B L Y T H
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

THE ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year 1947

TO THE CHAIRMAN
AND MEMBERS OF THE
B L Y T H
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

My Lord, My Ladies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to present my tenth and last Annual Report, produced along the lines indicated by the Minister of Health.

I take this opportunity to thank the members and officials of the Council for their kindness and co-operation during my period with you.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient Servant,

WM. M. BURNS

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT

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1. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

(a) Medical

W. M. BURNS, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., D.T.M., Also Assistant County M.O. and M.O.H. for two adjoining districts.

(b) Others

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector :

MR. E. C. KITCHEN, M.I.Mun.E., M.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Building and Additional Sanitary Inspectors :

MR. A. W. PLOWRIGHT, M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I.

MR. R. W. JOHNSON, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

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2. LABORATORY FACILITIES

These are available at the County Laboratory, Bond Street, Ipswich, except for the chemical analysis of water which is carried out by the Public Analyst, Mr. W. Lincolne Sutton, of Norwich.

3. AMBULANCE FACILITIES

The ambulances of the Ipswich and Lowestoft Isolation Hospitals are available for cases of Infectious Disease. The County Ambulance Scheme appears to be working satisfactorily. The one ambulance in the Rural District is at Framlingham. Others available are at Southwold, Halesworth, Aldeburgh and Woodbridge.

4. MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

The County Council is the M. and C.W. Authority. As Assistant County M.O., I attend monthly at

three Welfare Centres in the District, viz: Framlingham, Wenhaston and Yoxford. I also attend the Centres at Halesworth, Leiston and Saxmundham, which serve neighbouring parts of the Rural District. These centres owe much to the zeal of the District Nurses and also to the devoted work of quite a number of voluntary helpers.

The County Council is also the Authority for the School Medical Service and the Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases Schemes.

5. WATER

Supplies to the piped areas have been satisfactory, both in quantity and quality, except that a routine bacteriological sample taken from the Framlingham Waterworks in October was reported as being unsatisfactory. Pollution would appear to have been caused at the aerating tower, which was cleansed as thoroughly as the surface of the woodwork would allow. Bacteriological samples taken after this had been carried out in November resulted in the report "bacteriological findings unsatisfactory for a chlorinated water for public supply".

As it had been found impossible to remove all the algae from the surface of the aerating tower, work has been put in hand to renew the timbers.

(Samples taken in 1948 after this work had been carried out resulted in a satisfactory report).

Framlingham Waterworks Chemical Examination. (Water going into supply).

"The water is of satisfactory organic quality, free from pollution and quite fit for drinking purposes. It appears to be slightly ferruginous".

None of the public waters have plumbo-solvent action.

PARISHES WITH PIPE SUPPLIES .....

PARISHES WITH PIPE SUPPLIES

PARISH	Number of houses supplied from public mains	
	Direct to Houses	By Standpipe
Aldringham-cum-Thorpe	181	6
Cransford	6	29
Framlingham	565	20
Knodishall	118	-
Parham	10	76
Saxtead	11	58
Walberswick	207	-

The supply in Aldringham-cum-Thorpe is a private one provided by Thorpeness Ltd. The water supply position in several parts of the District without mains is unsatisfactory as regards both quality and quantity, but a comprehensive scheme is in preparation for the supply of water to the Rural District.

6. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

No new works of sewerage or sewage disposal have been carried out during the year.

7. DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Diphtheria Immunisation was carried out during the year, 293 children under 5 and 88 over that age had the initial treatment of two injections. Last year a reinforcing dose was given to some 1,800 children who had had the initial treatment in the years 1941-44. This year those to whom a reinforcing dose was given were mainly school entrants who had been done as infants and consequently the numbers were down to 202.

8. SCABIES

Sixteen families involving some 30 persons were treated for scabies. Three families

were treated by the District Nurse concerned, and the rest by their own doctors or through the Council. One elderly person was admitted to Bulcamp Institution for treatment. Three families showed recurrence.

9. REFUSE COLLECTION

A comprehensive scheme of refuse collection has been in operation since 1941. This has been improved by the purchase of a second vehicle at the end of 1946 so that for this year the services of two vehicles have been available.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres) ... ... 97,935.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (Mid-1947). ... ... 18,440.

Approximate number of inhabited houses (end of 1947)... ... ... 6,200.

Rateable Value. ... ...£65,000.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate ... ... £255.

VITAL STATISTICS

		TOTAL	Male	Female	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
Live Births	(Legitimate)	379	205	174	21.69
	(Illegitimate)	21	14	7	(England & Wales 20.5)

	TOTAL	Male	Female	Rate per 1,000 total (Live & Still births)
Stillbirths	12	3	9	29.12

	TOTAL	Male	Female	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population
Deaths	273	136	137	14.80 (England & Wales 12)

Deaths from puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's Short List) :-

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births
No: 29. Puerperal and Post-abortive sepsis	NIL	N I L
No: 30. Other Puerperal causes.	NIL	

Death Rate of Infants under one year ...

All infants per 1,000 live births 30.00
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births.. ... ... 29.02
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.. ... ... 47.61

Deaths from Cancer (all ages) 42
Deaths from Measles (all ages) . . . . . -
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages) . . . 1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) . -

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NOTIFICATIONS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
(other than Tuberculosis)

	AGE									TOTAL	Admitted to Hospital	Died
	0-	1-	3-	5-	10-	15-	25-	45-	65-			
Scarlet Fever		1		4	3	9		1		18	9	
Diphtheria										-		
Typhoid										-		
Paratyphoid										-		
Puerperal Pyrexia						1	3			4		
Pneumonia				1		1	4	1	3	10		9
Erysipelas			1					3	4	8		
Malaria										-		
Dysentery								1		1		
Infectious Jaundice						1	2			3	1	
Acute Poliomyelitis			1	2		1	1			5	5	

The five cases of Acute Poliomyelitis occurred between mid-August and mid-October.

T U B E R C U L O S I S

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY		RESPIRATORY		NON-RESPIRATORY	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-								
1-				1				
5-			1					
15-	1					1		
25-	1			1				1
35-		1						
45-				1				
55-	1							
65 and upwards	2							

There has been a slight increase in the numbers on the Tuberculosis Register.