

[Report 1925] / Medical Officer of Health, Cromer U.D.C.

Contributors

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CROMER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The Forty-first

ANNUAL
REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR

The Year ending December 31st, 1925.

CROMER :
CHEVERTON & SON,
1926.

CHRONIC DISEASE DISTRICT BOARD

ANNUAL
REPORT

Medical Officer of Health

The Town of ...

CROMER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR

The Year ending, December 31st, 1925.

CROMER,

12th April, 1926.

Miss Prentice and Gentlemen,

The Annual Report for 1925 will be a Survey Report as defined in paragraph 13 of Circular 540 of the 18th December, 1924.

The Season was on the whole a fairly prosperous one.

The Sunshine for the year was 1539.0 hours as compared with 1523.8 hours in 1924, the rainfall was 538.5 m.m. or 21.13 inches, as compared with 577.0 m.m. or 22.65 inches in 1924.

Housing has mainly been under consideration during the past year and 28 new houses have been built, for 12 of these you have granted subsidies, never the less I must again point out to you the growing necessity for an increase in cottage accommodation to relieve the overcrowding especially in tenement houses, which are increasing in consequence.

You have taken steps by considering Tenement Bye-laws, which will be in force early in 1926, to control these conditions.

You have also increased the Public Lavatory accommodation by building a new Public Convenience in a central position in the town.

The Refuse of the town has been collected three times a week in the summer instead of twice only.

On the 11th May, 1925, you ordered that the Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889, shall apply in the Urban District of Cromer to the disease known as Chicken Pox, and this order was approved by the Ministry of Health and came into operation on the 29th of May, 1925.

Natural and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in Acres) 1148.

Population (Census 1921 5435, adjusted 4011)

Estimated 1925 4240.

A seaside summer resort, having a northerly aspect at an elevation of 70 feet above sea level, which rises to 260 feet on the south-east side.

Number of inhabited Houses (1921) 987.

Number of families or separate occupiers (1921) 875.

Rateable Value £32,514.

Sum represented by a penny rate £129.

During the summer months the chief occupation of the inhabitants is attending to the wants of visitors, and a small fishing industry during the rest of the year.

VITAL STATISTICS 1925.

BIRTHS.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	
Legitimate ...	40	16	24	} Birth Rate 9.43.
Illegitimate ...	0	0	0	

DEATHS.

	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	
	29	12	17	Death Rate 6.83

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, child-birth from sepsis 0, from other causes 0.

Deaths of Infants under one year 0.

There were no deaths from Measles, Whooping-cough, or Diarrhoea.

THE POPULATION

as given by the Registrar General is 4240, the same as last year.

THE BIRTH RATE

is 9.43 as compared with 14.15 in 1924, per 1000 population.

The Birth-rate for England and Wales being 18.3 per 1000 population.

THE DEATH RATE

is 6.83 as compared with 11.08 in 1924, per 1000 population.

The Death-rate for England and Wales being 12.2 per 1000 population.

There were no deaths of infants under 1 year.

The Infantile Mortality for England and Wales being 75 per 1000 births.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1925.

		Male.	Female.
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	-	1	4
Other Tuberculous Disease	-	1	0
Cancer, Malignant Disease	-	2	2
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	-	1	3
Heart Disease	-	2	4
Pneumonia (all forms)	-	0	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	-	1	0
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	-	1	1
Other Deaths from Violence	-	0	1
Other Defined Diseases	-	3	1
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		12	17
		<hr/>	<hr/>

The number of patients admitted to the Cromer Cottage Hospital in the year ending September 30th, 1925 amounted to 233.

There have been no causes of sickness or invalidity specially noteworthy in the area, nor any conditions of occupation or environment which appeared to have had a prejudicial effect on health.

General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE AUTHORITY.

Cromer Urban District Isolation Hospital (6 beds) at Roughton.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

Motor Ambulance provided by the Red Cross and St. John's Ambulance Brigade for non-infectious and accident cases.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

Medical Officer of Health (part time) ; Sanitary Inspector (who is also Surveyor) whole time, moiety of salaries paid by Exchequer Grant through Norfolk County Council.

Nurse-Matron at the Isolation Hospital.

PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) General.

Two District Nurses, [one Cromer Ward and one Suffield Park Ward (with Overstrand)] attend cases in their homes and are also qualified to act as Mid-wives, supplied by the Norfolk Nursing Federation, and supported by local private Nursing Associations ; they also act as Mid-wives and Health Visitors under the Norfolk County Council.

CHEMICAL WORKS.

(b) None

Arrangements have been made with the Norfolk County Laboratory, Bank Court, The Walk, Norwich, for Pathological and Bacteriological examinations free of cost to local Authority.

During the past year I have received 14 Reports on Swabbing for Diphtheria Bacilli and one Report on Examination of Urine. 20,000 Units of Diphtheria anti-toxin have been issued at the cost of the local Authority.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

List of adoptive Acts relating to the Public Health, in force in the District, with date of adoption :-

ACT.	DATE OF ADOPTION
The Infectious Diseases (Notification) Act. 1890.	25th March. 1890.
The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act. 1890	1st May, 1891.
The Public Health Act. (Amendment) Act 1890. (Part III.	1st, May, 1891.
The Public Health Act. (Amendment) Acts, 1907. (Parts II., III., IV., V., and X.)	19th, Nov., 1908
Ditto. Part VI.	8th, July, 1914.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.

Supply ample, constant and of excellent quality.

Number of dwelling-houses supplied in Cromer 1090

“ “ “ “ “ outside 516

Source deep wells, no possibility of contamination.

No contamination by lead.

The pumping plant has been duplicated and a tower reservoir erected to improve defective supply to outside area.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Drainage is by gravitation into septic tanks on the sea front, whence effluent is discharged into the North Sea, amply sufficient except on the occasion of a heavy storm, when the basements of the houses in lower lying district are flooded.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

No privies and practically no earth closets,

SCAVENGING.

House refuse is collected twice weekly in the winter and thrice weekly in the summer months, and taken to modern destructor on the out-skirts of the town. In nearly all cases moveable ashbins are used.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF AREA.

Tabular summary of the work of the Sanitary Department during the year, and action taken under the Public Health Acts or Byelaws, etc.

House to house Inspections	...	...	91
Special Inspections and investigation of Complaints			35
Inspections of Nuisances discovered ..		...	40
Re-inspections to ascertain progress of sanitary and informal orders	...	...	246
Visits in connection with infectious diseases		...	62
Visits to Isolation Hospital	...	...	6
Inspections under Factory and Workshop Act		...	41
Re-inspections under	"	"	1
Inspections of Dairies, Milk shops and Cowsheds		...	12
" Tenements	...	...	4
			<hr/>
			538
			<hr/>

Premises Disinfected	...	...	8
Rooms	"	...	17
Premises to which smoke test was applied		...	8
Committee Meetings attended	...	...	12
Preliminary Notices served	...	...	1
Legal Notices served	...	...	3
Legal Proceedings taken	...	...	0
Defects found by house-to-house Inspection		...	0
" " other Inspections	...	...	40
" " Workshop	"	...	3
" " Dairy and Cowshed Inspections	...	...	2
" " Tenement	"	...	0
Complaints received at Office	...	...	35

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action required by the Local Authority.

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS WHICH CAN BE CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAWS OR REGULATIONS.

Tenement Bye-laws considered and will be in force early in 1926.

SCHOOLS.

The Sanitary Condition of the Council Schools is satisfactory.

Housing.

I. General housing conditions in the area :-

1. General Housing Conditions : Satisfactory.
2. (a) No excess of houses with a shortage of small cottage property.
- (b) No measures taken or contemplated to meet the shortage,
3. Only a gradual increase in population in the period under review.

II. Overcrowding :-

1. There is a certain amount
2. due to small-cottage shortage.
3. No steps possible until more cottages are built.
4. „ „ „

III. Fitness of Houses :-

1. (a) General standard of housing in the area, good.
- (b) Only minor defects found to exist in unfit houses.
- (c) Defects are due to the lack of proper management and supervision by owners.
2. General action taken as regard unfit houses under—

(a) The Public Health Acts,	}	nothing special.
(b) The Housing Acts,		
3. Land purchased for building now being sold at cost price to encourage building.
4. Conditions, so far as they affect housing, as regards water supply, closet accommodation, and refuse disposal, satisfactory.

The house refuse is now removed thrice weekly during the summer months.

IV. Unhealthy areas :- None.

V. Byelaws relating to houses, to houses let in lodgings, and to Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc. :-

A new set of Bye-Laws with reference to building and Tenement Houses have been adopted.

VI. General and Miscellaneous :- none

HOUSING STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1925.

Number of new houses erected during the year :

(a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b)	28
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :	
(i.) By the Local Authority	0
(ii.) By other bodies or persons	12

1. *Unfit Dwelling Houses.*

Inspection--1. Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 33

2. Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 27

3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 0

4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 23

2. *Remedy of Defects without service of formal notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action taken by the Local Authority or their officers 17

3. *Action under Statutory Powers.*

A.—Proceedings under Section 3 of the Housing Act, 1925.

1.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	0
2.	Number of dwelling-houssss which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :-			
	(a) By owners	...	...	0
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners		...	0
3.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	...	...	0

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Health Acts.

1.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	5
2.	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.		
	(a) By owners	...	1
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	0

C.—Proceedings under sections 11, 14 and 15 of the Housing Act, 1925.

1.	Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	...	0
2.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	0
3.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-house having been rendered fit	..	0
4.	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	0
5.	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	..	0

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. (5)
Factories - - (Including Factory Laundries)	6	0	0
Workshops - - (Including Workshop Laundries)	35	0	0
Workplaces - - (Other than Outworkers' premises)	0	0	0
Total -	41	0	0

2. Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under Public Health Acts:</i>				
Want of Cleanliness ...	3	3	0	0
Want of Ventilation ...	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding ...	0	0	0	0
Want of drainage of floors	0	0	0	0
Other Nuisances ...	0	0	0	0
<i>Sanitary Accommodation:</i>				
Insufficient ...	0	0	0	0
Unsuitable or Defective ...	0	0	0	0
Not separate for sexes ...	0	0	0	0
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts,</i>				
Illegal occupation of under-ground bakehouse. ...	0	0	0	0
Other offences ...	3	3	0	0
Total	6	6	0	0

There have been no instances of out-work in unwholesome premises.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a.)—Milk Supply. I have had nothing to cause me to question the wholesomeness of the milk produced within or brought into the area, the arrangements for supply and distribution of the milk are adequated.

Under the Milk and Dairies (Consolidation) Act, 1915. The Milk and Dairies (Admendment) Act 1922, and the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Orders, the Dairies and Cowsheds have been Inspected.

- I. Action taken as to Tuberculous Milk and Tuberculous Cattle, None.
 - II. No Grading of Milk in district.
 - III. & IV. " " " " "
- (b.)—Meat,

There are no slaughter houses in the district and no special action needed.

(c.) Other Foods.

The Bakehouses have been inspected and the sanitary condition found to be good.

One case of bad fish was condemned.

(d.) No case of food poisoning arose.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL, OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

There has been very slight prevalence of infectious diseases since 1920.

Only one case of Encephalitis lethargica occurred.

Under the Regulations of the 7th, January, 1919, only one case of pneumonia notified.

Arrangements have been made with the Norfolk County Laboratory for pathological and bacteriological examinations free of cost to the Local Authority.

During the past year I have received 14 Reports on Swabbing for Diphtheria and one Report on the examination of Urine.

Premises and articles which have been exposed to infection are disinfected, the former by Formalin and articles by the Thresh Disinfectant at the Isolation Hospital.

Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1925.

Disease	Total cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria	1	0	0
Varicella	7	2	0
Encephalitis lethargica	1	0	0
Enteric	1	1	0

One case of Diphtheria and one of Enteric given respectively a case rate of 0.23 1000 population as compared with the case rate for England and Wales of Diphtheria 1.23 and Enteric 0.07 per 1000 living.

TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases and Mortality during 1925.

Age-Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	E.
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
25	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	0	1	0	0	0	4	0	0
45	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
55	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
65 and upwards	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Totals	2	3	0	0	1	4	1	0

In conclusion, I have to thank Mr. Croome for his kind assistance.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

R. C. M. COLVIN-SMITH.

M.B., B.C., B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

*Fellow of the Society of Medical Officers of Health,
Medical Officer of Health.*

Cromer Weather Report.

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT.

ATMOSPHERIC PRESSURE.

The mean of 29.929 inches was slightly above that of last year.

The highest and lowest monthly means were January 30.195 inches and February 29.614 respectively.

The highest reading was 30.764 inches on January 19th. the lowest 28.584 inches on December 20th, giving a range of 2.18 inches as against 1.53 inches in 1924.

SHADE TEMPERATURE.

The mean Shade Temperature of 49.45 degrees was practically the same as last year.

July was the warmest month with 62.55 degrees being 1.25 degrees more than that of July in 1924.

The highest temperature recorded during the year was 83.4 degrees on July 15th and 23rd, being 1.8 degrees less than the hottest day of last year. December was the coldest month with a mean temperature of 37.05 degrees and the lowest reading, 23.0 degrees, was registered in that month.

SUNSHINE.

The total amount of bright unclouded sunshine recorded was 1539 hours, being slightly more than in 1924.

May gave the best record with a total of 213.9 hours, June being second, 207.8

RAINFALL.

Rainfall registered on 194 days the total of 21.18 inches being somewhat above the normal.

PHILLIP COLYER,

Observer.

Cromer Weather Report for 1925.

1925.	Barometer Means.	Dry Bulb Mean.	Wet Bulb Mean.	RAINFALL.				SHADE TEMPERATURE.			Sunshine.
				Maximum Day's Rain, Inches.	Date of Maximum	Total Fall	Rainy Days No.	Maximum Degrees	Minimum Degrees.	Mean. Degree	
January ...	30.195	39.9	38.9	0.21	23	1.07	13	46.9	37.1	42.00	64.0
February ...	29.614	39.3	38.4	0.50	25	1.70	15	46.5	36.4	41.45	75.1
March ...	30.123	39.7	38.7	0.40	1	1.63	17	46.4	36.0	41.20	99.7
April ...	29.929	48.0	45.9	0.40	9	1.52	16	52.	42.4	47.50	129.0
May ...	29.794	55.4	52.1	0.33	23	1.67	16	62.1	46.5	54.30	213.9
June ...	30.114	58.2	54.3	0.15	23	0.42	6	63.4	49.6	56.50	207.8
July ...	29.923	64.1	60.0	0.41	19	1.41	9	70.8	54.3	62.55	206.5
August ...	29.958	62.9	59.2	0.58	24	2.68	16	68.0	56.9	62.45	169.0
September ...	29.944	54.1	51.9	0.52	9	2.65	20	59.3	48.0	53.65	114.3
October ...	29.914	50.8	49.3	0.35	22	1.71	20	57.6	47.3	52.45	106.2
November ...	29.929	42.3	40.7	0.31	27	2.41	20	46.6	38.5	42.55	85.9
December ...	29.719	38.5	38.0	0.41	2	2.31	26	42.3	31.8	37.05	67.6
Totals ...	...	...	...	...	...	21.18	194	...	...	...	1539.0
Means ...	29.929	49.4	47.8	...	...	1.76	16.1	55.2	43.7	49.45	...
Year 1924... Totals	...	...	...	...	...	22.65	202	...	...	...	1523.8
Means ...	29.900	48.9	47.0	...	...	1.89	16.8	54.9	43.4	49.15	...



