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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
MALTON.



Annual Report
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health.

FOR THE YEAR 1937.



MALTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman, and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Report for the year ending 31st December, 1937.

STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS of the AREA.

Area (in Acres) 48,078.

Population estimated to midyear - 5598.

Number of inhabited houses (1921) - 1362.

Number of inhabited houses (end of 1937) according to Rate Books 1512.

Number of Families or separate occupiers Census 1931 - 1,436

Rateable Value £15,333.

Sum represented by a penny rate £60.

The chief occupation of the inhabitants is Agriculture and its associated trades.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The following are some Extracts from the Vital Statistics of the Year :-

		Total	M.	F.		
Live Births	{	Legitimate	79	38	41	}
		Illegitimate	6	2	4	
		Total	85	40	45	
						Birth Rate per 1000 population 14.1
Still Births	... ..	None				
Deaths	... ..	90	47	43		

Death Rate per 1000 population - 13.28 as compared with 12.4 for the whole country.

We have therefore again an unsatisfactory balance of a low Birth Rate and a high Death Rate for the year, and our population is still lower than that of the 1931 Census when it was 5,884.

Deaths of Infants under 1 year.		Total	M.	F.
		4	4	2
		Legitimate	4	2
		Illegitimate	-	-

Per 1000 live births 75.9

Four male and one female infants died as the result of congenital debility or premature birth.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. Public Health Officers of the Authority.

Medical Officer of Health.

Dr. L. C. WALKER, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,
(Part-time Officer)

Sanitary Inspector, Surveyor,
Meat Inspector, Inspector
under the Milk and Dairies
Order, and Workshops Act
and Inspector under Petrol-
eum Acts, Buildings Inspector
etc.

C. W. BERESFORD, A.R.San.I.,
M.S.I.A., Holds Certificate of
the Royal Sanitary Institute and
Special Certificate of the Royal
Sanitary Institute for Inspection
of Meat and other foods.

Very great improvement has taken place in the work of this department as the result of having a whole-time Sanitary Inspector.

Hospital Accommodation.

Full use has been made of the hospital provision in the area and this is quite adequate for the district.

2. Nursing in the Home.

Slingsby is now served by a District Nurse run by the Ryedale Nursing Association, whilst recently an Association has been formed to supply the needs of the villages of Swinton, Amotherby, Barton and Appleton-le-Street.

3. Midwives.

The following midwives are practising in the area :-

Midwife G. A. Anderson, Sheriff Hutton.
,, Agnes Leadbeater, Hovingham.
,, G. E. Marfitt, Swinton.

4. Laboratory Facilities.

Pathological and Bacteriological examinations or analysis of clinical material such as swabs, sputum, etc. and of water, milk and foodstuffs (if necessary), is carried out by the Clinical Research Association, London, at the expense jointly of County and Local Authority for those who are unable to bear the cost for themselves. Frequent use is made of these facilities and also for the supply of Vaccine, Antitoxin, etc.

5. Legislation in Force.

- I. Regulations with respect to Dairies, Cowsheds and Milk Shops.
- II. Slaughter-house Byelaws.
- III. Council vested with urban powers with respect to fires.
- IV. Byelaws with respect to New Buildings.

The adoption of byelaws relating to new buildings is a definite step towards improving methods of building by supervision of materials, foundations, drainage, planning etc., which combined with the work of the Town & Country Planning Officer should result in carefully planned sites and well built houses.

6. Hospitals.

There are no public or voluntary hospitals in the area. The Hospital at Malton is the one used by the larger part of the District whilst those at Scarborough and York are used by the outlying areas near to those towns. Leeds General Infirmary is also used to a considerable extent. Malton and Norton Hospital contains Male and Female Wards of 10 beds each, a children's ward of four cots and three private wards. It is available for all general surgical work and for suitable medical cases but not tuberculosis. Venereal Disease cases are sent to clinics at York and Scarborough. Orthopaedic cases may be sent to the Hospital at Kirbymoorside, clinics being held periodically at Malton and other centres.

Maternity and Nursing Homes.

None.

Maternal Mortality.

No special arrangements are made for the investigation of maternal deaths.

Unmarried Mothers and Mental Defectives.

Institutional provision for unmarried mothers is made by the Ryedale Guardians Committee. The Poor Law Institution and the Children's Home at Malton is now closed and arrangements are made for admission of these cases at Scarborough and Kirbymoorside. This, up to the present is proving a more satisfactory arrangement than the one of sending people to Whitby.

Ambulance Facilities.

Ambulance Facilities are provided for

- (a) Infectious Disease cases by the York Isolation Hospital Authorities, who take our cases.
- (b) Non-infectious Disease and accident cases by the Malton Motor Ambulance.

The latter is in charge of a Committee, and the St. John's Ambulance Brigade have done most useful work during the year, being always ready to help. Voluntary Drivers act as Chauffeurs and cases are expected to pay sufficient to cover expenses.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER SUPPLY.

During the year under review the Street Villages Regional Water Scheme has been extended to serve the parishes of Barton-le-Willows and Crambe and the supply to these villages is now completed.

The proposed supplies to South Holme and Crambeck and to various outlying farms within the area have again been postponed.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

In the majority of townships the surface water drains are used as sewers.

The provision of a sewerage scheme for the district of Amotherby & Swinton has again fallen through owing to excessive cost, but the Street Villages Water Supply has been adequately protected by the provision of a Chlorinating Plant.

Considerable improvements have been effected to the drains and sewers in various parts of the district as a result of formal and informal action by the Public Health Department.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

There is no serious pollution of rivers or streams in the area.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Numbers of privies, pail closets etc. at the end of 1935--1387. W.C's 86.

SCAVENGING.

At Amotherby, Appleton-le-Street, Broughton, Swinton, Barton-le-Street, Brawby, Great Habton, Ganthorpe, Terrington, Whitwell-on-the-Hill, Butterwick, Sheriff Hutton, Welburn, Bulmer, Huttons Ambo and Slingsby unburnable refuse is collected at regular intervals and disposed of by burial on the "controlled" system. The service is much appreciated by householders and has practically put an end to the indiscriminate dumping of tins, bottles, etc. in the vicinity of these villages.

As stated in the Annual Report for 1936, therefore, the majority of the larger villages have now been included in this service, which is a definite step towards the preservation of rural amenities.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Number of inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector during the year :-

Housing, Nuisances under Public Health Acts, Water Supplies, Meat, Milk and Dairies Order, Sewage, Drainage, Repairs, Infectious Diseases, Disinfection, Petroleum and Carbide of Calcium.

- (a) No. of Inspections 1,682.
- (b) No. of statutory and informal notices served during the year, under the Public Health Acts for the abatement of nuisances, etc.

	Statutory	...	...	24
	Informal	...	...	93
Statutory & Informal notices complied with		...	...	84

SCHOOLS.

Sanitary conditions of Schools in the District, are on the whole fair.

HOUSING.

Number of new houses erected during the year :	
(a) Total (including numbers given separately under b).	3
(I) By the local authority	-
(II) By other local authorities	-
(III) By other bodies and persons	3
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts	-
1. Inspection of Dwelling-houses during year :-	
1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	305
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	517
2. (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	197
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	197
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	83
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	31
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	38
3. Action under statutory Powers during the Year :-	
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	31
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :-	
(a) By owners	10
(b) By local authority in lieu of owners	-

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	2
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	-
C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	17
2. Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	8
D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936 :	
1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	3
2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	-
4. Housing Act, 1936. Overcrowding :-	
(a) (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year.	14
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	14
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	101
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	-
(c) (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year	8
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	53
(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	-
(e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report :	
	8 overcrowded houses have demolition orders upon them and the tenants will be rehoused when Council houses have been built.
	These are included in par. 4 (a) (i)

HOUSING CONDITIONS.

Although during the year improvements have been gradually made in the Housing Conditions the work done under the Act has been far from satisfactory.

In many cases the owners have taken advantage of the leniency displayed by the Council and as a consequence not sufficient progress has been made either in demolition of unfit houses or in the matter of repairs.

There is no doubt that a much more satisfactory state of affairs would arise if the Council took a stronger line in taking advantage of the provisions of the Act which after all it is their duty to administer.

EXTENT TO WHICH HOUSES HAVE NO WATER CLOSET OR OTHER ADEQUATE ACCOMMODATION WITHIN THEIR OWN CURTILAGE.

With a few exceptions the closet accommodation is within the curtilage of each. The difficulty in a number of cases is rather that the objectionable ash-pit privy is placed in too close proximity to the dwelling.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Milk Supply.

There are 243 premises registered under the milk and Dairies Order, 1926. From 16 of these premises a wholesale milk trade is carried on, milk being sent daily to Scarborough, Hull, York and Malton.

The cowsheds in the district have been systematically visited during the year, special attention being paid to those premises from which a wholesale trade is carried on.

Considerable improvements have been effected in 15 cowsheds in various parts of the district by the construction of concrete floors and adequate drainage at the request of the Sanitary Inspector and 28 statutory notices served where requests were not complied with.

Four licences for the sale of certified milk under the Milk (Special Designation) Order, 1923 granted by the Ministry of Health are in operation in respect of premises situated in the Parishes of Henderskelfe, Swinton and Terrington.

(b) Meat Inspection.

Regular slaughtering has taken place during the year at the licensed slaughter-houses in the district and systematic inspections have been carried out.

The table below shows the number of inspections made, the number of carcasses inspected and condemnations resulting therefrom :-

	Cattle	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed				
Number inspected	111	0	94	24
All diseases except tuberculosis. Whole carcasses condemned.	3	0	2	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4	0	0	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	3·6%	0	2·1%	0
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcasses condemned	0	0	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	0	0	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	1·8%	0	0	0

Sixteen licences for the slaughtering and stunning of animals in slaughter-houses or knacker's yards, issued under Section 3 (1) of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 are in operation in the area.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following cases were notified :-

Scarlet Fever	...	...	9
Erysipelas	...	...	3
Diphtheria	...	...	4

The cases of Scarlet Fever were scattered over the District and occurred at different periods of the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following cases were notified :-

	M.	F.	Total
Pulmonary	1 (age 28)	1 (age 18)	2

CAUSES OF DEATH.

			M.	F.
ALL CAUSES	...	...	47	43
Other digestive	...	...	3	
Nephritis	...	...	1	2
Puerperal sepsis	...	...		1
Congenital	...	...	4	1
Senility	...	...	1	1
Suicide	...	...	1	
Other defined causes	...	...	6	2
Diabetes	...	...	2	3
Cerebral hæmorrhage	...	...	1	3
Heart disease	...	...	9	12
Other circulatory	...	...	2	7
Bronchitis	...	...	1	1
Pneumonia	...	...	7	1
Other respiratory	...	...	2	0
Whooping cough	...	...		1
Diphtheria	...	...		1
Respiratory tuberculosis	...	...		1
Other tuberculosis	...	...	1	
Syphilis	...	...		1
G.P.I.	...	...		1
Cancer	...	...	6	4
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	Total	...	4	2
	Legitimate	...	4	2
	Illegitimate	...		
Live Births	Total	...	40	45
	Legitimate	...	38	41
	Illegitimate	...	2	4
Still Births	None			

POPULATION ... 5,598.

Birth-rates, Death-rates Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death-rates, and Case-rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1937.

England and Wales, London 125
Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales.	125 County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County.
Rates per 1,000 Population.				
Births :-				
Live	14.9	14.9	15.3	13.3
Still	0.60	0.67	0.64	0.54
Deaths :-				
All Causes	12.4	12.5	11.9	12.3
Typhoid and Paratyphoid fevers	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	-	-	-	-
Measles	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01
Scarlet fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05
Influenza	0.45	0.39	0.42	0.38
Violence	0.54	0.45	0.42	0.51
Notifications :-				
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	-	-
Scarlet fever	2.33	2.56	2.42	2.09
Diphtheria	1.49	1.81	1.38	1.93
Enteric fever	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas	0.37	0.43	0.34	0.44
Pneumonia	1.36	1.58	1.20	1.18
Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 year of age	58	62	55	60
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	5.8	7.9	3.2	12.0
Maternal Mortality :-				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.97	} Not available		
Others	2.26			
Total	3.23			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)				
Maternal Mortality :-				
Puerperal Sepsis	0.94	} Not available		
Others	2.17			
Total	3.11			
Notifications :-				
Puerperal fever	} 13.93	} 17.59	} 11.52	} 4.15
Puerperal pyrexia				
				} 14.34





