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THE
RURAL DISTRICT
COUNCIL OF
GAINSBOROUGH



Leamy

REPORT
OF THE MEDICAL
OFFICER of HEALTH



FOR THE
YEAR 1956

THE
JOURNAL OF THE
ROYAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
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VOLUME 31
PART 1
1901

Gainsborough Rural District Council



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

Vice-Chairman : W. H. ROSE, Kexby.

Councillor M. Pye (Blyton and Pilham).
Councillor H. Marris (Blyton and Pilham).
Councillor P. G. Spencer (Brampton, Hardwick and Torksey).
Councillor H. Dickinson (Blyborough).
Councillor L. P. Green (Gate Burton and Knaith).
Councillor Rev. F. Butterworth (Corringham).
Councillor J. Wood (East Ferry and Wildsworth).
Councillor A. E. Robinson (Fenton).
Councillor W. Carter (Fillingham).
Councillor R. M. Eglin (Glentworth).
Councillor W. A. Neave (Grayingham).
Councillor G. E. Hewitt (Heapham).
Councillor G. R. Brumby (Harpswell and Hemswell).
Councillor W. H. Rose (Kexby).
Councillor F. I. Gourley (Kettlethorpe).
Councillor Mrs. G. O. Marshall (Lea).
Councillor R. Chappell (Laughton).
Councillor A. Smithson (Morton and Thonock).
Councillor Mrs. C. Ranby (Morton and Thonock).
Councillor H. Kitchinson (Marton).
Councillor H. C. Grimes (Newton-on-Trent).
Councillor A. T. Dickinson, J.P. (Northorpe).
Councillor T. Kendall (Scotter).
Councillor C. W. Limb (Scotter).
Councillor J. J. Allen (Scotton).
Councillor J. H. Muskett, J.P. (East Stockwith and Wildsworth).
Councillor G. H. Bingham (Stow).
Councillor J. R. Harris (Springthorpe).
Councillor Mrs. E. Staniland (Sturton-by-Stow).
Councillor E. R. Selby (Upton).
Councillor H. Bingham (Willingham).
Councillor A. Marsh (Willoughton).

Clerk of the Council : EDGAR A. DONSON

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

Gainsborough Rural District Council

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 Society of Health.

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.S.H., 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 1956

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

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1956.

From the figures tabulated in the following pages, the year has proved to be a most satisfactory one insofar as the health of the District is concerned.

The Birth Rate (18.98) exceeds that for England and Wales (15.7), whilst the Death Rate (10.31), although a little higher than the previous year, is still lower than the national average (11.7). Still more pleasing is the fact that the Infant Mortality Rate has reached the lowest figure I have found for the District (8.77), the corresponding Rate for England and Wales being 23.8, the lowest ever recorded in this country. The number of infectious disease cases notified (125) was 202 less than the previous year, sixty per cent. being attributable to Measles and Whooping Cough.

The year has also shown appreciable progress by the Council in the national drive against sub-standard housing accommodation whilst, at the same time, much effort has been directed towards the improvement of premises where food is prepared or sold.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their kindly consideration at all times. I am indebted also to Mr. Donnelly, Mr. Burn, Mr. Donson and their staffs for their loyal and willing co-operation throughout the years it has been my privilege to serve as your Medical Officer of Health.

Yours obediently,

J. C. MACARTNEY,

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

THREE

SECTION A.

1. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area of the Rural District	78,598 acres
Estimated Population	13,740
Rateable Value on the 31st December, 1956	£87,174
Sum Represented by 1d. Rate	£449

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	112	116	228
Legitimate	105	107	212
Illegitimate	7	9	16
Still Births	3	4	7
Birth Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Population	18.98		

	Male	Female	Total
DEATHS. All causes	63	72	135
Death Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Population	10.31		

	Male	Female	Total
DEATHS. Infants under 1 year ...	1	1	2
Infant Mortality rate (per 1,000 live births)	8.77		

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Male	Female	Total
Cancer	6	8	14
Vascular lesions of nervous system	8	16	24
Coronary Disease, angina	8	8	16
Hypertension with heart disease	2	—	2
Other heart disease	8	21	29
Other circulatory disease	1	3	4
Influenza	1	—	1
Pneumonia	2	3	5
Bronchitis	2	2	4
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	2	3
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	5	—	5
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	—	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	9	6	15
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	—	3
All other accidents	2	3	5
Suicide	2	—	2
Total	63	72	135

COMPARATIVE TABLES.

Births:				Birth†
Year	Male	Female	Total	Rate
1956	112	116	228	18.98
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

Deaths:				Death†
Year	Male	Female	Total	Rate
1956	63	72	135	10.31
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

Infantile Mortality:

Year	‡Rate
1956	8.77
1955	33.76
1954	11.91
1953	28.8
1952	39.2
1951	38.7
1950	25.5

	†Birth Rate	†Death Rate	‡Infant Mortality
England and Wales	15.7	11.7	23.8
Gainsborough Rural District	18.98	10.31	8.77

† 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. C. D. Cormac, M.A., B.M., B.Ch., D.P.H., 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

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.
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), discontinued after 1st December and connected to Council's main.
- (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	64
Satisfactory	5
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)	Parish.	HOUSES.	
		Total No.	No. with piped supplies.
	Blyborough	69	65
	Blyton	316	295
	Brampton	27	24
	Corringham	146	130
	East Ferry	41	41
	East Stockwith	101	99
	Fenton	164	162
	Fillingham	78	76

(v)

HOUSES.

Parish.	Total No.	No. with piped supplies.
Gate Burton	31	30
Glentworth	101	97
Grayingham	42	31
Hardwick	Supplied by Lincoln Corporation	
Harpwell	29	29
Heapham	38	35
Hemswell	112	107
Kettlethorpe	80	78
Kexby	118	116
Knaith	63	60
Laughton	79	75
Lea	219	217
Marton	138	129
Morton	Supplied by Gainsborough U.D.C.	
Newton-on-Trent	85	84
Northorpe	65	61
Pilham	17	15
Scotter	388	373
Scotton	80	79
Springthorpe	47	46
Stow	120	118
Sturton-by-Stow	222	215
Thonock	16	10
Torksey	50	48
Upton	77	71
Walkerith	23	23
Wildsworth	29	28
Willingham	144	135
Willoughton	164	162
	<hr/> 3519	<hr/> 3364

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Lea. A commencement has been made on the sewage disposal scheme, which it is hoped to complete by the end of 1957. 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	14
(b) by private enterprise	43
Total	57

(2)

POST WAR COUNCIL HOUSING. POSITION ON 31st DECEMBER, 1956.

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	11	Scotter	36
Glentworth	16	Scotton	8
Grayingham	4	Springthorpe	4
Heapham	4	Stow	14
Hemswell	17	Sturton-by-Stow	33
Knaith	6	Upton	14
Laughton	4	Wildsworth	2
Kexby	14	Willingham	19
Kettlethorpe	10	Willoughton	8
Total	359		

SUMMARY

Houses completed	359
Houses under erection	28
Houses about to be commenced	25
	412

(3)

COMPARISON.

AVERAGE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE NINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCILS IN LINDSEY

POSITION ON 31st DECEMBER, 1956.

	Average Achievement.	Achievement of Gainsborough R.D.C.
Council Houses completed	506	359
COUNCIL HOUSES COMPLETED PER 1,000 OF POPULATION	28.35	24.93
Council houses under erection ...	23	28

NINE

SLUM CLEARANCE.

During the year the Council made substantial progress with the five-year slum clearance programme under Section 1 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, as follows:

Houses demolished	13
Houses closed	25
Demolition Orders made but houses not demolished by 31/12/56	25
Closing Orders made (but not effective before 31/12/56)	7
Clearance Orders made but houses not demolished by 31/12/56	7
Houses in Clearance Areas (acquired or being acquired by the Council) but not demolished by 31/12/56	29
TOTAL HOUSES upon which the Council have taken action (representing approximately 40% of the slum clearance programme)	106

Twelve families were rehoused during the year. Twenty-eight houses were in course of erection by the end of the year for further tenants of unfit property.

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 &		
	Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	270	64	37	656	402
Number inspected	270	64	37	656	402
All diseases except					
Tuberculosis:					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	—	2	7	4
Carcasses of which some					
parts or organs were					
condemned	41	16	1	15	22
Percentage of the number					
inspected affected with					
diseases other than					
Tuberculosis	15.55	25	8.01	3.35	6.5
Tuberculosis only:					
Whole carcasses condemned	—	1	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some					
part or organ was					
condemned	28	21	—	—	29
Percentage of number					
inspected affected with					
Tuberculosis	10.37	34.4	—	—	7.25

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:

151 lbs.

- (2) Number of food premises (i.e., grocers, confectioners, butchers, etc.) 105
- (3) Number of licensed slaughterhouses 8
- (4) Number of dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 1
- (5) Number of food premises registered under section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 50
 - (i) Sale and storage of Ice Cream 32
 - (ii) Manufacture and storage and sale of Ice Cream . Nil
 - (iii) Manufacture and sale of preserved foods (including 9 fried fish shops) 18

- (6) Number of inspections of food premises 178
- (7) Number of visits to slaughterhouses in connection with
meat inspection 242
- (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) Two cases of food poisoning were reported during the year.

All food premises within the District were inspected under the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955, and notices served in cases where requirements fell short of the prescribed standard.

I am pleased to report that, in the majority of cases, no statutory action was necessary, due to the ready co-operation of the food trade. A few cases, however, remained to be dealt with by the end of the year.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) (SPECIFIED AREAS) ORDER, 1956.

The above Order, which came into operation on the 10th April, required all milk sold within the district to be sold under special designation.

The special designations authorised by the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1949 to 1954, are "Pasteurised," "Sterilised" and "Tuberculin Tested."

SECTION F.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Measles	58
Scarlet Fever	15
Whooping Cough	17
Pneumonia	8
Dysentery	22
Food Poisoning	2
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	2
Tuberculosis—Non-Pulmonary	1

Total 125

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 1956.

	Under five years of age at date of immunisation	Between five and fourteen years of age at date of immunisation	Boosting Doses
Diphtheria Immunisations	13	25	112

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

	Under One	One	Two	Three	Four	Total
Combined Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisations (under 5 years)	68	29	2	1	1	101

	Under one	1—4	5—14	15 or over	Total
Vaccinations	48	3	6	8	65
Re-vaccinations	—	—	—	4	4

DISTRIBUTION IN PARISHES

	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Pneu- monia	Dysentery	Food Poisoning	Tuberculosis Pulm. Non-Pulm.
Blyborough	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Blyton	3	—	4	—	—	1	—
Corringham	—	—	1	—	2	—	—
East Stockwith .	5	—	—	1	—	—	—
Fenton	—	—	—	—	6	—	—
Fillingham	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Gate Burton ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Glentworth	—	2	—	1	—	—	—
Grayingham ...	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
Harpwell	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Heapham	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
Hemswell	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
Kexby	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Knaith	9	—	—	1	—	—	—
Laughterton ...	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
Lea	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Marton	6	—	—	1	—	—	—
Morton	13	—	—	1	—	—	—
Newton-on-Trent	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Northorpe	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Scotter	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stow	2	—	2	—	1	—	—
Sturton-by-Stow	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Susworth	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thonock	5	—	—	1	—	—	—
Torksey	—	—	—	—	8	—	1
Upton	1	1	1	—	—	—	—
Willingham	1	—	1	—	1	—	1
Willoughton	—	11	—	—	—	—	—
Totals ...	58	15	17	8	22	2	2
							1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED MONTH BY MONTH

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Measles	8	1	—	1	1	—	2	1	1	2	11	30	58
Scarlet Fever	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	9	1	1	3	15
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	2	7	17
Pneumonia	—	3	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	1	8
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	22
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	2
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2
Tuberculosis, Non-Pulmonary	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total	8	4	—	2	21	—	6	3	11	12	16	42	125

TUBERCULOSIS

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

- (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities
- (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority
- (iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)

No. on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
4	9	—	—
42	46	—	—
3	3	—	—
49	58	Nil	Nil

Total

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars.

- Want of cleanliness
- Ineffective drainage of floors
- Sanitary Conveniences:
 - (a) Insufficient
 - (b) Unsuitable or defective
 - (c) Not separate for sexes
- Other offences against the Act (not relating to outwork) ...

Defects Found	Defects Remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector	No. of Prosecutions
6	6	—	—
—	—	—	—
1	1	—	—
3	3	—	—
—	—	—	—
—	—	—	—
10	10	Nil	Nil

Total

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



