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Contributors

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1969

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health


of the

East Dereham Urban District Council

of

EAST DEREHAM

Norfolk



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E. A. Hildon

1871

Journal of the

Board of Directors of the

City of New York

for the year 1871

as published by the

City of New York

for the year 1871

as published by the

EAST DEREHAM URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1969

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report for 1969.

East Dereham Urban District occupies approximately the geographic centre of Norfolk and consists of some 5,313 acres. The main industries are clock making, furniture making and engineering.

GENERAL STATISTICS:

Area in acres.	5,313 acres.
Estimated mid 1969 population.	8,390
Estimated mid 1968 population.	8,280
Rateable value April 1st, 1969.	£343,999
Estimated product of Penny Rate 1969.	£1,356

There were 117 live births of which 3 were illegitimate, compared with 10 in 1968. This is 2.57% of the total births.

The birth rate of 14.7 is below that of England and Wales, and is also below that of last year.

There were 120 deaths giving a natural decrease (births-deaths) of 3 hence 113 new residents took up their abode in Dereham. There were no infant deaths.

The death rate of 11.4 is lower than that for England and Wales (11.9). Only 8 deaths occurred below the age of 55 and 47.5% of deaths occurred in the over 75 years age group.

VITAL STATISTICS:

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>ENGLAND & WALES</u>
Live Births.	117	141	
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	14.7	18.05	16.3
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births.	2.57%	7.09%	8
Still Births.	3	0	
Total still and live births.	120	141	
Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year)	-	1	
Infant Mortality Rates.			
Total infant deaths per 1,000 live births.	-	7.09	18
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births.	-	7.09	
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births.	-	-	
Neonatal mortality rate (deaths under 4 wks. per 1,000 live births).	-	7.09	12
Early neonatal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births).	-	7.09	10
Perinatal mortality rate (still births and deaths under 1 week) per 1,000 total births.	25	7.09	23
Maternal Mortality.	-	-	
Deaths all ages.	120	115	
Death Rate (adjusted) per 1,000 population.	11.4	11.39	11.9

CAUSES OF DEATH:

	<u>MALE</u>	<u>FEMALE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus.	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach.	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, intestine.	-	4	4
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus.	7	1	8
Malignant Neoplasm, breast.	-	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm, prostate.	3	-	3
Other malignant neoplasms.	3	4	7
Diabetes Mellitus.	-	1	1
Other Endocrine etc. Disease.	1	-	1
Mental Disorders.	-	1	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease.	-	1	1
Hypertensive disease.	1	-	1
Ischaemic heart disease.	19	11	30
Other Forms of Heart Disease.	2	5	7
Cerebrovascular Disease.	6	9	15
Other Diseases of Circulatory System.	3	4	7
Influenza.	1	1	2
Pneumonia.	3	9	12
Bronchitis and Emphysema.	2	3	5
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia.	1	-	1
Cirrhosis of Liver.	1	-	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis.	1	-	1
Other Complications of Pregnancy etc.	-	1	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System.	-	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents.	1	-	1
All other accidents.	1	1	2
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries.	1	-	1
	<u>59</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>120</u>

Of the total 120 deaths, 112 deaths (93.3%) occurred over the age of 55 years. In the 55-64 years age group, there were 14 deaths (11.6%); ages 65-74 years there were 41 deaths (34.1%) and in the over 75 years age group, there were 57 deaths (47.5%)

Malignant Disease.

Cancer caused 28 deaths (23.3% of all deaths). Of these 28 deaths, there were 8 from lung cancer (i.e. 28.6% of the cancer deaths were due to lung cancer but this disease only caused 6.6% of all deaths in Dereham.

Coronary Heart Disease.

There were 30 deaths due to this disease, one in the 45-54 age group, 4 in the 55-64 age group; 15 in the 65-74 age group; and 10 in the over 75 years age group. Hence 25% of all deaths were due to coronary heart disease. This is an increase on 1968 and 1967.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES:

	<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
Measles.	4	91	85	126
Acute Pneumonia.	12	17	16	1
Whooping Cough.	1	4	46	18
Scarlet Fever.	1	3	5	4
Erysipelas.	-	1	-	1
Food Poisoning.	-	1	1	-
Infective Hepatitis.	1	-	4	1

Acute Pneumonia.

Twelve of these cases occurred as a terminal illness in the elderly.

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER:

		<u>1969</u>	<u>1968</u>	<u>1967</u>	<u>1966</u>
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Male	13	12	16	15
	Female	10	10	9	10
	Total	23	22	25	25
<hr/>					
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Male	2	3	3	3
	Female	5	5	5	4
	Total	7	8	8	7
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Grand Total		30	30	33	32

There were 2 new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis (both occurring in males). There were no inward transfers. There was 1 outward transfer. One case recovered.

IMMUNISATION SCHEMES:

In October 1968, the immunisation schedule was changed. Primary immunisation with the Triple Antigen (whooping cough) Diphtheria and Tetanus) and Oral Poliomyelitis vaccine is commenced on the third or fourth month of life, the second dose is given two months later, and the third dose given six months later. This scheme gives adequate protection so that the "booster" dose of antigen 13 months after the primary course is no longer necessary.

The reinforcing dose of diphtheria/tetanus antigen given at 5 years of age boosts the level of immunity. School leavers in the penultimate term are given a further reinforcing dose of tetanus toxoid. In the present state of our knowledge, it cannot be too strongly emphasised that the level of immunity by reinforcing doses of tetanus toxoid be maintained.

The following tables show the various immunising procedures undertaken in the Urban District in 1969.

Smallpox vaccination.

Age at date of vaccination.	Number vaccinated.	Number re-vaccinated.
0-3 months	14	-
3-6 months	-	-
6-9 months	-	-
9-12 months	-	-
1 year	41	-
2-4 years	8	-
5-15 years	2	-
	65	-

Measles vaccination.

1969	1968	1967	1966	1962-1965	Others Under 16	Total
-	4	16	9	30	16	75

Poliomyelitis vaccination.

Course	1969	1968	1967	1966	1962-1965	Others Under 16	Total
Primary	2	42	1	1	16	1	63
Reinforcing	-	12	31	-	128	70	241

Type of vaccine	Course	1969	1968	1967	1966	1962-1965	Others Under 16	Total
Diphtheria Tetanus & Whooping Cough	Primary	3	41	1	-	1	-	46
	Reinforcing	-	17	57	1	8	-	83
Diphtheria Tetanus	Primary	-	-	-	-	11	-	11
	Reinforcing	-	8	3	1	116	9	137
Diphtheria	Primary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Reinforcing	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Tetanus	Primary	-	-	-	-	-	7	7
	Reinforcing	-	-	-	-	1	68	69

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE AND HANDICAPPED PUPILS REGULATIONS 1953.

Provision is made under the Education Act 1944 for all school children to have three medical inspections during their school years; on entry, at approximately ten years of age prior to leaving the junior school, and in the penultimate year of school attendance. In practice this means that the School Medical Officer visits each school annually to carry out these routine inspections.

In the School Health Service, Norfolk County Council provide routine screening test of hearing of all six year old children. It is estimated that in England and Wales, one child in every 1,000 is profoundly deaf. These children are more readily detected but it is the minor degrees of hearing loss which can account for failure to profit fully from educational instruction; these can be picked up by screening and the cause of the hearing loss investigated and treated by the general practitioner and consultant where necessary.

Vision screening is also a routine procedure.

All handicapped pupils have regular medical inspection, usually annually, and special provision is made for mentally handicapped pupils.

The School Dental service provides inspection and treatment for all school children.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT 1948

Under this Act the following services are provided by Norfolk County Council.

- S. 22. The care, including dental care, of expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age not attending school. This section also includes the provision of Child Health Clinics. Such a clinic is held on the first and third Friday of each month from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. at the Health Office, High Street.
- A Medical Officer attends each clinic. Ante-natal relaxation classes are also held on these premises.
- S.23. Domiciliary Midwives.
- S.24. Health Visitors.
- S.25. Home Nurses.
- S.28. Care and after-care of persons suffering from mental illness, short term care of mental illness.
- S.29. Home Help Service.

The community owes a great debt to this noble body of women who, regardless of weather, daily minister to our aged and infirm, so that they may remain in their own homes. These good ladies prevent the breakdown of the geriatric service.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT:

The County Council provides homes for the elderly. The Home Help Service in providing care for the elderly in their own homes, reduces the number requiring institutional care.

VOLUNTARY SERVICES:

The meals-on-wheels service continued to operate, but helpers are very scarce. The service fills a great need. It is all too easy for the elderly person to rely on tea and bread and butter. It is such an effort to prepare a proper meal. Many surveys have shown that a lot of elderly people suffer from mild or more severe degrees of malnutrition. Pensions do not buy the best cuts of meat and fresh fruit. So the Meals on Wheels is a valuable service.

HOUSING:

Council House Developments.

Moorgate Estate.

The completion of 4 houses, 1 flat and 1 shop in June 1969 saw the final completion of the Moorgate Estate Development.

Jubilee Avenue.

Work started in May 1969 on the construction of 18 Old Person one-bedroom bungalows, central heating and domestic hot water being provided by an old fired boiler unit, and shower units are being provided in place of baths as in the Banyard Place flats, completion is expected in February, 1970.

Littlefields Development.

The first Phase of the Littlefields Development commenced in October 1969 for the construction of 25 - 3 bedroom, 5 person houses and 4 - 2 bedroom 3 person bungalows, the houses are expected to be completed in April, 1970 and the bungalows later in the year.

Phase II the construction of 28 bungalows and 27 houses has been approved and is expected to commence in 1970, leaving the final Phase for the construction of 8 bungalows and 12 houses, still to be programmed.

Flat Conversion

2 more of the Duplex Flats have been converted into a 5 person, 3 bedroom house.

Private Development.

The number of dwellings completed in 1969 by private enterprise was as follows:-

4 Bedroom Dwellings (or more)	4
3 Bedroom Dwellings	26
2 Bedroom Dwellings	13

The number of dwellings under construction was 213.

Council House Development

The number of Council dwellings completed in 1969 was as follows:-

2 Bedroom, 3 person bungalows	10
3 Bedroom, 5 person houses	20

The number of dwellings under construction was 43.

Improvement Grants

Work was completed on 15 private dwellings for which Improvement Grants had been approved and the following amenities have been provided:-

Baths	15
W.C's	14
Hot Water installations.	15
Wash Basins.	15
Larders.	10

The amount of Grants paid in respect of these works was in the sum of £2,825.

WATER SUPPLY

The average daily consumption was 348,000 gallons compared with 391,000 in the previous year.

No restrictions on the use of hose pipes or garden supplies were adopted during the year.

Own Source	78,165,000
Bulk Supply	48,859,000
TOTAL YEARLY CONSUMPTION	<u>127,024,000</u>
Decrease on preceding year.	15,692,000
Total Yearly Domestic used.	92,094,000
Total Yearly Industrial used.	34,930,000
Number of Metered Supplies.	190
Average Daily Consumption.	348,000
Average Gallons per head per day	30.8
Number of Houses with Town Water.	3,188
Estimated Population Served.	8,200
<u>New Connections and Supplies.</u>	

122 new connections and supplies have been added to the distribution system during the year.

Mains and Extensions.

910 yards of 3" P.V.C. water main, 1,900 yards of 4" P.V.C. water main and 520 yards of 6" P.V.C. water main has been installed on various development estates in the district.

Number of Samples taken.

Bacteriological	9	}	All highly satisfactory
Chemical 1 of each source			Dereham and Bradenham.
			Copies of analyses attached.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

SEWAGE DISPOSAL:

Digestion tank and drying bed capacities are totally inadequate to deal with the loads imposed upon them by increased development and a satisfactory effluent can only be produced for a limited period during the summer.

Stage I of the new Sewage Disposal Works, which commenced in September, 1968, is progressing satisfactorily and is expected to be in operation by 1971.

Night soil is collected from twenty sub-standard properties in outlying areas.

PUBLIC CLEANSING:

Domestic refuse continues to be collected weekly in the built-up areas and on a fortnightly basis in outlying districts.

Mechanical scavenging ensures that the Town is regularly swept and a high standard of cleanliness is maintained.

CLEAN AIR:

Emissions of dark smoke occur from time to time necessitating informal action.

CAMPING AND CARAVAN SITES:

Six individual caravans are licensed to stand in private gardens and there is a residential site for six caravans.

MILK SUPPLY:

A high standard of service was maintained with only one reported infringement.

ICE CREAM ETC:

No complaints were received requiring investigation and observations confirmed the practice of proper standards.

FOOD HYGIENE AND GENERAL:

The standard of food handling is generally very satisfactory and gives little cause for complaint. Competition from new businesses has probably played a part in the modernisation and improvement of shops with consequent benefit to the customer.

THE FOLLOWING TINNED AND OTHER FOODS WERE VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED AND DESTROYED:-

38 lbs. meat and meat products
43 lbs. fish and fish products
14 lbs. sausages and allied products
2 lbs. poultry
2 lbs. fruit
40 lbs. mousse
7 nos. pies
5 nos. sponge cakes

MEAT INSPECTION:-

The reference to improvement of facilities in the retail food trade applies particularly to Butchers' shops and Butchery sections of food stores and super-markets. The system of voluntary surrender and safe disposal of meat certified as unsound is an effective safeguard for the public.

AGRICULTURAL WORK:

Gang labour did not operate in the district during the year.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES:

111 premises were registered at the end of the year; 35 of which were subject to inspection. There were no major contraventions of the Act.

PEST CONTROL:

A systematic area survey and treatment of the district to eradicate rats and mice was again undertaken during the late winter months. The benefits of such a scheme are measured in a reduced rodent population during the summer months when a variety of other work makes increased demands on an operator's time. As an illustration of this, a total of 150 wasps' nests had to be destroyed during July and August.

HOUSING AND SLUM CLEARANCE:

Two unfit properties were demolished during the year and several vacated. One closing order was made and an undertaking obtained that another unfit dwelling would not be relet.

LINCOLNE SUTTON AND WOOD LTD.

Analytical and Consulting Chemists.

Eric C. Wood, Ph.D., A.R.C.S., F.R.I.C.,

M.W. Wood

Cert. No. W.3019

Clarence House,
6, Clarence Road,
Norwich.
Tel. No. 24555.

Lab. No. 0690/W

15th October, 1969.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER.

Sample received 16th September 1969 from East Dereham U.D.C.

Marked Bradenham Bulk Supply, Hydrant at Westfield Rd., Toftwood, Dereham.

Appearance when received - clear, trace of white deposit on standing.

Nature of Deposit chalk

Colour nil Odour Nil

Reaction - slightly alkaline pH 8.15 Taste - satisfactory.

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Ammoniacal nitrogen	negligible trace	Hardness as CaCO_3 :	
Albuminoid nitrogen	negligible trace	Total	215
Nitrate nitrogen	0.1	Carbonate (temporary)	175
Nitrite nitrogen	Nil	Non- " (permanent)	40
Chloride as Cl	32	Alkalinity as CaCO_3	175
Permanganate Value (4 hr.)	0.32	Free carbon dioxide.	2
Fluoride	0.40	Total solids (at $180^\circ\text{C}.$)	275
		Iron (total)	0.27
		Metals in solution	nil

OPINION

This water is of very good organic quality and there is no chemical evidence of pollution. The sample was clear when received but deposited a trace of chalk on standing. The chemical analysis as a whole is very satisfactory and in our opinion, this water is suitable for drinking and general purposes.

For Lincolne Sutton & Wood Ltd.

LINCOLNE SUTTON AND WOOD LTD

Analytical and Consulting Chemists.

Cert. No. W.3018

Lab. No. 8689/W

15th October, 1969.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER

Sample received 16th September, 1969 from East Dereham U.D.C.

Marked - Dereham Town Supply.

Appearance when received - clear

Nature of Deposit: nil

Colour: nil Odour: Nil

Reaction - slightly alkaline pH 7.85 Taste satisfactory

Results of Chemical Analysis in parts per million.

Ammoniacal nitrogen	negligible trace	Hardness as CaCO_3 :	
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.01	Total	290
Nitrate nitrogen	0.2	Carbonate (temp)	240
Nitrite nitrogen	Nil	Non-carbonate (permanent)	50
Chloride as Cl	30	Alkalinity as CaCO_3	240
Permanganate Value (4 hr.)	0.28	Free carbon dioxide	6
Fluoride	0.50	Total solids (at 180°C)	365
		Iron (total)	0.08
		Metals in solution	Nil

OPINION

The organic quality of this water is very good and there is no chemical evidence of pollution. The chemical analysis as a whole is very satisfactory. In our opinion this water is suitable for drinking and general purposes.

for Lincolne Sutton and Wood Ltd.

