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Contributors

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HEALTH
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DRIFFIELD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of
Health.

For the Year 1945.

Driffield:

Printed by Horsley & Dawson, 73, Middle Street South.

1872

The first part of the year was spent in the
 study of the history of the country and
 the progress of the war. The second part
 was spent in the study of the history of
 the world and the progress of the war.
 The third part was spent in the study of
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 part was spent in the study of the
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 the war. The tenth part was spent in
 the study of the history of the world
 and the progress of the war.

Done at the City of New York, this 1st day of January, 1872.

J. M. Smith
 Secretary

Driffield Rural District.

Annual Report OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH for 1945.

Officers of the Sanitary Authority.

The Clerk Mr. R. B. TOLLETT.
Sanitary Inspector and Building Surveyor F. H. MARGERISON,
Cert. R., San. I., 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.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my report on the health of this rural district during 1945.

This year saw the end of the second World War, and it can be said that the health and physical condition of the inhabitants is good. Nearly 6 years of strain and mental anxiety has, however, had its effect on the nervous systems of the people and it is evident that they are mentally exhausted, more irritable and more prone to physical illnesses than before.

So far as notifiable infectious diseases are concerned, there is little change from normal.

Work has not lessened, nor assistance increased in the Public Health Department, and in fact time is consumed more by form-filling than by the valuable "Field Work" which should be done and has had to be neglected.

Housing is the chief worry. The conditions in this area are absolutely appalling.

Some preliminary work has been done on the provision of comprehensive drainage systems for the villages.

GOVERNMENT EVACUATED SCHEME.

No. of Evacuees billeted on 31st Dec., 1944	....	....	287
No. of Evacuees billeted on 31st Dec., 1945	....	....

The Sick Bay at Burton Agnes Rectory, was closed down on 31st Dec., 1945. The Sick Bay was of the greatest assistance during the war, and I should like to place on record my appreciation of the work of the Matron, Miss Swallow, who managed the hospital and its often difficult and dirty inmates, with such efficiency and tact.

VITAL STATISTICS.

Area	....	....	....	....	....	98,423 acres
Rateable Value	....	....	....	....	....	£32,684
Product of a penny rate	....	....	....	....	....	£127 3 3
Estimated population (mid 1945	....	....	....	....	....	9,149

Live Births.

				Total	M.	F.
1. Total Births	....	....	....	174	78	96
2. Legitimate	....	....	....	157	68	89
3. Illegitimate	....	....	....	17	10	7

Still Births.

1. Total	....	....	....	4	3	1
2. Legitimate	....	....	....	4	3	1
3. Illegitimate	....	....	....	-	-	-

Deaths.

1. All ages	....	....	....	114	65	49
2. Infants under 1 year	....	....	....	10	5	5
Legitimate	....	....	....	9	4	5
Illegitimate	....	....	....	1	1	-

Birth Rate	....	....	....	19.4 per 1000 population
Illegitimate Birth Rate	....	....	....	1.8 per 1000 population
Stillbirth Rate	....	....	....	20.4 per 1000 births
Death Rate	....	....	....	11.3 per 1000 population
Death Rate. Infants under 1 year	....	....	....	1.09 per 1000 population
Infantile Mortality Rate	....	....	....	28.7 per 1000 live births

Causes of Death.

Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	....	....	....	1
Tuberculosis, other forms	....	....	....	2
Influenza	....	....	....	6
Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum	....	....	....	1
Cancer of Breast	....	....	....	2
Cancer of other Sites	....	....	....	12
Intra cranial Vascular Lesions	....	....	....	12
Heart Disease	....	....	....	26
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	....	....	....	6
Bronchitis	....	....	....	5
Pneumonia	....	....	....	1
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	....	....	....	3
Syphilitic Diseases	....	....	....	1
Diarrhoea under 2 year	....	....	....	1

Other Digestive Diseases	....	....	....	....	....	7
Maternal Causes	....	....	....	....	....	1
Premature Birth	....	....	....	....	....	2
Congenital Malformation	....	....	....	....	....	4
Violent Causes	....	....	....	....	....	2
All other Causes	....	....	....	....	....	19

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

My observations made in previous Annual Reports regarding the water supply of the district still apply.

A piped supply is owned and operated by the Council under the supervision of C. B. Newton, Esq., M. Inst. C.E., of Hull, the Council's Engineer and Manager. A Waterworks Superintendent is resident at the Hutton Pumping Station.

Generally speaking this supply can be said to be good in both quality and quantity, there being an adequate supply at the source. The supply is constant, and well serves the area within the limits of the mains. Beyond these limits the old order remains, and not until the system is extended to reach every part of the district can it be said to be wholly satisfactory. Efforts are being made however, to bring this about and consideration of schemes by the Water Committee indicate that it is very much alive to the needs of the population as a whole.

The major portion of the district is served by the mains radiating from the Council's Main Pumping Station at Hutton, where electrical power driven pumps lift and force the water from boreholes at the Pumping Station to (a) the "Western" or Wolds area, and (b) to the "Eastern" or flat portion of the district. The "Eastern" area supply is augmented by the Auxiliary Pumping Station at Nafferton Wold, which is the old Nafferton Waterworks brought into use again, and where water is raised from the old well into the Pressure head reservoir by means of a single pump operated by a crude oil engine.

Pressure head reservoirs for the "Western" area are sited at (a) Summit House, (b) Towthorpe, to which the water is picked up at a "Booster" Station at Wetwang and boosted to the reservoir, and (c) Collingwood, to which the water is boosted from the "Booster" Station at Garton.

A reservoir on the site of the old Nafferton Waterworks provides the Pressure head for the "Eastern" area. A Booster Station is also located here, from which water is forced up to the Cottam Aerodrome, supplying farms on the way. The Booster is operated by crude oil engine power.

During the year a further 52 laid-on supplies from the mains have been installed in houses and farms, and approximately 2,340 houses affecting 8,300 of the population take their supplies from the mains. These figures include those supplied by public stand-taps.

Although advantage has been taken of the facilities provided and more laid-on supplies have been installed, this has mainly happened within reach of the existing mains. Many isolated farms and houses are still in need of the facilities enjoyed in the more fortunate populous areas and of those premises within easy reach of the mains. As previously stated, the old order still remains in these cases, and the villages of Brigham, Harpham and Watton are still dependent on their original out-of-date supplies.

The practice of taking fortnightly samples from various points on the mains system and submitting them for Bacteriological Examination has been continued throughout the year, and all reports on them have been satisfactory.

Chlorination of the supply into the mains at the Hutton Pumping Station has been carried out and monthly reports by the Engineer confirming this have been received.

Although action has been taken regarding the installation of a Chlorinating Plant at the Nafferton Auxiliary Pumping Station, such a Plant has not yet been installed.

Regarding private supplies, 5 samples for Bacteriological Examinations and 3 for chemical analysis, all in respect of 5 dairy farms were obtained during the year. The reports on 2 of these were satisfactory, on 2 other protective measures have been taken, whilst the 5th, a rainwater cistern, has been put out of use and a mains supply installed.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The Annual Report for 1937 sets out the character and efficiency of the Drainage and Sewerage of the District. This remains substantially the same as in that Report.

During the year, Mr. D. H. Moore, B.Sc., A.M.Inst. C.E., of 12, Valley Bridge Road, Scarborough, the Council's Consulting Engineer, has been engaged in preparing Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Schemes covering practically the whole District. These schemes have been considered by a Sub-Committee appointed for the purpose and Schemes have been submitted to the East Riding County Council for consideration. Nothing of a constructive nature had been arrived at in the year under review.

Attention to Outfalls has been applied with the limited labour force at the department's disposal. Open drains have been attended to in the usual way by cleaning out to remove sewage deposits from them, and has been of a more or less routine nature,

It is again pointed out that proper sewerage and sewage disposal systems are required if satisfactory results and avoidance of complaints is desired. An enlightened population is demanding water carriage systems for faecal matter, more so since the advent of the piped water supply, and the existing systems are totally inadequate. Many populous areas are without any means of sewage disposal and rely on open drains for receiving outfalls.

There are several instances where private settling tanks and filters are installed to deal with soil drainage, and in isolated places this form of disposal is to be recommended, providing of course, there is sufficient fall to give efficiency.

Closest Accommodation and Scavenging.

There is still no change regarding conditions, types of sanitary accommodation, and disposal.

The work of scavenging Nafferton, the only village where night-soil collection is undertaken, is carried out by contract. The material collected is disposed of, by the Contractor, on land for manurial purposes.

Collection of refuse from the Driffield R.A.F. Station, which lies in the parish of Kirkburn, is undertaken by the Council, and this work has been carried out bi-weekly, as formerly, by direct labour and the Council's own motor vehicle.

Indestructible household refuse is collected from all the villages in the district. The district is divided into eight areas or groups of villages, each area having a collection on the first, or second, or third, or fourth Thursday or Friday of the month. By this arrangement each village is visited once in every month. The material collected is disposed of by tipping in a disused chalk pit.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Number of houses inspected (general	....	....	....	119
Number of subsequent visits	....	....	....	31
Number of informal notices served	....	....	....	23
Number of informal notices complied with	....	....	....	23
Number of houses found overcrowded	....	....	....	12
Number of privies converted to pail closets	....	....	....	14
Number of privies converted to W.C.'s	....	....	....	3
Number of pail closets converted to W.C.'s	....	....	....	5
Number of nuisances found and remedied	....	....	....	26
Number of new house built	....	....	....	None
Number of house improved under Housing (Rural Workers)				

Acts	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	2
Number of houses disinfected after cases of infectious Disease									4
Number of houses disinfested (vermin)	....				....				7
Number of wells closed owing to water being unsafe								....	2
Number of water samples sent for Bacteriological Examintions									25
Number of watef samples sent for Chemical Analysis							....		3
Number of houses inspected under the Rural Housing Survey									504

HOUSING.

The housing situation throughout the district has remained unaltered. The effect of the war years, during which no new houses were built, has resulted in an acute shortage of housing accommodation. Lack of labour and materials facilities for the repair of existing houses has also had its effect.

A Post-war Programme of Housing has been considered by the Council through its Housing Committee and the district has been surveyed with a view to drafting a Housing Programme. The Housing Committee has visited the whole of the villages, making contact with Parish Councils, with a view to assessing local needs. Much spade work has been done during the year, with little to show for it. Sites have been selected and site plans have been prepared in the Public Health Department.

F. Vaux, Esq., F.R.I.B.A., of Bridlington, was appointed the Council's Architect during the year and in September, submitted type plans with the object of a commencement of the building programme, the selected villages being Wansford, Skerne and North Frodingham.

The question of Temporary Houses was considered by the Housing Committee but it was not considered advisable to embark on such a Scheme and it was decided not to make application for temporary houses. Similar action was taken in respect of Swedish Timber Houses.

At the beginning of the year the Council, by Resolution, approved the Draft Constitution of a RURAL HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE set up for the East Riding and two Representatives were appointed to serve on this Committee, together with the Sanitary Inspector. The setting up of his Committee arose out of the recommendations contained in the "Hobhouse Report" and the objects are well known,

Also, regarding the RURAL HOUSING SURVEY, a Housing Survey Assistant was appointed to make the recommended Survey under the Supervision of the Sanitary Inspector and at the end of the year particulars of 504 of the total of 2,640 houses had been surveyed on the lines recommended by the Rural Housing Advisory Committee. This survey provides much valuable information although it must be realized that constant revision will be necessary to keep it up-to-date. The information obtained is such that should be available at all times and revision will require only the checking of the basic information.

FOOD.

Milk Supply.

The National effort regarding increased milk production continues with beneficial results and, locally, much improvement in cowshed construction and in the production of milk has been effected

Satisfactory co-operation between the officers of the County Council, the War Agricultural Executive Committee, and the Public Health Department of this Council is continued and appreciated by the milk producers, who look upon this co-operation with favour and have come to rely on the technical advice offered them.

More cowsheds have been improved and up-to-date dairies provided, and more farms have been connected up to the Council's water mains.

At the end of the year under review, the numbers were:—

Dairies and Cowsheds on the Register	....	....	....	515
Inspections made	....	....	....	161
Defects found and remedied	....	....	....	19

Meat and Other Foods.

All inspection of carcasses is carried out in the Central Slaughter-house at Driffield, which is situate outside this Rural District.

The inspection of shops and vehicles, and places where food is prepared has been carried out, and calls for no special comment except that it is not possible for the present staff of the department to do more than the minimum needs in this direction.

GENERAL

The duties in connection with the Ministry of Works scheme of Certified Essential Work relating to building repairs has been continued in the Public Health Department.

Commencing on the 1st of August, additional duties were placed upon the department, when the scheme of Licensing by Local Authorities of Building Work was introduced. At the end of the year 83 General Licences and 1 for the erection of a new bungalow dwelling, had been issued.

Infectious Diseases.

The following cases were notified in 1945:—

				Civilian	Services & P.O.W.
Scarlet Fever	....	....	....	11	-
Whooping Cough	....	....	....	42	-
Diphtheria	....	....	....	2	-
Erysipelas	....	....	....	2	1
Measles	....	....	....	151	-
Pneumonia	....	....	....	8	-
Chicken Pox	....	....	....	-	1
Dysentery	....	....	....	-	14

Tuberculosis.

During 1945, 7 cases of Tuberculosis were notified. 3 were Pulmonary and 4 non-pulmonary cases.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

This has been carried on as in previous years.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

ALAN MILNER, M.B.



