shotton	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mainsforth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mordon	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Preston-le-Skerne	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Seafeld	56	—	1	1	—	1	59
Stillington	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trimdon	32	—	—	1	1	—	34
Windlestone	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
Woodham	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	111	3	25	2	1	28	170

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1972.

Age Groups	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 Year—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 Years—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 Years—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 Years—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 Years—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 Years—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 Years—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 Years—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
75 Years & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

The number of tuberculosis cases notified during 1972 was two, the same as in 1971.

There were no deaths attributable to respiratory tuberculosis as compared with three in the previous year.

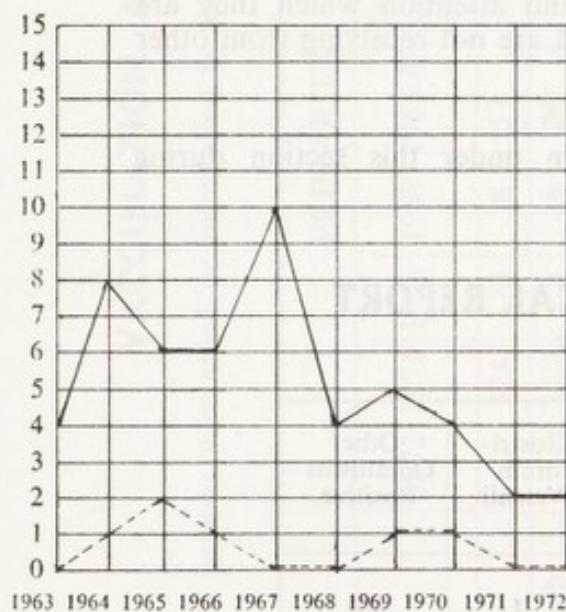
Tuberculosis Mortality Rate.

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Respiratory ...	0.170	0.113	0.028	0.028	0.020	0.086	Nil.
Non-Respiratory	Nil.	Nil.	0.028	0.057	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

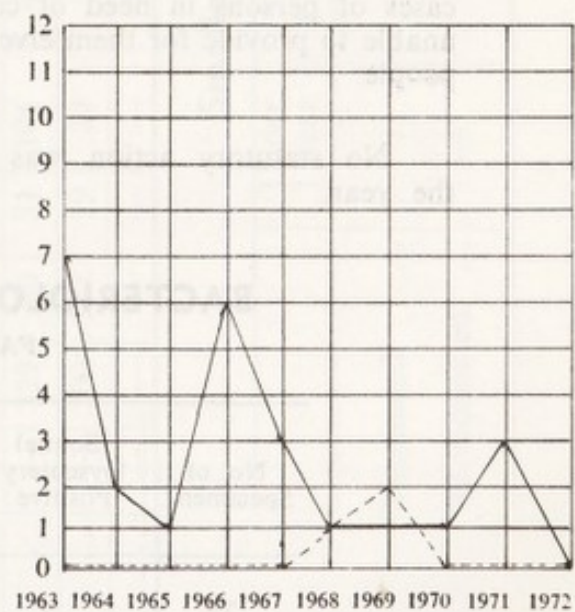
Table and Graphs showing new cases and mortality during the past 10 years.

Year	New Cases				Mortality			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1963	4	—	—	—	6	1	—	—
1964	4	4	1	—	2	—	—	—
1965	5	1	2	—	1	—	—	—
1966	3	3	—	1	5	1	—	—
1967	8	2	—	—	2	2	—	—
1968	2	2	—	—	1	—	1	—
1969	4	1	—	1	1	—	1	1
1970	2	2	1	—	1	—	—	—
1971	1	1	—	—	2	1	—	—
1972	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—

NEW CASES



MORTALITY



RESPIRATORY

—————

NON-RESPIRATORY

FOOD POISONING INCIDENTS AND CASES

Causative Agent	GENERAL OUTBREAKS		FAMILY OUTBREAKS		Sporadic Cases notified or ascertained
	No. of separate outbreaks	No. of cases notified or ascertained	No. of separate outbreaks	No. of cases notified or ascertained	
S. Typhimurium	—	—	—	—	1
Cause Unknown	1	27	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	1	27	—	—	1

National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951

This section gives local authorities power to deal with certain cases of persons in need of care and attention which they are unable to provide for themselves and are not receiving from other people.

No statutory action was taken under this section during the year.

BACTERIOLOGICAL REPORT

FAECES.

No. of Specimens.	(Sonne) Dysentery Positive.	Clostridium Welchii	Other Organisms Positive.
34	2	1	Nil.

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION.

The numbers of persons vaccinated or immunised in the district for which records were received during 1972 are as follows—

Year Group	PRIMARIES							BOOSTERS						
	1972	1971	1970	1969	1965-68	Others under age 16.	Total	1972	1971	1970	1969	1965-68	Others under age 16.	Total
...	—	324	78	28	57	39	526	—	—	2	1	642	5	650
Diphtheria	—	324	78	28	26	—	456	—	—	2	—	7	—	9
Whooping Cough	—	324	78	28	57	72	559	—	—	2	1	646	53	702
Tetanus	—	329	80	31	105	41	586	—	—	2	1	644	5	652
Poliomyelitis	—	200	112	19	20	3	354	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	—	—	—	—	—	33	33	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rubella	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Smallpox.

	Under 1 year	1 year	2-4 years	5-15 yrs.	Total
Vaccinated ...	1	19	5	3	27
Re-vaccinated ...	—	—	—	3	3

MEALS-ON-WHEELS

1972 was the second full year of the Council's extended Meals-on-Wheels Scheme whereby factory prepared meals are stored in deep freezers and supplied from a kitchen in the Health Department. Recipients are supplied with a hot meal comprising main course and sweet on two days weekly at £0.05 per meal. Approximately half of the total cost of this service is met by the Durham County Council. A luncheon club was started at Chilton in the last week of December.

Meals are delivered throughout the district by Council van and by crews of volunteer helpers using their own vehicles.

Deliveries during the year were as follows—

Area	No. of Meals	Delivered by
Fishburn and Trimdon ...	5,903	Council Van
Dean Bank and Ferryhill	6,076	Council Van
Chilton and Chilton Lane	2,442	Volunteer helpers
Cornforth	2,401	Volunteer helpers
Sedgefield and Bishop Middleham ...	3,325	Volunteer helpers
Chilton Luncheon Club ...	52	Council Van
TOTAL ...	20,199	

Health Services administered in your area by the Local Health Authority.

COUNTY MEDICAL OFFICER—

Dr. S. Ludkin, County Hall, Durham (Tel. Durham 64411).

On the 1st January, 1971, the Social Services Department came into being and as from that date responsibility for some of the services listed below passed to the Director of Social Services.

Information on any of the services may be obtained on application to the County Hall.

WELFARE SERVICES

(a) RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION.—Accommodation is provided for persons who by reason of age, infirmity, or other circumstances, are in need of care and attention which is not otherwise available to them. Although new accommodation is steadily being provided all available beds are occupied and there is a waiting list.

The position as regards persons of this district maintained by the County Council in residential hostels in 1972 was as follows:—

Males 29. Females 54

In addition there were 42 persons on the waiting list, 17 males and 25 females.

(b) BLIND PERSONS.—A comprehensive service is provided which includes medical examination, home visiting and teaching, assistance in obtaining suitable employment in workshops or at home, admission to homes for the blind, and general social welfare.

Registered blind persons in this district during 1972 were as follows:—

Males 37. Females 42.

(c) OTHER HANDICAPPED PERSONS.—Certain welfare services are available for persons who are deaf and dumb, partially sighted, or substantially and permanently handicapped by illness, injury or congenital deformity. The numbers of registered persons in these categories from the Sedgfield Rural District are given below:—

	Male	Female
No. of Registered Partially-Sighted Persons ...	15	11
No. of Registered Deaf and Dumb Persons ...	2	5
No. of Registered Deaf with Speech ...	14	15
No. of Registered Hard of Hearing Persons ...	21	13
No. of Registered Handicapped Persons ...	232	191

Domestic Help Service.

Domestic help is provided for households where such help is required owing to the presence of any person who is ill, an expectant mother, lying-in, mentally defective, aged or a child not over school age. A charge is normally made for this service, but in certain circumstances the charge may be reduced or remitted altogether.

No. of home helps employed ...	...	...	197
Cases attended 1st January, 1972	...	...	405
New cases during year	...	...	95
Cases terminated	...	...	76
Cases attended on 31st December, 1972	...	...	424

Number of Cases Provided During Year—

(a) Maternity (including expectant mothers)	...	—
(b) Tuberculosis	...	—
(c) Chronic Sick (including aged and infirm)	...	494
(d) Others	...	6

Nursing Services

Births notified in 1972 are as follows—

HOSPITAL		DOMICILIARY	
Live	Still	Live	Still
446	5	11	0

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

District Nursing Sisters are aligned to Medical Practitioners and the number of patients nursed whose medical practitioner's main surgery is within the area is as follows—

Patients Home	...	...	654
Health Centres	...	...	15
G.P. Premises	...	...	20

Ambulance Service.

The County Council provides a free ambulance service for persons in the area for whom ambulance transport is *necessary*. In an emergency any responsible person may summon an ambulance by telephone by asking to be connected to the nearest ambulance message receiving centre (no telephone number need be given). As a general rule, however, requests for the use of an ambulance should originate from hospitals, doctors, nurses, midwives, dentists or the police. A doctor in attendance may give a patient or a relative a note certifying in advance the need for ambulance transport and this certificate should be posted or taken to the nearest ambulance message receiving centre.

Relatives or friends of out-patients attending hospital for treatment cannot be carried except for some special reason, in which case an application to the County Medical Officer of Health, County Hall, Durham, will be considered sympathetically.

1972			
Fishburn			
Number of journeys undertaken	...	...	6,014
Cases carried (a) stretcher cases	...	...	4,262
(b) sitting cases	...	...	16,408
Mileage covered	...	...	167,345

(It should be noted that these figures include patients from areas other than the rural district and that the conveyance of patients residing in the rural district is not restricted to Fishburn Depot, but may be undertaken by vehicles from other depots passing through the area).

Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care.

Nursing equipment is provided for sick persons at the request of medical practitioners, district nurses, and hospital almoners. Invalid chairs are also available and extra nourishment or bedding can be supplied to patients suffering from tuberculosis.

A sound film projector and a film strip projector are available for the showing of films on health matters to selected audiences and the general public anywhere in the county.

Mental Health Service.

Services are available for children and young adults who are mentally sub-normal. There are training centres to serve certain areas in the county. The address of the mental welfare officer for the Sedgefield area, from whom information on these services may also be obtained is: District Social Services Centre, Newton Aycliffe (Tel. Aycliffe 4466).

No. of persons registered as mentally subnormal	...	149
No. of persons under supervision in their own homes	...	113
No. of persons in hospitals for the mentally subnormal	...	36

Residential Nurseries.

Residential nurseries are available for certain cases and information regarding these may be obtained from the Director of Social Services, County Hall, Durham.

Number of children in Children's Homes, Nurseries and Boarded out as at 31st December, 1972 ...	32
Number of children in Approved Schools as at 31st December, 1972	2

Care of Mothers and Young Children.

(a) CONVALESCENT HOMES. The E.F. Peile Convalescent Home, Shotley Bridge, is controlled by the County Council and admits nursing mothers with their babies and children under five years of age. Limited accommodation is also available in convalescent homes provided by voluntary agencies.

(b) UNMARRIED MOTHERS: Arrangements have been made for the provision of help and advice to unmarried mothers by the staff of the Durham Diocesan Moral Welfare Association. Accommodation is available in the Mother and Baby Home, Fir Tree Grange, Howden-le-Wear, and in Homes administered by voluntary agencies.

(c) MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRES: Maternity and child welfare centres maintained by the County Council and covering your district are as follows:—

<i>Address of Centre.</i>	<i>Sessions.</i>
CHILTON, Health Centre.	Child Welfare Clinic and Ante-Natal Clinic— Wednesday afternoons.

<i>Address of Centre.</i>	<i>Sessions.</i>
<p>COXHOE.</p> <p>Social & Literary Institute. and Village Hall.</p> <p>Tel. Coxhoe 344.</p>	<p>Health Visitor Sessions— 1st Tuesday morning in month.</p> <p>Child Welfare Clinic, Alternate Thursdays.</p> <p>Relaxation Classes— Tuesday afternoons.</p>
<p>FERRYHILL.</p> <p>Market Place.</p>	<p>Friday afternoons— Mothercraft.</p> <p>Child Welfare Clinic— Tuesdays weekly.</p>
<p>FISHBURN.</p> <p>Miners' Welfare Hall.</p>	<p>Child Welfare Clinic— Alternate Monday after- noons.</p>
<p>SEDGEFIELD.</p> <p>County Surveyor's Office, Station Road. Tel. Sedgfield 20221.</p>	<p>Relaxation— Thursday afternoons.</p> <p>Child Welfare Clinic— Alternate Friday mornings.</p> <p>H.V. Sessions— Alternate Friday afternoons.</p>
<p>TRIMDON.</p> <p>Back Peel Avenue, Trimdon Grange.</p>	<p>Ante-Natal Clinic— Alternate Friday afternoons.</p> <p>Child Welfare Clinic— Tuesdays weekly.</p>
<p>BISHOP MIDDLEHAM.</p> <p>Village Hall.</p>	<p>Child Welfare Clinic— Wednesday afternoons Every four weeks.</p>

Vaccination and Immunisation.

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. Facilities are also available for the vaccination of children at maternity and child welfare centres.

Immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and measles may be carried out on application to maternity and child welfare centres or to any general practitioner operating in the National Health Service, free of charge.

Vaccination against poliomyelitis is available to persons between the ages of four months and 40 years together with older persons in certain categories who might come into contact with poliomyelitis cases in the course of their work.

Services administered in your area by the Regional Hospital Board.

Maternity Homes are controlled by the Regional Hospital Board.

Tuberculosis Services.

There are no chest clinics in the Sedgefield Rural District but residents of the area are served by clinics at Hartlepool, Stockton, Darlington and Bishop Auckland as follows:—

Clinic.	Sessions.
Brierton Hospital, Brierton Lane, Hartlepool. Tel. 5555-6.	All cases by appointment only.
Cleveland House, Bowesfield Lane, Stockton-on-Tees. Tel. 64251.	All cases by appointment only.
Memorial Hospital, Hundens Lane Unit, Darlington. Tel. 60100.	All cases by appointment only.
General Hospital, Bp. Auckland. Tel. 4040.	All cases by appointment only.

Treatment of Venereal Disease.

There are no Special Treatment Clinics in the Sedgefield area but consultations may be obtained as shown below:—

Consultations with the Medical Officer at the following times—

MIDDLESBROUGH GENERAL HOSPITAL

Tel. 86631 (Ext. 232).

Monday and Friday	...	...	9-30 — 11-30 a.m.
Wednesday (Male)	...	...	4-30 — 6-30 p.m.
Thursday (Female)	...	...	2-00 — 4-30 p.m.

STOCKTON AND THORNABY HOSPITAL.

Tel. 64127 (Ext. 50).

Tuesday (Females)	...	...	2-00 — 4-00 p.m.
Tuesday (Males)	...	...	4-30 — 6-30 p.m.
Saturday	...	...	9-00 — 10-30 a.m.

HUNDENS HOSPITAL, DARLINGTON.

Tel. 60100 (Ext. 23).

Females—

Wednesday and Friday	...	2-00 — 4-00 p.m.
Monday	4-30 p.m.	

Males—

Tuesday	...	...	10-00 — 12 noon.
Friday	...	...	4-30 — 6-30 p.m.

GENERAL HOSPITAL, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Tel. 66654.

Females—

Monday	2-00 — 4-00 p.m.
--------	-----	-----	------------------

Males—

Thursday	4-30 — 7-00 p.m.
----------	-----	-----	------------------

Intermediate Treatment.

MIDDLESBROUGH

Monday to Friday	...	...	9-00 — 12 noon.
			2-00 — 5-00 p.m.

STOCKTON

Monday to Friday	4-00 — 6-00 p.m.
------------------	-----	-----	------------------

WEST HARTLEPOOL

Monday to Friday	5-00 — 6-00 p.m.
------------------	-----	-----	------------------

DARLINGTON

Mon. (Females), Tues., Thurs.	...	...	2-00 — 4-00 p.m.
Mon., Tues., Thurs.	...	...	4-30 — 6-30 p.m.
Saturday	...	...	9-30 — 11-30 p.m.

General and Maternity Accommodation.

Full consultant service is provided at Sedgefield General Hospital in the following specialities: Gynaecology, Medical, Orthopaedic and Surgical cases. Departments of Pathology and Radiology are also available.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OF THE AREA

During the year 48 new Council Houses and 13 replacement prefabricated Bungalows were completed and occupied. The houses and bungalows are situated as follows—

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>No. of Houses.</i>		
Cornforth	1
Ferryhill	3*
Sedgefield	47
Trimdon	10*

*Replacement Bungalows.

In addition to the above, 151 new private houses were completed and occupied as follows—

<i>Parish.</i>	<i>No. of Houses.</i>		
Cornforth	1
Ferryhill	39
Mordon	1
Sedgefield	109
Trimdon Village	1

Closing and Demolition of Houses.

HOUSING ACT, 1957.

Number of—

(1) undertakings accepted (Section 16)	...	...	Nil
(2) closing orders made (Section 17)	...	...	1
(3) demolition orders made (Section 17)	...	...	5
(4) closing orders made (Section 18)	...	...	Nil
(5) closing orders determined (Section 27)	...	...	Nil
(6) closing orders revoked and demolition orders substituted (Section 28)	...	...	5
(7) houses demolished following demolition orders...	...	...	19
(8) houses removed to make way for other development	...	...	Nil
(9) houses vacated (Closing Orders)	...	...	1
(10) people displaced (a) individuals	...	...	21
(b) families	...	...	6

Clearance Areas

Represented during year—

Number of areas	...	...	...	...	1
Houses unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	9
Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Houses on land acquired under 43 (2)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of people to be displaced (a) individuals	...	...	...	...	9
(b) families	...	...	...	...	3

Action taken during year—

Houses demolished by Local Authorities or Owners—

(a) unfit	...	...	...	...	22
(b) others	...	...	...	...	Nil

Number of people displaced from Clearance Areas only—

(a) individuals	...	...	...	...	35
(b) families	...	...	...	...	10

At the end of the year 39 families (99 persons) were awaiting rehousing from dwellings in clearance areas.

Reconditioning and Repair.

No. of houses made fit during year by procedure under either Housing or Public Health Acts :

(a) As a result of informal action	...	...	...	...	55
(b) By owners as a result of statutory notices	...	...	...	...	Nil
(c) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	Nil

Improvement Grants : Housing Act, 1949, and House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959

Action during 1972—

	No. of separate houses.	
	Discretionary Grants	Standard Grants
Applications submitted to Local Authority...	472	28
Applications rejected by Local Authority ...	6	—
Total number of applications approved since inception of scheme	2,150	440

Improvement Grants

Since the introduction of Standard Grants for improving older houses by the provision of five standard amenities, or such of them as are lacking, 417 houses have been improved with the aid of such grants. Twenty-seven houses improved during the year under review were provided with the following amenities:—

Fixed bath	...	...	5
Shower	...	...	—
Wash-hand basin	...	...	18
Hot water supply	...	...	18
W.C.	...	...	27
Sink	...	...	—

The Council themselves has also taken advantage of the Improvement Grants Scheme and has obtained the Minister's approval for grants to improve Council dwellings which lacked amenities. Five Council dwellings were improved during 1972 with the aid of standard grants.

During the year 128 houses were improved with the aid of discretionary grants.

Living Vans

Twelve sites, each for a single caravan, are licensed under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960, but only four were occupied during the year under review. Informal action was taken against a number of persons for stationing caravans on unauthorised sites.

The County Council has not as yet declared its intentions with regard to the provision of a site for gypsies under Circular 49/68 and the Caravan Sites Act, 1968.

Drainage and Sewage Disposal.

The Council, under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1961, provides a service to all property owners and occupiers for the purpose of clearing, but not repairing or maintaining, all drains. Many choked and blocked drains have been speedily and efficiently cleared without the delays and frustration often encountered previously, and without the threat of recourse to statutory action.

Works of maintenance have been carried out during the year on the various sewage works throughout the area.

Public Cleansing.

The whole of the district, except for certain of the outlying farms and cottages well away from normal routes, was provided with a regular refuse collection service.

Disposal of refuse was by controlled tipping in a disused quarry in the district and during the year six cleansing vehicles were on full-time collection.

Trade refuse was collected on request, for which a fixed charge was made.

Street cleansing is carried out in conjunction with Durham County Council. Sedgefield R.D.C. has taken over the responsibility for periodic emptying of litter bins in lay-byes adjoining classified roads.

Throughout the district all household refuse, which is held to include discarded mattresses, furniture and other bulky household articles, is collected free of charge. In spite of this, unsightly rubbish is still deposited on vacant land and in the hedgerows alongside the country roads.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

Work under this Act has proceeded steadily throughout the year.

Fifteen premises fell short of the requirements of the Act and Regulations made thereunder out of a total of 117 inspections, which included 68 general inspections. Thirty-nine defects were noted in 15 premises.

The following table shows the number of defects which were found and have since been rectified.

Section 4—Cleanliness	...	...	...	8
Section 6—Temperature	...	...	...	2
Section 9—Sanitary accommodation	...	...	...	7
Section 16—Floors, passageways, etc.	...	...	...	8
Section 17—Fencing machinery	...	...	...	4
Section 24—First Aid	...	...	...	4
Others	...	...	...	6

Again one minor accident only has been notified, this was in fact a sprained back due to lifting an empty beer barrel.

Under the Hoists and Lifts Regulations 1968, one notification was received of a defect in a lift (hand operated dumb waiter type). As this was in disuse steps were taken to have it removed.

The number of inspections has declined primarily because all premises have been visited and new businesses do not occur very frequently in this rural area.

Table A.—Registration and General Inspections.

Class of Premises.	Number of Premises newly registered during the year.	Total number of registered premises at end of year.	Number of registered premises receiving one or more general inspections during the year.
Offices	—	39	4
Retail shops	10	146	34
Wholesale shops, warehouses	1	6	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	2	34	9
Fuel storage depots	1	2	2
Total.	14	227	49

Table B.—Number of Visits of all kinds (including General Inspections) to Registered Premises—68.

Table C.—Analysis by Workplace of persons employed in Registered Premises at end of year.

Class of Workplace.	Number of persons employed.
Offices.	170
Retail shops.	460
Wholesale departments, warehouses.	46
Catering establishments open to the public.	188
Canteens.	5
Fuel storage depots.	7
Total	876
Total Males	326
Total Females	550

Part I—Space (Sec. 5 (2))	...	Nil
Part II—Temperature (Sec. 6)	...	Nil
Part III—Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 9)	...	Nil
Part IV—Washing facilities (Sec. 10)	...	Nil

Table E.—Prosecutions. Nil.

Table F.—Staff.

Number of Inspectors appointed under Section 52 (1) or (5) of the Act	...	...	...	...	3
Number of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act	...	...	...	...	Nil

**Summary of Inspections carried out by the Public
Health Inspectors' Department during 1972.**

Atmospheric pollution	...	...	...	...	169
Factories	...	...	...	...	26
Food Premises—					
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	8
Cafes and Snack Bars	...	...	...	...	4
Canteens and Kitchens	...	...	...	...	27
General Dealers	...	...	...	...	63
Others	...	...	...	...	196
Slaughterhouses (mainly meat inspection)	...	...	...	...	1,310
Housing—					
Inspections	...	...	...	...	286
Management	...	...	...	...	3,126
Standard grants	...	...	...	...	108
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act—					
Offices	...	...	...	...	4
Retail Shops	...	...	...	...	31
Wholesale Shops	...	...	...	...	1
Catering Establishments	...	...	...	...	12
Fuel Depots	...	...	...	...	4
Public Health Acts—					
Inspections	...	...	...	...	747
Disinfestations	...	...	...	...	106
Dirty and Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	54
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	89
Drainage	...	...	...	...	63
Living Vans	...	...	...	...	20
Refuse Collection and Disposal	...	...	...	...	123
General Inspection, etc.	...	...	...	...	3,518
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	1,234
TOTAL					11,329

WATER SUPPLIES.

The bulk of the water in this area is supplied by the Durham County Water Board, and the main source is upland surface water. The upland water is treated in plants outside this area. The fluoride content of the water is 0.1 to 0.45.

Part of Stillington Parish is supplied with water by the Tees Valley Water Board, and two households and several cattle troughs only are supplied from the private supply belonging to Windlestone Estates.

Any information with regard to the quality of the water before treatment can be obtained directly from the Durham County Water Board and Tees Valley Water Board.

Until July, 1971, the water supply for Winterton Hospital was drawn from Fishburn Colliery and treated on the site prior to use. From the 28th July, 1971, this practice was discontinued and the whole of the supply for all purposes is now supplied by Durham County Water Board from the Derwent Valley source in an 8-inch main.

Fluoride Content: Natural.

Authority.	Reservoir or tank.	Distribution.	Fluoride in parts per million.	Plumbo Solvent.
Durham County Water Board	Mixed Tunstal and Derwent	Cornforth, Trimdon and Metal Bridge.	0.1	No.
Private	Mill Cottages	Part Rushyford.	0.26	No.
Tees Valley Water Board	Lartington	Part Stillington.	0.2	No.
Durham County Water Board	Derwent	Sedgefield, Chilton, part Rushyford, Ferryhill, Fishburn and Bishop Middleham and remainder of district.	0.45	No.

The following table shows the number of houses and the population served in the various parishes where the water supply is obtained by water mains direct to the houses. No houses obtain their supply from standpipes.

Parish.	No. of houses with direct pipe supply.	Estimated population obtain- ing water as aforesaid.
Bishop Middleham ...	407	1,042
Bradbury ...	44	150
Butterwick ...	16	51
Chilton ...	2,069	5,750
Cornforth ...	1,268	3,210
Elstob ...	12	43
Embleton ...	21	80
Ferryhill ...	3,861	10,380
Fishburn ...	906	2,882
Foxton and Shotton ...	12	40
Mainsforth ...	65	194
Preston-le-Skerne ...	21	78
Mordon ...	49	143
Sedgefield ...	1,578	5,268
Stillington ...	52	162
Trimdon ...	1,861	5,568
Woodham ...	69	285
Windlestone ...	68	201

Typical Analyses of Durham County Water Board water as supplied to this area

SAMPLE No. 1—

Authority ...	Durham County Water Board.
Reservoir or Tank ...	Mixed Tunstal and Derwent.
Distribution ...	Cornforth, Trimdon and Metal Bridge.
Sample ...	Trimdon Colliery.

SAMPLE No. 2—

Authority ...	Durham County Water Board.
Reservoir or Tank ...	Derwent.
Distribution ...	Sedgefield, Chilton, Rushyford, Ferryhill, Fishburn and Bishop Middleham.
Sample ...	Ferryhill.

RESULTS OF ANALYSES

	Sample No. 1	Sample No. 2
Appearance ...	Clear and bright	Clear and bright
Odour ...	Normal	Normal
Taste ...	Normal	Normal
pH Value ...	8.4	9.2
	Parts per million	Parts per million
Total solid matter (dried at 180 degrees C. ...)	115	95
Nitrogen—		
As free and saline ammonia...	0.09	0.04
As albuminoid ammonia ...	0.08	0.02
Organic ...	...	...
As nitrate ...	0.08	0.04
Hardness—		
Temporary ...	25	25
Permanent ...	25	30
Total ...	50	55
Chloride ...	15	16
Sulphate ...	28	28
Alkalinity ...	25	25
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hrs. ...	0.05	0.10
Metals—		
Calcium ...	15	16
Magnesium ...	3	3
Sodium ...	5	5
Potassium ...	2	2
Lead ...	0.07	0.05
Copper ...	0.01	0.01
Iron ...	0.1	0.05
Other Determinations—		
Fluoride ...	Less than 0.6	Less than 0.6

REMARKS

Sample No. 1.

This is a good quality water with the amounts of lead and copper at a very satisfactory low level.

Sample No. 2.

This water is of a high level of chemical purity. The amounts of lead and copper are very low.

Infectious Diseases

During the year 89 visits were made to households in connection with infectious diseases and disinfection was carried out where necessary. Thirty-four faecal specimens were submitted for bacteriological examination and, of these, two were positive shigella sonnei and 1 clostridium welchii.

Verminous Premises

This Council provides a service in disinfestation work using appropriate insecticides.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

In your district there are 168 Food Shops, 42 Public Houses, 12 Clubs, 1 Colliery Canteen, 1 Central Kitchen, 8 School Kitchens, 12 Bakehouses, and 75 premises where food is handled or prepared.

Details of the types of food shops are given in the following table. The majority of the premises are of the house and shop type and are run by the family without outside assistance.

Township.	General Provisions.	Cake Shops & Sweet Shops.	Butchery	Cafes or Snack Bars.	Fish Businesses.	Green-grocery.
Bishop Middleham ...	1	—	1	—	1	—
Chilton ...	11	4	2	—	3	—
Cornforth ...	12	3	2	1	4	—
Ferryhill and Chilton Lane ...	32	13	10	1	8	2
Fishburn ...	7	1	2	1	2	—
Sedgefield ...	5	5	1	4	2	—
Trimdon Colliery ...	5	1	1	—	1	1
Trimdon Grange ...	5	—	—	—	—	—
Trimdon Village ...	8	1	2	—	2	—
Total ...	86	28	21	7	23	3

It is interesting to note the different types of food premises and/or businesses in the district. Basically, all must comply with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970, and the Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966.

The following Codes of Practice have been prepared by various Ministries:—

- No. 1.—Hygiene in the retail meat trade.
- No. 2.—Hygienic transport and handling of meat.
- No. 3.—Hygiene in the retail fish trade.
- No. 4.—Hygienic transport and handling of fish.
- No. 5.—Poultry dressing and packing.
- No. 6.—Hygiene in the bakery trade and industry.
- No. 7.—Hygiene in the operation of coin-operated food vending machines.
Clean food in the hospital.
- No. 8.—Hygiene in the Meat Trades.

Besides the above, various local authorities and large food concerns have published their own food handling and packaging codes.

Types of premises include bakeries and bakehouses, butchers, cafes, cakes and confectionery, canteens, chemists, clubs, fish fryers, fresh fish premises, food vending machines, fruit and vegetables, general dealers, hotel kitchens, ice-cream manufacturers and vendors, institutions and hospitals, market stalls, mobile shops and vans, off-licences, places of entertainment, public houses, race-course, horticultural and other shows, etc., restaurants, school kitchens, school serveries, slaughterhouses, snack bars and sweet shops.

All these premises are concerned with the handling, wrapping, preparation or delivery of food for human consumption and by the special nature of some of the foods require different methods of handling or storage.

Different types of trading have developed over the past few years. Food supermarkets, where all sorts of different types of food are presented for sale in single premises; food vending machines; the vast increase in the sales of poultry, and the increase in meals or snacks available in public houses are but to mention a few. All these have tended to increase the vigilance required by the inspectors to ensure a good wholesome final product.

Meat Inspection

1,220 visits were made to the nine slaughterhouses in the district.

5,011 animals were slaughtered. This figure is slightly less than previous years and due principally to less sheep being slaughtered. There is another impressive drop in fascioliasis in both cattle and sheep. A 100 per cent. inspection was maintained and one carcase was condemned for a relative obscure condition—a fatty degeneration of the muscle.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed and inspected ...	1,059	—	—	2,564	1,388
Number of Carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number of Animals affected with—					
Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—
Fascioliasis					
(liver fluke) ...	76	—	—	8	—
Abscess, liver ...	27	—	—	—	—
„ lungs ...	2	—	—	—	—
Pleurisy ...	3	—	—	3	17
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	14	82

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or part.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.
Number killed ...	1,059	—	—	2,564	1,388	—
Number inspected ...	1,059	—	—	2,564	1,388	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	109	—	—	134	106	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- eases other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	10.29	—	—	5.23	7.64	—
Tuberculosis only.						
Whole carcases condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis.						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Detailed Analysis of Offal condemned for the year 1972.

Organ.		Disease.		Number Affected.	Cwt.	Weight. St.	Lbs.
BOVINE							
Liver	...	Fascioliasis	...	13	1	: 3	: 2
Part Liver	...	"	...	63	3	: 3	: 0
Liver	...	Abscesses	...	5		4	: 4
Part Liver	...	"	...	22	1	: 1	: 6
Lungs	...	Pleurisy	...	4		2	: 12
		Abscesses	...	2		1	: 6
Intestines	...	Pericarditis	...	2		4	: 0
Skirt	...	Abscesses	...	4			8
Heart	...	Pericarditis	...	1			4
PIGS							
Lungs	...	Pneumonia	...	82	1	: 3	: 10
Lungs and Heart	...	Pleurisy	...	17		3	: 9
Lungs and Heart	...	Pericarditis	...	9		1	: 13
Liver	...	Milkspots	...	8		1	: 10
Kidneys	...	Nephritis	...	2			2
SHEEP							
Liver	...	Hepatitis	...	1			2
Liver	...	Fascioliasis	...	8		1	: 2
Lungs	...	Parasitic	...	111		7	: 13
		Pneumonia	...	14		1	: 0
		Pleurisy	...	3			3
Intestines	...	Enteritis	...	1		1	: 0
Kidney	...	Nephritis	...	2			1
TOTAL WEIGHT ...					11	: 3	: 9

No foodstuffs were officially seized although nearly two tons of meat and other foodstuffs were condemned during the year. The quantity of fresh meat condemned was less than last year.

	Tons	Cwts.	St.	Lbs.	Ozs.
Offal ...	—	11	3	9	0
Carcase Meat ...	—	—	—	10	0
Canned Meat ...	—	1	1	9	9
Other Canned Foods ...	—	7	6	7	11
Frozen Foods ...	—	11	5	11	9
Miscellaneous Foods ...	—	3	5	5	12
Fresh Fruit and Vegetables ...	—	—	3	8	0
	1	16	3	5	9

MILK SUPPLIES.

Milk consumed in the area is supplied in sealed containers, principally from pasteurisation plants situated outside the district and, to a lesser degree, from a local farm supplying farm bottled raw Channel Island milk. Some goat milk is being sold in the district.

The Milk Marketing Board and Co-operative Societies and Walkers Dairies, of Darlington, are the suppliers of most of the milk consumed, which is pasteurised or sterilised. The untreated bottled Channel Island milk is from an accredited herd which is registered with the Ministry of Agriculture, who regularly test the herd for brucella abortus and check that the conditions of the registration are being carried out.

Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963

There are no pasteurisation plants in the district.

Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing premises within the district.

Food Hygiene Regulations

There are 326 premises to which the regulations apply.

Atmospheric Pollution.

Five standard deposit gauges are installed within the area, one in a private house garden at Ferryhill, one in the grounds of the Sewage Disposal Works at Cornforth, one at Mainsforth, one at Trimdon and one at Fishburn. The following table shows the monthly average analysis readings for the gauges during 1972:—

	CORNFORTH		FERRYHILL		MAINSFORTH		FISHBURN		TRIMDON	
	Tons per Sq. Mile.	Percent of Total Solids.	Tons per Sq. Mile.	Percent of Total Solids.	Tons per Sq. Mile.	Percent of Total Solids.	Tons per Sq. Mile.	Percent of Total Solids.	Tons per Sq. Mile.	Percent of Total Solids.
Total solids ...	18.85	—	13.90	—	12.54	—	12.90	—	12.38	—
Undissolved solids ...	8.93	47.40	6.65	47.84	5.71	45.53	6.54	50.70	5.81	46.93
Dissolved matter ...	9.91	52.60	7.25	52.16	6.83	54.47	6.36	49.30	6.57	53.07
Ash ...	5.83	30.93	4.73	34.03	3.65	29.11	4.00	3.10	3.29	26.57
Calcium Oxide as Calcium Carbonate	0.90	4.77	0.61	4.39	0.36	2.87	0.15	1.16	0.21	1.70
Magnesium Oxide as Magnesium Carbonate	0.47	2.49	0.33	2.37	0.20	1.59	0.11	0.85	0.16	1.29
Total Fe ...	0.43	2.28	0.56	4.03	0.23	1.83	0.30	2.32	0.45	3.63
Average Monthly Rainfall in inches ...	1.94		1.74		1.94		1.96		1.78	

The results generally are better than usual and considering that this also includes Ferryhill gauge where there was a rather spectacular fall-out of dolomite dust and ash in July caused by a sudden temperature inversion. The works responsible took immediate steps to control the emission, but even by that time the whole of the surrounding countryside to the west was covered with dust. The plant was closed down and then partly opened whilst the atmospheric pressure region remained but, even so, with total solids of 41.61 tons for the month per square mile made up of 22.28 undissolved solids and 19.33 dissolved matter, it was by far the worst fall-out ever suffered in the Sedgfield Rural District.

A volumetric smoke gauge is installed at Sedgefield. The following table shows the average daily readings for each month during 1972.

Month.	SMOKE			SULPHUR DIOXIDE		
	Highest daily concentration mg/m ³	Lowest daily concentration mg/m ³	Average daily concentration mg/m ³	Highest daily concentration mg/m ³	Lowest daily concentration mg/m ³	Average daily concentration mg/m ³
January ...	185	17	81	151	30	67
February ...	154	25	61	74	22	45
March ...	169	11	70	103	22	51
April ...	58	6	20	53	22	36
May ...	59	8	31	75	14	36
June ...	64	5	30	78	14	41
July ...	44	14	25	65	7	25
August ...	48	3	19	67	23	41
September ...	111	9	48	81	27	39
October ...	117	11	65	143	36	58
November ...	145	6	46	71	19	31
December ...	185	17	81	151	30	67

The figures are about the same as 1971, substantially less in the early months of the year but slightly higher in the summer and autumn. I must draw your attention again to the vast difference between the winter and summer readings—this is due entirely to the lessening or discontinuation of domestic fires in the summer time.

NOISE ABATEMENT.

Two complaints were received during the year under the Noise Abatement Act of 1960. Both were connected with noise from adjoining properties.

Smoke Abatement

No. of observations relative to emissions during 1972 ...	158
No. of interviews and visits to plants during 1972 ...	51
No. of visits to deposit gauges during 1972 ...	65

Type of Industries and/or Premises dealt with during 1972—

Coke Works, Dolomite Works and a Hospital.

Smoke Control Areas in being or proposed—

None.

Average monthly total deposits for the Local Authority district during 1972—

<i>Type of Area.</i>	<i>Tons/Sq. Mile Insoluble Matter.</i>
Semi-industrial (Cornforth) ...	8.93
Residential (Ferryhill) ...	6.65
" (Mainsforth) ...	5.71
Semi-industrial (Fishburn) ...	6.54
Residential (Trimdon) ...	5.81

RODENT CONTROL.

The following table gives details of surveys and treatments carried out during the year:—

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Non-Agricultural.	Agricultural.
1. Number of Properties in district ...	14,647	267
2. (a) Total number of Properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification ...	308	41
(b) Number infested by—		
(i) Rats ...	211	33
(ii) Mice ...	65	10
3. (a) Total number of Properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification ...	690	105
(b) Number infested by—		
(i) Rats ...	63	29
(ii) Mice ...	24	8

The principal rodenticide used in the district is Warfarin. This poison is known as an “anticoagulant” because its main action on rodents is to prevent the blood from clotting with the result that rats and mice eating it tend to die of internal and external bleeding. Warfarin, against rats and mice, is used at a concentration at which these rodents are killed only if they feed from the bait for a number of days. With each treatment, therefore, several visits are necessary.

Alphakil is used for the eradication of mice. This poison has the effect of lowering the body temperature which results in death. It is found to be effective and also reduces the number of visits.

All complaints regarding infestations of rats or mice received immediate attention. Routine periodic visits were also made to Council properties, particularly refuse tips and sewage works.

A charge is made to the occupiers of business and agricultural properties at which treatments are undertaken by the Council's rodent operators but infestations in and around dwelling houses are dealt with free of charge.

NOISE ABATEMENT.

Two complaints were received during the year under the Noise Abatement Act of 1960; both were concerned with noise from adjoining properties.

List of By-laws in force in district.

<i>Date made.</i>	<i>Title.</i>
17th February, 1950.	Handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air.
27th July, 1950.	Sale of contraceptives in automatic machines.
5th January, 1951.	Control of Bulls.
16th June, 1952.	Noisy Hawking.
4th December, 1952.	Public Libraries Act, 1901. Section 3.
9th December, 1953.	Deposit of mud and other materials on highways.
1st July, 1954.	Deposit of litter to detriment of public amenities.
1st June, 1955.	Nuisances contrary to public decency. (Parishes of Chilton, Cornforth, Ferryhill, Fishburn, Sedgfield and Trimdon). (Bishop Middleham 1/7/64).
1st June, 1955.	Fouling of footways by dogs. (Parishes of Bishop Middleham, Chilton, Cornforth, Ferryhill, Fishburn, Sedgfield, and Trimdon).
1st March, 1957	Fireworks in Cinemas.
1st August, 1957	Wireless Loudspeakers, Gramophones, etc.
1st March, 1958	Interference with Road Warning Lamps.
1st May, 1961	Unruly behaviour in cinemas and other places of public entertainment.
24th June, 1961	By-laws relating to the sale of Coal.
1st August, 1969	Preservation of road margins laid out for ornamental purposes.

Factories Act, 1961.

Coal mining was the principal industry in the area but now only one mine remains open with coke ovens in the immediate vicinity. In an endeavour to provide employment for redundant miners, several measures have been taken which include the purchase of land for factory development.

Of the factories in the district, the majority are small concerns employing only a few persons.

During the year 48 visits were made to factories chiefly in connection with sanitary accommodation and informal action was necessary to remedy eight defects.

No lists of outworkers as required under Section 133 of the 1961 Factories Act were received during the year.

Premises	Number on Register.	Number of		
		Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	3	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	76	31	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	17	15	—	—
TOTAL ...	96	48	—	—

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. InspectorBy H.M. Inspector		
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 (insufficient lighting) ...	5	8	—	3	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	5	8	—	3	—

D. D. NICHOL, *Medical Officer of Health.*



