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**Contributors**

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HEALTH  
A-14 SEP 51  
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1950

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

of the

Urban Sanitary Authority

of

EAST DEREHAM

Norfolk.



STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

A. B. GUILD, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.I.H.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector:

C. McD. O'DONNELL, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.B.

Waterworks Superintendent:

R.R.TYE.

Housing Officer:

J.G.MARLOWE, A.F.S. (Eng)., A.R.San I.

... ..

THE HISTORY OF THE

REIGN OF

CHARLES THE FIRST

BY

JOHN BURNET

OF THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

IN TWO VOLUMES

THE SECOND VOLUME

CONTAINING

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Infectious diseases were responsible for 5 deaths - acute poliomyelitis 1, influenza 3, and pneumonia 1.

There were 2 deaths from tuberculosis of the respiratory system giving a mortality rate of 0.31, the rate of England and Wales being 0.36.

11 deaths were due to cancer in one form or another.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

163 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year. Measles, infectious hepatitis and whooping cough were responsible for 147 of the notifications.

#### INFECTIOUS HEPATITIS

In the Annual Report for 1949 it was stated that a higher incidence of this disease had then been anticipated. There were 38 notifications of this cause of jaundice, an increase of 30 over the previous year.

#### MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH

These diseases had been prevalent throughout England and Wales in 1950 and, as their incidence in East Dereham in 1949 had been low, it was not surprising to find that many of the susceptible children contracted these diseases. Most of the cases occurred in the early years of school life, a period when susceptibles are liable to be exposed to the greatest risks.

#### PNEUMONIA

The incidence of pneumonia was very low, only 5 cases being notified. Although the rainfall was very much above the average throughout the year the weather in the winter and spring months was not severe.

Influenza, in which pneumonia is so frequently a complication, did not assumewidespread proportions, as it did in some other parts of the country, and was a relatively mild disease. 6 patients were admitted to the Isolation Hospital, Dereham suffering from influenza.

#### POLIOMYELITIS

Of the 4 cases notified, 1 was fatal and the other 3 made good recoveries without any residual paralysis. The source of infection was not traced in any of the cases which did not appear to be connected in any way and occurred at wide intervals.



# CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER

Two cases occurred in the Children's Home in April. These were removed to the Isolation Hospital and made complete recoveries. In the course of the investigations 10 other children were ascertained to be carriers of the causal organism, but only 3 of these children showed any clinical signs which incidentally were not indicative of this disease. As a precautionary measure they were also removed to the Isolation Hospital.


There can be little doubt that the disease was contracted from one of the members of the staff who had, for some time, suffered from a heavy cold and was herself a carrier of the organism.

Chicken pox and mumps was prevalent towards the end of the year - these diseases are not notifiable

The incidence of the notifiable diseases is given in the following tables, the first giving the total notifications with the corresponding figures for the preceding three years, and the second table giving the age distribution.

Disease	1950	1949	1948	1947	Admitted to Hospital	Notification Rate per 1,000 population	
						E.D.U.D.C.	E. & W.
Whooping Cough	18	1	39	5	1	2.81	3.60
Scarlet Fever	3	2	1	6	3	0.47	1.50
Measles	91	7	183	3	9	14.20	8.39
Cerebro-spinal Fever	2	1	-	-	-	0.31	0.03
Diphtheria	-	-	2	-	-	-	0.02
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	1	-	-	0.00
Pneumonia	5	21	11	11	3	0.78	0.70
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.17
Polionyelitis	4	1	-	6	-	0.63	0.18
Infectious Hepatitis	38	8	1	-	-	6.00	-
Dysentery	1	26	-	-	-	0.16	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	1	3	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	1	2	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	1	-	-	-	-	0.16	0.17
Malaria	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
TOTAL ...	163	69	242	33			





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Disease	AGE GROUPS													Total
	0-	1-	2-	3-	4-	5-	10-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65	
Whooping Cough	-	1	2	4	3	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Measles	2	5	4	9	18	38	4	4	5	-	-	-	2	91
Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Pneumonia	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	5
Infectious Hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	14	7	5	8	4	-	-	-	38
Polio-myelitis	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	4
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL ...	2	6	6	14	21	69	12	10	14	5	2	-	2	163

### FOOD POISONING

One case, notified in July, occurred in a young woman of 29. The illness was so mild in character that she did not consult her family doctor for a week after the onset of the symptoms. Laboratory investigations isolated *S. typhimurium* and a moderate growth of *Staphylococcus aureus* was present. It was believed that fish purchased in Dereham may have been responsible for this case.

Byelaws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for securing the observance of Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions and Practices in Connection with the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air were adopted by the Council.

The pamphlet "The Customer's Health is in Your Hands" issued by the Central Council for Health Education was distributed to all businesses engaged in the preparation and handling of food.

### TUBERCULOSIS

During the year under review 9 cases were added to the register. Of these 2 cases were restorations to the register.

The comparative figures for the preceding three years were:- 1949 - 16, 1948 - 3, and 1947 - 10.





The distribution of the 9 cases by age and sex is given in the following table:-

<u>Age Period</u>	<u>Respiratory</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory</u>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-	-	-	-	-
1-	1	-	-	-
5-	-	1	-	1(a)
15-	-	-	-	1
25-	-	2(a)	-	-
35-	-	-	-	-
45-	1	1	-	-
55-	-	-	-	-
65-	1	-	-	-
TOTAL ...	3	4	-	2

(a) = One restoration to the register.

There were two deaths from tuberculosis (respiratory), giving a mortality rate of 0.31 as compared with 0.63 in 1949. The rate for England and Wales was 0.36.

The numbers remaining on the register were:-

	<u>Respiratory</u>			<u>Non-Respiratory</u>			<u>Grand Total</u>
	M.	F.	Total	M.	F.	Total	
31.12.49	13	10	23	18	17	35	58
31.12.50	12	11	23	13	13	26	49

The statistics for the County of Norfolk per 1,000 of the population in 1950 are given below with the data for East Dereham in brackets for purposes of comparison:-

#### FORMAL NOTIFICATIONS

Respiratory	Case Rate	Non-Respiratory	Case Rate
232 (7)	0.64 (1.14)	91 (2)	0.25 (0.31)

The mortality figures for the same period are:-

Respiratory	Case Rate	Non-Respiratory	Case Rate
72 (2)	0.19 (0.31)	12 (0.00)	0.03 (0.00)

#### Tuberculin Survey

East Dereham Urban District and Mitford and Launditch Rural District were selected as one of the areas in Norfolk in which a tuberculin survey was carried out early in the year. The results of this survey have not yet been published.





### CAUSES OF DEATH

The Causes of death are given in the following table supplied by the Registrar General:-

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	1	1	2
Acute poliomyelitis	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	3	7
Vascular lesions of nervous system	4	7	11
Coronary disease, angina	3	2	5
Hypertension with heart disease	-	1	1
Other heart disease	6	9	15
Other circulatory disease	-	2	2
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	1	1
Influenza	1	2	3
Pneumonia	1	-	1
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	-	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	-	2
Other defined and ill defined diseases	2	1	3
Accidents (excluding motor accidents)	1	1	2
	28	36	64

## COMPARABILITY FACTOR

This is 0.84 and denotes that the mortality index in 1950 for East Dereham was 16% lower than in the base year, 1947/48.

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,313
Population (Census 1931)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,643
Population (Estimated 1950)	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,410



## GENERAL STATISTICS (Continued)

Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£29,330
Estimated Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£108

### MEDICAL STATISTICS

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR, relating to the net births and deaths after correction for inward and outward transfers as furnished by the Registrar General.

	Males	Females	Total	East Dereham 1950	1949	England & Wales 1950
<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>						
Legitimate	46	52	98			
Illegitimate	1	3	4			
Total	47	55	102			
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated Resident Population	...	...	...	17.00	19.7	15.8
<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>						
Legitimate	-	3	3			
Illegitimate	-	-	-			
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 resident population	...	...	...	0.47	0.32	0.32
<u>DEATHS (All Ages)</u>						
	Males	Females	Total			
	28	36	64			
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 resident population	...	...	...	10.00	16.04	11.6
<u>INFANT DEATHS (Under 1 year)</u>						
	Males	Females	Total			
Legitimate	1	-	1			
Illegitimate	-	-	-			
Total	1	-	1			

This death occurred in an infant under 4 weeks of age.

Infantile mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	9.8	32.0	29.8
---	-----	-----	-----	------	------

### DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION SCHEME

During the year immunisations carried out by general practitioners and by the Assistant County Medical Officer at the Infant Welfare Centre and at Schools after routine medical inspections were as follows:-





	<u>Full Course</u>		<u>Re-inforcing</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>
Under 5	5 - 14	Total	All ages	
94	44	138	61	199

The object of the campaign is to have at least 75% of babies immunised before the end of the first year of life. Whilst this aim has not yet been realised it is satisfactory to note that 69% of the babies born in the years 1947, 48 and 49, have now been immunised.

The immunisation state of children of school age is satisfactory.

### VACCINATION

The vaccination state of children still remains very unsatisfactory. Many young parents do not appreciate that the modern technique of vaccinations produces a minimum amount of scarring and upset to the baby. Apart from this, what may be regarded as the apathetic attitude of many parents towards vaccination, appears to be the main reason why so few children are protected.

Vaccinations performed during the year were:-

<u>Primary</u>				<u>Re-vaccinations</u>	<u>Grand Total</u>
Under 1	1-4	5-14	15 and over		
31	2	-	6	16	55

### HOUSING

The number of houses erected in 1950 was:-

- (1) By the Council - 8 houses and 28 flats.
- (2) By private enterprise - 4.

The number of applicants for Council houses increased from 361 on 31st December, 1949, to 367 on 31st December, 1950. The serious housing shortage in East Dereham remains as acute as ever.

I would like to express my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Council for the very sympathetic consideration they have given to cases which I have brought to their notice for rehousing, particularly where tuberculosis is one of the factors involved.





## WATER SUPPLY

The Council's waterworks continued to provide an adequate supply of pure chlorinated water.

There was no need to impose any restrictions on the use of water during the year. Nevertheless, although there was an ample rainfall it was necessary to deliver a regular weekly supply of water to three properties in the district where the wells had failed completely. In addition water was supplied to Mitford & Launditch R.D.C. for delivery to certain parishes.

Seven samples were submitted for bacteriological examination. The laboratory reports were "highly satisfactory" in six cases. In the seventh case the unsatisfactory laboratory report was almost certainly the result of faulty collection of the sample as subsequent samples immediately taken from three different districts of the town, including the unsatisfactory sampling site, were all found to be highly satisfactory.

One sample was submitted for chemical analysis and the report, which was satisfactory, is given as an appendix.

After communications with the Ministry of Health the Council have decided to sink a bore on Etling Green to supply the adjoining cottages. It will be recalled that last year four unsatisfactory laboratory reports were received on the water from this well. In the first instance the pump will be manually operated and connected later for use by electricity when power is brought to the Green.

	<u>Gallons</u>
Total Annual Consumption ... ..	52,312,400
Total Annual Domestic Water Consumption ... ..	35,024,400
Total Annual Industrial or Metered Supplies ... ..	17,288,000
Total Number of Commercial and Industrial Meters. (Covering approximately 78 firms and businesses) ... ..	(94)
Average Daily consumption, including metered supplies ...	143,321
Average Gallons per head per day ... ..	22.9
Average Gallons used by Industry per day . . . . .	47,364
Average Daily Pumping Hours.....	12.9
Total Estimated Population Served with Water.....	4,181
(leaving 2179 without Town Water Supply up to March, 1951)	
No. of Houses supplied from Town Water Supply.....	1,248
(a) Direct to houses.....	946
(b) By means of standpipes....	302

The year's total consumption has decreased by 2,069,400 gallons owing to quite a considerable amount of work being carried out repairing leaking pipes and taps etc.

57 premises have been connected to the Town Supply during the year including 44 new houses and flats at Sandy Lane Estate West.





A new 4" Beresford submersible electric pump was purchased and installed in No.3 Borehole. The original pump was reconditioned and is now a stand-by unit.

280 yards of 6" spun iron main has been installed in Norwich Street from Cowper Road, to the level crossing. There is now a main on each side of the street and all communication pipes were renewed at the same time.

100 yards of 3" spun iron water main has been installed at School Lane, Toftwood. This extension will eventually link up with the Westfield Road main when delivery of the pipe is obtained.

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

The full scheme for the sewerage of Toftwood has been approved by the Council and is now with the Ministry of Health.

The Council has received from the Consulting Engineers a report on the alterations necessary at the existing sewerage disposal works to deal with the present overloading of the works and to cope with future extensions of the town's sewerage system. The Council has decided to push on with this scheme.

#### CLOSET ACCOMMODATION

A survey of all properties on pail closets in the town was completed during the year and plotted on the 25 inch Ordnance Map. This gives a clear picture of the problem of their conversion to the water borne system and confirms the advisability of the policy already adopted by the Council to eliminate night soil collections in the area East of Dereham Station.

The fifteen houses in Nursery Buildings referred to in last year's report have been connected to the sewer and a further eight throughout the town, making a total of twenty-three. A scheme for the conversion of thirteen houses in Bath Avenue is under consideration.

Night soil is now being collected from Mattishall Road, Etling Green, Dumpling Green and Dillington area.

#### PUBLIC CLEANSING

Fly nuisance from the refuse tip off Cemetery Road continued to be a source of trouble, but was kept well in hand by regular treatment with insecticide. A new tipping area has been purchased at Hoe and tipping will commence there early next year.

The collection of refuse has been extended to outlying parts of the district and it is gratifying to note that not a single complaint was received throughout the year.



The following table summarises the inspections made during the year by your Sanitary Inspector:-

Description	Inspections	Informal Notices
Drainage ... ..	132	5
Factories, Workshops and Bakehouses .. ...	79	-
Slaughterhouses and Butcher's Shops .. ...	208	-
Food Shops ... ..	30	-
Cowsheds, Dairies etc., .. ...	11	-
Restaurants .. ...	10	-
Verminous and Filthy Premises .. ...	40	-
Housing ... ..	50	23
Nuisances ... ..	5	2
Infectious Diseases ..... ..	6	-
Rats and Mice ... ..	50	-
Refuse Collection... ..	25	-
Schools ... ..	8	-
Night Soil ... ..	250	-

#### SHOP ACTS

Your Sanitary Inspector has not been delegated as Inspector under these Acts.

#### CAMPING SITES

Neatherd Moor was used illegally as a camping site by itinerant vendors on several occasions. They were, however, moved without difficulty on being given a day's notice.

#### SMOKE ABATEMENT

No complaints were received during the year

#### SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS

There are no swimming baths in the district and no reports have been received of nuisances from pools.





## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

Three cases were reported, two of which occurred in Council property. The properties were treated twice daily for the first week and then at regular intervals for a further seven weeks which completely abated the nuisance.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### MILK SUPPLY

Milk Distribution has been satisfactory and the sterilisation of bottles and utensils maintained, though at one time it was feared that the coal shortage would make it impossible. A new dairy has been erected in the town.

### Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949.

*Brucella abortus* infection occurred in one case in the milk supplied by a local producer/retailer. The appropriate action required by the above regulations was enforced.

### FOOD

Thirty-three condemnation certificates were issued covering various tinned and other foods found to be unfit for human consumption.

### MEAT

The Council were unable to obtain possession of the building at their Depot in Cowper Road for use as a slaughterhouse as envisaged in last year's report. Various sites in the town are now being investigated with a view to erecting a Municipal Slaughterhouse.

Meat is delivered from the slaughterhouse to butchers' shops in a closed van instead of an open cart as heretofore.

The following animals have been slaughtered during the year:-

Cattle	...	...	...	...	1324
Calves	...	...	...	...	286
Sheep	...	...	...	...	2231
Pigs	...	...	...	...	329

The results of the inspection of carcasses is given in the following table.



CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

					Cattle	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	..	..	..	..	1,324	286	2,231	329
Number inspected	..	..	..	..	1,324	286	2,231	329
All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole carcases condemned	..	..	...		5	2	6	4
Carcases of which some part of organ condemned	..	..	..	..	568	9	28	48
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	..				43%	3%	1%	14%
Tuberculosis only Whole carcases condemned					12	1	Nil	1
Carcases in which some part or organ condemned	.	..	..	..	249	1	Nil	2
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	..	..			19%	.3%	Nil	.6%

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1938

Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health.

	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of written notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	4	Nil	Nil
Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	44	73	Nil	Nil
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	One Housing Site	2	Nil	Nil
TOTAL .....	51	79	Nil	Nil





## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found			
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector
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 & b) insufficient, unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	-	-
TOTAL .....	-	-	-	-

No prosecutions were instituted under the Acts.

There is no Appointed Factory Doctor in East Dereham and the duties automatically fall on the Medical Officer of Health. During the year 69 juveniles were examined for fitness for employment in factories, 18 of whom were resident in Dereham.

### NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

#### DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The Norfolk County Council's home help scheme has worked satisfactorily. The service has become more popular and altogether 31 households have been provided with the services of a home help. On no occasion has a request for a home help been turned down.

7 occasional home helps are now employed.

#### MENTAL HEALTH - ADMINISTRATION

As in 1949 two Local Welfare Officers cover the Dereham Urban District and Mitford and Launditch Rural District Area.

Both Officers have several years experience in Lunacy work and have attended a short course on Mental Health arranged by the County Council.

Close co-operation still exists between the Regional Hospital Board, the County Council and the Local Welfare Officers for the supervision of patients on trial from Mental Institutions.



During the year 7 cases were admitted to mental hospitals, while 4 discharged patients were referred by hospitals for after care and follow-up reports.

Under the Mental Deficiency Acts 1913 - 1938, no mental defectives were ascertained during the year.

The classification of the mental defectives living in the community is as follows:-

Under statutory supervision	6
Under guardianship	1
On licence	2

The British Red Cross Society undertakes the teaching of handicrafts in the homes of defectives who can benefit by such training.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

No action was necessary under Section 47 of this Act.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

A. B. GUILD,

Medical Officer of Health.





APPENDIX

Lincolne Sutton and Wood,  
Clarence House,  
6, Clarence Road,  
Norwich.  
5th October, 1950.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER

No. 15388

Sample received from East Dereham U.D.C. Waterworks.  
Mark: ex borehole No.1. Settling Tank at the Waterworks 26.9.50.

Appearance when received: Slight rusty deposit.

Colour: 3.0 (A.P.H.A.) Units      Odour: Nil  
Reaction: Alkaline pH (7.3)      Taste: Nil

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Ammoniacal nitrogen	:	0.15	Hardness as $\text{CaCO}_3$ :	
Albuminoid nitrogen	:	0.03	Total	: 280
Nitrate nitrogen	:	Nil	Carbonate	
Chlorine as chlorides	:	23.0	(temporary)	: 223
Oxygen absorbed (4hr. 27°C)	:	0.45	Non-carbonate (permanent)	: 57
			Alkalinity as $\text{CaCO}_3$	220
			Free carbon dioxide	7.7
			Total solids (at 180°C)	: 315
			Metals in solution: IRON	.088

Opinion: The organic quality of this water is good and there is no sign of pollution. The hardness is moderate and mainly temporary. The free carbonic acid content is low and the reaction of the water is on the alkaline side of neutrality; such water would have little or no solvent action on metals, the only metal naturally present is iron, and the quantity is too small to cause any trouble. Apart from the slight rusty deposit caused by the presence of the iron, the water is clear and almost colourless. This water is quite suitable for drinking and general purposes.

LINCOLNE SUTTON AND WOOD.

(Signed) ERIC C. WOOD.







