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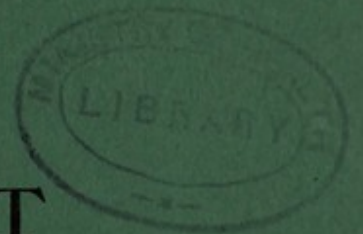
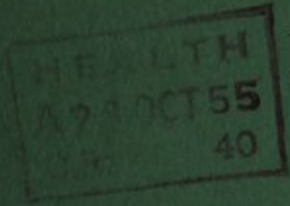
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BLOFIELD & FLEGG  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
for the  
YEAR 1954

G. R. HOLTBY,  
M.D., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., D.I.H.





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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BLOFIELD & FLEGG

Council Offices,  
ACLE,  
Norwich.

To: The Chairman and Members of  
The Blofield & Flegg Rural District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary circumstances of the district for the year 1954. This is the seventh report to be presented since the coming into force of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

A review of the health and vital statistics for the year is very satisfactory. The Registrar General estimated the mid-year population as 31,690 compared with 31,470 for the year 1953, an increase of 220 persons. There were 355 live births and 404 deaths, giving a natural decrease of 49. Thus there was a small movement of people into the district. The crude birth rate is 11.20 per 1,000 of the population and the crude death rate 12.75 per 1,000 of the population. By use of the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General the birth rate becomes 12.43 and the death rate 10.46. The purpose of this factor is to modify local rates to those of a population with an age and sex distribution of England and Wales as a whole. The standard rates for England and Wales are - Birth Rate 15.2 and Death Rate 11.3.

The principal cause of death was cardio-vascular disease and the next most frequent cause was cancer. The birth rate showed a slight fall from that of the previous year. Nine children died under the age of one year, giving an Infant Mortality Rate of 25.35 compared with 25.5 for England and Wales. This last figure is the lowest it has been and although work still requires to be done to bring it down even further, research is now needed, and is taking place, in the diseases affecting the other end of life, often spoken of as the degenerative diseases, for although more people are living to an age of 65 this does not mean that old people are living much longer. Apart from the diseases of old people much work will have to be done as their percentage in the population increases, into lengthening their productive life in the community. The establishment of Old People's Clubs does much to take the loneliness from old age and the work of the Welfare Officers in this direction and in many others connected with the elderly is to be commended.

During the year 490 cases of Measles were notified. This is a considerable increase on last year but this was to be expected, as a high incidence of Measles is a bi-ennial occurrence. One case of Measles resulted in death.



There were 194 cases of Whooping Cough. It is to be hoped that as the immunisation of young children against this disease progresses the number of cases or, at any rate, the number of serious cases will diminish. There was one case of Diphtheria during the year. This is now a rare disease but only because of the intensive immunisation campaign of the last few years. Any relaxation of the programme may well lead to further cases and I have stressed in the body of the report the necessity of early immunisation against this disease and Whooping Cough. Vaccination against Smallpox is another subject to which attention is drawn in the section dealing with Infectious Diseases.

Accidents in the home increase each year, young children and old people being particularly liable to them. Care requires to be continually devoted to trying to eliminate causes and to encouraging tidiness in the home.

The importance of the fundamental factors of environmental hygiene, namely safe drinking water, swift and sanitary disposal of excreta, good housing and safe food supplies, is very obvious in a rural community such as this. The efforts to achieve progress in these directions are described in the body of the Report.

Disease from food and drink still occurs and it is food which frequently appears sound which is the most dangerous because it has been handled by people who have disobeyed the principles of food hygiene whether wittingly or unwittingly. It is necessary, therefore, both to carry out education as to the correct methods and to see that they are complied with.

Under the Milk (Special Designations) Specified Areas Order it will become illegal to sell milk in the area other than Tuberculin tested, Pasteurised or Sterilised Milk. It should be remembered, however, that danger is still present when people drink raw milk from their own cows or supply it to friends or employees.

While notified cases of Tuberculosis show little decrease in recent years in this country, nevertheless a substantial decline in mortality from the disease has occurred. It is possible that a more thorough follow-up of contacts and a more extensive use of Mass Radiography may account for the sustained level of notifications.

In conclusion, I should like once more to express my appreciation of the kindness shown to me by the members of the Public Health Committee and also of the enthusiastic help and efficient work carried out by the Sanitary and clerical staff throughout the year,

I have the honour to remain,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

G.R. HOLTEY.



SECTION A  
NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area - (in acres) 74,645. There are 33 parishes within the area which has its administrative centre at Acle. The major portion of the District is rural in character, Agriculture and Dairy Farming being the main industry. The District is a very popular Summer resort catering for many thousands of visitors during the holiday season; it includes a large area of the Broads and many miles of pleasant inland waterways. Some of the best beaches in the Country are to be found on its eight miles of coastline which extends from the boundary of Great Yarmouth northwards to Horsey.

## POPULATION.

The Registrar General has estimated the population for the mid year 1954 as 31,690 giving a population density of .42 per acre.

## NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES.

The Rate Book gives the number of inhabited houses in the District as 11,241 having a Rateable Value of £145,062, the estimated net produce of a 1d. Rate being £580.

## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

Area in acres .. .. .	74,645
Population (Registrar-General's mid-June estimate) ..	31,690
No. of Inhabited Houses (1954) according to Ratebook ..	11,241
Rateable Value .. .. .	£145,062
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (Estimate) .. ..	£ 580



# LIVE BIRTHS -

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	331	177	154
Illegitimate	24	13	11
	<u>355</u>	<u>190</u>	<u>165</u>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated Resident Population -

Blofield & Flegg R.D.	Crude Birth Rate	11.20
	Standard Birth Rate	12.43
England and Wales	" " "	15. 2

# STILL BIRTHS -

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	8	7	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>8</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births

Blofield & Flegg	22.04
England and Wales	23. 5

DEATHS (all causes) Total  
404

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident Population:

Blofield & Flegg R.D.	Crude Death Rate	12.75
	Standard Death Rate	10.46
England and Wales	" " "	11. 3

# INFANT MORTALITY - (Death of Infants under One Year)

	Total	Male	Female
Legitimate	9	5	4
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>9</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>

Infant Mortality per 1,000 Live Births -

Blofield & Flegg R.D.	25.35
England and Wales	25. 5

# DEATHS FROM SPECIAL DISEASES -

Measles (all ages)	1
Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
Enteritis (under 2 years of age)	3
Cancer (all ages)	61
Tuberculosis (all ages)	6

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL  
MORTALITY AND CASE-RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES  
IN THE YEAR 1954.

	England and Wales.	160 County Boroughs and Great Towns.	160 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000-50,000 at 1951 Census)	Blofield and Flegg (Crude Rates)
	<u>Rates per 1,000 Home Population.</u>			
<u>Births:</u>				
Live Births	15.2	15.2	14.9	11.20
Still Births	23.5(a)	23.3(a)	24.0(a)	22.04(a)
<u>Deaths:</u>				
All Causes (excluding Still-Births)	11.3	11.1	11.3	12.75
Malignant neoplasm lung, bronchus	0.37	0.43	0.34	0.28
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis (all forms)	0.18	0.20	0.18	0.19
Influenza	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03
Acute Poliomyelitis	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pneumonia	0.41	0.45	0.41	0.57
Coronary disease, angina pectoris	1.51	1.52	1.52	1.67
	<u>Rates per 1,000 Live Births.</u>			
<u>Deaths:</u>				
All causes under 1 year	25.5(b)	25.2(b)	26.6(b)	25.35(b)
Enteritis and Diarrhoea under 2 years	0.8	0.9	0.5	0.00

(a) Per 1,000 Total (Live and Still) Births

(b) Per 1,000 related Live Births



# MATERNAL MORTALITY.

	Number of Deaths		Rates per 1,000 total live and still births		Rates per million women aged 15-44.	
	England & Wales.	Blofield & Flegg R.D.	England & Wales.	Blofield & Flegg R.D.	England & Wales.	Blofield & Flegg R.D.
Maternal causes, excluding abortion	X 402	-	0.58	0.00	43.53	0.00
Due to abortion	76	-	0.11	0.00	8.23	0.00
Total maternal mortality	478	-	0.69	0.00	51.75	0.00

+ Provisional figures

X Including 34 deaths where the interval between the maternal condition and death was stated to exceed 12 months

INDIVIDUAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Male	Female	Total
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	4	1	5
2. Tuberculosis, other	1	-	1
3. Syphilitic disease	-	1	1
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	1	1
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	-	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	2	4
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	5	4	9
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	4	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	4	4
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	15	24	39
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	-	1	1
16. Diabetes	-	5	5
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	27	33	60
18. Coronary disease, angina	30	23	53
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	13	15
20. Other heart disease	21	41	62
21. Other circulatory disease	8	5	13
22. Influenza	-	1	1
23. Pneumonia	7	11	18
24. Bronchitis	9	7	16
25. Other disease of respiratory system	1	1	2
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	4	2	6
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	1	3
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	-	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	4	4	8
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	23	33	56
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	2	3
34. All other accidents	3	3	6
35. Suicide	2	1	3
36. Homicide and operations of war	1	-	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>176</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>404</b>



NOTIFICATIONS OF DEATHS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR 1954.  
(According to Age Groups)

	Male	Female	Total
Under 1 year	5	4	9
1 and under 5	2	3	5
5 " " 10	2	1	3
10 " " 20	-	1	1
20 " " 30	1	2	3
30 " " 40	4	3	7
40 " " 50	3	8	11
50 " " 60	15	22	37
60 " " 70	33	41	74
70 " " 80	71	57	128
80 " " 90	36	68	104
90 " " 100	5	16	21
100 and over	-	1	1
TOTAL	177	227	404

# INFANT MORTALITY (Under One Year)

Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
Broncho Pneumonia.	-	1	1
Prematurity	1	1	2
Asphyxia	1	-	1
Empyema	1	-	1
Congenital malformations	2	2	4
	5	4	9

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT FOR 1954 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.  
COMPARATIVE TABLE WITH ENGLAND AND WALES FOR THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
<u>Live Birth Rate (per 1000 pop.)</u> (Crude Birth Rate)					
Blofield & Flegg R.D.	13.83	12.50	11.07	13.22	11.20
England & Wales	15.8	15.5	15.3	15.5	15.2
<u>Still Birth Rate (per 1000</u> <u>total births)</u>					
Blofield & Flegg R.D.	15.63	31.78	23.87	14.22	22.04
<u>Crude Death Rate (per 1000 pop.)</u>					
Blofield & Flegg R.D.	9.45	11.71	11.13	12.71	12.75
England & Wales	11.6	12.5	11.3	11.4	11.3
<u>Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000</u> <u>live births)</u>					
Blofield & Flegg R.D.	18.14	25.25	19.02	16.83	25.35
England & Wales	29.8	29.6	27.6	26.8	25.5



SECTION B  
GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICES

Blofield and Flegg Rural District is included with Smallburgh Rural District and North Walsham Urban District to form No. 1 Area of the Norfolk County Council, for the purpose of carrying out the duties for which the County Health Authority has accepted responsibility under the National Health Service Act. These include the Care of Mothers and Young Children, Midwifery Service, Home Nursing Service, Vaccination and Immunisation, Prevention of Illness Care and After Care, Domestic Help Service and Mental Health Service. Some of these services along with the School Health Service in the area are the responsibility of the Area Medical Officer who also acts as Medical Officer of Health of the three County Districts comprising Area No. 1, referred to above. There are two Health Visitors and eleven District Nurses with centres at the following places:-

Acle	Methodist Chapel	Last Tuesday each month
Blofield.	Margaret Harker Hall	Last Thursday each month
Caister	Parish Hall	Last Wednesday each month
Cantley	Village Hall	Third Tuesday each month
Fleggburgh	Village Hall	First Friday each month
Halvergate	Church Room	Second Friday each month
Lingwood	Reading Room	Third Thursday each month
Martham	Church Room	First Wednesday each month
Ormesby	Church Hall	Second Friday each month
Reedham	Church Hall	First Thursday each month
Runham	Methodist Chapel	First Tuesday each month
South Walsham	Village Hall	Second Tuesday each month
Thorpe (1)	The Roxley	Last Monday each month
Thorpe (2)	St. John Ambulance Brigade Hut St. Williams Way.	Second Wednesday each month
Winterton	Church Hall	Last Friday each month

A Doctor attends all Clinics where there is an attendance of 25 or over.

Other Treatment Centres.

Treatment centres are established as follows:-

	<u>Local Health Office,</u> <u>Aspland Road, Norwich</u>	<u>Thorpe (H.A.)</u> <u>C.P.School</u>	<u>Acle Metho-</u> <u>dist Chapel</u>
Child Guidance Clinics	1	-	-
Dental Clinics	5	2	-
Minor Ailments Clinic	-	1	-
Speech Clinic	4	1	1

All sessions are weekly, except the Minor Ailments Clinic which is held monthly.

✕ N.B. Speech Therapist also pays weekly visits to Hemsby and St. Williams Thorpe C.P. Schools.



### General Welfare.

General Welfare services under the National Health Services Act, 1946, are administered in the district by the Local Welfare Officers of the County Council. These services include the provision of Home Helps in cases of old age, sickness and maternity etc., and it was possible to provide Home Helps in almost every parish of the district for necessitous cases.

Old People's Clubs have been established in the majority of parishes in the district and there is no doubt that even an occasional afternoon meeting takes a great deal of monotony and loneliness out of old age.

The Local Welfare Officers have a contact point at Caister-on-Sea for the convenience of the public in that area and have acted in close co-operation with the Public Health and Housing Departments of the Council.

### Ambulance Service.

This service is operated by the St. John Ambulance Brigade and British Red Cross Society as Agents of the County Council.

### Vaccination and Immunisation.

This service is also the responsibility of the County Health Authority and is carried out by General Practitioners and by Assistant County Medical Officers.

### Laboratory Facilities.

Facilities for Laboratory investigation are to be had at the Public Health Laboratory, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich, who are the suppliers of lymph for vaccination.

National Assistance (1948) Act, Section 47. - Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action was necessary during the year.



SECTION C.  
SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY

Approximately 50 per cent of the population of the area continue to obtain water from shallow wells and bores, and this gives cause for concern. This figure will be considerably reduced when the piped supplies, now in course of construction, are made available. It is gratifying to know that progress continues to be made towards the provision of a mains supply to all parts of the District.

During the year 85 samples of water were taken from shallow wells for Chemical and Bacteriological examination; of these 54 were certified to be unfit for consumption. 125 wells have been found to yield water having a high nitrate content and are, therefore, unfit for infant feeding.

SEWERAGE

A small portion of the parish of Thorpe and the parish of Caister-on-Sea are the only parts of the District provided with sewers, the remainder of the District being without satisfactory provision for the disposal of waste water. A large number of properties drain to small drainage disposal systems, usually consisting of a cesspool, followed by some form of soakaway or pipes to a nearby ditch. In many instances this is a very unsatisfactory arrangement and gives rise to nuisance, either due to the inadequacy of the system or the method employed for emptying.

Considerable progress is being made towards the installation of the sewerage system for the parish of Thorpe St. Andrew, but it is regretted that further progress is not being made in connection with the provision of sewerage schemes for the larger of the Parishes and in particular the Coastal Area where there is, during the summer months, a very heavy influx of visitors.

The greater use of water when the piped supplies are brought into use will increase to an even greater extent the necessity for sewerage schemes.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE AND SEWAGE

A once-weekly collection of wet refuse from pail closets is made in all parishes except Thorpe St. Andrew and Caister-on-Sea. These two parishes as already mentioned are provided with or will be provided with mains drainage.

A once weekly collection of household refuse is made from the parishes of Thorpe St. Andrew, Martham, Caister-on-Sea, Hemsby and Gt. Ormesby and a once fortnightly collection from the remainder.

During the summer months frequent collections are made from points along the banks of the rivers and broads. This system needs to be extended and improved and members of interested bodies are co-operating for this purpose.



During the year 26 men were employed in connection with the refuse collection services and the vehicles in use were:-

6 - ten cub. yd. side loading refuse vehicles, and

4 - five hundred gallon wet refuse tankers.

3,133 loads of dry refuse and 1955 loads of wet refuse were collected. Disposal of refuse was made at tips situated at Buckenham, Rollesby, Runham, Hemsby and Caister-on-Sea, and from the parish of Thorpe disposal is by means of incineration. Occasional fires at the tips started by unknown persons have caused considerable difficulty and nuisance and in this connection some mechanical means of consolidating and covering the tips is urgently required.

There is a reluctance on the part of farmers to accept wet refuse (night-soil) as manure and but for the co-operation of two farmers (one at each end of the District) this would indeed be a problem. Compounds made of straw bales are prepared by the farmers concerned and all the wet refuse is dealt with in this manner.

Cesspool emptying is carried out on request and the charge for this service during 1954 was £1 per load for the first four loads and thereafter 5/- per load. Throughout the year the two vehicles engaged in connection with this work provided an inadequate service and cesspool installations frequently overflowed for periods of many days. Additional vehicles to enable cesspools to be dealt with more expeditiously are required and the Council during the year considered the purchase of an additional Cesspool Emptier during the next financial year. The use of an increased volume of water following the provision of a mains supply will inevitably increase the demand for this service. During the year 3,932 loads (approximately 2359,200 gallons) of sewage were removed from 1,988 cesspools. Fifty per cent of this liquid was disposed of in the sewers at Thorpe St. Andrew and Caister-on-Sea. The remainder presented a certain amount of difficulty and farmers were reluctant to receive this material on land. Disposal was into one or two disused sandpits which cannot be considered a satisfactory arrangement, but there is no alternative other than costly hauls of many miles to a sewer. The provision of additional sewerage schemes in the larger parishes would help in this respect.

A Depot and Garage has been constructed at Acle and when in use will provide much needed garage accommodation and serve as a centre for running the cleansing services.



## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Two fulltime rodent operatives are employed by the Council. These men provide their own cycles for the use of which a small travelling allowance is paid. One man is engaged in each section of the District and the methods employed are those recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture. During the year 1956 visits were made for the purpose of survey and the destruction of these pests..

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS AND CAMPING SITES.

The continued rapid increase in the number of caravans in use within the District both for temporary and permanent accommodation is causing considerable concern and it is a matter for regret that there appears to be no overall plan to restrict development of this type or to curtail the use of caravans as permanent dwellings.

If caravans are to be occupied throughout the year they should stand on a firm impermeable surface and as far as is reasonably practicable be provided with the same amenities as those required for a dwelling house, i.e. they should, be in a state of good repair, be dry, and have adequate light and ventilation, water supply, provision for surface and foul drainage, cooking facilities and storage of food. The use of sheds adjoining caravans as housing accommodation is to be deplored. A stricter enforcement of the Building Byelaws would prevent this.

Licences issued in respect of Camping Sites or Moveable Dwellings during the year numbered 44. This does not give a true picture, however, for many of the sites are occupied by a larger number of caravans than the site is capable of accommodating and account is not taken of the many itinerant campers, clubs and other organisations in the area for short periods.

Inspections of licensed sites were made during the season and very little trouble or nuisance was experienced. Many small buildings of the chalet type, although not classed as moveable dwellings are let throughout the summer months for short periods both in the Coastal Area and in proximity to the Broads. Many of these are without adequate amenities from the sanitary point of view and are often overcrowded. Vigilance is necessary if a reasonable standard of holiday accommodation is to be maintained.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

Public Conveniences owned by the Council are situated at High Street and Beach Road, Caister-on-Sea, California Gap, Hemsby Beach, Rottenstone Lane, Scratby and at The Hill, Ranworth.

During the peak holiday period the lavatory accommodation in the Coastal Area is inadequate particularly in the Hemsby area and northward towards Winterton-on-Sea.

Consideration has been given to the matter but progress toward the provision of additional accommodation is slow.



SECTION D.

HOUSING.

Progress continues to be made in connection with the Housing Survey and the appointment of an Additional Sanitary Inspector early in the new year will expedite the work. It is apparent that many dwellings will fall below the standard laid down under the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 but it is difficult to assess the number until the survey has been completed.

(1) Housing Act, 1954.	
(a) Orders made under Section 3(1)	..
(b) Orders determined and Closing Orders instituted under Section 3(2)	..

(2) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1952.	
(a) Closing Orders made under Section 10(1)	..

(3) Number of units of defective houses reported during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Public Health Act or Housing Act

(4) Public Health Act.	
(a) by owners	..
(b) by local authority in default of owners	..

(5) Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices

(a) by owners	..
(b) by local authority in default of owners	..

(6) Housing Act, 1954.	
(a) by owners	..
(b) by local authority in default of owners	..



## SUMMARY OF ACTION UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS AND HOUSING ACTS.

### Demolition and Closing Orders.

#### (1) Housing Act, 1936.

(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 11	..	..	..	7
Number of persons displaced	..	..	..	14
(b) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section 11, and still in force				3
Number of persons displaced	..	..	..	3
(c) Parts of buildings closed (Section 12)			..	-
Number of persons displaced	..	..	..	-
(d) Orders for Demolition made	..	..	..	6

#### (2) Housing Act, 1949.

(a) Closing Orders made under Section 3(1)	..	-
(b) Demolition Orders determined and Closing Orders substituted under Section 3(2)	.. ..	-

#### (3) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.

Closing Orders made under Section 10(1)	..	-
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### Repairs.

#### Informal Action.

(4) Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action by the local authority under the Public Health Act or Housing Acts	-
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#### Action under Statutory Powers.

#### (5) Public Health Acts.

Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices

(a) by owners	.. .. ..	1
(b) by local authority in default of owners	..	-

#### (6) Housing Act, 1936.

Number of houses made fit after service of formal notices (Sections 9, 10, 11 and 16)

(a) by owners	.. .. ..	3
(b) by local authority in default of owners	..	-

### COUNCIL HOUSES.

(a) The following is a list of houses erected by the Council -

#### Under the Housing Acts:-

1914	4
1919	37
1923-4 (Bungalows)	22
1923-4	710
1930	27
1936	14
1936	63
1944 (Prefabs)	100
1936 (Swedish)	16
1936 (Lirey)	98
1946 (Traditional)	388
Others	8
	<hr/>
	1467
	<hr/>

Of the above, 66 dwellings were completed during the year as follows:-

Acle	24
Caister-on-Sea	18
Thorpe	24

The total number of dwellings erected by the Council since the war is 572 and a further 62 are in course of construction. At the end of the year, outstanding applications for Council House accommodation numbered 490. The total number of houses owned by the Council number 1,467.

During the year action was taken under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 in respect of 13 dwellings as a result of which 3 were re-conditioned.



# SECTION E.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Meat. Of the 15 applications for licences to keep premises as slaughter houses, three only complied with the standard acceptable to the Council. These were brought into use in July and during the period to the end of December 437 beasts, 392 sheep, 710 pigs, were slaughtered and inspected. The extended slaughtering times have involved the staff of your Public Health Department in much overtime work. The quality of animals slaughtered has been very good and only a small percentage of carcasses and offal has been condemned.

Table of Carcasses Inspected and Condenned during 1954.

	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	357	112	13	448	792
Number inspected	357	112	13	448	792
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	2	3	8	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	36	22	-	3	27
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	10.92	21.43	23.08	2.46	3.91
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	4	-	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	22	27	-	-	10
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	7.00	27.68	-	-	1.39



(b) Milk. Sampling was carried out by Officers of the Norfolk County Council. Details of any infected supplies are forwarded to this Authority for action. During the year 13 licences were issued authorising the use of the special designation "Pasteurised" and 10 the special designation "Tuberculin Tested" in relation to milk sold within the area. After March, 1955 the District will be a Specified Area and the only grades of milk available to the public will be "Tuberculin Tested" or "Pasteurised". It will be an offence to sell raw milk other than "Tuberculin Tested."

(c) Food Premises. Food shops and other food preparing premises received frequent inspections during the year and the need for cleanliness and personal hygiene in the handling of foods was advised at every opportunity. Much remains to be done in this field and progress is slow. The general public do not appear to value cleanliness in connection with the preparation and handling of food to the extent that one would wish.

136 premises are registered as required by Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938. There is only one ice-cream factory within the District.

Only a small quantity of unsound food was dealt with during the year and generally speaking the management of food shops readily co-operated in reporting any article of doubtful quality.

DISEASES					TOTAL
1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	
20	2	2	12	4	Smallpox
20	2	11	20	11	Scarlet Fever
1	1	-	-	-	Whooping Cough
1	1	-	-	-	Polio (paralytic)
1	1	-	-	-	Polio (non-paralytic)
10	3	29	10	30	Measles
1	-	-	1	-	Diphtheria
4	7	8	11	10	Typhoid
12	6	3	2	1	Paratyphoid
10	3	3	3	2	Erysipelas
1	-	1	-	-	Septicæmic Infection
1	3	2	4	-	Food Poisoning
20	10	15	4	1	Infective Jaundice
20	7	20	17	12	TOTAL



SECTION F.

PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND OTHER DISEASES.

NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS)  
ACCORDING TO AGE GROUPS.

	Age Un- known.	Under 1	1-2 yrs.	3-4 yrs.	5-9 yrs.	10-14 yrs.	15-24 yrs.	25 & Over	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	-	2	5	18	2	3	-	30
Whooping Cough	-	12	34	38	96	8	1	5	194
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Measles	-	22	77	112	242	24	4	9	490
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Pneumonia	-	-	-	4	3	-	3	34	44
Dysentery	-	1	-	2	2	-	3	4	12
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	16
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	1	2	2	4	7	16
Infective Jaundice	-	-	-	1	9	3	8	9	30
TOTALS	-	35	113	164	373	39	27	85	836

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES DURING 1954 (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

	QUARTERS				
	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	TOTAL
Scarlet Fever	4	12	5	9	30
Whooping Cough	119	36	11	32	194
Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	-	-	-	1	1
Poliomyelitis (non-paralytic)	-	-	-	1	1
Measles	350	105	29	6	490
Diphtheria	-	1	-	-	1
Pneumonia	18	11	8	7	44
Dysentery	1	2	3	6	12
Erysipelas	5	3	5	3	16
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	1	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	4	9	3	16
Infective Jaundice	1	4	15	10	30
TOTALS	494	178	86	78	836

# DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

(for whole of No.1.Area).

Age at 31.12.54. (i.e.born in year)	Under 1 yr. 1954.	1 yr. 1953.	2 yrs. 1952.	3 yrs. 1951.	4 yrs. 1950.	5-9 yrs. 1945-49.	10-14 yrs. 1940-44
Number Immunised-							
(a) Primary	258	246	39	38	28	293	90
(b) Reinforcement	-	-	1	3	52	1067	1008
Total -							
(a)	Children under 5 years					..	609
	Children under 15 years					..	992
(b)	All ages			..	..	..	2131



TUBERCULOSIS. (Details of New Cases during 1954)

Age Period	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0 - 4	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	1	-	-
15 - 24	2	-	-	1
25 - 34	4	2	-	-
35 - 44	-	-	1	-
45 - 54	1	1	-	2
55 - 64	1	-	-	1
65 and over	3	2	-	1
	11	6	1	5

Total - 23

TUBERCULOSIS. (Number of Cases on T.B. Register end of 1954).

	Male	Female.	Total
Pulmonary	101	83	184
Non-Pulmonary	18	23	41
TOTALS	119	106	225

DETAILS OF NEW CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS FOR LAST FIVE YEARS  
(excluding Inward Transfers from other Districts).

		1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Pulmonary	M	15	15	19	14	11
	F	17	15	11	6	6
Non-Pulmonary	M	6	2	6	4	1
	F	1	2	2	5	5
Totals		39	34	38	29	23



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### Whooping Cough.

There were 194 cases notified during the year. This is now probably the most dangerous common infection of early childhood, because of the lung complications which so frequently occur, particularly during the first year of life. Inoculation against it, which is now frequently combined with that against Diphtheria and can be carried out either by General Medical Practitioners or Public Health Medical Officers, should be commenced soon after the third month.

### Diphtheria.

There was one case during the year. The percentage of school children in the County who have been inoculated against this disease is satisfactory because of the scheme whereby children are inoculated in schools by Medical Officers of the School Health Department, but the percentage of babies inoculated during the first year of life is still far too low.

It is necessary in order to eradicate the disease to secure immunisation of not less than 75% of babies before their first birthday. At the present time, less than half this percentage of babies are immunised in England and Wales.

### Smallpox.

Vaccination against smallpox, which ceased to be compulsory with the National Health Service Act, has now reached a low level in the County, but with the increased speed of air travel, infected persons may arrive in this country while still in the incubation period, and give rise to local epidemics. Primary vaccination in infancy is a much simpler matter than for adults and all babies should have this very minor operation performed preferably during the first three months, so that inoculation against Whooping Cough and Diphtheria can be proceeded with immediately after it has been completed.

### Measles.

There were 490 cases notified during the year. The natural history of this disease is such that it shows a high incidence of infection every two years and last year there were comparatively few cases.

### Scarlet Fever.

There were 30 cases of this disease during the year. In this country it is now normally a mild complaint which is treated at home rather than in an isolation hospital. The same germ which causes Scarlet Fever in one person causes only a sore throat in another. Both are equally infectious and to isolate one and not the other is scarcely logical.



### Food Poisoning.

16 cases occurred during the year. Careful attention to personal hygiene and the protection of food from flies is essential for all food handlers. In addition, the danger of keeping made-up meat dishes for subsequent meals should be borne in mind, particularly in warm weather.

### Tuberculosis.

There were 17 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 6 cases of non-pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year. The Council appear to be well aware of the importance of making special housing provision for certain cases of Tuberculosis.

### Infective Hepatitis.

There were 30 cases during the year. Owing to the long incubation period of about one month the infectivity of cases is not always apparent. Persons who have been contacts with a case should report to their doctor and isolate themselves at the first occurrence of symptoms, as infectivity in this disease, as in most others, is greatest in the early stages.

### Dysentery.

There were 12 cases notified, the majority of which were of the variety known as Sonne dysentery, which is the commonest and mildest type in this country. Strict attention to personal hygiene in the sufferers is essential to prevent further spread.

### Poliomyelitis.

There were two cases of Poliomyelitis, one paralytic and one of non-paralytic type. The precautions to be taken in cases of this nature were discussed in last year's Annual Report. Although the mode of spread is frequently difficult to determine, a modified form of quarantine is still recommended for contacts, particularly for those whose work brings them into close relationship with children, or who are engaged in the preparation or handling of food.



FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

Part I of the Act.

(1) Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors)

	Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of written notices	Number of Occupiers prosecuted
(i)	Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Auths.	-	-	-	-
(ii)	Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Auth.	91	56	2	-
(iii)	Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authorities (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
	TOTAL	91	56	2	-

(2) Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied.	Referred.		Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			To H. M. Inspector.	By 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	8	7	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	1	-	-	1	-
TOTAL	9	7	-	2	-



PART VIII OF THE ACT.

**OUTWORK - (SECTIONS 110 and 111)**

	Section 110				Section 111		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises.	Notices Served	Prosecutions	
Nature of Work							
Wearing Apparel { ( Making etc., Cleaning and washing	10	-	-	-	-	-	
	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Coseques, Christmas Crackers, Christmas Stockings, etc.	1	-	-	-	-	-	
TOTAL	11	-	-	-	-	-	







