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R E P O R T  
OF THE MEDICAL  
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FOR THE  
YEAR 1955

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# Gainsborough Rural District Council



*Chairman :*

A. T. DICKINSON, J.P., Northorpe Hall.

*Vice-Chairman :*

W. H. ROSE, Kexby.

*Clerk of the Council :*

EDGAR A. DONSON

R.D.C. Offices, 17, Morley Street, Gainsborough

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## STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

*Medical Officer of Health :*

J. C. MACARTNEY

M.D., M.B., Ch.B. (Edin. Univ.), D.P.H. (Edin. & Glasgow).

*Surveyor and Public Health Inspector :*

E. DONELLY

A.I.S.E., C.R.S.I., Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

*Assistant Public Health Inspector :*

D. G. CLIXBY

Cert. S.I.B., Certified Inspector of Meat and other foods.

*Water Engineer :*

G. E. BURN

M.R.San.I., A.M.I.S.E., A.M.I.B.E.



# Gainsborough Rural District Council

## ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1955

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
GAINSBOROUGH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1955.

The statistics embodied herein reveal a very satisfactory state of affairs in relation to the health of the District. The Birth Rate (20.57) as compared with that for England and Wales (15) is extremely satisfactory, whilst the Death Rate (9.93), although not as low as the previous three years, still compares favourably with the National average (11.7). It is to be regretted that the record Infant Mortality Rate of last year (11.91) was not repeated this year and the figure of 33.76 is much higher than that for England and Wales (24.9), which, incidentally, is the lowest ever recorded.

The higher incidence of Infectious Diseases (327), is mainly attributable to outbreaks of Measles in the parishes of Blyton and Scotter during the winter months.

In relation to Water Supply, it must give general cause for satisfaction to learn that in such a widely scattered area, 95% of houses within the District are connected to the public mains.

In conclusion, I wish to express my gratitude to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their kindly consideration in all public health matters and to my fellow officers for their loyal support at all times.

Yours faithfully,

J. C. MACARTNEY,

M.D.(Edin.), Ch.B., D.P.H.

## SECTION A.

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

Area of the Rural District .....	78,598 acres
Estimated Population .....	14,400
Rateable Value on the 31st March, 1956 .....	£48,990
Sum Represented by 1d. Rate .....	£193

The district is entirely rural in character and the sole industry is agriculture. It surrounds the Urban District of Gainsborough on three sides. The Northern and Southern extremities are seventeen miles apart and the greatest width is eleven miles. Part of the Parishes of Lea and Morton, adjoining Gainsborough town, are semi-residential. There are thirty-seven parishes and the Council consists of thirty-two Councillors.

### 2. EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Male	Female	Total
Live Births .....	129	108	237
Legitimate .....	126	102	228
Illegitimate .....	3	6	9
Still Births .....	6	2	8
Birth Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Population .....	20.57		

	Male	Female	Total
DEATHS. All causes .....	60	70	130
Death Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Population .....	9.93		

	Male	Female	Total
DEATHS. Infants under 1 year ...	5	3	8
Infant Mortality rate (per 1,000 live births) .....	33.76		

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Male	Female	Total
Cancer .....	10	9	19
Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	9	16	25
Coronary Disease, angina .....	9	12	21
Hypertension with heart disease .....	1	—	1
Other heart disease .....	7	11	18
Other circulatory disease .....	4	2	6
Pneumonia .....	2	1	3
Bronchitis .....	2	2	4
Other diseases of respiratory system ...	—	2	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .....	2	—	2
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea .....	—	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis .....	1	—	1
Hyperplasia of prostate .....	1	—	1
Congenital malformations .....	—	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	9	10	19
Accidents, other than motor vehicle accidents ...	1	2	3
Suicide .....	2	1	3
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>130</b>



# COMPARATIVE TABLES.

Births:				Birth†
Year	Male	Female	Total	Rate
1955 .....	129	108	237	20.57
1954 .....	130	122	252	20.96
1953 .....	119	124	243	18.7
1952 .....	112	92	204	19.53
1951 .....	119	113	232	21.9
1950 .....	120	115	235	19.2
1949 .....	106	93	199	16.3

Deaths:				Death†
Year	Male	Female	Total	Rate
1955 .....	60	70	130	9.93
1954 .....	62	55	117	8.68
1953 .....	63	54	117	9.0
1952 .....	79	52	131	9.6
1951 .....	81	59	140	10.1
1950 .....	67	73	140	11.4
1949 .....	67	52	119	9.7

Infantile Mortality:	
Year	†Rate
1955 .....	33.76
1954 .....	11.91
1953 .....	28.8
1952 .....	39.2
1951 .....	38.7
1950 .....	25.5
1949 .....	55.0

	†Birth Rate	†Death Rate	†Infant Mortality
England and Wales .....	15.0	11.7	24.9
Gainsborough Rural District ...	20.57	9.93	33.76

† Rates per 1,000 Home Population.

‡ Rates per 1,000 Live Births.

## SECTION B.

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

#### A. SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

##### Health Information.

Enquiries relating to local health services may be made of the Medical Officer of Health, 10/12, Lord Street, Gainsborough. The County Medical Officer is Dr. W. S. H. Campbell, O.B.E., County Offices, Newland, Lincoln.

Many various facilities are available under the following headings:—

Maternity Service.  
Child Care.  
Home Nursing.  
Health Visitors.  
Home Helps.  
Sick Room Requisites, appliances and other equipment.  
Vaccination and Immunisation.  
Mental Health.  
Ambulance Service.  
Minor Ailments Clinics for School Children.  
Infant Welfare Centres and Ante-Natal Clinics.

The County Council's clinics function at Gainsborough as follows:—

**(a) At Spital Terrace Clinic**

Minor Ailments Clinic .....	Daily 9-30 a.m.
School Clinic .....	Tuesdays 2 p.m.
Infant Welfare Centre .....	Thursdays 2 p.m.
Toddlers Clinic .....	2nd Thursday and 4th Monday in each month 10 a.m.
Infant Welfare and Ante-Natal Clinic .....	2nd, 4th and 5th Tuesday in each month 10 a.m.
Dental Clinic, Vaccination and Immunisation .....	By appointment.
Sunlight Clinic .....	Mondays and Thursdays 10 a.m.
Domestic Help Service .....	Organiser attends Tuesdays and Thursdays 2 p.m.

**(b) At Woods Terrace Clinic**

Infant Welfare Centre .....	Mondays 2 p.m.
Toddlers Clinic .....	2nd Monday and 3rd Thursday 10 a.m.
Immunisation .....	1st Tuesday in each month.

In addition to the above, appointments are also made at the John Coupland or other Hospital for school and pre-school children requiring Ophthalmic or Ear, Nose and Throat consultant services.



## SECTION C.

### WATER SUPPLY.

- (i) The water supplied by the Council is derived from the following sources and during the year was satisfactory both in quality and quantity:—
- (1) The Council's own boreholes in the Lincolnshire Limestone at Glentham and Caenby, west of the Lincolnshire Wolds.
  - (2) Bulk supply from Lincoln Corporation, the supply being derived from boreholes in the Bunter Sandstone at Elkesley in Nottinghamshire, and Newton-on-Trent in Lincolnshire.
  - (3) Bulk supply from Glanford Brigg Rural District Council from boreholes in the Lincolnshire Limestone for the hamlet of Susworth only (i.e., 35 properties in the Scotter Parish).
  - (4) Bulk supply from Welton Rural District Council, the supply being derived from boreholes in the Lincolnshire Limestone at Welton. This supply assists the Cliff Area.
  - (5) Bulk supply from Caistor Rural District Council, the supply being derived from springs in the Lincolnshire Limestone and Chalk in that District. Water is taken only when required and is on a reciprocal basis.
- (ii) During the year the bacteriological examination of the water was carried out with the following results:—
- |                           |    |
|---------------------------|----|
| Highly Satisfactory ..... | 53 |
| Satisfactory .....        | 2  |
| Suspicious .....          | 0  |
| Unsatisfactory .....      | 0  |
- (iii) Chemical analysis carried out during the year showed that the waters were satisfactory in every way. They were free from odour and heavy metals and the taste and colour were normal. The average temporary hardness is 105.00 p.p.m. and permanent hardness 91.00 p.p.m. The p.H. value is 7.5. The average fluorine content is 0.50 p.p.m. The waters have no plumbo-solvent action.
- (iv) All the waters are chlorinated at source, the dosage being automatic and continuous. Chlorine residual 1.50 p.p.m.

(v)

#### HOUSES.

Parish.	Total No.	No. with piped supplies.
Blyborough .....	65	61
Blyton .....	314	293
Brampton .....	27	24
Corringham .....	145	127
East Ferry .....	41	41
East Stockwith .....	100	97
Fenton .....	130	128
Fillingham .....	78	75

(v)	Parish.	HOUSES.	
		Total No.	No. with piped supplies.
	Gate Burton .....	31	30
	Glentworth .....	99	95
	Grayingham .....	41	30
	Hardwick .....	Supplied by Lincoln Corporation	
	Harpwell .....	29	29
	Heapham .....	38	35
	Hemswell .....	112	107
	Kettlethorpe .....	80	78
	Kexby .....	118	116
	Knaith .....	61	58
	Laughton .....	78	74
	Lea .....	211	209
	Marton .....	144	135
	Morton .....	Supplied by Gainsborough U.D.C.	
	Newton-on-Trent .....	85	84
	Northorpe .....	63	58
	Pilham .....	17	15
	Scotter .....	383	368
	Scotton .....	80	78
	Springthorpe .....	46	45
	Stow .....	117	115
	Sturton-by-Stow .....	218	210
	Thonock .....	16	10
	Torksey .....	50	48
	Upton .....	77	70
	Walkerith .....	23	23
	Wildsworth .....	29	28
	Willingham .....	135	126
	Willoughton .....	159	157
		<hr/> 3440	<hr/> 3277

#### SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Lea. A commencement has not yet been made on the sewage disposal scheme but it is hoped to commence in April, 1956. Schemes for Gate Burton and Marton, Sturton-by-Stow and Stow, and Willingham, await the authorisation of capital expenditure.

#### REFUSE COLLECTION.

It has not been found necessary to obtain any further tips in the district as those in existence are proving adequate for the time being. All the tips have received the necessary periodical inspections in connection with the Pest Regulations and no serious infestations have been found.



## SECTION D.

### HOUSING.

#### (1) Number of houses completed during the year:

(a) by the Council .....	34
(b) by private enterprise .....	22
Total .....	56

#### (2)

#### POST WAR COUNCIL HOUSING. POSITION ON 31st DECEMBER, 1955.

##### DWELLINGS COMPLETED

Blyton .....	34	Lea .....	2
Brampton .....	2	Marton .....	22
Corringham .....	14	Morton .....	28
East Ferry .....	4	Newton-on-Trent .....	12
East Stockwith .....	6	Northorpe .....	11
Fillingham .....	8	Scotter .....	36
Glentworth .....	16	Scotton .....	8
Grayingham .....	4	Springthorpe .....	4
Heapham .....	4	Stow .....	11
Hemswell .....	17	Sturton-by-Stow .....	33
Knaith .....	6	Upton .....	14
Laughton .....	4	Wildsworth .....	2
Kexby .....	14	Willingham .....	11
Kettlethorpe .....	10	Willoughton .....	8
Total .....	345		

##### SUMMARY

Houses completed .....	345
Houses under erection .....	12
Houses about to be commenced .....	30
	387

#### (3)

#### COMPARISON.

#### AVERAGE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE NINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILS IN LINDSEY

#### POSITION ON 31st DECEMBER, 1955.

	Average Achievement.	Achievement of Gainsborough R.D.C.
Council Houses completed .....	473	345
COUNCIL HOUSES COMPLETED PER 1,000 OF POPULATION .....	26.77	25.95
Council houses under erection ...	29	12



## SECTION E.

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

#### (1) Meat Inspection.

Four of the eight licensed slaughterhouses were in regular use during the year and three in occasional use. The following is a summary of carcasses inspected and condemned:—

	Cattle excluding		Sheep & Lambs		Pigs
	Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs	Pigs
Number killed .....			Not known		
Number inspected .....	230	72	13	788	607
All diseases except Tuberculosis:					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	1	5
Carcasses of which some parts or organs were condemned .....	27	22	2	34	84
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis .....	11.74	30.55	15.4	4.5	14.64
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole-carcasses condemned	3	2	1	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	12	13	—	—	56
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis .....	6.52	20.83	7.7	—	9.22

No horse slaughtering for human consumption is carried out.

None of the carcasses inspected were found to be affected with  
Cysticercus Bovis.

#### OTHER FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR:

228 lbs. 4 ozs.

- (2) Number of food premises (i.e., grocers, confectioners, butchers, etc.) ..... 93
- (3) Number of licensed slaughterhouses ..... 8
- (4) Number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 ..... 2
- (5) Number of food premises registered under section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 ..... 48
  - (i) Sale and storage of Ice Cream ..... 30
  - (ii) Manufacture and storage and sale of Ice Cream . Nil
  - (iii) Manufacture and sale of preserved foods (including 10 fried fish shops) ..... 18

NINE

- (6) Number of inspections of food premises ..... 85
- (7) Number of visits to slaughterhouses in connection with meat inspection ..... 220
- (8) Condemned food is buried in the Council's controlled refuse tips. Condemned meat is disposed of, by the owners, to local knackers' yards.
- (9) One case of food poisoning was reported during the year.

## SECTION F.

### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Measles .....	279
Scarlet Fever .....	3
Whooping Cough .....	29
Pneumonia .....	3
Poliomyelitis .....	4
Food Poisoning .....	1
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary .....	5
Tuberculosis—Non-Pulmonary .....	3

Total ..... 327

Particulars of diphtheria immunisations, whooping cough immunisations, combined diphtheria and whooping cough immunisations, vaccinations and re-vaccinations carried out in the Gainsborough Rural District during 1955.

	Under five years of age at date of immunisation	Between five and fourteen years of age at date of immunisation	Boosting Doses
Diphtheria Immunisations	35	10	114

	Under One	One	Two	Three	Four	Total
Whooping Cough Immunisations (under 5 years)	—	2	1	2	—	5

	Under One	One	Two	Three	Four	Total
Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisations (under 5 years)	66	52	4	2	3	127

	Under one	1—4	5—14	15 or over	Total
Vaccinations	54	15	5	9	83
Re-vaccinations	—	—	1	13	14



# DISTRIBUTION IN PARISHES

	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Pneu- monia	Polio- myelitis	Food Poisoning	Tuberculosis	
							Pulm.	Non-Pulm.
Blyborough .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blyton .....	76	—	4	2	—	—	2	—
Corringham .....	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
East Ferry .....	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
East Stockwith .	3	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Fillingham .....	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Gate Burton ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Grayingham ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Harpwell .....	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Heapham .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hemswell .....	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Knaith Park ...	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Laughterton ...	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—
Laughton .....	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lea .....	18	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Morton .....	19	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Newton-on-Trent	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Northorpe .....	17	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Pilham .....	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scotter .....	59	—	3	—	—	—	—	2
Scotton .....	10	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
Somerby .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Southorpe .....	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Sturgate .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sturton-by-Stow	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Susworth .....	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Torksey .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Walkerith .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Willingham .....	—	—	4	—	—	1	1	—
Willoughton .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	279	3	29	3	4	1	5	3

# INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Measles .....	70	62	13	—	1	9	13	1	1	2	82	25	279
Scarlet Fever .....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	3
Whooping Cough .....	—	—	—	7	—	6	—	7	3	—	5	1	29
Pneumonia .....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	3
Polomyelitis .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	—	4
Food Poisoning .....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary .....	2	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Tuberculosis, Non-Pulmonary .....	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	3
Total .....	73	62	13	10	3	16	14	13	7	2	88	26	327

### TUBERCULOSIS

Ages	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—5 .....	—	—	—	—
5—10 .....	1	—	—	—
10—15 .....	—	—	1	—
15—25 .....	—	2	—	—
25—45 .....	—	—	1	—
45—65 .....	1	1	—	—
Over 65 .....	—	—	—	—
Totals .....	2	3	2	1

### DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
M.	F.	M.	F.
—	—	—	—
Total ..... Nil.			



# FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

## PART I OF THE ACT.

### 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .....	3	12	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	43	65	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .....	6	12	—	—
Total .....	62	89	—	—

### 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars.	Defects Found	Defects Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector	No. of Prosecutions
Want of cleanliness .....	3	3	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors .....	1	1	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:				
(a) Insufficient .....	1	1	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective .....	3	2	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes .....	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not relating to outwork) ...	—	—	1	—
Total .....	8	7	1	—

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948. PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK.

Sections 110 and 111.

	Wearing apparel (making, etc.)	All other items
No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c).....	3	Nil
Nc. of defaults, prosecutions, notices served (under all headings).....	Nil	Nil





