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Contributors

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RURAL DISTRICT OF DRIFFIELD

ANNUAL REPORT

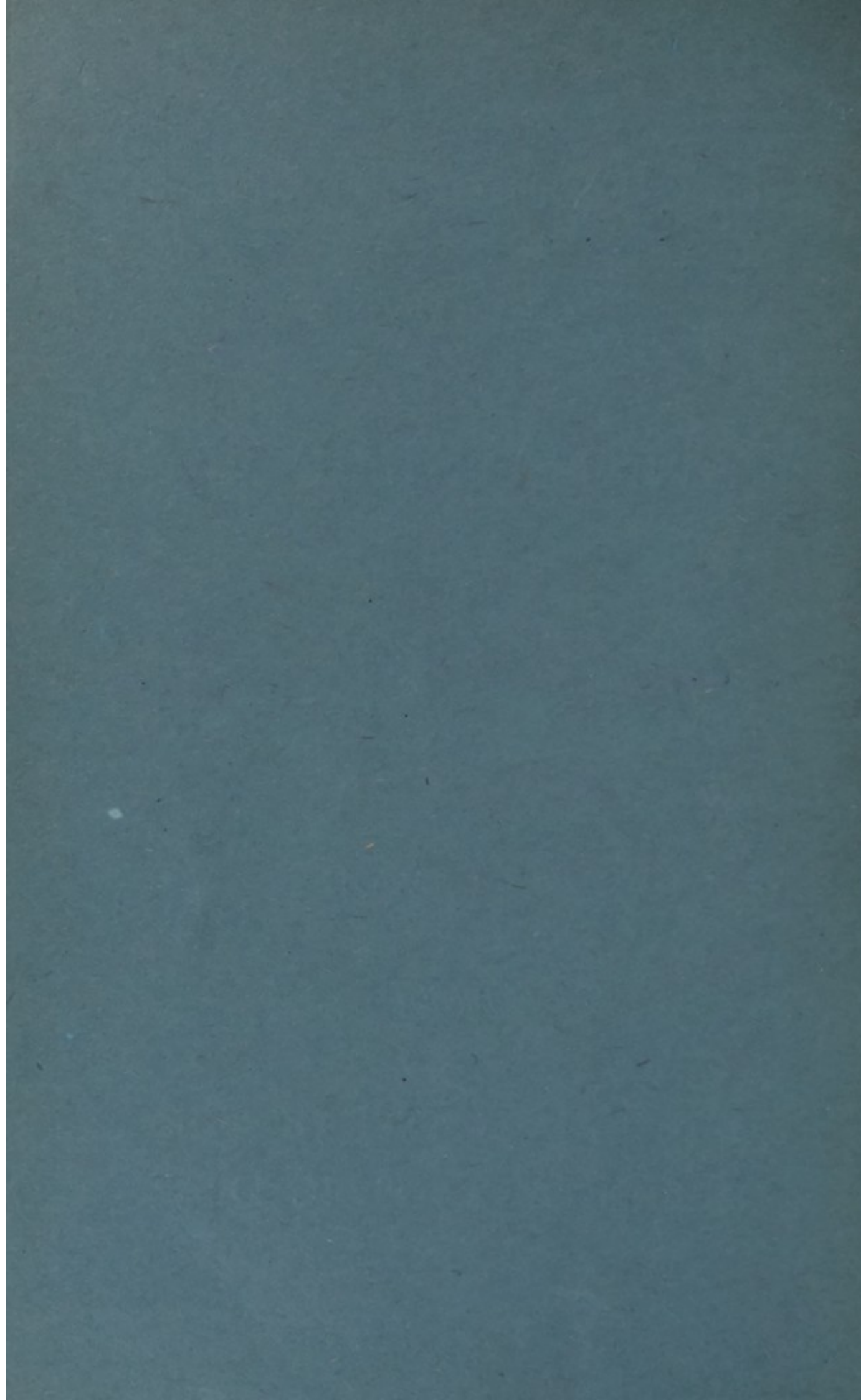
of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1955

including

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR



HEALTH COMMITTEE

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L. S. BIELBY.

Vice-Chairman:

G. W. E. OGDEN.

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WALKER, G. L.

MIDDLEWOOD, H.

WEBSTER, T. R.

Clerk of the Council:

R. B. TOLLETT.

*Medical Officer of Health and Divisional Medical Officer,
East Riding County Council:*

E. T. COLVILLE, M.D., M.B., B.S.(Hons.), B.Hy., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor, and Housing Manager:

S. WRIGGLESWORTH, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

F. SKIRROW, M.S.I.A., R.S.I. Cert. for Meat and Other Foods.

Waterworks Engineer and Inspector:

T. LEARY.

Consulting Engineer:

D. H. MOORE, B.Sc., M.I.C.E.

DIVISIONAL HEALTH OFFICE,

SCHOOL CLINIC,

OXFORD STREET,

BRIDLINGTON.

To the Chairman and Councillors,

Rural District of Driffield,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report for the Year 1955.

There have been no specific factors affecting the public health during the year.

I take this opportunity of thanking the Health Committee of the Council and my fellow officials for their ready assistance at all times.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

E. T. COLVILLE,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICAL MEMORANDUM.

Rural District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Driffield
Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	98,423
Population: 1955 Registrar General	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,130
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£41,654
Product of penny rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£167
Number of inhabited houses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,355
Birth-rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.1
Death-rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12.3
Infantile mortality	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20.5

VITAL STATISTICS.

(a) LIVE BIRTHS.

					Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	78	57	135
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	7	4	11
							146

Birth-rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	13.1 per 1,000
Percentage of illegitimate births	...	...	...	...	...	...	7.5

(b) STILL-BIRTHS.

There was 1 still-birth (legitimate) during the year, equivalent to a rate of 0.09 per 1,000 population.

(c) DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered during the year as belonging to the Rural District was 137. This is equal to a death-rate of 12.3 per 1,000. The comparability factor to correct the crude death-rate for age and sex distribution in the Rural District is calculated by the Registrar General at 0.94, this on multiplication with the actual rate gives a comparative death-rate of 11.5 per 1,000.

The causes are given in Table 1.

(d) INFANT MORTALITY RATE.

There were 3 deaths (legitimate) in infants under 1 year of age. The infantile mortality rate, based upon the number of live births registered during the year, i.e., 146, is equivalent to a rate of 20.5 per 1,000 births.

(e) MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no deaths from maternal causes.

TABLE I.
CAUSES OF DEATH IN DRIFFIELD R.D., 1955 (R.G.).

	Males.	Females.
All causes	70	67
Cancer, stomach	3	—
Cancer, uterus	—	2
Cancer, other sites	6	7
Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	12
Coronary disease, angina	15	10
Hypertension with heart disease	—	3
Other heart disease	12	10
Other circulatory disease	2	1
Influenza	—	1
Pneumonia	4	1
Bronchitis	5	4
Other diseases of respiratory system	—	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—
Congenital malformations	2	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	13
Motor vehicle accidents	2	—
All other accidents	2	1

TABLE II.
PROVISIONAL STATISTICS—ENGLAND AND WALES.

BIRTHS.

Live births	15.0 per 1,000 home population.
Still-births	23.1 per 1,000 live and still-births.

DEATHS.

Death-rate	11.7 per 1,000 home population.
Infant mortality	24.9 per 1,000 related live births.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND
OTHER DISEASES.

The following infectious diseases were notified during the year:—

Measles	382
Food Poisoning	1
Paratyphoid	1
Pneumonia	21
Puerperal Pyrexia	1
Scarlet Fever	10
Whooping Cough	37

There were no deaths from Measles or Whooping Cough.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The number of children who completed the full course of immunisation in the Authority's area between 1st January and 31st December, 1955, is as follows:—

Under 5 years.	5—14 years.
100	2

In addition, 25 children received boosting doses.

The estimated number of children immunised at any time who were born between 1941 and 1955, inclusive, is as follows:—

Under 5 years.	5—14 years.
423	1,393

TUBERCULOSIS, 1955.

The Register of Tuberculosis for the year is as follows:—

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Total.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
Number of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1954 ...	15	10	2	3	30
Added to the Register:—					
(a) Cases notified for the first time during the year ...	2	2	—	—	4
(b) Inward transfers ...	1	—	—	—	1
Removed from the Register on account of death, change of address, etc. ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1955 ...	18	12	2	3	35

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Specimens for bacteriological and pathological examinations are sent either to the Public Health Laboratory of the Medical Research Council at Hull or to the Pathological Laboratory at the County Hospital, Beverley. The bacteriological examination of water supplies, milk supplies and ice cream is carried out at the Laboratory of the Medical Research Council at Hull.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

The service is maintained by the County Council.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

These services are maintained by the East Riding County Council. Clinics serving the area are established in Driffeld, Kilham and Middleton.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICES.

The Divisional and Assistant Divisional Medical Officers are responsible for these services in the area.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

During the year under review, a 2" extension from Rectory Farm, Beeford, was completed to service Pinderhill. Also a 3" main extension from Garton to Elmswell was laid and a 5" main laid in the village street of Watton, all of which were carried out by direct labour.

In October, work was commenced on Contract No. 4 for the laying of the mains in connection with the Kilham pumping station scheme. The Contractor, Mr. J. G. Wigley, of Kirbymoorside, commenced to lay the 4" main from Langtoft to Kilham and by the end of December he had completed this, also three hundred yards of 6" main for the new reservoir at Tibthorpe, and had commenced laying the new 6" main from Wetwang booster station to Garton booster station.

55 new connections were made to the Council's mains during the year, 34 domestic and 21 metered.

Water at Hutton and Nafferton pumping stations is chlorinated, the reagent used being Voxan Special Type C solution, and the feeders by Wallace & Tiernan, Ltd., the dosage per 30,000 gallons of raw water being 2 gallons of 0.5% solution at Hutton and 2½ gallons 0.5% solution at Nafferton.

20 samples of raw water from the pumping stations and 6 from public standpipes or consumer points were submitted for bacteriological examination, all of which were reported as highly satisfactory.

6 of the 8 samples taken from private supplies were unsatisfactory, four of these were from properties which, as a result of the main extension at Elmswell, have since been put on mains supply, and action to provide a suitable supply was taken in the other two cases.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

With the approval of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, work was commenced during the year on the North Dalton and Langtoft Sewerage and Sewage Disposal Schemes, estimated to cost £19,446 and £19,190 respectively. The Ministry also approved, in principle, the sewerage and sewage disposal proposals for Hutton Cranswick (with Watton), but tenders for this work had not been obtained by the close of the year.

Other sewerage and sewage disposal proposals commenced during the year were the laying of a sewer from the site of the proposed Kilham Pumping Station to connect to the existing village sewer (estimated to cost £1,492) and the laying of a sewer at Wetwang to serve the Southfield View Council Houses, in Back Street, and other properties in the vicinity (estimated to cost £1,421).

During the severe weather in the early part of the year, the filter at the Wetwang Sewage Works became frozen up despite lagging previously carried out wherever possible. This entailed by-passing the filters with a diversion direct from the settling tank to the irrigation area.

134 yards of 6", 100 yards of 9" and 60 yards of 12" piping was laid to replace open drains in the villages of North Frodingham, Beeford, Foston, Middleton and Cranswick.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

As in the previous year, steady progress has been made in the conversion of pail closets to water closets, despite the fact that the Council offers no financial assistance under Section 47 of the Public Health Act, 1936. Nevertheless, during the year, 39 water closets were provided by conversion from pail closets, and of these, 13 were in connection with general works subject to Improvement Grants under the Housing Act, 1949.

As outlined above, the new sewerage schemes to Langtoft and North Dalton were not completed during the year and the impetus of conversions following these schemes has not yet been evident.

All the 18 new Council Houses erected during the year were provided with water closet accommodation, as were all the 10 houses built privately, with the exception of two, where chemical closet accommodation was installed.

The approximate numbers of the various types of accommodation at the end of the year were as follows:—Water Closets, 1,012; Pail Closets, 2,089; Privy Middens, 339.

SCAVENGING AND CLEANSING.

The position as to scavenging throughout the district is as described in previous reports, viz., a collection each calendar month by the Council's refuse collection vehicle of indestructible household refuse only. (The 173 houses on the Driffeld R.A.F. Station, by special arrangement with the Air Ministry, are given a weekly collection of household refuse.)

There is no collection of closet pail contents except in the villages of Nafferton and Wansford by a private contractor, paid by the Council for his work at Nafferton, for which a special rate contribution is collected, and paid directly by householders at Wansford.

As previously commented on, the arrangement whereby in the rest of the district householders have to dispose of closet pail contents on whatever land is available is fraught with the excessive fouling of land and other insanitary methods of disposal. However, there does not appear to be any immediate possibility of a suitable service being provided by the Council.

Reference was made in my last report to the out-moded practice of emptying septic tank contents to Council House Sites and settling tanks at small village works by hand into small lagoons often closely adjacent to dwellings. As then envisaged, during the year under review arrangements were made to borrow a cesspool emptier from a neighbouring authority, Bridlington M.B., to test the efficiency and practicability of emptying the tanks mechanically and disposing of the contents by spread-

ing on agricultural land for manurial purposes. Theses tests confirmed the desirability of such a system and the result was reported to the Committee accordingly. The Committee agreed to purchase a new fitment in the form of a "Vaci-tank," which consists of a trailer mounted 250 gallons tank with suction developed directly from the engine of the towing vehicle. This equipment has worked very successfully, and though not having the versatility of a conventional cesspool emptying machine, has largely solved the problem of tank emptying with a minimum of nuisance.

During the year, 5 additional litter baskets have been provided, now making a total of 19 throughout the district.

SALVAGE.

Tins, light metal and other salvagable materials delivered to the Council's tips are sold to a Salvage Dealer. The dealer is responsible for sorting and loading his own transport and the income derived from these sales amounted to £83 5s. 0d. during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following Tabular Statement sets out the number and nature of inspections made, types of premises visited, purpose of these visits, action taken and results of such action:—

	Inspections.	No. in District.
Houses (excluding R.A.F.)	970	3182
Houses—subsequent visits	76	
Houses—informal action taken	45	
Houses—informal action complied with	37	
Houses—found not to be in all respects fit for human habitation	124	
Houses—found overcrowded during the year	6	
Houses—found overcrowded at end of year	36	
Houses—disinfected after infectious disease	4	
Houses—disinfested for vermin (bed-bugs)	Nil	
New houses built by the Council		18
New houses built by Private Enterprise		12
New houses in course of erection by the Council		Nil
New houses in course of erection by Private Enterprise		5
Drainage Works—all types of premises	161	
Water Supplies—all types of premises	30	
Shops, other than Meat Shops	54	
Meat Shops, Stalls, etc.	530	
Slaughterhouses	852	
Ice-cream—registered premises	32	
Other Food Inspections	49	
Dairies	4	
Knacker's Yards	12	
Rats and Mice Destruction	355	

Privy and Pail Closets converted to Water Closets ...	39
Nuisances found and remedied	24
Water Samples sent for Bacteriological Examination—total	18
Water Samples sent for Bacteriological Examination from Pumping Stations	4
Water Samples sent for Bacteriological Examination from Public Stand-taps	6
Water Samples sent for Bacteriological Examination from Private Supplies	8
Unsatisfactory reports on Bacteriological Examination from Private Supplies	6
Repeat samples satisfactory on Bacteriological Examination from Private Supplies	1
Well Closed (water unfit)	Nil

CAMPING SITES.

There is still a fairly big demand for sites on which to station temporary dwellings, used chiefly for week-end and holiday periods, though in a few cases applications were received for use as permanent dwellings. Town and Country Planning legislation is probably the most efficient limiting factor on this type of development, and this Council has, as far as licensing under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, dealt with each case on merit.

Licences have been issued authorising the use of moveable dwellings as follows:—Beeford 2, Lowthorpe 1, Gembling 1, Hutton 1, Kilham 2, Nafferton 2, North Frodingham 9, Watton 1.

A licence was also issued in respect of a camping site for 9 caravans at the King's Head Inn, Nafferton.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no swimming baths or pools in the district, either public or private.

RODENT CONTROL.

The Council's rodent control operates under the system of part grant towards the work from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, subject to the standard of control being satisfactory. During the year, test bait and maintenance treatment were carried out on the district's sewers. Regular treatments were given to the Cranswick Tip and other known black spots in various villages, again with satisfactory results. In addition, treatments were given to many private premises.

Many farmers avail themselves of the service of the Rodent Control Section of the Agricultural Executive Committee for regular treatment, and to those who have not yet adopted this system, it is strongly recommended as a worthwhile service enabling them to comply with their responsibilities under the Pests Act, and as a means of preventing damage to their foodstuffs.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

It is pleasing to report that no house, either private or Council house, was found to be infested with bed bugs, though occasional disinfestations were made for fleas and cockroaches.

SCHOOLS.

Steady progress is being made by the East Riding County Council in providing water closet accommodation at Schools, and during the year the Middleton-on-the-Wolds School was converted to water carriage system, whilst other schemes are also proposed.

HOUSING.

During the year considerable work was done in an effort to assess the district's slum clearance problem and particulars contained in the Rural Housing Survey records proved very useful. It was estimated from the results of this work that there were 203 houses unfit for human habitation besides the 57 already subject to confirmed demolition and clearance orders, and although the Council wished to deal with these 260 unfit houses as soon as possible, they considered that it could take up to 15 years to provide replacements for all of them.

Three individual unfit houses were condemned during the year under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936; two of these were at Kilham and the other at Foston, and in all cases the families displaced were re-housed by the Council.

18 Council houses were erected during the year (as shown below). 14 of these were occupied by families removed from slum properties and in all cases the unfit houses were demolished.

					Houses.
Kilham	...	...	...	...	4
Middleton	...	...	...	...	8
Nafferton	...	...	...	...	8
					—
					18
					—

Total number of Council Houses occupied at the end of the year—462.

There were no Council Houses in course of erection at the end of the year, but a programme of 20 dwellings to deal solely with slum clearance had been passed as follows:—

					Houses.	Bungalows.
Langtoft	...	...	...	...	—	2
North Frodingham		...	...	...	2	2
Wansford	...	...	...	...	4	2
Middleton	...	...	...	...	—	2
Wetwang	...	...	...	...	—	4
Fridaythorpe	...	...	...	...	2	—
					—	—
					8	12
					—	—

Total number of applicants for Council Houses at end of
 year 160

Under private enterprise, 12 houses have been completed and 5 are in course of erection, all of traditional types.

During the year 7 cases of overcrowding were abated by moving into Council Houses.

Applications for Improvement Grants under the Housing Act, 1949, showed yet another increase numbering 26, involving on completion of the works 29 separate dwellings. In respect of 25 of these proposed improvements, grants of $33\frac{1}{3}\%$ were given, while in 3 other cases the maximum grant of £400 was allowed. One application was refused.

Thirteen of the schemes were completed during the year, as were four granted in the previous year, making in all a total of 17.

FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

Biological samples of milk are taken by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries' officers. No samples were reported as being positive during the year.

By far the largest proportion of milk retailed in the district is supplied by large dairy concerns, most of the milk being heat treated. As from 6th December, 1955, under the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Areas) (No. 2) Order, 1955, the whole of the Driffield Rural District was included in an area in which the sale of milk other than of an approved Special Designation was prohibited. The effect of this is that raw untreated milk other than tuberculin tested is no longer available. There are still a number of producer-retailers supplying tuberculin tested milk direct from the farm to customers, though in the main the small producer-retailer now sends his milk to the larger dairies where heat treatment is given to the milk.

The following licences for the sale of milk were granted by this Authority during the year:—

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	7
Pasteurised	...	...	...	7
Sterilised	...	...	...	13

Supplementary licences were granted as follows:—

Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	1
Pasteurised	...	...	...	1
Sterilised	...	...	...	2

ICE-CREAM.

23 premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream, only one of these being a manufactory. Supplies are chiefly from firms of national repute, with sales in pre-packed form. All 9 samples submitted were reported as being Grade 1.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

The position as to slaughtering facilities was fully dealt with in last year's report, and all the 8 slaughterhouses licensed continued in use. The only change was the cessation of use of Mr. J. H. Warwick's slaughterhouse at Wetwang for slaughtering of animals for Smithfield Market, though its use for local purposes continued.

100% inspection of carcasses was maintained and whilst conditions are not all that can be desired in all the slaughterhouses, it is only fair to say that on the whole a good measure of co-operation is given by the trade in turning out a satisfactory commodity. Here it may be mentioned that the general standard of animals slaughtered is of prime quality.

The total number of visits made for meat inspection purposes was 852, this involving the spending of an excessive amount of time and effort in relation to the numbers of animals inspected, averaging approximately 4 animals per visit.

Condemned meat and offals are coloured green with a marking fluid specially prepared for the purpose and the surrender certificate issued incorporates a form of receipt from the collector to the effect that none of the meat will be used for human consumption.

The following tables give further statistical details:—

		Cattle, excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.
Number killed	...	647	21	397	1119	1022	Nil
Number inspected	...	647	21	397	1119	1022	Nil

All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.

Whole carcasses condemned	1	2	2	20	4	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	47	4	—	37	11	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	7.3	23.8	.5	5.1	1.5	—

Tuberculosis only.

Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	—	—	2	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	49	9	—	—	59	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	7.7	42.9	—	—	6.0	—

	Cattle, excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.
<i>Cysticercosis.</i>						

Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—

Details of condemnations are as follows:—

				Beasts.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.
<i>Tuberculosis.</i>							
Carcase and Organs ...	...	...	1	—	—	2	—
Heads and Tongues ...	...	...	33	—	—	43	—
Livers ...	...	...	8	—	—	2	—
Lungs ...	...	...	47	—	—	7	—
Mesenteries ...	...	...	13	—	—	48	—
Spleens ...	...	...	3	—	—	—	—
Kidneys ...	...	...	1	—	—	—	—
Diaphragm ...	...	...	1	—	—	—	—
Part Carcases ...	...	...	2	—	—	—	—

Other than Tuberculosis.

Carcase and Organs ...	...	...	3	20	4	2
Heads and Tongues ...	...	...	8	—	—	—
Livers ...	...	...	38	16	6	—
Lungs ...	...	...	1	10	2	—
Spleens ...	...	...	1	—	—	—
Part Carcases ...	...	...	1	11	3	—

Estimated total weight of condemned meat—3 tons 9 cwts.

10 premises were on the register for the preparation of preserved food.

FOOD POISONING.

During the year an outbreak of salmonella food poisoning, with all the cases occurring in adjoining districts, was traced to an infected 6½ lbs. tin of corned beef sold loose on his round by a butcher, whose shop is situate within this district. Thanks to some excellent co-operation from the medical practitioners, the Public Health Laboratory, and the firm involved, it was possible to recover the infected tin and to arrive at conclusive evidence as to the source. The corned beef was manufactured

and packed by a firm of international repute and needless to say following this incident they took the most stringent steps to ensure that all known tins of the same batch were recalled and precautions taken to prevent any recurrence.

It was gratifying to be able to report the prompt diagnosis and notification of these cases by the patients' doctor (always the starting point for investigations) and which in this case enabled steps to be taken to prevent any secondary infections.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSE OF PROVISION AS TO HEALTH.

Premises.	No. on Register.	No. of Inspections.
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	1
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	29	26
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	—	—
Total ...	30	27

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied.
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) :		
(a) Insufficient	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—
Total ...	1	—

