STANLEY URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

(Stanley and Tanfield Sections.)

(Durham)

REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1937.

McK—75/6/38.

STANLEY,

March, 1938.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to your Council my report for the year 1937.

This report must of necessity be somewhat complicated as, during the past year, the Stanley Urban District was completely changed and greatly enlarged by the amalgamation with the two neighbouring Urban Districts. Since this change took place in April, 1937, it means that the first three months, for this Report, are under the old conditions, and the last nine months are under the new.

In an attempt to simplify matters, I propose to deal at first with the district as a whole, and later to mention separately the two sections of the area with which I am concerned.

WHOLE DISTRICT. STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	12,658
Population (Estimated mid-1937)	50,830
Number of Inhabited Houses	13,135
Rateable Value	£179,281
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£642

	Males.	Females.	Total
LIVE BIRTHS—			
Legitimate	392	340	732
Illegitimate	14	10	24
	406	350	756
BIRTH RATE : 16.45.			
STILL-BIRTHS—			
Legitimate	22	20	42
Illegitimate....	1	–	1
	23	20	43
RATE (per 1000 total births) 53.81			
DEATHS	319	278	597

CRUDE DEATH-RATE : 12.99 COMPARABLE DEATH-RATE : 15.45.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 Total Births.
Puerperal Sepsis	–	–
Other Puerperal Causes	2	2.50
	2	2.50

Death-rate of Infants under 1 Year of Age.

All infants (per 1000 live births)...	65
Legitimate infants (per 1000 legitimate live births) ...	61
Illegitimate ,, (,, ,, illegitimate ,, ,,) ...	167
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	70
,, ,, Measles (all ages)	1
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil.
,, ,, Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	3

The following Table compares the **Various Rates** for the Stanley Urban District those for the County of Durham, per 1000 population :—

	County.	Stanley.
Birth-rate	16.95	16.45
Death-rate	12.10	12.99
Zymotic Death-rate	0.45	0.41
Scarlet Fever	0.02	0.04
Diphtheria	0.25	0.28
Enteric Fever	0.002	Nil.
Measles	0.03	0.02
Whooping Cough	0.04	Nil.
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	0.11	0.06
,, (over 2 years)	0.04	Nil.
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.57	0.30
Non-Pulmonary ,, ...	0.14	0.15
Bronchitis, Pneumonia and Pleurisy	1.03	1.24
Influenza	0.36	0.32
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 births)	70	65
Maternal Mortality Rate (,, total births) ...	4.65	2.50

Birth-rate, Death-rates and **Analysis of Mortality** during the year 1937, for England and Wales, and the Stanley District.

	England & Wales.	Stanley.
BIRTH-RATE	14.9	16.45
DEATH-RATES :—		
All Causes	12.4	12.99
Enteric Fever	0.00	Nil
Smallpox	Nil	Nil
Measles	0.02	0.02
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.04
Whooping Cough	0.04	Nil
Diphtheria	0.07	0.28
Influenza	0.45	0.32
Violence	0.54	0.63
Under 1 year (per 1000 Births)	58	65
Maternal Mortality (per 1000 Total Births)	3.11	2.50

The next Table gives the **Causes of Death** of Male and Female Residents for the year 1937.

	Males.	Females.
Measles	1	–
Scarlet Fever	1	1
Diphtheria	7	6
Influenza	8	7
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	–
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	–	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	8	6
Other Forms of Tuberculosis	3	4
G.P.I., etc.	3	1
Cancer	40	30
Diabetes	2	3
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc.	24	21
Heart Disease	61	68
Aneurysm	1	–
Other Circulatory Diseases	20	17
Bronchitis	11	15
Pneumonia (all forms)	15	14
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	1
Peptic Ulcer	2	–
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	1	2
Appendicitis	3	–
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	–
Other Liver Diseases	1	4
Other Digestive Diseases	12	3
Nephritis	13	12
Other Puerperal Diseases	–	2
Congenital Causes, etc.	18	11
Senility	16	14
Suicide	3	2
Violence	16	8
Other defined Diseases	22	24
Causes Ill-defined	4	1
	319	278

STANLEY SECTION.

In the above-mentioned part of the district, Coal-mining is the main industry. During the past year this industry was in a more prosperous state, and this prosperity is shown in the payments made by the Public Assistance Committee.

The figures I have received include those for a larger area and a greatly increased population, for the later 9 months of the year, by the addition of Craghead and No Place to this section. So whilst the total may be greater, the amount per head of the population is much less.

In 1937 the payments were :—Ordinary Relief, £39,352 ; Unemployment Relief, £2,429; —a total of £41,781.

For purposes of some comparison I give the totals for the past 10 years :—

1937	£41,781	(increased population.)
1936	£41,131	
1935	£38,460	
1934	£36,508	
1933	£35,746	
1932	£34,658	
1931	£29,312	
1930	£26,735	
1929	£25,688	
1928	£25,612	

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

The good efforts of Stanley and District Nursing Association continued during the year, and the following is a summary of the work done :–

	Cases attended.
Midwifery	228
Maternity	59
Medical	87
Surgical	141
	515

Total Visits paid—10,120. Nurses employed : 1 General, 4 Nurse Midwives.

Hospitals.

During the past year there was no change made in the accommodation provided at the various Hospitals.

Ambulance Facilities

There was no change in 1937.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

The County Council provides a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre at Stanley. It is open on the following days, a member of the County Medical Staff being present on each occasion :—

All day Monday, with Ultra Violet Ray Clinic in the afternoon.

All day Thursday, with Ultra Violet Ray Clinic in the afternoon, and Ante-Natal Clinic on alternate mornings.

A Dental Clinic is held on Thursday morning every 4 weeks.

In 1937 the work done at the Stanley Centre was :—

	Expectant Mothers.	Children under 1 year.	Children 1 to 5 years.	Total.
Number on books	96	127	320	543
Attendances	273	1049	1061	2383
Consultations	272	1045	1058	2375

The South Moor Centre is open all day on alternate Wednesdays ; Ante-Natal Clinic in the afternoon.

The figures for 1937 are :

	Expectant Mothers.	Children under 1 year.	Children 1 to 5 years.	Total.
Number on books	11	66	162	239
Attendances	24	609	525	1158
Consultations	24	609	524	1157

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Your Sanitary Inspector reports to me as follows :—

	Number of Informal Notices.	Number of Formal Notices.	Nuisances abated.
Dwelling Houses :—Foul Conditions	3	–	3
Structural Defects	145	98	163
Overcrowding	2	–	2
Ash-pit Privies	69	20	69
Ashbins	52	–	52
Water Closets	20	11	20
Verminous Premises	2	–	2
Defective Yard Paving	25	25	25
Smoke Nuisances	2	–	2
Drains:– Stopped and Defective	30	20	30
Deposits of Manure	1	–	1
Total	351	174	369

Water.

An adequate supply was maintained during 1937.

SEWERAGE.

New Sewage Disposal Works.

As previously stated, a scheme has been prepared and submitted to the Commissioner for the Special Areas, to deal with the Sewage from North Stanley, South Tanfield and Annfield Plain areas.

The subject is now under the consideration of the Mineral Valuer, who, so far, has not been able to recommend a suitable site, of sufficient stability to warrant the construction of Sewage Disposal Works. Two or three sites are being considered by the Engineers of the Scheme and the Mineral Valuer, and it is expected that a suitable site will be selected at an early date.

Hustledown Sewage Disposal Works.

These works are in good order, and are operating in a satisfactory manner.

Closet Accommodation.

During the year 1 ashpit privy and 48 ash closets were converted into water closets.

The numbers and types of conveniences in use are :-

Water Closets	6137
Ash Closets	696
Ashpit Privies	226
Dry Ashpits	1841
Ash Bins	4043

A scheme for the conversion of the remaining privies into water closets is now being prepared for submission to the Ministry of Health.

Public Cleansing.

After April 1st, under the Review of County Districts, the work of refuse collection by direct labour in the Urban Districts of Stanley and Annfield Plain, and the parish of Urpeth was centralised at Stanley ; the work being done by private contractors in the Urban District of Tanfield and the parish of Craghead. On October 1st the scheme of direct labour was extended to operate over the whole of the new area.

Refuse is collected from 7074 ashpits weekly, 5747 ashbins bi-weekly, and trade refuse from 90 shops bi-weekly, which necessitates a total of 20,075 visits each week.

All house refuse is deposited on several tips in different parts of the area, and these are kept orderly by the burial of all tins and waste matter. Eight S. & D. Freighters and 3 Ford Vehicles are used for the transport of refuse to the tips.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS.

Lodging Houses,

There are no Common Lodging Houses, and no offensive trades are carried on.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 & 1928.

There are no premises in the area in which rag flock is manufactured, used, or sold.

Schools.

It was not necessary to close any of the schools during the year on account of infectious disease.

HOUSING.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year* :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts.) 384

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 950

(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 .... Nil.

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .... Nil.

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 33

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation 145

2. *Remedy of Defects throughout the Year without service of Formal Notices* :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers 139

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year* :—

(a).—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 98

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—

(*a*) By owners.... 98

(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners .... Nil.

(b).—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .... Nil.

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(*a*) By owners .... Nil.

(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners .... Nil.

(c).—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 22

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 20

(d).—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .... Nil.

(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit .... Nil.

4. *Housing Act 1936. Part 4—Overcrowding* :

(a). (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 548

(2) Number of families dwelling therein 548

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein 2729

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .... Nil.

(c). (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year .... Nil.

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases .... Nil.

(d). Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding .... Nil.

(e). Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report .... Nil.

Swimming Baths and Pools.

There are no public baths as yet in the area, but a scheme to build a covered swimming bath on a site at Joicey Square has been prepared and submitted to the Commissioner for Special Areas, with a view to obtaining a grant towards the cost of erection.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

During the year 7 Council houses and 23 private houses were found to be infested with bed bugs. The Council houses were disinfested by the local authority, and the private houses by the occupiers.

The method of disinfestation was by spraying with insecticides, followed by fumigation. Where necessary the infested woodwork—such as picture-rails, and skirting boards—were removed and destroyed. The occupiers were then instructed thoroughly to clean the houses by washing down with soap and water. Frequent inspections were made and advice given to the occupiers until the premises were found to be free from vermin.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

The following were on the register at the end of the year :-

10 Cowkeepers.
34 Dairies.
61 Retail Purveyors of Milk (including 13 from outside the district)
1 Retail Purveyor of Milk (Pasteurised)
2 Producers are licensed to sell Accredited Milk.

All the Dairies and Cowsheds have been frequently inspected. The general hygiene in the byres and dairies reaches a good standard, and a good type of dairy cow is kept. On a number of farms alterations and improvements to the buildings have been carried out.

14 Samples of milk were submitted for bacteriological examination, and were found to be satisfactory.

Meat.

There are 10 licensed slaughter houses in the area. They are all in close proximity to dwelling houses, but are kept very clean. The walls and floors are constructed of impervious material, and are easily cleansed. The drainage is satisfactory.

During the year 1,248 inspections were made of slaughter houses, butcher shops and markets.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	962	12	2288	1456
Number Inspected	962	12	2002	1456
All Diseases except Tuberculosis.				
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	13	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	1.35 p.c.	—	—	—
Tuberculosis Only.				
Whole carcases condemned	4	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	8	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.25 p.c.	—	—	—

In addition 54 stones of Beef, which was unsound (decomposed) were condemned and destroyed.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following Table gives a **Summary of Cases notified**, and compares 1937 with the 9 Preceding Years.

Disease.	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	52
Diphtheria	117	147	131	178	155	60	63	130	114	160
Erysipelas	16	14	17	24	16	19	26	19	19	15
Scarlet Fever	43	47	62	225	372	114	52	98	49	23
Enteric Fever	3	3	7	7	—	3	5	—	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	5	3	6	5	8	8	10	11	10	8
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	2	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	1	7	1	2	7	4	3	5	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	25	13	15	11	19	15	16	16	29	38
Other Tuberculous Diseases	17	13	9	14	19	17	17	28	42	46
Pneumonia	32	27	17	18	37	17	20	13	31	25
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	2	3	1	1	3	—	—	—
Chicken Pox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	49
Dysentery	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	263	268	274	489	629	263	216	320	301	417

(NOTE—The figures in these tables are those for an increased population for 9 months in 1937.)

The next Table gives the **Age Period, etc.**, of cases notified in 1937.

Disease.	Under 1 Year.	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and Over	Total	Hospital
Scarlet Fever....	—	—	—	2	4	15	14	5	2	1	—	—	43	35
Diphtheria	—	1	2	3	5	35	30	13	22	5	1	—	117	117
Enteric Fever... ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	3	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	—	—	5	1
Pneumonia	2	—	1	—	2	2	3	1	9	6	6	—	32	4
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	10	—	16	3
Opthalmia Neonatorum	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	2
												Totals	221	165

TUBERCULOSIS.

	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Male.	Female	Male.	Female	Male.	Female	Male.	Female
Under 1 Year	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
1—5 Years	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
5—15 ,,	4	1	4	4	—	—	—	—
15—25 ,,	4	2	5	—	—	1	—	—
25—35 ,,	3	4	—	—	1	—	—	—
35—45 ,,	3	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
45—55 ,,	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—65 ,,	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and over	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	18	7	10	7	3	1	—	1

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

	CASES.						
		Treated.					
	Notified.	At Home.	In Hospital.	Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired.	Total Blindness.	Deaths.
1	30/8/37	—	Yes	Yes	—	—	—
2	25/10/37	Yes	—	Yes	—	—	—
3	2/11/37	Yes	—	Yes	—	—	—
4	18/11/37	—	Yes	Yes	—	—	—
5	6/12/37	Yes	—	Yes	—	—	—

Diphtheria.

Even though the figures are for a largely increased population for three-quarters of the year the total for 1937 is 30 less than that for the previous year—117 as against 147; in fact it is the smallest number of notifications for the past 5 years.

The disease was present throughout the year, the worst months being January, July, August, September, November and December with 12, 11, 12, 17, 16, and 10 respectively.

In the whole district there were 13 deaths which represented a rate of 0.28 per 1000 population, as compared with 0.25 for the County.

Scarlet Fever.

Again, although there is an increased population, the number of cases reported is 4 less than the previous year, and is the lowest total for the last 9 years.

Over 81% of the patients were removed to Hospital, and in the whole area there were 2 deaths which is equal to a rate of 0 04 per 1000 population.

Enteric Fever.

There were 3 cases notified, the same number as in the previous year.

The first case was reported in January, but proved to be negative. The other 2 cases came from the same house, and were notified in September. In spite of the closest enquiries, the source of infection of the latter 2 could not be traced.

There were no deaths.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

25 Cases were notified which is the highest total for a number of years. There were 14 deaths in the whole area, which represents a rate of 0.30 per 1000 population, as against 0.57 for the County.

All cases of Tuberculosis which died in the area had been notified.

Other Forms of Tuberculosis.

Under this heading the number of notifications increased to 17—as against 13 in the previous year.

The deaths for the whole districts were 7, which gives a rate equal to 0.15, as compared with 0.14 for the County.

Pneumonia.

32 Cases were reported, as against 27 in the previous year.

The deaths from all forms of Pneumonia numbered 29.

4 Patients received Hospital treatment.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Measles.

This disease was rather prevalent in February and March, and again in December.

There was 1 death.

Whooping Cough.

There was no special prevalency at any time during the year.

There were no deaths.

Influenza

Although it did not assume epidemic form, the disease was prevalent during the early part of the year.

There were 15 deaths in the whole district.

Disinfection.

Enquiries were made and houses disinfected as a precaution against the spread of infection after the removal of 162 cases of notified diseases. Disinfection of houses was also done after the removal or death of any case of Tuberculosis or Cancer when so requested.

Laboratory Work.

Under arrangements made between the Durham County Council and the College of Medicine, 194 specimens were sent for bacteriological examination from 5 Enteric Fever, 102 Tuberculosis and 87 Diphtheria suspects. Of this number 6 Tuberculosis and 6 Diphtheria proved to be positive.

An adequate supply of Diphtheria Anti-toxin is kept for distribution to medical practitioners in the area.

No use has been made of the Schick and Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever.

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was taken in 1937.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. Section 62.

No action has been taken during the year.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. Section 66.

No action was taken during 1937.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1937,

for the Urban District of STANLEY (Stanley Section) in the County of Durham,

on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES,

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (4)
Factories ... ... (Including Factory Laundries)	43	—	—
Workshops ... ... (Including Workshop Laundries)	43	—	—
Workplaces ... ... (Other than Outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total ...	86	—	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
*Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—**				
Want of Cleanliness				
Want of Ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of Drainage of Floors				
Other Nuisances				
Sanitary Accommodation { Insufficient				
Sanitary Accommodation { Unsuitable or Defective		Nil.		
Sanitary Accommodation { Not Separate for Sexes ...				
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—				
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bakehouse (s101) ...				
Other Offences ... ... (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921.)				
Total ...				

*Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

Signed,

E. BENSON, D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.
30/3/38.

Factories and Workshops.

Factories		Workshops.	
Boot Repairers	9	Boot Repairers	3
Bakeries	2	Bakeries	8
Gas Works	1	Watch Repairers	3
Joiners, etc.	2	Joiners, etc.	9
Blacksmiths	1	Blacksmiths	3
Printers	2	Saddlers	1
Butchers	13	Plumbers	4
Motor Repairers	5	Tailors	1
Ice Cream Makers	4	Milliners	2
Monumental Works	2	Dressmakers	3
Mineral Water Works	1	Sweet Makers	1
Stocking Knitting	1	Butchers	5
	43		43

These premises were all inspected during the year.

TANFIELD SECTION.

In this part of the district the main industry — coal-mining — was in a more prosperous state, and this is reflected in the payments made by the Public Assistance Committee.

Although there was an increased population for 9 months of the year, the payments made in 1937 show a decrease, the amounts being: Ordinary Relief £8,311, Unemployment Relief £222, a total of £8,533.

For the purposes of a certain comparison the figures for the past 10 years are given :

1937	—	—	£8,533.
1936	—	—	£9,436.
1935	—	—	£9,831.
1934	—	—	£9,150.
1933	—	—	£7,908.
1932	—	—	£7,115.
1931	—	—	£5,794.
1930	—	—	£4,879.
1929	—	—	£5,965.
1928	—	—	£10,017.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

There are 2 Nursing Associations in the area, one for each Ward, and their work for 1937 may be summarised thus :

North Ward.

	Cases attended.	Visits paid.
Midwifery and Maternity...	31	1103
Medical	43	482
Surgical	67	989
	141	2574

2 Queen's Nurses are employed.

South Ward.

Midwifery and Maternity	42	911
Surgical	135	3526
Medical...	81	2138
	258	6575

Nurses employed: 1 Queen's, 1 Maternity.

Hospitals.

The extent of Hospital accommodation remained unchanged during the year.

Ambulance Facilities.

There has been no alteration during 1937.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

There are Maternity and Child Welfare Centres at Burnopfield and Tanfield Lea.

The Burnopfield Centre is open on alternate Fridays, when a member of the County Medical Staff is present.

The following work was done in 1937.

	Expectant Mothers.	Children under 1 year.	Children 1 to 5 years.	Total.
Numbers on Books	30	51	129	210
Attendances	79	533	419	1031
Consultations	79	524	416	1019

At the Tanfield Lea Centre a member of the County Medical Staff attends on alternate Tuesdays. There is an Ante-Natal Clinic in the afternoon every 4 weeks.

This is the work for 1937 :

	Expectant Mothers	Children under 1 year.	Children 1 to 5 years.	Total.
Number on Books.	40	37	142	219
Attendances	108	382	411	901
Consultations	108	382	410	900

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The Sanitary Inspector reports to me as follows :

	Number of Informal Notices.	Number of Formal Notices	Nuisances abated.
Dwelling Houses Structural Defects	108	8	100
Cowsheds	2	—	2
Bakehouses....	1	—	1
Ashpits and Privies	25	—	25
Defective Yard Paving	4	—	4
Drainage Faults	7	—	7
Other Nuisances	5	—	5
	152	8	144

Water Supply.

An adequate supply of water was maintained during the year.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

During the year new sewers have been completed for the northern portion of the Tanfield district. The sewage from this area will eventually be dealt with at sewage disposal works now in course of construction in an adjoining district.

The whole of the sewers in the remaining part of the district are in good condition, and well maintained.

Closet Accommodation.

During the year 6 Ash Closets were converted into Water Closets, 38 Ash Closets and 2 Privy-middens were demolished on acount of demolition orders and alterations to property, also 141 new houses were occupied during the year.

The total of each type of convenience in use is ;

Water Closets	1167
Ash Closets	1276
Privy Middens	84
Portable Bins	688
Ash Pits (where W.C's are provided)	286

Scavenging.

This work is now done by direct labour with motor vehicles.

Shops.

All permanent shops have sufficient sanitary accommodation and means of ventilation. No action was taken.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

No houses were reported as being infested with bed bugs.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS.

Lodging Houses.

There are no Lodging Houses in the area, and no offensive trades are carried on.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928.

There are no premises in the area in which rag flock is manufactured, used, or sold.

HOUSING.

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the Year* :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts.)	108
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	186
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	Nil.
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil.
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	19
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	12

2. *Remedy of Defects throughout the Year without service of Formal Notices* :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	100

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year* :—

(a).—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	8
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(*a*) By owners....	8
(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil.

(b).—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil.
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(*a*) By owners	Nil.
(*b*) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil.

(c).—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	19
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	20

(d).—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil.
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil.

4. *Housing Act 1936. Part 4—Overcrowding* :

(a). (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	219
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	236
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	1258
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	Nil.
(c). (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	46
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	299
(d). Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding....	Nil.
(e). Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report	Nil.

Slum Clearance.

19 demolition orders were made during the year, and 20 houses were demolished. 5 houses at Sheep Hill were made into 3 self-contained houses.

Schools.

One school was sprayed with disinfectants and fumigated after cases of infectious disease. This was done at the request of the Education Authority.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

There were 35 registrations under the Milk and Dairies Orders :

Cowkeepers, Dairymen and Purveyors	23
Dairymen and Purveyors...	2
Cowkeepers	4
Purveyors	6
	35

Frequent inspections were made of the premises, and judging by the reports of samples sent for bacteriological examination, the standard of cleanliness of the milk produced in the area is very satisfactory.

Further improvements have been carried out to the cowsheds and dairies at Tanfield Farm, Ewehurst Head, High Friarside Farm, and Toftgate. Sterilising apparatus has been provided at each place. Samples of the milk proving satisfactory, the producers at these farms were placed on the Accredited Scheme.

Pasteurised Milk is the only Graded Milk sold in the area.

Slaughter Houses.

There are 4 licensed slaughter houses in the area. Regular and intermittent inspections were made of these premises, and they were found to be kept in a clean condition. The animals slaughtered are all of good quality.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	613	—	2033	558
Number Inspected	613	—	1859	558
All Diseases except Tuberculosis.				
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	7	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	1.14 p.c.	—	—	—
Tuberculosis Only.				
Whole carcases condemned	1	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	1.14 p.c.	—	—	—

In addition, English meat is obtained, killed, and dressed outside the area.

The condemned meat, etc., was all voluntarily surrendered and destroyed.

There is no Meat Marking Scheme under Part 8 of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations in force in the area.

Dissemination of Knowledge (Nutrition.)

The Committee of Infant Welfare Centres arranged Health Days. Exhibitions of useful and modern materials for child welfare were shown. Nutritious dishes of food were shown, and the methods of cooking these were explained.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following table gives a summary of cases notified, and compares 1937 with the 9 preceding years : —

Disease	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928
Smallpox	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Diphtheria	68	51	103	83	47	19	38	33	21	23
Erysipelas	4	7	10	9	11	7	14	5	9	10
Scarlet Fever	53	80	72	138	112	26	24	24	12	30
Enteric Fever	—	—	8	2	—	1	1	—	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum....	2	2	2	—	2	4	2	4	—	2
Puerperal Fever....	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	2	1	3	—	2	—	2	3
Pulmonary Tuberculosis .	3	7	3	6	11	4	6	10	5	21
Other Tuberculous Diseases	7	4	9	8	7	11	12	14	7	20
Pneumonia	17	12	14	18	18	24	15	16	4	9
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	—	—	3	2	2	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
	156	163	223	266	214	98	118	107	63	129

NOTE:—The figures in these tables are those for an increased population for 9 months in 1937.

The next table gives the Age, Period, etc., for cases notified in 1937 .–

Disease.	Under 1 Year	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	15—20	20—35	35—45	45—65	65 and over	Total	Hospital
Scarlet Fever	1	3	3	3	1	23	14	4	1	—	—	—	53	44
Diphtheria	—	1	3	6	4	27	13	4	8	2	—	—	68	68
Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	2
Pneumonia	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	1	2	4	4	1	17	2
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	4	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1
												Total	146	118

TUBERCULOSIS.

	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 Year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
1—5 Years	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
5—15 ,,	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
15—25 ,,	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 ,,	—	1	2	1	—	—	—	—
35—45 ,,	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—
45—55 ,,	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 ,,	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	1	2	4	3	1	—	1	2

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

	Cases			Vision Unimpaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
	Notified	Treated					
		At home	In Hospital				
1	22-3-37	—	Yes	Yes	—	—	—
2	25-6-37	Yes	—	Yes	—	—	—

Diphtheria.

Even when allowance is made for the increase in population, the number of cases reported was larger than in 1936, being 68 as against 51 in the previous year, and 103 in 1935.

The disease was present in each month, the worst months being January, February, July, October, November and December, with 12, 10, 6,7, 8 and 6 cases respectively.

All the patients received Hospital treatment.

Scarlet Fever.

There was a big reduction in the number of cases reported, the figure being the lowest for the past 5 years. There were 53 notifications as compared with 80 in the previous year.

83 per cent of the patients received Hospital treatment.

Erysipelas.

4 cases only were notified, which is the lowest number for the past 10 years.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

2 cases were reported, and one had Hospital treatment.

The vision was not impaired in either case.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

3 cases were notified — 4 less than the previous year.

Other Forms of Tuberculosis.

Under this heading the number of cases notified was 7, being 3 more than in the previous year.

All the cases of Tuberculosis which died in the area had been previously notified.

Pneumonia.

17 cases were reported as against 12 in the previous year. Two patients received Hospital treatment.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Measles.

This disease was rather prevalent in February, March and December, but did not assume epidemic form.

Whooping Cough.

This disease was not specially prevalent at any part of the year. There were no deaths.

Influenza.

There was not any real epidemic of Influenza during 1937, but it was rather prevalent in late January and in February.

PUBLIC HEALTH (Prevention of Tuberculosis) REGULATIONS, 1925.

No action was taken during 1937.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. Section 62.

No action was taken during the past year.

PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1925. Section 66.

No action was taken in 1937.

Disinfection.

122 houses, with bedding, clothing, etc., were disinfected after infectious diseases, and 1 school was disinfected at the request of the Education Authority.

Laboratory Work.

Under arrangements made between the Durham County Council and the College of Medicine, Newcastle, 83 specimens were sent from 26 Tuberculosis, 56 Diphtheria, and 1 Dysentery suspects. Of these 5 of Tuberculosis and 10 of Diphtheria proved to be positive.

An adequate supply of Diphtheria Anti-toxin is kept for distribution to medical practitioners in the area.

So far, no use has been made of the Schick or Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1937,

for the Urban District of STANLEY (Tanfield Section) in the County of Durham,

on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES,

INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS OR INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES.

Premises. (1)	Number of Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (4)
Factories ... ... (Including Factory Laundries)	42	—	—
Workshops ... ... (Including Workshop Laundries)	39	—	—
Workplaces ... ... (Other than Outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total ...	81	—	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects. Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	Number of Offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted. (5)
*Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—**				
Want of Cleanliness				
Want of Ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of Drainage of Floors				
Other Nuisances				
Sanitary Accommodation { Insufficient				
Sanitary Accommodation { Unsuitable or Defective		Nil.		
Sanitary Accommodation { Not Separate for Sexes ...				
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—				
Illegal Occupation of Underground Bakehouse (s101) ...				
Other Offences ... ... (Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921.)				
Total ...				

*Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

Signed,

E. BENSON, D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.
30/3/38.

Factories and Workshops.

The following is a list of these premises in the area :—

	Factories.	Workshops.
Bakers	1	1
Boot Repairers	4	1
Brickworks	1	—
Butchers and Sausage Makers ...	2	—
Blacksmiths	—	3
Garages	2	—
Joiners	—	2
Tailors	—	1
Printing Ink Works	1	—
Saddlers	—	1
	11	9

Frequent inspections were made of these premises, and they were found to be kept in a clean condition. No notices were served.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

E. BENSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

THE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL,

STANLEY.