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Contributors

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1963

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[Signature]

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the

Medical Officer of Health


of the

East Dereham Urban District Council

of

EAST DEREHAM

Norfolk



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Dr. Chamberlain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th.

The estimated mid-year population was 1,473, an increase of 170 over that of the preceding year.

For this period, of which I have no figures, were registered during the year and there were 17 deaths from all causes.

The adjusted birth rate of 15.15 is an increase of 1.25 per cent on the previous year and the adjusted death rate of 11.50 is a decrease of 1.25 per cent on the previous year.

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

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

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

C. McD. O'DONNELL, M.B.E., M.A.P.H.I.

Waterworks Superintendent

R.R. TYE

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

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

Inspector and Public Health Inspector

C. W. O'DONNELL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.I.H.

Telephone Superintendent

R. B. FRY

EAST DEREHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1963

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for 1963.

The estimated mid-year population was 7,420, an increase of 170 over that of the preceding year.

111 live births, of which 6 were illegitimate, were registered during the year and there were 101 deaths from all causes.

The adjusted birth rate of 16.16 is an increase of 2.23 per 1000 as compared with last year and remains appreciably lower than the England and Wales rate of 18.3.

The illegitimate live births accounted for 5.4% of the total births - a welcome fall to the average figure for years past.

It is gratifying to note that there were no still births this year and only one death under one year of age, in fact under one week of age, due to influenzal meningitis associated with prematurity.

The number of deaths, 101, was more in keeping with recent years and gives an adjusted death rate of 11.5. The England and Wales rate was 12.2.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

151 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year, of which 126 were due to measles. Nothing unusual was reported in the measles outbreak.

Dysentery

A small outbreak of some dysentery occurred at London Road School the onset being at the end of September.

At this time, diarrhoea and vomiting, probably due to a virus, was prevalent in the town and practically all the members of the teaching staff had suffered from this illness. By laboratory examination dysentery was excluded as the cause of their illness.

At least ten children attending this school were ill with some dysentery. Only two other children attending the Secondary School and one adult were known to have had the same type of dysentery about this time. The connection with London Road School was clear in each case.

There was no reason to suspect the canteen staff in this outbreak - they were nevertheless kept under surveillance.

The method of hand washing at London Road School was lax and required tightening up. The use of ample hot running water for hand washing can not be over-emphasized.

None of the cases was severe and positive children were excluded from school until two consecutive negative reports were received. A further negative report was also required before clearance was given.

The difficult problem of clearing up the carrier state was again encountered.

"Winter Vomiting"

This condition, with or without an accompanying diarrhoea, was troublesome throughout the year. There seems little doubt that the condition is due to a virus.

It is understood that a research programme has been instituted to ascertain the true cause and thereafter, it is hoped, a line of treatment and methods of prevention will be suggested.

Food Poisoning

Three cases of infection with *Salmonella typhimurium* came to my notice in the third quarter of the year.

Two cases occurred in one family and the nature of the illness was ascertained on laboratory examination after the mother had developed gastro-intestinal symptoms. At the initial inquiry the history of a similar illness in the father and daughter was not elicited. It was deemed advisable to have specimens submitted by these as a result of which the daughter was found to be positive. Further inquiries elicited the information that the daughter had had gastro-intestinal symptoms on and off for at least two weeks prior to the onset of the mother's illness. The source of infection was not traced.

The single case occurred in a young boy who, six days prior to the onset of his illness, had visited a farm in the adjoining district where there had been cases of *Salmonella typhimurium* infection in the cattle. No other possible source of the infection was known. Normally one would assume that three days would be a reasonable maximum incubation period in the human being.

Cerebro spinal meningitis

One case of this form of meningitis was reported, but not notified, just before Christmas. The boy, aged 2½ years, was very seriously ill for several days after his admission to hospital.

The source of infection was not known. Prior to the onset of the boy's illness some members of the family had very heavy colds. Another factor was overcrowding in the house.

Swabbing of all the home contacts at a later date failed to isolate the casual organism.

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

<u>Disease</u>	<u>1963</u>	<u>1962</u>	<u>1961</u>	<u>1960</u>
Scarlet Fever	7	5	2	3
Erysipelas	-	-	-	1
Measles	126	1	115	191
Whooping Cough	3	3	32	103
Pneumonia	-	1	5	2
Meningitis	-	-	-	1
Dysentery	13	-	2	123
Food Poisoning	-	1	1	2
Infectious hepatitis	2	2	5	4
	151	13	162	430

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Age Group</u>												
	0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	25	35	45	55	65
Scarlet fever	-	1	-	-	-	4	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	1	4	15	14	18	72	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
Whooping Cough	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	9	2	1	1	-	-	-	-
Infectious hepatitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-

TUBERCULOSIS

The situation here remains satisfactory. Only one new case of pulmonary tuberculosis was added to the register plus one inward transfer (female pulmonary).

No deaths were due to tuberculosis this year.

The numbers remaining on the register were:-

	<u>Pulmonary</u>		Total	<u>Non-pulmonary</u>		Total	<u>Grand Total</u>
	M	F		M	F		
31.12.62.	17	9	26	2	3	5	31
31.12.63.	15	10	25	1	3	4	29

B.C.G. Vaccination

The valuable service, provided by Norfolk County Council, is offered to school children at the age of 13 and gives a fairly high degree of protection against tuberculosis at the time these children leave school and take up employment.

The work done during the year in schools in my district is summarised as follows:-

1. Number of children eligible	286
2. Number of acceptances	228
3. Number of children heard tested	220
4. Number of tests read	216
5. Number positive	30
6. Tuberculin index	13.9
7. Number vaccinated	180

The tuberculin index fell from 18.6 to 13.9.

Cancer of the Lung

This disease, very largely preventable, showed a welcome drop in that it was responsible for only two deaths - one female aged 62 and one male aged 60.

Causes of Death

These are given in the following table supplied by the Registrar General.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	-	2
Malignant neoplasm, lungs, bronchus	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	3	3
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	3	5	8
Diabetes	1	-	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	7	13
Coronary disease, angina	15	6	21
Other heart disease	7	12	19
Other circulatory disease	3	2	5
Influenza	2	2	4
Pneumonia	8	2	10
Bronchitis	-	2	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	-	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
Other defined and ill defined diseases	1	4	5
Suicide	1	2	3
	<hr/>		
	52	49	101
	<hr/>		

It is of interest to note that more than half of the deaths, 58 in fact (male 21 female 37), occurred at the age of 75 or over.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	5,313
Population (estimated mid 1963)	7,420
Rateable value	£242,611
Estimated product of a penny rate	£1,000

MEDICAL STATISTICS

Extract 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.

	E. Dereham		England & Wales
	1963	1962	1963
Males Females Total			
<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>			
Legitimate	56	49	105
Illegitimate	5	1	6
	<u>61</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>111</u>

Adjusted Birth Rate per 1,000 of the total live and still births.	16.16	13.93	18.3
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<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>			
Legitimate	0	0	0
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the total live and still births.	0	28.6	17.3
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DEATHS (All ages)

52	49	101
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Adjusted Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.	11.5	14.36	12.2
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INFANT DEATHS (Under 1 year)

Legitimate	1	0	1
Illegitimate	0	0	0
	<u>1</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1</u>

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live births	9	9.8	20.9
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Immunisation Schemes

There has been no changes in these schemes during the year and the work done by general practitioners and the Assistant County Medical Officer is detailed in the following tables.

Born during	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1954-58	1949-53	Total
-------------	------	------	------	------	------	---------	---------	-------

Diphtheria Only

Primary	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Reinforcing	-	-	-	-	-	53	17	70
Grand total								72

Six fifteen year olds also given reinforcing injections.

Diphtheria and Tetanus

Primary	-	-	-	1	-	20	3	24
Reinforcing	-	-	-	-	1	31	-	32
Grand total								56

One fifteen year old given primary Diphtheria/Tetanus.

Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

Primary	38	47	2	2	1	-	-	90
Reinforcing	-	-	2	1	1	3	-	7
Grand total								97

Tetanus Only

								1948 & before	
Primary	-	-	-	-	1	43	31	28	103
Reinforcing	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	4
									107

Smallpox Vaccination

Age at date of vaccination.	0 - 3 Months	3 - 6 Months	6 - 9 Months	9 - 12 Months	1 Year	2 - 4 Years	5 - 14 Years	15 & Over	Total
Primary	24	3	1	7	11	-	2	1	49
Revaccination	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
									51

The last table shows that there has been a further drop in the number of vaccinations in the first two years of life.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The tables show the work done in the whole of my area during the year.

Primary Vaccination

<u>Age Group</u>	<u>Two Salk</u>	<u>Three Oral</u>	<u>Total</u>
Born in 1963	-	26	26
Born in 1962	3	192	195
Born in 1961	7	39	46
Born 1943-1960	3	76	79
Born 1933-1942	4	13	17
Others	6	18	24
	23	364	387

Reinforcing Doses

Third injection of salk	33
Oral after two Salk	19
Oral after three Salk	401
Oral after two Salk and one Oral	55
Oral after three Orals	82

HOUSING

Westfield Lane Development

The first stage of the Westfield Lane development comprising 10-3 bedroom four person and 6-3 bedroom five person houses has been completed. Stage II comprising 12-3 bedroom four person and 12-3 bedroom five person houses commenced October 1963.

Baxter Row Development

The final stage of the Baxter Row development has been completed by the erection of 4 old person's bungalows, 2 old persons' flats and 2-3 bedroom maisonettes.

Moorgate Estate

The layout plan has been prepared, house types agreed and planning approval is awaited for the development of an extension of approximately 13 acres to the Moorgate Estate where it is envisaged 176 dwellings will be erected.

Council House Improvements

Work on the improvement of pre-war Council houses by the construction of bathrooms, internal W.C.'s and the installation of hot water systems has continued.

24 houses at Northgate, Cemetery Road have been completed and the improvement of 22 houses, Vores Terrace, Crown Road, has commenced.

Garage Sites

Plans have been prepared and approval is awaited for the development of a site at Sandy Lane for 17 garages, on which 12 pre-cast concrete garages will be erected on the first stage.

Improvement Grants

The number of grants approved in 1963 was as follows:-

Standard Grants	- 15
Discretionary Grants	- 2

Installations completed in respect of Improvement Grants are as follows:-

Baths 9, wash-hand basins 9, hot water installations 9, W.C.'s 6, larders 2.

Closing orders were made on 28 houses.

The number of houses erected in 1963 was:-

- (a) By the Council 20
- (b) By private enterprise 81

The number of applicants on the waiting list at the end of the year was 119.

WATER SUPPLY

The average daily consumption was 285,803 gallons compared with 227,454 gallons in the previous year. The total yearly consumption was 104,603,900 gallons, an increase of 21,583,100 gallons or 20% over the preceding year. The percentage of increase over the last 10 years is 46%.

The highest daily consumption was 316,500 gallons on 7th June, 1963. Restriction on the use of hose pipes or car washing was adopted from 1st April 1963 and was still in force up to the end of the year.

Total yearly consumption	104,603,900 gallons
Increase over preceding year	21,583,100 "
1953/54 Total yearly consumption	56,091,300 "
1963/64 " " "	104,603,900 "
Percentage of increase over last 10 years	46%
Total yearly domestic used	87,603,900 "
" " industrial used	17,000,000 "
Total number of metered supplies	166
Average daily consumption	285,803 "
Average gallons per head per day, less industrial	33.1 "
Average gallons used daily by industry	46,575
Estimated total population supplied	7,250
Number of houses supplied with Town water	2,531
Total number of houses in Toftwood where mains are available but not connected	8
Average number of persons per house	2.9

New Connections and Supplies

167 new connections and supplies have been added to the distribution system during the year. Only 8 of these connections were made to existing properties, the remainder all being for new dwellings and properties. In 1953/54 only 36 new connections and supplies were installed.

Mains and Extensions

540 yards of 3" P.V.C. water main has been installed at Stone Road, Toftwood, taking the supply to the Urban Boundary. A further extension was installed at Larnier's Drift for a distance of 270 yards. 234 yards of 3" main was installed at Neville Close, Toftwood to supply an estate of 40 dwellings. 500 yards of 3" and 4" P.V.C. water main has been installed at Sandy Lane for a private estate of 57 dwellings.

Headworks

Work commenced in January 1964 on the erection of a new high level Water Tower with a capacity of 400,000 gallons. Completion date is expected December 1964. This will greatly add to the efficiency of the Town's Water Supply.

Further schemes are already under way to supplement the Town's water supply. This has been made possible by the close co-operation from two neighbouring authorities. A bulk supply in the region of 100,000 gallons daily is expected from this source.

Number of Samples taken

Bacteriological	10
Chemical	1

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT 1946
Local Health Services under Part III

Domestic Help Service

82 occasional home helps were employed in the district during the year and 33 cases were assisted in Dereham.

Mental Health - Administration

Mr. A. Boothman, Welfare Officer, remained in charge.

39 patients were admitted to mental hospitals under the provisions of the Mental Health Act, 1959. This is an increase of 14 over the previous year.

30 admissions were female and 9 male.

25 admissions were informal and in the other 14 cases the powers of compulsory admission were invoked.

Subnormal Persons

The number registered as subnormal remains at 17, one new case having been added and one having left the district. Ten of these cases are classified as being severely subnormal. Eight cases attend a full time Training Centre and two attend a weekly social club held at the Local Health Office. Three subnormals are in full time employment and one self supporting.

Old Persons Welfare

The two old peoples's clubs at Dereham and Toftwood continue to function and provide useful social contacts for the members.

A "meals on wheels" service was introduced in Dereham and on an average 12 persons had been supplied one meal each week. A similar service was later introduced at Toftwood and is run by the Toftwood Voluntary O.P. Committee. Normally 10 to 12 meals were supplied once weekly.

8 elderly people were admitted to Hostel or Part III accommodation provided by the County Council.

No cases were dealt with under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1961
Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

	Number on Register	Inspections	Number of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	10	10	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	32	34	2	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out workers premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	42	44	2	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	No. of cases in which prosecutions Instituted
Want of cleanliness	2	2	-	1	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	-	-	-	-	-
	2	2	-	1	-

No out-work is done in this district so far as I am aware.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

One of the remaining few wells in the district was replaced by a deep bore during the year. Two samples from existing bores gave excellent results.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Structurally the works extensions are complete. Unfortunately the levels through the works did not permit the installation of a comminutor or other means of breaking down the solids arriving at the screening chamber. Consequently the screens quickly became blocked with paper, etc., causing the liquors to back pound up the incoming mains. When the screens were cleaned thousands of gallons of liquid surged through the works at a rate which made treatment impossible and caused the effluent to be substandard.

Continuous raking screen have now been installed which allow a regular rate of flow through the various parts of the plant and it is hoped that the effluent will be improved by this alteration.

Pipes, valves, machinery, filter walls etc., were burst or otherwise damaged during the frost of 1962/63.

Night soil collection is reduced now to a minimum and is mainly from non-sewerable properties in the rural part of the district and substandard properties in the town.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

House refuse is collected weekly in the built up area of the town and fortnightly on the outskirts. The collectors are maintaining a high standard which in some measure may be due to a bonus scheme introduced during the year incorporating a system of fines where individual houses are missed.

A paper sack pilot scheme was introduced in the latter part of the year and its progress from an efficiency and economic point of view is being evaluated in relation to a scheme for the whole of the district.

A new refuse tip at Beetley, some four miles from the town, was started during the year. Strict control has been maintained on the operation of the tip. Some complaints were received in the early stages and conditions have now improved considerably.

Continuous snow, followed by long periods of frost early in the year made it impossible to maintain regular street scavenging which caused the town to look very dirty and untidy. A great part of the pollution was caused by dogs. I find it quite unacceptable that these animals are trained to respect their owners homes and gardens,

yet they are allowed or indeed sent out, mainly at night, to pollute our streets and footpaths. From a public health and amenity point of view this must be stopped and I suggest the County Council be invited to be more strict in their enforcement of the Good Rule and Government Byelaws which control this matter.

SMOKE NUISANCES

Four smoke nuisance complaints were investigated and abated. Dereham continues to enjoy a virtually smoke free atmosphere.

CAMPING AND CARAVAN SITES

There are no camping sites in the district. Five individual caravans have been licensed to stand in private gardens and there is one site for six caravans.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

The following table summarises inspections during the year:-

<u>Descriptions</u>	<u>Inspections</u>	<u>Informal Notices</u>	<u>Statutory Notices</u>
Drainage	142	1	-
Factories, workshops and bakehouses	70	2	-
Slaughterhouses and butchers shops	40	-	-
Food shops	115	8	-
Cowsheds, dairies, etc.	-	-	-
Restaurants and Hotels	56	2	-
Verminous and filthy premises	-	-	-

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION

No cases reported.

MILK SUPPLY

There are four milk distributors in the area. Three cases of dirty milk bottles from producers outside the district were investigated. County Council and District Council Officials concerned were informed.

ICE CREAM

Of the twenty seven samples taken twenty four were Grade I, two Grade II and one Grade III. A producer of soft ice cream who failed to produce an acceptable grade withdrew from the business.

FOOD INSPECTION AND CONDEMNATION

Food premises in the town are kept clean and generally well maintained.

Two which fell short of the standards required by the Food Hygiene Regulations were brought up to standard.

The open provisions market in the town's Market Square was under constant supervision throughout the year and improvements were made, but administrative difficulties still remain particularly in relation to washing of hands. The Council are building new public conveniences close by with excellent washing facilities which will greatly assist personal cleanliness in this large and important food handling sphere.

The following foods were condemned:-

- 118 lbs. Meat Pieces generally
- 24 lbs. Minced Pork
- 12 lbs. Corned beef
- 50 lbs. Beef Lard
- 8 lbs. Jellied Veal
- 4 lbs. Chopped Ham
- 40 lbs. Tinned Ham
- 6 lbs. Beef sausages
- 12 pkts. Beef skinless sausages
- 12 pkts. Pork Skinless sausages

MEAT INSPECTIONS

Proposals for the modernising of the town's only slaughterhouse under the requirements of the Slaughterhouse Act 1958 were approved by the Council but the owner decided not to proceed with work and the licence was allowed to lapse. All the town's meat is imported from surrounding districts and townships.

AGRICULTURE ACT 1956

No gang labour operated in the district during the year.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

A.B. GUILD.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER

15th May, 1963

Cert No. P.817
Lab. No. 5876/W

Sample Received 23rd April, 1963 from East Dereham U.D.C.

Marked No.1 Bore at Waterworks

Appearance when received Clear, with trace of yellow deposit

Nature of Deposit Iron compounds

Colour Faint yellow

Odour Nil

Reaction Faintly alkaline

Taste Satisfactory

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN PARTS PER MILLION

<u>Ammoniacal nitrogen</u>	Negligible trace	<u>Total</u>
<u>Albuminoid nitrogen</u>	0.02	<u>Carbonate (temporary)</u>
<u>Nitrate nitrogen</u>	Nil	<u>Non-carbonate (permanent)</u>
<u>Nitrite nitrogen</u>	Nil	<u>Alkalinity as CaCO₃</u>
<u>Chlorine as chlorides</u>	22	<u>Free carbon dioxide</u>
<u>Oxygen absorbed</u> (4 hr., 27°C.)		<u>Total solids (at 180°C)</u>
<u>Fluorine</u>	0.75	<u>Iron (total)</u>
		<u>Metals in solution</u>

OPINION

This water is of very good organic quality and the chemical analysis shows no sign of pollution. The water contains iron in sufficient quantity to give rise to a yellow deposit on standing. This is of course without effect on health and in our opinion this water is fit for drinking purposes. The fluorine content is above the average for East Anglian waters, though it does not quite reach the optimum of one part per million from the point of view of dental health. The figure now reported is a little higher than that obtained on the sample taken in January (see our Cert. No.P.447) by the Norfolk County Council Public Health Department. Variations of this order do occur in water supplies of natural origin.

for Lincoln Sutton & Wood Ltd.,

(signed) Eric C. Woods.

