#### Contributors

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# **ANNUAL REPORT** FOR 1942

# W. C. DAVIDSON

M.D., CH.B., D.P.H., D.T.M. and H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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#### EAST RETFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

#### ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1942 by W. C. DAVIDSON, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, YORKSHIRE PENNY BANK BUILDINGS, MARKET PLACE, RETFORD

To the Chairman and Members of the East Retford Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1942, which has been drawn up in accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Health in their Circular No. 2773.

The report, as in previous years, is brief, and gives only an outline of the work done during the year.

Dr. D. S. Clark resigned his appointment as Medical Officer of Health in March 1942, and I assumed duty on 7th May, 1942.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant, W. CAMPBELL DAVIDSON

#### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

\*Estimated resident population, mid-year 1940 .. .. 19,280

\*Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1940 .. 5,245

Sum represented by a Penny Rate at 1st April, 1943 . . £396

\*It has been considered inadvisable meantime for later tables of local population to be published in reports of Medical Officers of Health.

#### VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS-	Total	М.	F.	
Legitimate		135	122	
Illegitimate	13	4	9	
Birth Rate per 1,000 estima	ted populat	ion		13.29
Birth Rate for England & V	Vales per 1,0	000 populat	ion	15.8
STILL BIRTHS-	Total	М	F	
Legitimate		7	6	
Illegitimate	Nil	Nil	·Nil	1
Rate per 1,000 TOTAL Bin	rths			48.15
Rate per 1,000 estimated	resident po	pulation		0.64
Rate per 1,000 population	n England 8	Wales		0.54
DEATHS	Total	М	F	
	216	110	106	
Death Rate per 1,000 esti	imated popu	ulation		10.63

Death Rate per 1,000 population in England & Wales 11.6

The preparation and issue of the Registrar-General's Comparability Factors have been suspended under present conditions, so that the Death Rate adjusted in accordance with these Factors is not available.

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths from Puerperal Causes. . Nil

Puerperal and post. abort. sepsis. . Nil

Other maternal causes. . Nil

Maternal Mortality for England and Wales per 1,000

live births .. .. .. .. ..

#### 2.01

#### INFANTILE MORTALITY-

	Total	М	F
Legitimate	8	3	5
Illegitimate	2	2	-

5

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age per 1,000	
live births	37.04
Death Rate of legitimate infants per 1,000 live births	29.63
Infantile Mortality for England & Wales	49

#### MORTALITY

The deaths include those of 39 persons in Institutions outside the district : 23 males, and 16 females.

The above rates are calculated on the estimated population given by the Registrar General.

The causes of death were :

Diphtheria	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	5
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1
Syphilitic diseases	1
Influenza	2
Cancer of buccal cavity and oesopha-	
gus (M) and uterus (F)	1
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	10
Cancer of breast	1
Cancer of all other sites	8
Diabetes	3
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	23
Heart disease	50
Other diseases of circulatory system	4
Bronchitis	20
Pneumonia	3
Other respiratory diseases	1
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	2
Diarrhoea, under 2 years	2
Other digestive diseases	.10
Nephritis	9
Premature birth	2
Congenital malformations, birth injuries,	
infantile diseases	6
Suicide	1
Road Traffic Accidents	3
Other violent causes	12
All other causes	35

- -

#### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

SCABIES. The incidence of this disease has increased markedly in this country during the last few years, and the increased incidence has not spared the East Retford Rural District. In order to control the disease it became apparent that an organised attack on the causal parasite was necessary, and in April 1942 a treatment centre near Tuxford was opened. The necessary personnel were trained in modern treatment of the disease, and arrangements were made to transport patients and contacts to this centre by Civil Defence vehicles.

In the four months after opening the centre considerable difficulty was experienced in persuading patients to be treated there. It was not, however, found necessary to institute legal proceedings in any case under the Scabies Order, 1941, which gives the Medical Officer of Health powers of compulsory examination and treatment.

It is gratifying to record that little difficulty in persuading patients to attend for treatment was experienced in later months. The results of treatment were uniformly good, the drug employed being Benzyl Benzoate. The staff who carried out the treatment deserve great credit for the success which has attended their efforts. In certain cases, treatment at home was instituted, but results were not so satisfactory.

The investigation and control of this disease have taken up a great deal of my time, as it is necessary to visit each case reported to verify the diagnosis and investigate contacts and again to re-visit each case to ascertain that treatment has been satisfactory.

The number of cases notified (mainly by Health Visitors and School Nurses) during 1942 was 127. Of these 86 were treated at the Tuxford Centre; 34 were treated at home; 4 received institutional treatment; 1 left the District before treatment could be started; and 2 were found not to be suffering from the disease.

Steam disinfestation of clothing and bedding was carried out as required.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION. A national drive to increase the numbers of children immunised against diphtheria was undertaken during the year. In the East Retford Rural District every effort was made to persuade parents who had not already done so, to have their children immunised. The helpful co-operation of County School Teachers and Health Visitors in distributing leaflets, and in general persuasive methods is gratefully acknowledged. The Council sanctioned advertisements of the campaign in newspapers, circulating in the district, in cooperation with neighbouring Authorities.

The response to these measures can be described as fair. During the year 267 children under 5 years of age and 429 between the ages of 5 & 15 years of age were completely immunised; the percentages of children of these age groups estimated to have been immunised at the 31st of December 1942 were 56.5% and 78.1% respectively, as compared with 37.7% and 62.4% a year earlier.

This result may be described as not unsatisfactory, but it is necessary for a higher percentage of children to be immunised before a decreased incidence of the disease may be confidently anticipated.

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA. The increased amount of work caused by the Government Evacuation scheme, and other wartime activities has continued, but despite this the number of inspections carried out by the Inspectors would appear to be sufficient to carry out general sanitary surveillance of the district.

## TUBERCULOSIS, 1942

		New C	Cases		Deaths								
Age Periods	Pulmo	onary		on onary	Pulm	onary		on- onary					
	M	F	М	F	М	F	М	F					
Under 1 $1-2$ $2-3$ $3-4$ $4-5$ $5-10$ $10-15$ $15-20$ $20-35$ $35-45$ $45-65$ $65$ and over	$ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $ $												
Totals	9	6	2	4	2	3	-	-					

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

Disease	Total Notified	Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever Diphtheria Pneumonia Erysipelas Puerperal Pyrexia Ophthalmia Neonatorum Dysentery	$     38 \\     16 \\     25 \\     6 \\     6 \\     - \\     7     7   $	36 (a) 15 (a)	
TyphoidCerebro Spinal FeverWhooping CoughMeaslesPulmonary TuberculosisNon-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	$     \begin{array}{r}             1 \\             42 \\             44 \\           $	1 (a) 3 (b) 1 (b)	
Totals	206	56	9

KEY.-(a) N. Carlton Isolation Hospital; (b) Ransom Sanatorium

INFECTIOUS D	ISEASES 19	42
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Scarlet Fever       2       1       <		Askham Rehmonth	Barnby Moor	Beckingham	Bevercotes	Bothamsall	Clarborough	Cottam	Darlton	Drayton East	Dunham	Elkesley	Everton	Finningley Fiedborouzh	Gamston	Gringley	Haughton	Hayton Headon	Lancham	Leverton Sth. Tittlehorough	Leverton Nth.	Lound Markham East	Markham West	Mattersey	Misson	Misterton	Normanton	Ragnall Rockley	Rampton	Ranskill Ranhv	Saundby	Scaftworth	Scrooby	Stokeham Sturron-la-Staarla	Sutton	Torworth	Tuxford -	Walkeringham	West Burton West Stockwith	Woodbeck	Wheatley North Wheatley South	Westwoodside
Cerebro-spinal Fever	Diphtheria Ineumonia Grysipelas Puerperal Pyrexia Ophthalmia Neonatorum Dysentery		- 2	1									4			1 1				2		3 3		3 - 1		3 5	3-		1-				1		1 11	1 -		6-1-3-		1	1	
	Cerebro-spinal Fever Whooping Cough Measles Aulmonary Tuberculosis Non-pulmonary Tuberculos							3						1 - 1				1		2	1	1 2 2-		- 3	24	13	1-	- 1	2-	1	I		- 1	- 13	2		3	8	1-6			2



#### **REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR for 1942**

#### COWSHEDS.

Number of registered producers of milk in the district,	
January, 1942	)6
Number of new premises registered during the year N	il
Number of registered producers of milk in the district, December, 1942	)6

Of the above number, 188 carry on the trade as retail milk purveyors.

Notices have been served during the year, requiring the following work to be carried out :

1.	Limewashing and cleansing of premises		31
2.	Removal of accumulations of refuse		24
3.	Additional light and ventilation to be provided		7
4.	Repairs to floors, paving, roof, etc		18
5.	Improvements to drainage, etc		12
6.	Provision of suitable dairy accommodation		11
		-	102
			103

In addition to the above, the cowsheds, etc. on 3 premises occupied by registered cowkeepers have been completely reconstructed during the year.

301 inspections were made during the year of registered premises in the district.

#### MILK, SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS ORDERS, 1936-1938.

3 supplementary licences have been renewed by the Rural District Council to retailers of Pasteurised Milk in the district.

One registered cowkeeper in the rural district holds a licence to produce Tuberculin Tested Milk, issued by the Nottinghamshire County Council.

27 registered cowkeepers in the rural district hold licences to produce Accredited Milk, issued by the Nottinghamshire County Council.

#### DISINFECTION AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

All houses at which cases of notifiable infectious disease requiring investigation occurred have been visited, and disinfection has been arranged in appropriate cases.

This Council is one of the constituent authorities of the North Nottinghamshire Joint Hospital Board, to whose isolation hospital patients are removed from this district.

#### PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES.

A piped water supply is available for the built-up areas in all Parishes in the Rural District, and the analyst's reports on weekly samples of water show the quality of the water to be satisfactory.

#### HOUSING.

#### SUMMARY :

Number of houses erected during the year 1942 : (1) By private enterprise without subsidy : Brick construction .. .. .. .. Nil . . . . Timber construction.. .. .. Nil . . . . . . . . (2) By the Council under the Housing Act 1936 .. .. Nil 1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR: i. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. 96 (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. 146 ii. (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under subhead 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 .. .. .. .. .. Nil (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. Nil Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state iii. so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.... .. .. .. Nil Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those iv. referred to under the preceding sub-head found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITH-2. OUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE : Number of dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. 11

3. A	CTION	UNDER	STATUTORY	POWERS	DURING
7	THE YE	AR:			

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 .. .. .. .. .. .. .. .. Nil

- (b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.. .. .. Nil
- (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 ..... Nil
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936 Nil

#### COMPLAINTS AND INSPECTIONS:

- 1. Number of complaints received during the year. . . 67
- 2. Number of houses, premises, etc., inspected .. .. 1327
- 3. Number of re-inspections of houses, premises, etc. . . 301

#### **RESULTS OF INSPECTIONS:**

	NOTICES SERVED	Statutory	Ι	nformal
4.	Abate of Nuisance	—		24
5.	Provision of new drains, repairs, etc	—		19
6.	Provision of sanitary accommodatio repairs, etc			10
7.	Provision of wholesome water.			48
	Totals	Nil		101

#### WORK CARRIED OUT AS A RESULT OF ABOVE NOTICES :

8.	Houses, premises, etc., cleansed	5
9.	Drains to houses and buildings, new provided	5
10.	Drains to houses, repaired, cleansed, trapped, etc.	37
11.	Water closets, new provided	3
12.	Privies repaired	1
13.	Pail closets, new provided and repaired	3
14.	Removals of refuse	14
15.	Paving, new provided and repaired	3

16. Sanitary Accommodation-Conversions :		
Privies converted into pails 3		
Pails converted to water closets 3		
WATER SUPPLY:		
17. New piped supplies from the public mains as the result of informal notices		
CANAL BOATS ACT:		
Number of Canal Boats inspected 3		
LEGAL PROCEEDINGS :		
Summonses Nil		





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