

sanctioned to date as loans for each of the Poor Law unions in each of the following counties in England and Wales: Northumberland, Durham, West Riding of Yorkshire, Lancashire, Cumberland, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Flintshire, Glamorganshire, Monmouthshire, and Carmarthenshire; and which, if any, of these unions have failed to secure further loans to meet the cost of the extraordinary out-door relief arising out of the coal stoppage?

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN: The following statement shows the total amount of loans and overdrafts authorised since 1st May, 1926, in respect of current expenses for the unions in the counties mentioned:—

County and Union.	Total of loans and current overdrafts sanctioned.
£	
<i>Northumberland.</i>	
Castle Ward	15,000
Morpeth	25,000
Newcastle-upon-Tyne	200,000
Tynemouth	114,000
<i>Durham.</i>	
Auckland	70,000
Chester-le-Street	109,000
Durham	55,000
Easington	35,000
Gateshead	135,000
Hartlepool	10,000
Houghton-le-Spring	63,000
Lanchester	50,000
Sedgefield	15,000
South Shields	30,000
Stockton	Nil.
Sunderland	40,000
<i>Yorks, West Riding.</i>	
Barnsley	65,000
Hemsworth	61,000
Penistone	500
Pontefract	10,000
Sheffield	370,000
Thorne	8,000
Wortley	10,000
<i>Lancashire.</i>	
Barrow-in-Furness	15,000
Prescott	20,000
Salford	Nil.
West Derby	750,000
Wigan	90,000
<i>Cumberland.</i>	
Cockermouth	Nil.
Whitehaven	30,000

County and Union.	Total of loans and current overdrafts sanctioned.
£	
<i>Derbyshire.</i>	
Chesterfield	28,000
<i>Nottinghamshire.</i>	
Basford	30,000
Mansfield	50,000
Nottingham	50,000
Southwell	2,500
Worksop	20,000
<i>Flintshire.</i>	
Hawarden	5,000
<i>Glamorganshire.</i>	
Bridgend and Cowbridge	55,000
Gower	4,000
Merthyr Tydfil	235,000
Neath	40,000
Pontardawe	10,000
Pontypridd	155,000
Swansea	20,000
<i>Monmouthshire.</i>	
Abergavenny	4,800
Bedwelty	210,000
Monmouth	4,000
Newport	50,000
Pontypool	5,000
<i>Carmarthenshire.</i>	
Llanelli	35,000
Total	£3,408,800

There is no case in which borrowing powers necessary to meet the current expenditure on relief have been withheld.

Mr. RENNIE SMITH asked the Minister of Health what allowance is being paid to the dependants of miners by the Penistone Board of Guardians; and whether deductions are being made in respect of any income accruing to the miner, and, if so, what amount?

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN: I am obtaining this information and will communicate with the hon. Member when it is available.

HOUSING.

EAST HAM.

Mr. BARNES asked the Minister of Health the number of houses erected for

sale and for letting purposes in the Borough of East Ham since the War under the various Housing Acts, together with the total amount of the subsidies paid or payable on those built, building, or passed by the council under the

respective Acts; and the number purchased under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act?

Mr. N. CHAMBERLAIN: The figures are as follow:

Act.	Houses Authorised.	Houses Completed.	By Local Authority or Private Enterprise.	State Subsidy paid or payable.
Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919.	36	36	Local Authority ...	No subsidy payable as the estimated annual deficit is covered by the produce of a 1d. rate.
Housing (Additional Powers) Act, 1919.	7	7	Private Enterprise	£1,760 (capital payment).
Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1924.	60	—	Local Authority ...	£540 annually for 40 years.
Housing, etc., Act, 1923	1,273	1,065	Private Enterprise	£7,638 annually for 20 years.

I have no information as to the extent to which the houses provided by private enterprise have been let. The houses built, or in course of erection by the local authority are let, or for letting purposes.

The number of houses in respect of which the town council had made advances under the Small Dwellings Acquisition Act up to the 1st instant was 1,045.

ONE AND TWO-ROOMED TENEMENTS.

Mr. BUCHANAN asked the Minister of Health the number of single apartment and two-apartment houses which have been erected in England since December, 1919?

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN: There is no record of any one-roomed tenements having been approved by my Department during the past six years in connection with State-aided schemes. There may have been instances where local authorities have provided a small number of two-roomed tenements in connection with elum clearance proposals; no statistics are available, but the hon. Member may take it that the number of such tenements is negligible.

COWES AND DISTRICT.

Mr. LAWSON asked the Minister of Health whether the Cowes Urban District Council and the Isle of Wight Rural District Council have yet furnished him with the information that he asked for relating to the housing in Cowes and the

rural district, respectively; and, if not, whether he will require them to do so without further delay?

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN: I will send the hon. Member a statement giving the information asked for with regard to the rural district. I have not yet received a reply from the urban district but I have asked for the reply to be expedited and will communicate with the hon. Member as soon as possible.

PLAYING FIELDS.

Colonel ENGLAND asked the Minister of Health whether he takes at any time, any action to stimulate local authorities who possess statutory powers for the purpose of ensuring the provision of suitable playing fields for their respective communities?

Mr. N. CHAMBERLAIN: The statutory powers in this matter are not confined to particular local authorities, and the policy indicated in the reply given to the hon. Member for Acton (Sir H. Brittain) on the 9th June to which I have previously referred the hon. and gallant Gentleman is applied to local authorities generally.

CONTRIBUTORY PENSIONS ACT.

Mr. T. WILLIAMS asked the Minister of Health if he will circulate to Members