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Contributors

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HEALTH
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ANNUAL REPORT.

Upon the Health and Sanitary Conditions of the

BELFORD RURAL DISTRICT
For the year ending 31st December, 1954

STATISTICS.

- | | |
|--|-----------------|
| 1. Area | - 39,797 acres. |
| 2. Registrar-General's estimate of the Resident Population 1954 (mid-year) | - 5,0 |
| 3. Number of inhabited houses (end of 1954) according to Rate Book | - 1,940 |
| 4. Rateable Value | - £29119 |
| 5. Sum represented by a penny rate | - £110 |

VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Birth Rate</u>
(Legitimate)	71	37	34	14 per 1,000 of estimated resident population.
(Illegitimate)	1	0	1	
	<u>72</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>35</u>	
<u>Still Births</u>	3	1	2	
<u>Deaths</u>	77	39	38	Death Rate 15.3 per 1,000 of estimated resident population.

<u>Deaths from Puerperal Causes</u>	÷ Nil
<u>Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age</u>	- Nil
<u>Death from Cancer.</u> (All ages)	- 12
<u>Death from Measles</u> (All ages)	- Nil
<u>Death from Whooping Cough</u> (All ages)	- Nil
<u>Death from Diarrhoea</u> (under 2 years)	- Nil

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH (part-time)

D.T.McDonald, M.D., Ch.B.(Edin)
South Bank, Belford.

SANITARY INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR.

W.R.Kirk, V.S.I.A.,
Seabank, Seahouses.

ANNALS OF THE

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

VOLUME 1

1911-1912

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THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
CHICAGO, ILL.
1911-1912

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PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASE
DURING 1954.

During the year the Rural District was surprisingly free of notifiable infectious disease, only 22 cases occurred in the area.

Whooping Cough	9	Scarlet Fever	5
Chickenpox	6	Tuberculosis	2

The case of Whooping Cough occurred in the Budle area in September and October and Scarlet Fever cases were notified from Seahouses, Beadnell and Budle during May, June, July and August: the cases were all of a mild character. Influenza was present in the district during March and April. It was mild in type and there were no fatal cases. The disease again appeared in mild form in November and December. Mumps was present among children in the Belford area during October and November.

There were 77 deaths in the District - the same number as last year - The Death Rate being 15.3 per 1,000 which is considerably above the figure for the whole county,

The Chief causes of death in the District were Diseases of the Heart and Blood Vessels - 52, Cancer - 12, Respiratory Diseases -7.

The ages at Death were as follows.

under 10	-	20	-	30	-	40	-	50	-	60	-	70	-	80	-	90	-	100 years
Nil		2		Nil		3		6		9		26		23		8		Nil

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supplies.

The Council owned supplies to the Townships of Belford, Seahouses, and Beadnell and the privately owned supply to Barmburgh were fairly satisfactory. The usual difficulties in maintaining a full supply during the summer months were experienced, but no serious shortage occurred.

At Belford the 'Red Spring' was kept in reserve which necessitated considerable use of the Borehole Pump to make up the demand. This frequent and prolonged use of the Borehole Supply is in my opinion undesirable as the pump is unsuitable for more than emergency use.

At Seahouses the demand created by the peak influx of visitors in July and August was such that the Borehole Pump there had to be brought into use.

At Beadnell the supply there was only fair, due to the 4" main being used to bypass water to Seahouses apart from feeding the Hotels. The remainder of the village had to be served by the old 3" main which was not in itself sufficient to meet the draw at the time of maximum demand. To overcome this it would require a 4" or preferably a 5" main to be laid between the reservoir and the village with a new 3" main to the Harbour to form a 'loop' with the existing main.

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Bamburgh Supply

My forecast that the Bamburgh Supply would be taken over in the Autumn proved to be optimistic, and it was not until December when the purchase was completed to take effect from the 11th. November. Arrangements were then made to build the cascading tank required to bring the water to the Minister's standard.

Warenton Dene Supply.

Agreement has been reached with the owners on the terms of the lease under which this supply is to be taken, in particular, on the Council's demand that it should run for 60 years.

County Water Scheme.

The County Council announced that they proposed to carry out a scheme which could provide sufficient water to meet the needs of the District and invited the Council to participate. The Council decided that, having regard to the District Scheme prepared by their Consultants they had enough water from local sources to meet the likely need for the foreseeable future.

It was later decided that the door should not be closed on the County Scheme and that further information should be sought particularly on the question of cost.

Water is supplied from the Council's mains to houses in the following parishes:-

PARISH.	Piped into house.	By Stand-pipe.	Total No. of houses.
North Sunderland.	575	66	641
Belford.	323.	2	325
Beadnell.	161	16	177
Chathill.	17	-	17
Ellingham.	30	3	33
Fleetham.	12	5	17
Swinhoe.	11	9	20
Adderstone.	14	-	14
Lucker.	22	11	33
Bradford.	-	1	1
Glororum.	4	2	6
Bamburgh.	148	18	166
Totals.	1317	133	1450.

SEWERAGE & SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Beadnell. The Minister having approved of the Scheme in principle the Council went to tender and that of Messrs Mc.Laren & Co.(Belford) Ltd. in the sum of £15,110.18.0. was accepted. The work is to start in the new year. It is to me particularly gratifying that the outfall West of Little Rock was approved as this effects a saving of some £4,000.

North Sunderland. The laying of a Storm Water Sewer to relieve Flooding near the School was agreed with the County Council who would bear $\frac{3}{4}$ of the cost and carry out the work estimated at £1,600. This sewer a 12" was under construction at the end of the year.

The preparation of the scheme to resewer the old village and to do away with the offensive outfall into the Annstead Burn was completed and forwarded with the Council's approval to the Minister and the County Council.



Belford. Samples of the effluent from the sewage works taken by the Pollution Officer to the Rivers Board proved to be unsatisfactory. Though faulty operation can be excluded, the chief reason for this failure is that the works are inadequate to deal with the rate of flow. The design was based on 20 gallons per head per day and was to be a separate system. When the old drains were connected to the sewer it was not possible without complete relaying to exclude all roof and yard drainage. Further, tests show that during the dead period through the night that the rate of flow is then in the vicinity of the capacity of the works.

FOOD PREMISES.

The number of shops and other premises where food is sold or prepared within the District are as follows:-

Butchers	...	...	6
Bakers (with Bakeries attached)			6
Grocers & General Dealers	...		18
Greengrocers	...	...	4
Confectioners	...	...	9
Fishmongers	...	...	1
do. (with vans only)	...		3
Fish & Chip Shops.	...		4
Cafes.	...	...	5
Hotels.	...	...	17
Boarding Houses (5 or more beds)			6
Public Houses (excluding licensed hotels)	...		8

Of these

- 6 Butcher's Shops.
- 4 Fish & Chip Shops.
- 2 Icecream Manufacturer Retailers.
- 11 Retailers only of pre-packed ice-cream

are registered under Sec. 14 of the Food & Drugs Act.

There is one Dairy registered under the Milk & Dairies Regulations 1949.

30 inspections of Registered premises were made during the year. Complaints of deficient standard of cleanliness were dealt with informally and remedied.

During the year the following items of food were surrendered and condemned:-

- 192 Stones Beef (home-killed)
- 31 Tins of canned goods.

No special examination of a stock or of a consignment of food has been necessary.

Public Cleansing.

The Council's Scavenging service remains confined to the four main Villages of Belford, Bamburgh, Seahouses and Beadnell with in addition the two small parishes of Bamburgh Castle and Monkhouse.

The number of houses scavenged is now 1134, which is an increase of more than 19% since the service commenced. The total number of inhabited houses being 1940, and it is still not as yet a practicable proposition to acquire a second vehicle and scavenge the whole District though this goal is becoming ever nearer.

Rodent Control.

The joint employment of a Rodent Operator with Norham & Islandshires R.D.C. continues to work satisfactorily.

During the year, 10 Council properties, 1930 dwelling houses, 76 Agricultural Holdings and 138 other premises were inspected, a total of 2154. Treatments were carried out to 5 Council properties, 75 dwelling houses (a free service), 11 Agricultural holdings, and 6 other business premises.

Public Conveniences.

The Conveniences at Seahouses and Belford and the new one at Bamburgh were put to good service, and it is pleasing to report that there was little damage done at Seahouses. The Bamburgh convenience proved its worth and was a great asset to the Village. The receipts were disappointingly small, and it is obvious that an attendant is badly needed though no applicants for the position could be found.

HOUSING.

During the year 14 houses were erected by the Council and 13 by private persons.

The Council now own 236 houses of which 76 were erected pre-war.

Housing Acts, 1949 and 1954.

During the year applications for improvement grants in respect of 24 houses were submitted, of which 23 were approved and improvement works have been completed in 31 houses.

It is to be regretted that owners are not making better use of these grants. The majority are still owners of farm property. This is being forced upon them as a necessity to attract labour to the farms.

63 applications for consent under the Town and Country Planning Acts were submitted, and of these 5 were refused. Appeals were made to the Minister against 3 of the refusals and all were allowed conditionally.

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MEAT INSPECTION.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed (if known)	173	1	3	388	78
Number inspected	151	1	3	329	70
All diseases except Tuberculosis					
Whole carcasses condemned		1		1	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	72		1	26	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	47.7	100	33	8.2	3
Tuberculosis only.					
Whole carcasses condemned	1				
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	3				
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	2.7				

H O U S I N G .

Tabular Statement for Year 1954.

NEW HOUSES COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR.	WITH STATE ASSISTANCE		UNAIDED	TOTAL
(a) By Local Authority	14	-	-	14
(b) By any other Housing Authority-		-	-	-
(c) By private persons.	2	11		13

Total Number of Inhabited Houses in District 1940

(1) RURAL HOUSING SURVEY.

Category	Classification	Number
1.	Satisfactory in all respects	905
2.	Minor Defects	234
3.	Requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement	384
4.	Appropriate for reconditioning and <u>included under Category 3.</u>	189
5.	Unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable expense.	93

(2) CLOSING AND DEMOLITION OF HOUSES.

A. Formal Action.

- (1) Number of houses demolished during 1954 as
a result of Clearance Schemes or other
formal action. -
(Number of houses included in above which were
from pre-war confirmed Clearance Areas. -
- (2) Number of houses closed. but not demolished
as a result of formal action. -

Informal Action.

- (1) Number of houses permanently discontinued as
dwellings as a result of informal action and not
included above. 3

(3) RECONDITIONING AND REPAIR

Number of houses made fit during 1954 by procedure under
either Housing or Public Health Acts:

- (a) As a result of informal action. 27
- (b) By owners as a result of statutory notice. -
- (c) By Local Authority in default of owners. -

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4. IMPROVEMENT GRANTS: HOUSING ACT, 1949.

	<u>Number of seperate houses.</u>
(a) Applications submitted to Local Authority during year.	24.
(b) Applications rejected by Local Authority	1.
(c) Applications forwarded to Ministry.	23.
(d) Applications rejected by Ministry.	-
(e) Applications approved.	23
(f) Total number of applications approved in your area since inception of scheme.	52

If any houses, not included in the above table were approved for grant under Hill Farming Act, please state number.

-

Signed.....

Date. 6. 4. 1954.

SUMMARY OF WORK EFFECTED.

		<u>By</u> <u>Informal</u> <u>Action.</u>	<u>By</u> <u>Statutory</u> <u>Notice.</u>	<u>TOTAL.</u>
Sanitary Conveniences.	Privies & Privy Ashpits abolished.	40	-	40
	" " " Repairs.	-	-	-
	Pail-closets abolished.	2	-	2
	Water Closets provided.	46	-	46.
	Number of above for which grant was given, P.H.A., 1936, S.47.	10	-	10.
	Sanitary bins provided.	14	-	14
	" " renewed.	15	-	15
Drainage.	New drains constructed.	27	-	27
	Drains repaired or reconstructed.	29	-	29
	Additional gullies provided.	-	-	-
	Old gullies replaced.	-	-	-
	Scullery sinks provided.	26	-	26
	" waste-pipes repaired.	1	-	1
	" " " trapped.	-	-	-
	Yards repaired or reconstructed	2	-	2
Water Supply.	Sources closed or discontinued	1.	No of houses	- 9
	New service provided.			
	(a) By Local Authority.	16.	No of houses	21
	(b) By Private Owner.	30.	No. of houses.	39
	Number of dwelling-houses supplied by (a) internal tap			1744
	or			
	(b) standpipe.			196

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT: YEAR ENDING 31st. Decr. 1954. (Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.)

HOUSING.	BELFORD RURAL DISTRICT.	No. of Inspections during year.	No. of Defects or Contraventions of Byelaws.	No. of INFORMAL Notices served	Defects remedied by in-formal action	No. of STATUTORY Notices served.	Defects remedied after STATUTORY Notice	Legal Proceedings
	Structural defects (Summary of Sheet 11)	195	182	-	182	-	-	-
	Defective Food-store.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Dampness.	41	38	-	38	-	-	-
	Overcrowding.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	WATER SUPPLY (Insufficient Unsatisfactory)	67	-	-	-	-	-	-
		25	-	-	-	-	-	-
	DRAINAGE (Insufficient Defective)	2	2	-	2	-	-	-
		31	27	-	27	-	-	-
	SANITARY (Insufficient CONVENIENCES) Defective	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		11	9	-	9	-	-	-
	Food Premises.	94	6	-	6	-	-	-
	Shops Acts.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Dairies.	14	1	-	1	-	-	-
	Slaughter Houses.	159	4	-	4	-	-	-
	Tents, Vans etc.	72	6	-	6	-	-	-
	Offensive Trades.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Factories & Workplaces.	85	5	-	5	-	-	-
	Keeping of Animals.	3	2	-	2	-	-	-
	Insanitary Ashpits & Receptacles.	11	5	-	5	-	-	-
	Offensive accumulations	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Smoke Nuisances.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL.	810	287	-	287	-	-	-

