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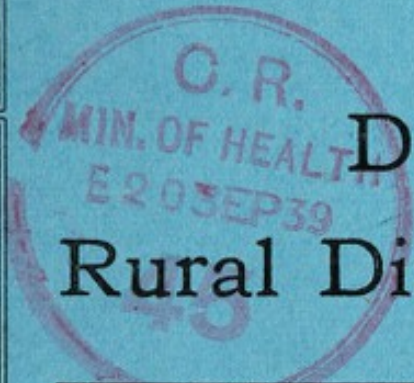
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Driffield
Rural District Council.



Medical Officer's
Annual Report
For 1938.



DRIFFIELD:

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DRIFFIELD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

FOR 1938.

OFFICERS of the SANITARY AUTHORITY:—

The Clerk - - - Mr. R. B. TOLLETT.

Sanitary Inspector & Building Surveyor—

F. H. MARGERRISON, A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector—

F. A. LODGE, Cert. R., San. I., and Meat and
other Foods (Cert.), M.S.I.A.

Medical Officer of Health - ALAN MILNER,

M.B. Ch. B.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Driffield Rural
District Council.**

I herewith submit to you my Annual Report for the year 1938. It is an ordinary, abridged report, drawn up as suggested by the Minister of Health in his circular 1728 of 25th October, 1938.

In general, 1938 has seen a steady continuance of the improvements mentioned in my last report in the re-housing of the people, and the provision of a piped water supply.

The general health of the population has been good, and there have been no epidemics of infectious disease worthy of note.

It is anticipated that when the use of the Council's water and the more extensive adoption of water closets becomes more general that sewage disposal will need very serious attention. In some villages sewage schemes have been prepared and the work completed.

The disposal of indestructible refuse, tins and so on, continues to escape the interest of the Council. At present a monthly collection is in force, and waggon loads of refuse are dumped in chalk pits and left. In these pits rats abound and apart from the unsightliness, they are a nuisance and a potential source of danger to the Public Health. I must strongly advise the Council to give this matter their attention.

Work in connection with A.R.P. has added greatly to the work of the Sanitary Staff; the crisis of September causing a dislocation of the routine work which has taken some time to repair.

Sections C., D. and E. have been compiled by the Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION A.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area	....	....	....	....	....	98,423 acres
Registrar General's Estimate of the Population					(mid 1938)	10,210
Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1938					according to Rate Books	2,820
Rateable Value	....	....	....	....		£30,187
Product of a penny rate		....	....	....		£102

Agriculture, and the trades dependant on it employ the majority of the workers. Work at the R.A.F. Station, and with the water supply has made unemployment less noticeable.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Births:		Total	M	F
LIVE BIRTHS.	1. Total Births	186	93	93
	2. Legitimate	170	88	82
	3. Illegitimate	16	5	11
STILL BIRTHS.	1. Total	8	4	4
	2. Legitimate	7	4	3
	3. Illegitimate	1	0	1

Birth Rate for Driffield Rural District—

	18.20 per 1,000 population.
Birth Rate for England & Wales	15.1 per 1,000 population.
Illegitimate Birth Rate	1.56 per 1,000 population.
Still Birth Rate	41.2 per 1,000 Total Births.

Deaths:

	Total	M	F
All ages	120	68	52
Death Rate (Driffield R.D.)	10.8 per 1,000 population		
Death Rate (England & Wales)	11.6 per 1,000 population.		

There were no deaths from puerperal causes
and the Maternal mortality rate was nil.

Infants, under 1 year	6	2	4
Legitimate	5	2	3
Illegitimate	1	0	1
From Cancer. All ages	19	8	11
From Measles	0	0	0
From Whooping Cough	0	0	0
From Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	1	1	0

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year:

1. All infants 32 per 1,000 Live Births
2. Legitimate infants 29 per 1,000 Legitimate Births
3. Illegitimate infants, 63 per 1,000 Illegitimate Births

The following table shows the causes of death:—

	Total	M	F
Diphtheria	1	1	0
Influenza	6	3	3
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	0	1
Other Tuberculous disease	1	1	0
Cancer	19	8	11
Cerebral Hæmorrhage	7	3	4
Heart disease	19	11	8
Aneurysin	1	1	0
Other Circulatory diseases	8	6	2
Bronchitis	5	3	2

Pneumonia, all forms	....	....	3	2	1
Other Respiratory diseases	....	....	8	6	2
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	....	....	1	1	0
Cirrhosis of liver	....	....	1	1	0
Other liver diseases	....	....	1	0	1
Other digestive diseases	....	....	3	1	2
Acute & Chronic Nephritis	....	....	3	2	1
Congenital deformity, Premature birth, etc.	....	....	5	2	3
Senility	....	....	13	6	7
Violence	....	....	11	10	1
Other defined diseases	....	....	10	5	5
			120	68	52

SECTION B.

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

In regard to Laboratory facilities, no changes have taken place since my last report.

The following list shows the number of specimens examined, and reported on for the Council by the Hull Royal Infirmary, and the Clinical Research Association:—

- 32 Swabs were examined for diphtheria.
- 19 Specimens of sputum were examined for T.B.
- 1 Specimen of blood was examined for Typhoid.
- 4 Specimens of water were examined.
- 1 Specimen of Urine was reported on.
- 1 Sample of food was examined.

With regard to Ambulance facilities, Nursing in the Home, treatment centres and clinics, and Hospitals, there has been no change or development.

SECTION C.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER.

General.—The water supplies of the district may be said to be substantially the same as described in my previous

reports, as regards both character and sufficiency, with the exception of those for the villages of FIMBER, FRIDAYTHORPE, TIBTHORPE and WETWANG where temporary Stand-taps have been erected and supplies are taken from the mains of the Water Supply Scheme. The house-holders have thus been enabled to obtain their supplies from a more reliable source than heretofore, when they were entirely dependent upon rain-water at Fimber, Fridaythorpe and Wetwang, and upon a horse-gear pump and an old style windlass and bucket, each on deep wells at Tibthorpe.

The supply for FIMBER and FRIDAYTHORPE was obtained by the purchase of water from the Norton Rural District Council's main, where it passes nearby this Council's new reservoir at Towthorpe. The surplus water not required for their needs is passed into this Council's main, through a temporary connection, pending the proper supply from the Pumping Station at Hutton being available.

At Tibthorpe and Wetwang the supplies have been taken off the main carrying water from the Hutton Pumping Station, and may be described as an extension of the service which supplies the Royal Air Force Station at Kellythorpe. The pumping arrangements for this supply are still of a temporary nature but, despite various difficulties experienced, it can be said that the supply has been well maintained.

The remaining part of the district, excepting the village of Nafferton, has continued to be supplied as before by means of public pumps which have been well maintained, by repairs when needed and by constant supervision.

At NAFFERTON, where a laid-on supply has been enjoyed for over twenty-five years, the maintenance of the supply has been continued as in the past. An abundant supply of water has always been available. The Sanitary Inspector has continued in the supervision of this village scheme which has proved to be efficient and able to provide for all calls made upon it. During the year under review no extension of the system has been made.

Water Supply Scheme.—Work on the Council's Scheme for the whole area has been proceeded with but, with the

exception of those villages previously mentioned, the laid-on supply throughout the district is eagerly awaited.

During the current year (1939) Temporary Stand-taps have been erected and supplies taken from the mains of the Water Supply Scheme in the villages of BAINTON, HUTTON, CRANSWICK, KIRKBURN, SOUTHBURN, MIDDLETON and NORTH DALTON. These facilities have been taken full advantage of and have proved to be of great benefit to the inhabitants of these villages. This matter is of course one for inclusion in my 1939 Report but I feel I ought to mention it here, and by the time my next Annual Report is compiled I hope to see the much desired laid-on water supply available in full over the whole system covered by the Scheme.

Bacteriological Examinations.—Three samples of water have been obtained and forwarded to The Clinical Research Association Ltd., London, for bacteriological examination.

All these samples have been taken from private wells, the reports on which show that two were fit for drinking and one unfit, the latter being from a shallow well. In this latter case, water for domestic purposes will be taken from the Council's main when available.

DRAINAGE and SEWERAGE.

Extension of Sewerage.—At FRIDAYTHORPE, a section of sewerage comprising 228 yards of 9" sewer with four manholes has been laid in for the purpose of sewerage the Driffield Road eastwards to the new Council Housing site. The new sewer is connected into an existing manhole on the old line of sewer.

At KILHAM, a concrete channel 30 yards long has been constructed to carry the West End open drain through a portion of "The Greens," which portion had for a long time past given rise to considerable trouble owing to lack of fall.

At NAFFERTON, a new length of 200 yards of 6" sewer with two manholes has been laid in the Driffield Road, being an extension of the existing sewer to serve properties up to and including "Ivy House."

Also at NAFFERTON, a length of 60 yards of half-round concrete channel has been laid in the open drain on the north side of Newbridge Lane, to enable more efficient cleansing to be done. This open drain carries a certain amount of sewage from Station Road together with a large volume of water running continuously from artesian wells.

At TIBTHORPE, two new sections of sewerage have been provided, comprising 269 yards of 9" and 6" sewer with 5 manholes in the Huggate Road at West End, and 192 yards of 9" and 6" sewer with 3 manholes at the South-east End in an easterly direction from the Bainton Road across private lands to the east end of the Low Street.

Improvement of Outfall for Sewage Disposal.—At FRIDAYTHORPE, the Settling Tanks for sewage disposal at the outfall have been reconstructed. The new work is so arranged as to form part of any extension or improvement whereby distributing apparatus and filter would be installed in the future. An effluent drain is laid in 200 yards towards the dale, at the end of which a deep soakaway has been dug.

General.—With the exception of the before-mentioned improvements, the character and efficiency of the drainage and sewerage in the various parishes remain the same as set out in a special report by the Sanitary Inspector on the "Drainage and Sanitary Arrangements of the Area," dated 28th October, 1937, which appears in my annual report for 1937.

RIVERS and STREAMS.

The position regarding rivers and streams still remains the same. Except for the cleansing of open drains which receive sewage without treatment, no action has been taken.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

No material change is as yet apparant regarding the conversion of privies and pail closets, due chiefly to the temporary nature of the water supply in the new mains. When the Council's Water Supply Scheme is in full operation there is no doubt that many such conversions will be effected, and I again wish to draw attention to the consideration which will have to be given to the question of efficient sewerage and sewage disposal, especially in the larger villages.

For almost all the new houses erected, or being erected, the water closet is the type of accommodation provided.

The practice of converting the insanitary privy-midden to pail closet is still being proceeded with, but only in those parts of the district where there is no laid-on water supply provided and the water carriage system of drainage is not available.

The numbers of each type of accommodation remaining at the end of the year, and as compared with the end of last year are:—

			1938	1937
Water closets	....	....	259	208
Pail closets	....	....	2320	2325
Privies or Privy-middens			363	392

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

A forward movement was made during 1938, when a Scheme for the collection of Indestructible Household Refuse throughout the district was adopted. The Scheme allowed for the district to be divided into eight areas, each area having a collection each calendar month, thereby making a collection throughout the whole district every month. The refuse collected is taken to and dumped in disused chalk pits. The work has been let out by contract, and generally speaking has been carried out by the Contractor in an efficient manner.

The inception of this scheme received a warm welcome from the general body of the householders affected, and a direct result of it may be emphasized in the disappearance of those unsightly dumps of tins, bottles, and other rubbish from hedge bottoms and open spaces, which have for years past spoiled the countryside.

Another Scavenging Service in operation is the bi-weekly collection from the Royal Air Force Station, at Kellythorpe. The refuse is taken to the chalk pit at the Wold, Nafferton, and there the burnable material is burned, the remainder being levelled as required. The collection and conveyance of the material for disposal is carried out by the same Contractor as for the whole district scheme.

The village of NAFFERTON is the only one in which the collection of Night-soil is undertaken. The work is let out by contract, the night-soil becoming the property of the Contractor who disposes of it on land in his own occupation.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The work done in the Public Health Department during the year is shown in the following tabular statement compiled by the Senior Sanitary Inspector:—

(The numbers marked * appear also under Section D, "Housing" or include numbers which appear under that heading).

HOUSING.

Dwelling houses inspected	....	....	248*
Number of subsequent visits	....	....	41
Informal Notices served	....	....	23
" " complied with	....	....	23
Statutory Notices served	....	....	none
Dwelling-houses found overcrowded	....		2
Privies converted to W.C's.	....	....	2
" " to Pail Closets	....	....	10
Pail Closets converted to W.C's.	....	....	9
New houses built (Private enterprise)	....		17
" " (Council Houses)	....		28

DISINFECTION & DISINFESTATION.

Houses disinfected after cases of infectious diseases	....	....	14
Schools disinfected	....	....	1
Houses disinfested. Eradication of bugs, etc.			2

NUISANCES.

Total number of nuisances found	....		19
" " " remedied	....		19

WATER SUPPLIES.

New houses supplied from water mains			11
Council houses	"	"	28
Other houses newly	"	"	7
Other premises	"	"	2

New wells made ....	....	....	....	none
New bore-holes made ....	....	....	....	none
New rain-water cisterns made ....	....	....	....	none
Wells closed owing to water being unsafe				1
Samples of water sent for bacteriological examination	....	....	....	3

FACTORIES.

Number of Inspections of Factories	....	73
" " " other premises		9
" Defects found:—		
Want of cleanliness	....	7
Sanitary conveniences	....	7
" Defects remedied	....	14

SHOPS.

Defects found:—		
Defective sanitary conveniences		3
Defects remedied:—		
Defective sanitary conveniences		3

SHOPS and OFFICES.

The administration of the Shops Acts has not been proceeded with as fully as desired owing to Housing and similiar work receiving first consideration. No action other than shown in the foregoing tabular statement was taken during the year.

CAMPING SITES.

Number of sites used for camping purposes during the year 1938 (for short periods only)		3
Number of Licences issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936	....	....
Number of campers (estimated) resident in the area at one time during the summer of 1938	....	....
	....	17

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Only isolated factories occur in the district and it has not been found necessary to take any action.

SWIMMING BATHS and POOLS.

There are no Swimming Baths or Pools in the district, either publicly or privately owned.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

(1) The number of houses found to be infested and disinfested was:—

		(a) Council Houses	(b) Other Houses
(i)	Found to be infested ...	none	1
(ii)	Disinfested	none	1

(2) The **Method employed in Disinfestation** was a continuation of the use of "Pyagra" which proved efficient, no second application being necessary. As previously, the greatest care was taken to ensure the spray reaching backs of skirtings, architraves, etc., and all parts of furniture.

(3) **No special Methods were employed for ensuring that belongings of Tenants are free from vermin before removal to Council Houses.** The applicants or displaced persons from condemned houses and their home conditions are all known and no action has been found necessary so far. This matter is noted, however, and should the occasion arise, definite steps would be taken as regards disinfestation.

(4) Disinfestation is carried out by the Council, through the action of the Public Health Department.

(5) Measures to prevent infestation or re-infestation have not been found necessary, and no action has been taken.

SCHOOLS.

The whole of my remarks in previous Annual Reports regarding the various services to Schools still apply, and not until the laid-on water supply is available can definite improvements be effected.

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

(The numbers marked * appear also under Section C, "Sanitary Inspection of the Area," or include numbers which appear under that heading).

1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the Year:—

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 219* |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 272 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included in sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 | 97* |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose | 138 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 63* |
| (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 | 14* |

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Sanitary Inspector	9
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	---

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year:—

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| (a) Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 | No action taken. |
| (b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts | No action taken. |
| (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:— | |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 8 |

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	....	....	....	....	....	none
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936	....	....	....	....	....	No action taken.

4. Housing Act, 1936.—Overcrowding.

(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	....	....	....	....	39
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	....	....	....	....	39
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	....	....	....	....	232
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	....	....	....	....	6
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved	....	....	....	....	2
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	....	....	....	....	11

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS.

In June and December the Council considered Official Representations concerning 55 houses; at Hutton Cranswick (7), Kilham (6), Middleton (16), Nafferton (6), North Frodingham (8), and Wansford (12), and made 15 Clearance Orders which were forwarded to the Minister for confirmation. These Orders were dealt with during the current year, 1939.

During the year the Public Health Department staff have continued with concentrated work on housing as regards fitness.

During the year, the Re-housing Programme has been proceeded with as regards Fimber (2), Fridaythorpe (26) and Wetwang (28), a total of 56 houses having been erected. Those at Wetwang were completed and occupied, those at Fimber and Fridaythorpe being almost ready for occupation.

The number of houses built by the Council now totals 133 and are distributed as under:—

Bainton	....	....	....	6	Beeford	....	....	....	12
Fimber	....	....	....	2	Fridaythorpe	....	....	....	26
Gembling	....	....	....	2	Hutton Cranswick	....	....	....	14
Kilham	....	....	....	10	Langtoft	....	....	....	12
Nafferton	....	....	....	3	North Dalton	....	....	....	6
Watton	....	....	....	2	Wetwang	....	....	....	38

In addition to the above, a Contract was entered into for the erection of a further 40 houses as part of the Re-housing Programme at Kilham (6), Kirkburn (4), Middleton (10), Nafferton (10), and North Frodingham (10). A commencement was made at North Frodingham late in the year.

The type of house built and being built are all of the three-bedroom type.

SECTION E.—Inspection and Supervision of Food.

MILK SUPPLY.

The whole of my remarks relating to local milk supplies, contained in previous Annual Reports, still apply.

Considerable quantities of milk are produced in the district, part of which is sent into Hull by either road or rail, and a large quantity is collected and conveyed by road to the Glaxo Laboratories' factory at Driffield.

The provisions of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, are administered by the Sanitary Inspectors in the Public Health Department. The following table shows what has been done by way of inspection:—

No. of Dairies and Cowsheds on the Register	502
„ Cows (approximately) 	1400
„ Inspections made 	149
„ Defects found and remedied 	27

No samples have been sent for examination, and no action has been taken regarding tubercular cattle.

MEAT and OTHER FOODS.

The Sanitary Inspector is the appointed authorised officer under the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, and the following table shows the work carried out in this department:—

No. of Slaughter-houses on the Register 	18
„ Inspections of Slaughter-houses 	562
„ Defects found and remedied 	41
„ Ordinary visits for purpose of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924 	493
„ Special visits on account of occasional slaughter and suspected diseased meat 	51
„ Licensed Slaughtermen on Register 	38

The foregoing table gives the chief details regarding this particular side of the Public Health Department's work.

Generally speaking the various premises are kept in a clean and wholesome condition and no trouble is experienced in administering the relative Regulations, etc.

Motor Vans carry food supplies for retailing in the villages, these are regularly inspected and are found to be well maintained, and kept in a clean condition.

There is practically no ante-mortem inspection of animals for slaughter and post-mortem inspection is carried out as efficiently as possible over such a widely scattered area.

The following table shows the numbers of each class of animal killed and inspected, the approximate number of animals killed being arrived at after careful consideration:—

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding			Sheep and	Pigs
	Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Lambs.	
Number killed (approx.)	910	65	20	650	10,000
Number inspected	417	39	13	219	7,321

All diseases except Tuberculosis :—

Whole Carcasses condemned	2	2	2	14	8
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	8	3	—	3	21
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	2.39	12.82	15.38	7.76	.396

Tuberculosis only :—

Whole Carcasses condemned	4	4	—	—	12
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	3	—	—	36
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	1.43	17.95	—	—	.655

There is no Meat Marketing Scheme in force, no public slaughter-houses, no other foods were condemned and no proceedings instituted during the year.

Adulteration.

No action has been taken. The County Council administer the Food and Drugs, etc., Acts.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

No examinations were carried out during the year. No cases of food poisoning occurred.

Nutrition.

No special investigations have been made and no definite steps taken regarding this subject.

SECTION F.

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other diseases.

The following table shows the number of cases of each notifiable disease:—

	Total	Sent to Hospital		Died	
Scarlet Fever	11	....	11	....	0
Pneumonia	9	....	1	....	2
Diphtheria	7	....	6	....	1
Chicken Pox	21	....	0	....	0
Erysipelas	1	....	0	....	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	....	0	....	0
<hr/>					
Total cases	50	....	18	....	3
<hr/>					

No epidemics of any severity occurred during 1938, and in no case were Schools closed on account of infectious disease on my advice. The efficient co-operation of the Head Teachers in notifying cases to the Medical Officer of Health is of great help in keeping track of the infectious cases, especially the non-notifiable ones, such as whooping cough and measles, in a rural district.

The following table shows the notified cases classified according to age:—

	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-35	35-45	over 45
Scarlet Fever	2	4	....	....	2	1	1	1	....
Pneumonia	2	....	....	....	1	1	3	1	1
Diphtheria	1	....	2	1	....	2	1	....	....
Chicken Pox	2	1	1	2	11	3	....	1	....	....	....
Erysipelas	1	....	....	....	....
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	....	....

Cancer:

Deaths numbered 18, and the organs affected were Intestine 5, Stomach 5, Rectum 2, and Vulva, Liver, Ovary, Breast, Tonsil, and Lung 1 each.

Prevention of Blindness:

No action has been taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

TUBERCULOSIS.

One new case was notified during 1938. This was a boy aged 8, suffering from Tuberculous Meningitis, who died.

Two deaths occurred; both non pulmonary cases; aged 8 years and 23 years respectively.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations 1925.

No action has been necessary under these regulations nor under Section 172 of the Public Health Act 1936.

All the cases of Tuberculosis were notified before death and the notification of this disease by Medical Practitioners is satisfactory.

I have to thank the Clerk and Sanitary Inspectors for their help during the year and in the preparation of this report.

I remain,

Your obedient Servant,

ALAN MILNER, M.B.

Nafferton.

June 10th, 1939.

