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ANNUAL REPORT AS TO THE SANITARY CONDITIONS OF
THE URBAN DISTRICT OF DISS FOR THE YEAR 1944.

To the Chairman and Members of the
DISS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mrs. Holker and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year ended 31st. December, 1944, which, in accordance with Ministry of Health instructions, has been considerably curtailed.

I am,
Your obedient Servant,

G. O'B. VINCENT,

Medical Officer of Health,
Diss Urban District.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	3,628 (including water).
Population	...	...	...	...	...	3,573.
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1944) according to Rate Books	...	...	...	...	...	1,049.
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	£16,169.
Sum represented by a penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	£64. 18. 5d.

Social Conditions.

Any improvement in housing conditions is at present in abeyance. Overcrowding is fairly prevalent, and the condition of many houses is very unsatisfactory.

Water Supply.

The water supply has been satisfactory during the year both in regard to quality and quantity; but it is again stressed that the storage capacity is quite inadequate.

ANALYSIS OF WATER.

An analysis was made on 1st May, 1944 and the following Certificate was received :-

- "A" ex Waterworks from delivery main after passing through softener and filter.
delivery
- "B" ex domestic/service pipe connected to public main service. (The chemical results are stated in grains per gallon).

	Distinctive No. of Label.	
	"A"	"B"
Total Solids in Solution	27.3	38.5
Ammonia (Free and Saline	0.010	Trace
(Albuminoid	0.0007	0.0015
Chlorine in Chlorides	3.9	3.9
Nitrogen as Nitrates	Nil	Nil
Nitrites	Nil	Nil
Oxygen absorbed from permanganese	0.014	0.014
Hardness (Total	12.3	21.6
(Permanent.	21.1	13.

A Bacteriological and Chemical Examination was made and the following is the result:-

Bacteriological Results	(Colonies per ml		
	(on agar at 37 C.)	2.	None
	(Bacillus (present in	-	-
	(Coliform (
	(absent in 100 ml.	100 ml.	
Physical Characters	(Clear slightly opalescent with		
	(small sediment or rusty chalk.		

Remarks. Each sample represents pure and wholesome water of good organic bacteriological quality, and suitable for drinking purposes.

The original water is evidently slightly ferruginous. "B" still retains traces of residual oxin, and had been softened (if at all) to a less extent than "A".

The water is not liable to have a plumbo-solvent action.

Water is supplied from Public Mains to 885 houses out of a total of 1,049 in the U. D. Area. 16 houses at Walcot obtain their water from a stand pipe, 148 houses apart from the 16 referred to above are not supplied by the town water supply.

Vital Statistics of the Year.

		Total.	M.	F.
Live Births.	(Legitimate	72	40	32
	(Illegitimate	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
		<u>75</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>34</u>
Stillbirths	(Legitimate	3	1	2
	(Illegitimate	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
Deaths		41	21	20
Deaths of Infants under one year -				
	Legitimate	1	-	1
	Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		5	4	1
Deaths from Measles (all ages)		-	-	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)		-	-	-
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years)		-	-	-

The Birth Rate is in excess of the Death Rate and the general health of the community has been good. There is a decrease in the illegitimate birth rate.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

See report for the year 1940.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Closet Accommodation.

- Number of W.Cs. fixed on premises connected by drainage to the sewer, during the year. 4.
 Number converted from Pail closets to W.Cs. Nil
 Number converted from Privy-vault Closets. Nil
Total. 4.

- Number of Closets of each type remaining at the end of the year :-

Number of Privy-vault (fixed type)	67
Pail Closets (removable receptacles)	291
W.Cs., Houses, Cottages, Shops Offices.	<u>731</u>
W.Cs. Schools and Public Buildings	63

Scavenging.

The work of scavenging is now done by direct labour by the Council. An Austin 5-ton lorry was purchased by the Council for refuse collecting and salvage work. This was brought into service on the 24th January, 1944. The other scavenging work of privy-vault and pail emptying is done by horse transport, the time being made up on refuse collecting. The contents of vaults and pails is disposed of at the sewage works. The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping, a suitable tip being hired by the Council for this purpose. During the year the area of collection has been extended to include the whole of the Walcot district.

Arrangements have also been made for some of the contents of vaults and pails to be tipped at a farm at Walcot Green, and treated with farm refuse, and used on the land for manurial purposes. On the whole, the work was proceeding satisfactorily during the year. The scavenging is controlled and supervised by the Sanitary Inspector.

Particulars of work - Year, 1944.

	<u>No. emptied.</u>	<u>Loads removed.</u>
Pail Closets (emptied weekly)	291	330
Dustbins do. do.	641	670
Privy-vault Closets (fixed type)	45.	28
Dustbins (fixed type)	Nil	Nil

		Total loads removed - 1,028

Summary.

	<u>Loads.</u>	<u>Tons.</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>
(a) Excreta	358.	-	-
(b) Dry Refuse (Horse drawn	312.	234.	-
(Lorry	394	799	10

Number of Inspections made in respect of Scavenging 456.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

1. Number of Inspections and Particulars.--

Housing	160
Ditto with Medical Officer of Health	14
Scavenging	456
Ditto with Medical Officer of health	10
Drainage	225
Markets	196
Factories	102
Infectious Diseases	53
Slaughterhouse	395
Ditto with Medical Officer of health	4
Cowsheds and Dairies	98
Vans used for human habitation	31
Shops Act, 1934	232
Evacuees	47

Total number of Inspections.- 2,023

2. Notices.

Number of Formal Preliminary Notices	17
Number of Informal Notices	26
Number of Statutory Notices	<u>Nil</u>
Total.-	<u>43</u>

3. Nuisances.

Complaints received	17
Found on Inspection	<u>27</u>
Total.-	<u>44</u>

Number abated by Formal Notice	17
Number abated by Informal Notice	26
Number abated by Statutory Notice	<u>Nil</u>
Number un-abated at 31st. Dec. 1944.	<u>1</u>
Total	<u>44</u>

4. Defects other than Nuisances.

Number found on Inspection	9
Number remedied by Informal Notice	9

Shops and Stores. Shops Act, 1934.

Number of Inspections during the year	232
Number of Shops and Stores Registered.	85
Number of Offices in the District.	18

The following defects were found during the Year.-

Insufficient Lighting	Nil
Cleansing of Premises	6
Insufficient Lavatory Accommodation	Nil
Defective Sanitary Conveniences	7
Insufficient Ventilation	1
Defective Heating	<u>Nil</u>
Total	<u>14</u>
Number of Statutory Notices issued	Nil
Number of Defects remedied upon the Official request of the Inspector	14

Notes of the Year, 1944.

- 2 Shops have had the heating arrangements improved.
- 6 Shops have had the interiors cleaned and painted.
- 2 Shops have had the floors repaired.
- 7 Defective Water Closets have been repaired.
- 1 Shop has been provided with improved ventilation.

A generally good standard of efficiency is maintained of all the Shops and Stores in the District, and special attention being given to the observance of cleanliness.

Camping Sites.

There are no sites available or used as camping sites in this area.

Vans used for human habitation.

31 visits of inspection were made of vans used for human habitation.

All were found in a satisfactory condition and proper provision made for lavatory accommodation; Water supply and the collection of refuse. There was no case of Infectious Disease.

Swimming Baths or Pools.

There are no swimming baths or pools provided, or available, for the public in this area.

Eradication of Bed Bugs.

Houses found to be infested and dealt with as follows :-
(a) Council houses ... Nil. (b) Other houses... 2

Disinfestation of Fleas.

Houses found to be infested were dealt with as follows:-
(a) Council houses ... Nil. (b) Other houses... 4.

Disinfection and Cleansing.

Number of visits in cases of Infectious Diseases	53
Number of rooms disinfected	27
Number of Houses cleansed before re-occupation following insanitary conditions	4.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year, and inspected for defects.	55
Number of inspections made for the purpose	160.
Number of dwelling houses recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925-1932	4
Number of houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for habitation	40
2. Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit by formal action of Officer of Local Authority	37
3. Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.	
Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	6
Number of dwelling houses of which defects were remedied after informal notice, - by the Owners	6
Remedy of defects during the year without the service of formal notices.	
Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officer	43.

housing Act, 1936. Part II.

Number of representations made by the Medical Officer of health in pursuance of the provisions of Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.	13
Number of Statutory Notices served on Owners	Nil.

Housing - Evacuation - Settlement of Evacuees.

Report on the work of repair and maintenance of the houses and cottages requisitioned and taken over by the Council for the purpose of housing evacuees.-

Number of houses and cottages occupied by requisition, or under licence of the Local Authority	15.
Number of families removed changing occupation	17.
Number of inspections made of these premises	47.
Number of inspections in connection with repairs and for the maintenance of cleanliness.	31.

Particulars of Sanitary Defects found on inspection.-

Want of cleanliness in yards	3.
Blocked drainage	4.
Insanitary condition of Water Closets	2.
Defective water flush to W.Cs.	1.
Structural defects reported and remedied	4.

All works of repair have been carried out without the issue of any formal notice.

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Number of Inspections made to Dairies and Cowsheds.	98.
Number of samples taken for "Accredited" Standard.	15.
Number of samples taken for "T.T." Test.	44.
Number of samples that failed the Methylene Blue test. (repeat samples in each case were satisfactory).	2.

Number of samples delayed in transit and therefore failed to qualify for testing	2.
--	----

Register.

Number of Producer Retailers	4.
Number of Producer Wholesalers	<u>12.</u>
Total.	<u>16.</u>

During the year 1 Producer Wholesaler has removed from the District.

Number of Dairymen retailing milk in this district produced in outside areas	5.
Number of Dealer's Licences issued authorising the use of the Special Designation "Pasteurised".	1.
Number of Producers granted "Accredited" Licences	4.
Number of Producers granted a "T.T." Licence.	1.

Meat.

Diss is a slaughtering centre under the provisions of the Memoranda and Orders issued under the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Food.

The duties of inspection and supervision are carried out by the Sanitary Inspector.

Slaughtering at the Diss Centre covers the meat supply and distribution of the following districts.-

Diss Urban District,
Eye Borough,
Depwade Rural District (part),
Hartismere Rural District (part).

Particulars of inspections are as follows :-

Number of visits to slaughterhouse by the Inspector	395
Number of visits with Medical Officer of Health	6
Number of Carcasses inspected.	4,253
Number of carcasses with Organs given an examination.	2,762
Number of Carcasses submitted to a detailed examination including organs and glands.	517

Number of Animals Slaughtered.

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Lambs.	Pigs.	Total.
General.	1,781.	1,250.	1,719.	29.	364.	5,143.
Casualties	112.	29.	44.	5.	120.	310.
Private.	-	-	-	-	53.	53.
Emergency	-	-	-	-	10.	10.
T.B.Order	1.	-	-	-	-	1.

Particulars of meat condemned as being unfit for food:-

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep.	Lambs.	Pigs.	Total.
<u>1. All diseases except Tuberculosis.</u>						
(a) Whole Carcasses	5.	1.	19.	-	1.	27.
(b) Part Carcasses	296.	5.	17.	1.	36.	355.
<u>2. Tuberculosis only.</u>						
(a) Whole Carcasses	15.	1.	-	-	5.	21.
(b) Part Carcasses	97.	-	-	-	7.	104.

Weights of Meat Condemned.

	Tons.	Cwts.	Stones.	Lbs.
(a) All diseases except Tuberculosis.	5.	13.	-	12.
(b) Tuberculosis only.	5.	8.	5.	-
	<hr/>			
Total Weight	11.	1.	5.	12.

Notes/

During the year maintenance work of the structure of the slaughterhouse has been carried out. The roof has been repaired where found to be necessary. The copper has been re-set and repaired; part of the yard to the slaughterhouse concreted and the other part re-surfaced.

The situation of the slaughterhouse in the centre of the town surrounded by dwelling houses, and having poor road access, is considered very unsatisfactory.

Foodstuffs other than Meat.

The following particulars of canned and other foodstuffs condemned as being unfit for food are given for the year, 1944.

Total number of Tins condemned 328.
(The Tins included.- Milk, vegetables, fish, cooked meat, jam, marmalade and syrup.)

The foodstuffs stated below were also condemned as being unfit for food.-

Margarine	2 Boxes	-	24lbs each.
Cheese			25lbs.
Wet Fish	1 Box	-	5 Stones.
Priority Suet	1 Box	-	28 lbs.
Sugar			38 lbs.
Sweets	6 Boxes	-	4lbs each.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

Diphtheria immunisation was undertaken by local Medical Practitioners privately and at the schools.

From January 1st to December 31st, 1944 the following children received a full course:-

	<u>Under 5.</u>	<u>5 or over but under 15.</u>
	31	3
Estimated population.	258	503
Estimated percentage immunised.	43.6%	100%

The number of the higher age group immunised was satisfactory. The number under 5 showed slight improvement.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Notifiable Diseases other than Tuberculosis.</u>		
	<u>Total cases notified.</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital.</u>	<u>Total deaths.</u>
Smallpox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	6	3	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	-
Measles	40	-	-
Whooping Cough	46	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-

<u>Age Periods.</u>	<u>An analysis of the Total Notified Cases.</u>			
	<u>Scarlet Fever.</u>	<u>Puerperal Pyrexia.</u>	<u>Pneumonia</u>	<u>Measles.</u>
0-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-
2-	-	-	-	6
3-	-	-	-	-
4-	-	-	-	3
5-	5	-	-	21
10-	1	-	-	-
15-	-	-	-	6
20-	-	-	-	3
35-	-	-	-	1
45-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	1	-

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1944.

Age Periods.	<u>NEW CASES.</u>				<u>DEATHS.</u>			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
15-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
45-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 & upwards	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

NOTE.

SECTIONS C, D & E are taken from the Sanitary Inspector's Annual Report.

Annual Report of the Board of Health of the City of New York
 for the year ending June 30, 1917.

Disease	1916		1917		Total
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	
Scarlet Fever	1	0.00	1	0.00	2
Diphtheria	1	0.00	1	0.00	2
Etiotic Fever	1	0.00	1	0.00	2
Styphthoid	1	0.00	1	0.00	2
Puerperal Fever	1	0.00	1	0.00	2
Alcohol Intoxication	1	0.00	1	0.00	2
Measles	1	0.00	1	0.00	2
Whooping Cough	1	0.00	1	0.00	2

NOTE

STATISTICS OF D & E are taken from the Sanitary Inspectors' Annual Report.

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