

[Report 1938] / Medical Officer of Health, Huntingdon R.D.C.

Contributors

Huntingdon (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1938

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/bcb383fd>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

LIBR

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE

HUNTINGDON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

FOR

1938

BY

J. R. GARROOD

M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health to the Huntingdon Rural
District Council.

HUNTINGDON:

PRINTED BY W. H. SMITH & SON, LTD., HIGH STREET.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

ANNUAL REPORT

TO THE

HUNTINGDON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

FOR

1938

BY

J. R. GARROOD

M.D., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health to the Huntingdon Rural
District Council.

HUNTINGDON :

PRINTED BY W. H. SMITH & SON, LTD., HIGH STREET.

**Public Health Officers of the Huntingdon Rural
District Council.**

Part time Medical Office : J. R. GARROOD, M.D., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector : W. MIDWOOD, C.R.S.I.

Part time Analytical Chemist : SOLOMON GREENBURGH, ESQ.

Pathologist : DR. HARVEY.

A.R.P. Divisional Director : LT.-COL. FOSTER.

**To the
Huntingdon Rural District Council.**

Alconbury Hill.

Gentlemen,

*I beg to submit my Annual Report for the
year 1938.*

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. R. GARROOD.

REPORT

ON THE HUNTINGDON RURAL DISTRICT FOR 1938.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The Area of the 33 Parishes forming the Huntingdon Rural District is 69,937 acres, and the population is 6,960. This is the resident population. It represents 1 person to 10 acres.

The number of inhabited houses is 1,971.

The rateable value is £21,504.

The sum represented by a 1d. rate is £87.

Live Births—		M.	F.	Birth rate per 1,000 population, 14.7.
Legitimate	...	39	55	England and Wales, 15.1.
Illegitimate	...	3	3	
Total	...	42	58	

Still Births—		M.	F.	Rate per 1,000 total births, 19.6.
Legitimate	...	1	—	England and Wales, 11.6.
Illegitimate	...	1	—	
Total	...	2	—	

Deaths	Total	M.	F.	Corrected death rate per 1,000 pop. 10.0.
...	90	44	46	England and Wales, 11.6.

Deaths from Puerperal causes—	Deaths per 1,000 total births.
Puerperal sepsis	0
Other Puerperal causes	0
Total	0
	England and Wales 3.08

Death rate of Infants under one year of age—	
All Infants per 1,000 live births	30
This compares with England and Wales	53
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	30.8
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	0

Deaths from Cancer	(all ages)	11
This is 1.5 per 1,000 pop.		
Deaths from Measles	(all ages)	0
„	Whooping Cough (all ages)	0
„	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	0

CAUSES OF DEATH IN HUNTINGDON RURAL DISTRICT, 1938.

Causes of Death.	Males.	Females.
All causes	44	46
Influenza	1	1
Tuberculosis Respiratory	1	1
Other Tuberculosis	1	
Cancer	6	5
Diabetes	1	
Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	2	6
Heart Disease	12	16
Other Circulatory Diseases	4	4
Pneumonia (all forms)	5	1
Other Respiratory Disease	1	
Other Digestive Disease		1
Congen. Deb., Premature Birth, etc.		2
Senility	1	3
Other Violence	3	1
Other Defined Disease	6	4
Ill-defined or Not Known		1

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Authority.—One part time Medical Officer of Health, who holds the D.P.H. One whole time Sanitary Inspector who holds the certificate of the Sanitary Institute and is also Inspector under Shops Acts and Food and Meat Inspector.

Laboratory, Ambulance, Nursing Clinics and Hospitals are the same as in the last report.

A.R.P.

A Divisional Director has been appointed; he is Col. Foster of Alconbury.

Arrangements for the billeting of children proposed to be evacuated from London during the crisis were made, and thanks to the energy of all concerned these were completed in a very short time indeed.

Fire arrangements are being made with neighbouring brigades.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.—A piped supply has been provided for the greater part of the Riptons, Raveleys, Upwood, the Stukeleys, Alconburys and Upton, as well as the Aerodromes at Upwood and Wyton. The scheme for Brampton has not been commenced as yet. There is scope for improvement in water supplies in the greater part of the rest of the district, particularly at the Green End, Sawtry, and a scheme for an extension of the present piped supply through Wood Walton to Sawtry and Connington is proposed as well as one to Great Gidding and Winwick from Northamptonshire. Bacteriological and chemical analyses are being made every three months or less. The results have been satisfactory.

PARISH.	QUANTITY AND SOURCE.		QUALITY.	ANALYSIS OR NOT.
Abbots Ripton ...	Piped supply	sufficient	Good ...	Yes, satis.
Alconbury ...	Piped supply	sufficient	Good ...	Yes, satis.
Alconbury Weston	Piped supply	sufficient	Good ...	Yes, satis.
Barham ...	Pond and well	Not used		
Woolley ...	1 pump from well	sufficient	Poor ...	No.
Brampton ...	Private supplies	sufficient	Unreliable	No.
Buckworth ...	3 wells	sufficient	Good ...	No.
Conington ...	1 pump, well and pond	sufficient	Fair ...	No.
Upton ...	Piped supply	sufficient	Good ...	Yes, satis.
Coppingford ...	1 pump, well and pond	sufficient	Doubtful	No.
Easton ...	1 pump and well	sufficient	Good ...	No.
Ellington ...	3 pumps from wells	sufficient	2 good, 1 doubtful	No.
Upwood ...	Piped supply	sufficient	Good ...	Yes, satis.
Little Raveley ...	Piped supply	sufficient	Good ...	Yes, satis.
Great Raveley ...	Piped supply	sufficient	Good ...	Yes, satis.
Great Stukeley ...	Piped supply	sufficient	Good ...	Yes, satis.
Little Stukeley ...	Piped supply	sufficient	Good ...	Yes, satis.
Hamerton ...	1 pump and 1 pond	short	Poor ...	No.
Steeple Gidding	Private supplies	sufficient	Fair ...	No.
Kings Ripton ...	Piped supply	sufficient	Good ...	Yes, satis.
Leighton ...	3 pumps from wells	sufficient	Good ...	No.
Sawtry All Saints & St. Andrews	Reservoir and pump	sufficient	Good ...	No.
Sawtry St. Judith	Private supplies	insufficient	Poor ...	No.
Spaldwick ...	2 pumps from wells	sufficient	Good ...	No.
Woodwalton ...	1 pump, well and pond	sufficient	Good ...	No.
Great Gidding ...	1 pump from well	sufficient	Fair ...	No.
Little Gidding ...	1 well	sufficient	Fair ...	No.
Winwick ...	1 pump from pond	sufficient	Poor ...	No.
Old Weston ...	2 wells and spring	sufficient	Good ...	No.
Brington ...	1 pump from well, 1 standpipe from well	sufficient	1 good, 1 doubtful	No.
Molesworth ...	1 pump from well, 1 standpipe from spring	sufficient	Good ...	No.
Bythorn ...	1 well	sufficient	Good ...	No.
Keyston ...	1 pump from well	sufficient	Good ...	No.
Wennington ...	Piped supply	sufficient	Good ...	Yes, satis.

Drainage and Sewerage.—Rivers and Streams are protected by filter beds and septic tanks in some cases, and the latter are insisted on in new buildings.

In most cases the pail system of sanitation exists.

It is probable that a drainage scheme for Brampton will have to be undertaken in the not very distant future.

Scavenging.—Public Scavenging has been provided at Brampton since 1908, it includes removal of refuse and pumping out of cesspools; the material is disposed of on the land.

Occupiers do this elsewhere, but not always satisfactorily, especially where there is little land attached to the house.

Tins and bottles are collected in many parishes where complete scavenging appears unnecessary. This should be extended.

Sanitary Inspection.—There has been a house-to-house inspection of the whole area, the particulars of which are contained in the Sanitary Inspector's Report appended.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

To J. R. GARROD, ESQ.

ALCONBURY HILL,
13/3/39.

Herewith is summary of work caused to be done during 1938.

Total No. of Inspections made	...	...	230
Notices served	...	...	106
	(Informal 94	Statutory 12)	
Complaints received	...	...	Total No. of ... 10
Premises, houses, etc.	...	...	No. inspected ... 1900
			Nuisances abated ... 176
Pool, ditch, gutter, watercourse	...	...	No. inspected ... All
			Nuisances abated ... 31
Animals improperly kept	...	...	No. inspected ... Nil
			Nuisances abated ... Nil
Privy, urinal, cesspool, ashpit	...	...	No. inspected ... All
			Nuisances abated ... 23
Drain, Drain-traps, etc., etc.	...	...	No. inspected ... All
			Nuisances abated ... 46
House, or part thereof, overcrowded	...	...	No. inspected ... Nil
			Nuisances abated ... Nil
Smoke nuisances	...	...	No. of observations ... Nil
			Nuisances abated ... Nil
Offensive accumulations	...	...	No. inspected ... 2
			Nuisances abated ... 2
Other sanitary conditions	...	...	No. inspected ... 11
			Nuisances abated ... 11
Lodging houses	...	...	No. registered ... Nil
			No. of inspections ... Nil

Slaughter houses	No. licensed or registered	11
	No. of inspections	140
Offensive trades (sec. 112 P. Health Act, 1875)	No. established	Nil
	No. of inspections	Nil
Canal boats	No. registered	Nil
	No. of inspections	Nil
	No. with infectious diseases on board	Nil
Public Health Act, 1875	No. houses condemned	Nil
	No. closed	Nil
	No. cleaned & limewashed	Nil
Food—seizures of unwholesome Infectious Diseases	No. of	Nil
	Houses affected with	49
	Houses inspected	41
	No. of inspections	65
	Houses disinfected	7
	Schools disinfected	Nil
	Disinfectant used, Formalin & Cresol	
	Lots of clothing disinfected	Nil
	Lots of clothing destroyed	Nil
Privy Middens	New provided	Nil
	No. repaired	Nil
	No. converted to pails	3
	No. converted to W.C.'s	Nil
Pail or earth closets	New provided	20
	No. converted to W.C.'s	1
Water closets	New provided	27
	No. supplied with water	27
Ashpits	New provided	Nil
	No. converted to ashbins	Nil
Ashbins	New provided	2
Water supply	Samples taken for analysis	7
	Samples condemned	Nil
	Wells closed	Nil
	Wells cleansed, repaired, etc.	11
	Public supply substituted for well or pond	504
	Cisterns cleansed, repaired, covered	Nil
	Waste pipes disconnected from drain	Nil
Housing, etc., Act, 1909	No. houses closed	Nil
	No. houses made habitable	Nil
	No. houses demolished	Nil
Building Bye Laws adopted		Nil
Total Legal Proceedings, i.e. Summonses, etc.		Nil
Convictions		Nil
FACTORIES ACT, 1937.		
Factories	Total number on register (including bakehouses)	27
	No. in which nuisances abated	Nil
Bakehouses	No. on register	11
	No. in which nuisance abated	Nil

Home Work	...	...	...	...	No. of outworkers	...	Nil
					No. of houses	...	Nil
					No. of infected houses	...	Nil
Legal Proceedings, i.e. Summonses, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Convictions	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

W. MIDWOOD,
Sanitary Inspector.

J. R. GARROOD,
Medical Officer of Health.

Bugs.—I do not think there are any bed bugs in the district.

Schools.—Closure has been effected by the School Medical Officer. The sanitary condition is satisfactory. Water supplies are fairly satisfactory, and vary with the locality.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

1. *Inspection of dwelling-houses in the year.*
 - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 1900
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 230
 - (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included) under sub-head (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Consolidated Regulations, 1925 0
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 0
 - (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 0
 - (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation) 0
2. *Remedy of defects without Services of formal Notices.*
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 176

3. *Action under Statutory Powers.*

A.—Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... 0

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :

(a) by owners 2

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners 0

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 9

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :

(a) by owners 5

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners 0

C.—Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 1

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 4

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 0

4. *Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.*

A.—(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 15

(2) Number of families dwelling therein ... 15

(3) Number of persons dwelling therein ... 110

B.—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year 5

C.—(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	...	...	...	9
(2) Number of persons concerned in such				69
D.—Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding			...	0
E.—Any other particulars	...	...	...	—

It will be seen that the action against bad housing conditions which was begun in 1930 has been continued. In some instances reconditioning has been performed on the owners' own initiative, in others after notices under Section 9 or 11 had been served. There is a moderate number of empty houses, but these are chiefly at lodges, and are tied cottages to the farms of which they form part.

While there are a number of old houses, actual slum conditions are not common. Many of the older types make up for their defects by the size of the rooms, the excellence of the gardens, the thickness of the walls, and from the tenant's point of view, the smallness of the rent; thus leaving a bigger margin for other things.

The Council has a scheme for the provision of a considerable number of houses for agricultural workers, as well as for the replacement of demolitions and remedy of overcrowding.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.—Inspection of Farms and Dairies under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, is made both as part of the routine inspection and otherwise. Education of the personnel is of the greatest importance, as is the prevention of complete failure of milk supply in isolated parts of the district. A sustained effort to educate seems to be meeting with some success, and floors and buildings have much improved.

In some isolated cottages fresh milk is not used, as it is not readily available.

DAIRIES, COWSHEDS AND MILKSHOPS ORDER.

Dairymen, Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk (Milk Sellers)—										
No. in District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	132
No. registered	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	132
No. of Inspections of Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	208
No. of Inspections during Milking Time	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	83
No. of Premises requiring Whitewashing, Cleansing, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
No. in which requirements of Sanitary Authority were carried out	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
No. of Premises requiring Structural or Sanitary Improvements	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
No. in which requirements of Sanitary Authority were carried out	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Have Regulations been adopted?	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Yes
Premises with Well Water Supply—										
No. of	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
No. of, from which water analysed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Dairymen, Cowkeepers and Purveyors of Milk (Butter and Cheese Makers)—										
No. in District	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
No. Inspection of Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	93

March 13th, 1939.

W. MIDWOOD, *Sanitary Inspector.*

(b) MEAT.—Slaughterhouses and meat are inspected as part of the routine inspection and frequently by the Sanitary Inspector.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle, ex- cluding Cows	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed if known ...	—	—	—	—	—
Number inspected ...	146	12	2	455	353
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which same part or organ condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Tuberculosis only—</i>					
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	—	—	—	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned ...	1	1	—	—	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	1.37	8.33	—	—	1.13

BAKEHOUSES.—All inspected and found generally to be clean and satisfactory.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Chicken Pox has been the only infectious disease prevalent, on the whole it has been very mild.

Diphtheria Antitoxin and Anti-Tetanic Serum is obtainable free from the Council and is kept at Huntingdon Police Station.

There has been no opportunity of providing artificial immunisation.

Premises exposed to infection are disinfected by the Sanitary Inspector.

The following table shows the number of cases of some of the commoner Infectious Diseases during the period :—

	Cases.	Death.	Cases admitted to Hospital.
Small Pox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	12	—	10
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Enteric Fever	1	—	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—
Pneumonia	10	6	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—

Blindness is dealt with by the Huntingdonshire Society for the Blind, and good work has been done in the area.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—No cases.

Tuberculosis.—The following table gives the particulars of the new cases of Tuberculosis, and deaths from the disease in the area in 1937.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
15—25	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
35—45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 up	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	2	1	2	—	1	1	1	—

Notification is efficient generally.



