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**Contributors**

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Wellcome Collection  
183 Euston Road  
London NW1 2BE UK  
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# NORTH WITCHFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1945.

MR. CHAIRMAN and GENTLEMEN,—

I beg to present to you my report for the year 1945 on the health conditions of your district during that period.

I also present the Sanitary Inspector's report.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CECIL THOMAS,

Medical Officer of Health.

THE GENERAL HEALTH of the district has been good. There were no epidemics during the winter months.

### GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR HEALTH SERVICES.

(i) **Public Health Officers.**

Medical Officer of Health—CECIL THOMAS, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Sanitary Inspector—R. C. L. WILLIAMS, B.E.M. (Mil.), A.R.S.I.,  
M.S.I.A.

(ii) **Nursing in the Home.**

The entire district has the services of Trained Nurses under the control of local Associations.

(iii) **Hospitals.**

Voluntary subscriptions enable patients to obtain treatment at Cambridge, Peterborough and the County Hospital, Doddington.

We are very fortunate to have a hospital in Doddington. Patients are saved the long journey by ambulance to Cambridge or Peterborough.

Consultants from Cambridge attend regularly, and as times goes on I hope many other amenities will be added to the activities of the hospital.

(iv) **Ambulance Facilities.**

Doddington, Wimblington and Benwick have the use of Chatteris and Whittlesea Ambulances. Manea has its own Ambulance.

(v) **Child Welfare.**

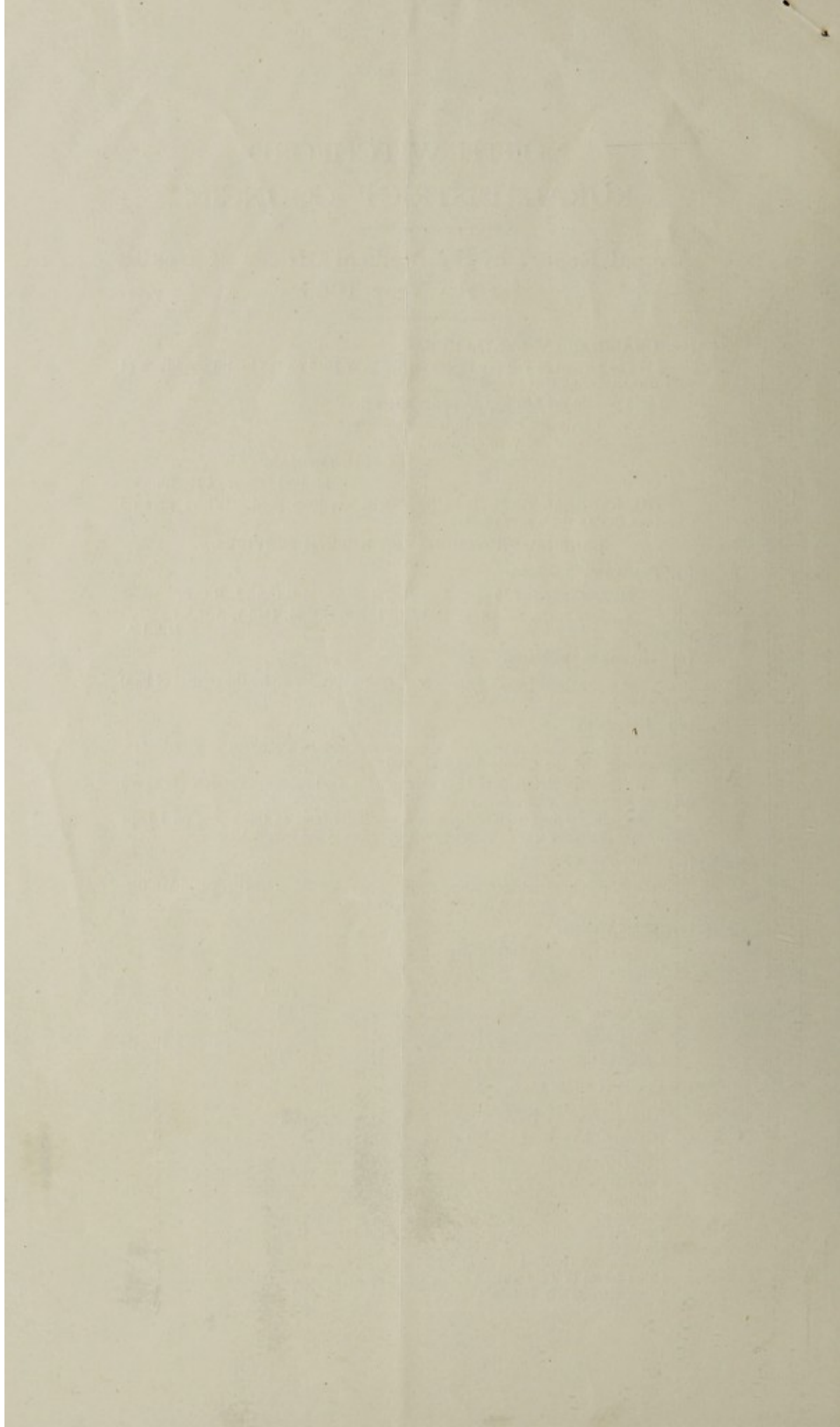
Clinics are held in Doddington and Manea.

Statistics:

	Total	M.	F.
Live Births .....	82	38	44
Still Births .....	1	1	—
Deaths .....	55	36	19
Deaths of infants under 1 year .....	1	—	1

The Causes of Death were:

Heart Diseases .....	19
Other Circulatory Diseases .....	2
Intracranial Vascular Lesions .....	6
Cancer .....	7
Gastric Ulcer .....	1
Other Digestive .....	1
Nephritis .....	1
Suicide .....	2
Road Traffic Accidents .....	2
Diabetes .....	1
Tuberculosis (Lungs) .....	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis .....	2
Other Respiratory Diseases .....	1
All other Causes .....	9



# **NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1945.**

## **For the Rural District of North Witchford.**

Disease.	Total Notified.	Deaths.
Measles .....	25	0
Pneumonia .....	11	0
Anterior Poliomyelitis .....	1	0
Scarlet Fever .....	5	0
Whooping Cough .....	2	0
Erysipelas .....	3	0
Notifications of Tuberculosis.		
Pulmonary .....	1	
Tubercular Glands of Neck .....	1	
Tubercular Meningitis .....	1	

## **SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.**

The following are details of visits and inspections carried out during 1945:

Public Health Acts: Nuisances .....	81
Housing Act: Disrepair .....	40
Housing Act: Overcrowding .....	3
Cowsheds .....	47
Dairies .....	32
Bakehouses .....	15
Food Preparing Premises .....	6
Other Food Shops and Stores .....	5
Factories and Workshops .....	2
Refuse Accommodation .....	19
Salvage and Refuse Tips .....	46
Sanitary Conveniences .....	47
Drain Inspections .....	71
Sewage Disposal: Beds and Dykes .....	61
Water Supply .....	70
Moveable Dwellings .....	21
Petroleum Inspections .....	1
Piggeries .....	8
Garages .....	11
Rats and Mice .....	18
Miscellaneous, Interviews and Meetings .....	147
Total .....	751

Defects found and remedied.	Defects found.	Defects remedied.
Housing: General disrepair .....	32	30
Nuisances from: Offensive Accumulations .....	3	3
Moveable dwellings .....	4	4
Choked drains .....	1	1
Sanitary Conveniences: Defective .....	5	4
Totals .....	45	42

## **Milk and Dairies Order.**

Contraventions found .....	15
"          remedied .....	12





# NORTH WITCHFORD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

## Sanitary Inspector's Report for the Year 1945.

### Housing.

Little action was taken during the year no doubt due to lack of suitable alternative accommodation. One notice was served under Section II, Housing Act, 1936. Minor repairs and improvements were effected by informal action. One house was in course of erection during the year.

### Water Supply.

The following is a summary of the information requested by the Ministry in Circular 28/46.

(1) Wimblington and Doddington appear to be satisfactory both in quantity and quality. Pressure at Manea falls off in the day-time, especially in the Westfield Road area but increases somewhat during the night. Benwick is still without a piped supply, being dependant upon roof water and a few private wells, some of which are suspicious from the point of view of pollution.

(2) No samples of water were taken during the year, the Wisbech Water Company being known to take their own samples from time to time.

(3) The local supply of water is not plumbo-solvent.

(4) No action was necessary in respect of any contamination.

(5) Proportion of dwelling houses supplied from public mains:—

Parish.	Direct to houses.	By standpipe.
Wimblington — — — — —	82%	2½%
Doddington — — — — —	52%	—
Manea and Welches Dam — — — — —	87%	9%
Benwick — — — — —	—	—

### Drainage and Sewage.

The sewage beds at Wimblington and Doddington are not all that could be desired but have been overhauled and are working reasonably well since the appointment of a full-time workman.

During the year a survey was made of the whole area and a tentative figure given for the resewering of Benwick, Doddington, Wimblington, and Manea. The scheme is still under consideration and every effort should be made to fulfil it.

### Public Cleansing.

Night soil is collected by contract and utilised on the land. Indestructible refuse is collected from the villages once a month, dumped in tips and properly covered over. So far no nuisance has arisen from this form of tipping.

### Milk and Dairies.

There are 31 cowkeepers in the area, most of them being wholesale traders. There is one licence in force for the production of Accredited Milk and none for either Tuberculin Tested or Pasteurised. It appears that when the obligations of the producer were pointed out under the Milk and Dairies Order some producers unable to comply with the requirements ceased production. At the moment there are still some cowsheds which leave much to be desired.

Five samples of milk were taken for bacteriological examination, four being satisfactory and one unsatisfactory. The premises from which the unsatisfactory sample was obtained were duly visited and a further sample proved to be satisfactory.

### Meat and Food Inspection.

Meat supplied to this area is killed in the adjoining urban area where it is inspected at the time of slaughter, no routine inspection of food is therefore made in this area.

Small stocks of food have been inspected from time to time but little food has been dealt with in this manner.

### Infestation Order, 1943.

The Council employed a rodent operator (part-time) from September, 1945, and a good deal of work has been done in this small but lightly infested area. In addition the Council had a contract with the War Agricultural Executive Committee for the treatment of refuse tips and dykes.

R. C. L. WILLIAMS,  
Sanitary Inspector.

6th August, 1946.

# NORTH WILSON RURAL DISTRICT CO. NO. 1

Summary of the Year 1900

The following is a summary of the work done by the Rural District No. 1 during the year 1900. The work was done under the supervision of the District Officer, Mr. J. H. Wilson, and the assistance of the District Clerk, Mr. J. H. Wilson.

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