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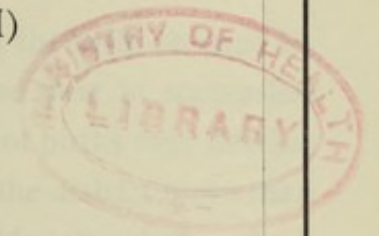


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GUISBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT.



NORTH RIDING (GUISBOROUGH)
COMBINED DISTRICTS.



. REPORT .
for the Year 1936

of the Medical Officer of Health,
C. R. GIBSON, M.A., M.B., CH.B.

D.P.H.

Guisborough :
Printed by Stokeld & Sons, Fountain Street,
1937.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE
GUISBOROUGH URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1936, drawn up on the lines indicated in Ministry of Health circular, 1561.

The vital statistics for the year will be found on page 5 and in the table on page 17. The Registrar-General's estimate of the population for the second year in succession shows a slight increase, which is now larger than the mere excess of births over deaths: this means that the number of new residents coming to live in the district more than counterbalances the loss by people leaving the district to reside elsewhere. As a matter of fact private building on the outskirts of Guisborough has been and still is active, many of the new residents being employed in the neighbouring county borough of Middlesbrough. A new industry was also opened in the district during the year: a shirt factory. The birth-rate has been below the average of recent years, the death-rate very slightly above the average; the infant mortality rate however has been at the low level of $47\frac{1}{2}$ infant deaths per thousand births.

The year was notable for a considerable epidemic of paratyphoid fever, the largest for at least forty years; there were no deaths, and other infectious disease was of less than average prevalence.

The new sewerage and sewage disposal scheme for Guisborough was completed, and improvements were made by the Guisborough Water Company to their filtering plant: these are referred to in the appropriate places in the report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. R. GIBSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Guisborough,

June 18th, 1936.

1. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

	Borough of Redcar.	Guisborough Urban District.	Loftus Urban District.	Saltburn and Marske-by-the-Sea Urban District	Skelton & Brotton Urban District.
A. <i>Whole-time Officers.</i>					
Medical Officer of Health	Dr. C. R. Gibson.				
Medical Officer to Joint Isolation Hospital ...	Dr. C. R. Gibson.				
Sanitary Inspectors ...	Mr. W. Tutin	Mr. R. H. Kilburn*	Mr. E. Hollis*	Mr. T. Young*	Mr. R. Barry
Assis't Sanitary Inspectors	Mr. N. Hudson	Mr. F. A. Russell	—	—	—

* Also Surveyor for the district concerned.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in acres) 18,924.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population, 1936: 7,980.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1936) according to Rate books: 2,169.

Rateable Value: £28,243.

Sum represented by a penny rate: £106.

The main industries of the district are ironstone mining, iron and steel works and agriculture; the improvement in the iron and steel trade has slightly ameliorated unemployment in the district.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of 1936.

	Total	M.	F.	
Live births, legitimate ...	121	56	65	} Birth Rate 15·8.
illegitimate ...	5	2	3	
Still-births ...	9	6	3	: Rate per 1,000 total births, 66½.
Deaths ...	112	60	52	: Death-rate ... 14·0

Deaths in consequence of child-birth:

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 total births.
(a) from sepsis ...	0	0
(b) from other causes ...	0	0
(c) total ...	0	0

Death-rate of infants under one year of age:

All infants, per 1,000 live births ...	47½
Legitimate infants, per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	41½
Illegitimate infants, per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	200

Deaths from Measles (all ages) ...	0
" " Whooping Cough (all ages) ...	0
" " Diphtheria (all ages) ...	0
" " Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ...	0
" " Pneumonia (all ages) ...	9
" " Tuberculosis (all ages) ...	9
" " Cancer (all ages) ...	7
" " Heart disease (all ages) ...	39

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

A new motor ambulance for the district was provided by the local branch of the British Red Cross Society, to the cost of which the Urban District Council contributed. It is available for all non-infectious cases. With the provision of the new ambulance the Ambulance Service is adequate for the ordinary needs of the district. The northern parts of the district, about Kirkleatham, are served by the Red Cross motor ambulance at Redcar.

There have been no other changes or developments in the general health services.

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water: In the course of routine investigation into the cause of an outbreak of paratyphoid fever which occurred in Guisborough, samples of water from the supply of the Guisborough Water Company were submitted for analysis towards the end of July. The unsatisfactory reports (which are given in the Appendix) were at once communicated to the Water Company. The Water Company stated that the condition of the filters was responsible and at once took steps to have these improved by a new cleansing apparatus and by renewing the filtering material, in the meantime chlorinating the water. Later samples, as will be seen by the reports in the Appendix, were satisfactory. Notwithstanding the impurity of the water it does not seem probable that this was the cause of the epidemic of paratyphoid fever, as the area of the epidemic included an adjoining district with a separate water-supply.

At the end of June I received a complaint as to the quality of the water supplied to Upsall Cottages: this had a large amount of rusty sediment, which was lessened on flushing of the main.

There were no complaints of shortage of water in any part of the district, or of the quality outside of Guisborough and Upsall.

Drainage and Sewerage: The work commenced in 1935 on the Sewers and Sewage Treatment Plant at Guisborough was completed and that area has now adequate sewers and a modern filtration plant which is working satisfactorily. Analysis of effluent is given on page 18 in Appendix. The Hutton sewage, previously turned into the Hutton Beck after simple treatment, is now led by new sewers to the Guisborough Sewage treatment plant.

Closet Accommodation: Forty-one pail-closets at Dunsdale were converted to water-closets during the year, this completing the conversion to water-carriage of the whole of the village. In Guisborough itself 121 pail-closets were converted, making a total of 162 during the year in the whole district. The total remaining pail-closets in Guisborough itself are approximately 800.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area: This is summarised in Table 5 on page 13. Of the 304 nuisances dealt with, 29 were remedied on verbal notice: of the others, 256 were defective sanitary pans, all but 4 remedied before the end of the year. Twenty-one nuisances were due to drainage defects, 18 to defective premises, and 6 to verminous premises.

Shops: One informal notice under the Shops Act, 1934, was served regarding insufficient heating in a shop and was complied with by the installation of electric heating.

Smoke Abatement: No action taken.

Swimming Baths and Pools: There are none such, open to the public, in the district.

Eradication of Bed Bugs: Six privately owned houses have been found during the year to be infested with bugs and were treated in the following way: the tenants were asked to strip all wall-paper and the owners to remove all skirting, architraves and other similar wood-work. Heat from a blow-lamp was then applied to all crevices and corners and the junction of the floor-boards with the walls. Spraying with an insecticide followed and then the houses were sealed and sulphur candles burnt in each room. This treatment was repeated in four or five days time. Of the six houses dealt with, the treatment in four has been apparently satisfactory, as no further bugs have been seen.

Schools: There was no School Closure for infectious disease during the year.

Housing.

The results of the inspections of dwelling-houses is given in tabular form on page 15.

All Clearance Orders made and confirmed during 1935 have been put into operation and the sites cleared.

A Clearance Order was made and confirmed during the year on Clearance Area No. 10 (Upsall Bank Cottages) consisting of 3 cottages (one unoccupied) and outhouses.

The advantages offered by the Housing (Rural Workers) Acts have been brought to the notice of owners. Seven cottages have been reconditioned during the year by owners with the assistance of substantial grants made under these Acts by the County Council, and three further schemes involving eight cottages are at present under consideration.

After checking by measurement of rooms, the number of houses in the district found overcrowded during the early part of the year was 87. By the end of the year this figure had been reduced to 67: in 7 cases the overcrowded families were rehoused in Council houses, in 6 rehoused in privately-owned houses, in two instances the house was enlarged and in other two the family reduced, while three families left the district. Thirty-eight houses are at present in course of erection at Guisborough to further relieve overcrowding.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk Supply : There are 76 dairies and cowsheds on the register, as in 1935. Three informal notices were served by your Inspector for neglect of cleanliness of cows, three for neglect to cleanse cowsheds, and three informal notices for repairs and improvements to cowsheds. Four Statutory notices were served under Articles 12, 13 and 25 of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926; two of these have been complied with and time has not yet expired in the others.

Tabular Summary of Milk Examinations.

	No. of Registered Cowkeepers and Dairies.	No. of Samples submitted.	Bacterial Count per c.c.				Coliform bacilli in 1/100th c.c.	
			under 10,000.	10,000— 30,000.	30,000— 100,000.	over 100,000.	Absent.	Present.
Skelton & Brotton U.D.	111	71	13	31	22	5	45	26
Redcar Borough ...	50	22	2	3	14	2	12	10
Guisborough U.D. ...	76	12	2	5	4	1	9	3
Saltburn & Marske U.D.		10	—	6	3	1	5	5
Totals ...		115	17	45	43	9	71	44
Percentages			15	39	37	8	62	38

At the end of the year there were ten licensed producers of accredited milk in the district and one of tuberculin-tested milk. There is a steady improvement in the cleanliness of the milk.

Meat and other Foods: Meat sold in the district is inspected at or soon after slaughter: two whole carcasses (76 stones) and three beasts' lungs were surrendered on account of tuberculosis and were destroyed.

Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food: One sample of ice-cream was examined at the College of Medicine Laboratory, Newcastle-on-Tyne, for organisms of the enteric group, with negative results.

Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious and other Diseases.

The year was notable for an epidemic of enteric fever or, more particularly, paratyphoid B fever. There were in all 22 cases, but in one of these, occurring in a different part of the district and not associated with the other cases, the laboratory findings were negative and the case was ultimately regarded as not enteric fever. Of the 21 definite cases eight were males and 13 females; 20 were from Guisborough itself, and one from Mount Pleasant, just outside Guisborough, but this patient had been nursing another case before its admission to hospital.

The first cases were notified early in July, simultaneously with the first cases of an epidemic in the adjoining urban district of Skelton & Brotton. The onset of illness of the first four cases was given as between June 20th and 28th, while in the Skelton &

Brotton Urban District there were five cases in which the onset was given as between June 21st and 29th. After the first four cases there was an interval of a month and then three cases were notified, with an onset of illness between July 25th and 27th, and after that the other cases, thirteen of them developing during August, in seven of which the date of onset was fixed as August 8th to 13th. All the cases were from different houses but in the latter half of the epidemic four of the cases had been in contact with earlier cases, assisting in their nursing before the diagnosis was made: thus in the first eleven cases six were males and five females; in the last ten two were males and eight females.

All the cases but one were treated in the Joint Isolation Hospital; some were seriously ill but there were no fatalities.

As a similar outbreak arose at the same time in the adjoining Skelton & Brotton urban district the source of the infection was sought for in some common cause. Infection from water-supply was apparently excluded as the Guisborough cases consumed exclusively water supplied by the Guisborough Water Company while the Skelton & Brotton cases had exclusively water from the Cleveland Water Company, these two Companies having separate moorland gathering grounds, and other districts supplied by the Cleveland Water Company remained—with the exception of Loftus—free from the disease. Inquiries as to common supplies of milk, fresh fruit, salads, or shell-fish were negative, but, of the first eleven cases investigated from both districts, all had eaten, within five to eight weeks of the date of notification of the case, of ice-cream from one source. The sale of this ice-cream was stopped temporarily on July 11th; enquiries did not elicit information as to any recent illness among the employees or family of the manufacturer and samples of blood were obtained from each and sent to the College of Medicine Laboratory, Newcastle, for report as to agglutination against the enteric group of organisms. The results of this examination were negative, as were also the reports on examination of *fæces* which was subsequently carried out. The source of the outbreak therefore remained undiscovered.

As mentioned in the earlier paragraph on Water-supplies, samples of water from the Guisborough supply submitted for analysis at the end of July received an unfavourable report, showing a high bacterial count with *B. Coli* found in a few c.c. In the adjoining affected area of Skelton & Brotton samples of water from the Cleveland Water Co.'s supply were also reported as unsatisfactory. The gathering grounds of the two Water Companies march together. The possibility of simultaneous infection of both water-supplies cannot perhaps be excluded.

Apart from this outbreak the incidence of infectious disease was lighter than usual: there were 30 notified cases of scarlet fever, compared with 67 in the previous year, and one case only of diphtheria, compared with 24 in the year 1935.

The number of patients admitted to the Joint Isolation Hospital from this and other districts is given in the following table for the twelve months ended 31st March, 1937, the figures in brackets being the numbers admitted in the previous twelve months.

Joint Isolation Hospital.

Patients admitted April 1st, 1936, to March 31st, 1937.

	Redcar Borough	Guisborough U.D.	Loftus U.D.	Saltburn & Marske U.D.	Skelton & Brotton U.D.	Total
Scarlet Fever ...	121 (45)	15 (38)	29 (25)	10 (16)	45 (24)	220 (148)
Diphtheria ...	3 (6)	1 (10)	18	5 (3)	4 (4)	30 (23)
Enteric Fever ...	1 (—)	19	4	1	13	44 (—)
Erysipelas ...	2 (2)	—	—	—	—	2 (2)
Puerperal Fever ...	2 (3)	—	1	— (1)	2	5 (4)
	129 (56)	35 (48)	52 (25)	16 (20)	69 (28)	301 (177)

Cancer: There are no special facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of cancer available in, or for, the area. There were seven deaths from this cause in 1936, as compared with an average of nearly 10 deaths over the previous five years. The age and sex distribution of the fatal cases was as follows :—

Age at death from Cancer.

45—64 years. 65 years or upwards.

Male	...	2	1
Female	...	3	1

In common with neighbouring districts the death-rate from cancer has increased when compared with a period so recent as just after the war, but whereas Guisborough then had the highest cancer death-rate of the five associated districts, it now takes third place.

Annual Death-rate from Cancer.

	Guisborough U.D.	Loftus U.D.	Redcar Borough	Saltburn & Marske U.D.	Skelton & Brotton U.D.
1920—1922 ...	0.99	0.62	0.78	0.96	0.64
1934—1936 ...	1.34	1.14	1.85	1.57	1.15
Percentage increase in fourteen years	35%	87%	137%	63%	80%

No action has been taken under Section 66 of the Public Health Act, 1925, for the prevention of blindness or for the treatment of persons suffering from any disease or injury to the eyes.

No action was taken under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925 ; no tuberculous person employed in the milk trade was discovered, and no action was required under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.

4. TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—4 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—9 years	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10—14 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—19 years	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
20—24 years	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
25—34 years	4	4	—	—	2	—	—	—
35—44 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—54 years	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55—64 years	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
65 years and upwards	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
All Ages	5	7	—	1	5	4	—	—

Two of the fatal cases not previously notified.

5. ABSTRACT OF THE WORK OF THE SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

	Number dealt with.	Informal Notices.	Statutory Notices.	Result.	Remarks.
Nuisances ...	304	304	2	All Abated, except 4.	—
Slaughterhouses ..	7	—	0	—	—
Dairies and Cowsheds ...	76	152 to limewash, 7 for repairs, 3 others	— 4 —	Two of the repairs com- pleted. Compliance	—
Bakehouses ...	9	—	0	—	—
Factories and Workshops ...	50	1	0	Compliance	2 discontinued.
Common Lodging House ...	1	—	0	—	—
Offensive Trades ...	6	—	0	—	5 fried fish shops, 1 gut-scraping business.
Music Halls, Cinemas, etc. ...	1	0	0	—	—
Premises disinfected ...	64	—	—	—	—

6. LABORATORY EXAMINATIONS.

	Borough of Redcar.	Guisborough Urban District	Loftus Urban District.	Saltburn and Marske-by-Sea Urban District.	Skelton and Brotton Urban District.	Total.
Sputa examined for Tubercle bacilli	45	26	11	11	15	108
Sputa found positive ...	9	7	3	1	5	25
Swabs from Diphtheria suspects examined	65	16	43	13	16	153
Swabs from Diphtheria suspects found positive	8	1	17	4	4	34
Swabs from Diphtheria convalescents examined	10	3	59	4	17	93
Swabs from Diphtheria contacts	2	—	9	6	1	18
Blood examined for Enteric group (Widal Test)	1	56	9	2	23	91
Other examinations ...	4	56	19	8	41	128
Diphtheria Antitoxin issued by Local Authority	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	

7. HOUSING STATISTICS.

New Houses erected in 1936 :

(a) By the Urban District Council	...	...	...	...	—
(b) By private enterprise	...	...	...	...	16

1. *Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :*

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	142
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	1136
(2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under subhead (1) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	...	...	...	...	103
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	1054
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	3
(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	89

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	36
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year :*

A. Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23, of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	...	5
(2) Number of dwelling-houses rendered fit after service of formal notices :					
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	4
(b) By local authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	...	21
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :					
(a) By owners	...	...	...	...	2
(b) By local authority in default of owners	...	...	...	...	Nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 19 and 21, of the Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	3

D. Proceedings under Section 20, Housing Act, 1930 :

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	Nil

4. *Housing Act, 1935. Overcrowding:—*

(a) (1)	Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year ...	67
(2)	Number of families in them	70
(3)	Number of persons in them	423
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ...	Nil
(c) (1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ...	20
(2)	Number of persons concerned	122
(d)	Number of dwelling-houses again overcrowded after being dealt with ...	Nil
(e)	Thirty eight houses at present course of erection by the Council at Guisborough to relieve overcrowding.	

8. SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS.

Period.	Population.	Births.	Deaths.	Deaths at Ages.		Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis.	Yearly Birth-rate.	Yearly Death rate.	Infant Mortality Rate (Infant deaths per thousand births).
				Under 1 year.	1-4 years.				
1884—1888	6,100	1100	552	161	88	—	36.1	17.1	146
1889—1893	5,623	849	410	94	56	—	30.2	14.6	108
1894—1898	5,630	910	413	98	44	—	32.4	14.7	108
1899—1903	5,645	932	468	132	50	—	33.0	16.6	142
1904—1908	6,300	1026	509	132	69	42	32.6	16.2	129
1909—1913	7,062	1044	542	128	56	58	29.6	15.4	122½
1914—1918	6,600	997	548	106	—	40	30.2	16.6	106
1919—1923	7,104	964	495	94	30	30	27.1	13.9	97½
1924—1928	6,656	651	440	53	31	33	19.6	13.2	81½
1929—1933	6,888	575	486	36	21	23	16.7	14.1	62½
1933	8,053	129	112	10	2	4	16.0	13.9	77½
1934	7,932	131	99	5	7	7	16.5	12.5	38
1935	7,949	133	120	11	3	5	16.7	15.1	83
1936	7,980	126	112	6	3	9	15.8	14.0	47½

9. ANALYTICAL REPORTS RECEIVED DURING. 1936.

27th June 1936. Effluent from Guisborough Sewage Disposal Works
taken 23-6-36.

	Parts per 100,000
Total Solids	85.7
Solids in Suspension (dried at 100° C.)	1.3
„ „ Ash	1.0
Solids in Solution (dried at 100° C.)	84.4
„ „ Ash	70.4
Chlorides (in terms of Sodium Chloride	7.3
Ammoniacal Nitrogen, from free and Saline Ammonia	0.058
Albumenoid Nitrogen (Wanklyn)	0.025
Nitric Nitrogen, from Nitrates	0.17
Oxygen absorbed from N/80 permanganate in 4 hours at 26.7 °C.	0.37
Alkalinity in terms of Calcium Carbonate	10.7
Smell at 100° F.	Earthy

“ Judging by the data found, in my opinion the effluent is suitable for turning into a stream.”

(Signed) William McD. Mackey.

26th June, 1936: Effluent from Sewage Disposal Works, Guisborough,
taken 23-6-36.

Number of organisms in 1 c.c. producing colonies visible to the naked eye on Agar plates in 3 days at 22° C.	6,800
Do. do. in 2 days at 37° C.	1,500
Bacillus Coli present in 1/100 c.c.	
Streptococci present in 1/100 c.c.	
Bacillus Enteritidis Sporogenes present in 1/10 c.c.	

(Signed) S. Fox Linton.

9. Summary of Bacteriological Reports on Samples of Water from Guisborough, examined by the North Riding Laboratory, Scarborough, all but the last sample from the Guisborough Water Company's Supply.

Date of taking Sample	20th July	27th July	27th July	5th Sept.	16th Sept.	16th Sept.
Place Sample taken ...	Miltoun House	81, Redcar Road	93, Westgate	Miltoun House	Miltoun House	Spout in Bow Street
Number of organisms in 1 c.c. producing colonies visible to the naked eye on Agar plates in 3 days at 22° C. ...	2,300	1,000	1,100	590	210	380
Do. do. in 2 days at 37° C. ...	1,850	230	250	110	64	98
Bacillus Coli ...	Present in 10 c.c.	Present in 10 c.c.	Present in 10 c.c.	Present in 100 c.c.	Not found in 100 c.c.	Not found in 100 c.c.
Streptococci ...	—	—	—	—	Not found in 100 c.c.	Not found in 100 c.c.
Bacillus Enteritidis Sporogenes ...	Not found in 250 c.c.	Not found in 250 c.c.	Not found in 250 c.c.	Not found in 250 c.c.	Not found in 250 c.c.	Not found in 250 c.c.
Analyst's Remarks ...	Evidence of pollution; not safe for drinking.	Signs of Pollution.	Signs of Pollution.	Safe in this condition for Domestic use.	A good water	A good water

