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NORTHALLERTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORTS

BY MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH & SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR YEAR ENDING THE 31st DECEMBER 1941

CLERK : JOS. HUNT, ESQ. SOLICITOR

MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH : J.A. HUTCHINSON, M.D., M.S., M.R.C.S.

SANITARY  
INSPECTOR : H. TEMPLEMAN, A.R.S.I., C.R.S.I.,  
(Cert. Meat & Other Foods)

March

1871

March 1st

March 2nd

March 3rd

March 4th

March 5th

March 6th

NORTHALLERTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

NORTHALLERTON.

July 1942.

Mr Chairman and Gentlemen.

Notwithstanding that large scale and approved Schemes for the improvement of your areas sanitation are held over for the duration of the war, you have had a busy year. Apart from routine sanitation, extra work is involved in A.R.P. Obligation, Billeting of Evacuees, Salvage, The British Restaurant, Central Slaughtering, Rest Centres and the provision of additional accommodation at the Isolation hospital. The Hostel at Brompton for difficult and sick evacuee children has proved invaluable. Scavenging is becoming increasingly costly, and it is difficult in places to secure suitable tenders. The Council may therefore soon have to consider the undertaking of systematic scavenging for the whole area by a staff and equipment of their own.

During the year free immunisation of all children on the school registers was completed, together with a number of children under school age. An outbreak of Diptheria in the Autumn however disclosed that the immunity attained is not general. By means of a Shick Test it is possible to detect those who remain susceptible and who require further doses of the prophylactic. It is very desirable that this should be undertaken or, that under the circumstances, a further free dose of the prophylactic be offered and urged for all children of school age or under which would practically ensure insusceptibility and save suffering and the serious cost of hospital treatment.

STATISTICS

The number of deaths registered during 1941 was 87; of these 39 were males and 48 females. of 56 persons who died aged 65 and upwards 31 were septuagenarians, 15 octogenarians and 2 nonagenarians. Only one child, a prematurity, died under one year; One death was due to pulmonary Tuberculosis and one to tubercular meningitis; one to Diptheria, one to Cerebro-Spinal Fever, 3 to Pneumonia; 6 to Cancer and 5 to a accidental violence. In 32 cases heart appears as one of the causes. The average age at death was 64.41. Owing to the presence of evacuees and refugees, and the absence of men and women on various services connected with the war a reliable estimate of the population during 1941 cannot be drawn. On the estimated pre-war population your Death Rate was 10.82 per thousand. Your Birth Rate 12.93 and your infant mortality practically nil - only one death under one year (and that of a prematurity 4 days old) was registered. Only one birth was registered as illegitimate.

PREPARATION OF FOOD.

There is only one bakery within your area, at Brompton, satisfactory. Butchers' shops and butchers' covered motor vans are visited from time to time and found satisfactory; meat in transit is protected against dust and flies by suitable sheeting. Centralised slaughtering of animals intended for human consumption is in operation here under supervision by the Rural and Urban Sanitary inspectors. It is found necessary occasionally to condemn joints or carcasses as unsound - these are disposed of otherwise than for human consumption. The use of private slaughter houses is now forbidden.

A large volume of milk is produced within your area. A considerable quantity goes to distribution in neighbouring towns, while the larger portion is collected for the "Dried Milk Products" Factory Dairy at Romby where it is pooled together with milk from over 1100 producers outside your area. The pooling of all this milk (some 11 to 12 thousand gallons per day and during the summer months much more) makes it impossible to identify the offending producer in case of complaint consequent on unsatisfactory results of analysis.

A requirement that all pooled milk be efficiently Pasteurised would appear the only suggestion one can make in this connection. Further, all samples taken for analysis from a distributor should be taken from unbroken bulk - this would save tiresome correspondence. Only one report has been received of T.B. having been found in samples taken for bacteriological examination for a long time - this reflects much credit on the care with which the Veterinary Inspectors carry out their examination. All milking herds in this neighbourhood are inspected twice a year and those supplying milk to schools every three months.

There are now 536 cowkeepers on your register. Of these 19 are licensed as producers of Accredited Milk, 4 are bottlers, 4 are licensed as Tubercular tested and one of these is a bottler. I am indebted to F. Barraclough Esq., for the following information concerning the present position in regard to available milk supplies for children during school hours:-

"I have to inform you that of the sixteen schools in the Northallerton Rural District, twelve have the liquid milk scheme in operation and one is being supplied with Horlicks. A milk supplier has been approved for another school, and it is hoped to commence delivery as soon as possible."

"In the case of necessitous children, 2/3rds of a pint of milk are supplied free each day (1/3rd in the morning and 1/3rd in the afternoon) and children who pay for milk receive 1/3rd pint daily at a charge of 3d."

"In the Northallerton Rural Area, for the month of January, 384 children were paying for milk and 26 children were receiving free milk. The latter figure for milk will be considerably increased during February as a result of the new financial survey which has just been carried out."

"Voluntary Milk Clubs are run entirely by Teachers, and the payment received from the children is paid direct to the supplier. In all necessitous cases the cost of the milk supplied is defrayed by the Education Committee."

Before any new supplier is approved, the dairy is inspected and methods examined by your Medical Officer of Health and Sanitary Inspector. We also ascertain the results of recent Veterinary inspection of the milking herd. Below is a report kindly furnished by the Ministry's Chief Inspector here:-

" Animals slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order during 1941	
Cows in Milk	17.
Other Cows	4.
Other bovines	Nil.

Condition of the above animals found on post-mortem:-	
Tuberculosis of the udder	4.
Tuberculosis with chronic cough	15.
Tuberculosis emaciation.	2.

#### MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER 1926.

Number of animals inspected 2,086 "

I am indebted to Colonel Chaytor D.S.O. for the information that your area was entirely free from Anthrax throughout the past year.

#### EGGS.

Large quantities of very valuable food in the form of frozen eggs are being sent from America to this country. Of this, three consignments of thirty tons each have already been received here for processing to powdered eggs under the supervision of your Authority at the Dried Milk Products Factory Dairy. Three chemical and bacteriological analysis of the powder have been made with entirely satisfactory results in each case; and domestic experiments

in cooking and consuming various confections made with the powder also proved entirely satisfactory. This is done with each consignment before release. I understand that the powder is supplied only to confectioners and caterers.

### BRITISH RESTAURANT.

Opened September 1941.

Meals.	Tariff.	
Soups	4,695	@ 2d.
Meat & Veg.	7,280	@ 6d.
Sweets.	6,515	@ 2d.
Teas	5,577	@ 1d.
Sundries	1,359	--

Not taking into account interest on capital expenditure, receipts show a surplus over expenditure.

Staff      A paid Cook.  
                 A paid Kitchen maid.  
and your voluntary workers with extra help always available.

The Restaurant is run by Mrs Godman assisted by Mrs Tough whose services are highly appreciated by the Authority and those enjoying the facility and privilege of obtaining hot meals or portions at extra ordinarily small cost. The Restaurant has proved a great boon in these difficult times to those working at a distance from home; those mostly availing themselves of this opportunity are Building trade workers, Railway Employees and Office workers.

Water Supplies continue largely as described in the Annual Report for 1940. An additional loop of main was put down in connection with the Northallerton-Brompton water main and this increased the supply to the Village till heavy frost led to so many connection bursts that the benefit was lost and was not remedied till all bursts had been repaired. Present scarcity of skilled labour and the weather however led to considerable delay. Other items connected with water supplies, drainage and sewerage are dealt with in the Inspector's Report appended.

### Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases other than Tuberculosis.

157 Notifications were received, half of them were Measles, which was prevalent throughout the area during the summer months. Many cases were not seen by doctors and were not notified except as absentees from school. Except for four soldiers isolated in hospital, all were treated at home. Immediate exclusion from school of all children presenting symptoms of catarrh appeared to be helpful in checking the outbreaks. Of 79 other notifications, 30 were Diphtheria, 17 Scarlet Fever, 2 Typhoid, and 15 whooping cough.

A special report on the outbreak of Diphtheria was submitted to the Council and forwarded to the Ministry. Two cases of Typhoid occurred, one at Romanby and one at Danby Wiske; no local cause accounting for these cases was discoverable.

Although only 15 cases of whooping cough were notified the ailment was very prevalent especially in the neighbourhood of Great Langton, where nearly all the children were affected and the school was closed. When whooping cough is prevalent we find it expedient to exclude every child with a tiresome cough till certified free from whooping cough. Two hospital cases proved fatal, one of Diphtheria and one of Cerebro Spinal Fever. All the usual precautions on the occurrence of infection cases are taken. With one exception, all the Diphtherias were treated in the Isolation Hospital. 7 Pneumonias were treated in the Rutson Hospital and all recovered.

Age incidence of infectious diseases, other than  
Tuberculosis.

	Under 1 year	1 2	2 3	3 4	4 5	5 10	10 15	15 20	20 35	35 45	45 60	Over 60	All Ages
Paratyphoid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	2
Scarlet Fever	-	-	1	-	5	6	3	1	1	-	-	-	17
Pneumonia	-	-	1	-	2	1	1	-	2	2	1	-	10
Diphtheria	-	-	-	1	2	13	11	2	1	-	-	-	30
Cerebro Spinal Fever	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	3
Infantile Paralysis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	5	6	10	10	36	8	-	2	1	-	-	78
Whooping Cough.	-	1	-	1	4	4	3	1	1	-	-	-	15
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	2
	-	6	8	13	23	61	26	4	7	7	2	-	157

TUBERCULOSIS.

New cases and Mortality during the year 1941.

Age Periods.	New Pulmonary Cases.		Non Pulmonary.		Deaths.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females	Males.	Females
5	-	-	-	1		
10	-	-	3	2		
15	1	-	1	-		
20	-	1	-	-		
25	-	-	-	-	1	
35	-	1	-	-		
	1	2	4	3	1	

ROMANBY BECK.

The nuisance arising from Romanby Beck was primarily due to the discharge of milk effluent from the Factory Dairy; the lactic acid bacilli having killed off all the oxidising bacteria together with the willows and other vegetation with the result that the filter beds are now inert and sewage was passing to the Beck quite unaltered. Pending the installation of approved disposal works we are treating the sewage in lagoons with chemical precipitants and deodorants with pronounced but inadequate amendment. There has been less smell and less unpleasant deposit on the banks of the beck and rushes. The coke filters used by the dairy are not renewed sufficiently often to have much effect. In a few days the coke becomes choked with colloidal matter and ceases to act as a filter.

In conclusion I beg to thank the Council for their patience during my temporary partial disablement. My thanks are also due to our new inspector for his efficient help and collaboration. Special thanks are due to Mr. Easdale too; his local knowledge and ever ready help during the interregnum and at any time were much appreciated.

Your obedient Servant,

J. A. HUTCHINSON. M.O.H.

Other details of sanitary work are given in the Inspector's Report.

GROUP FEVER HOSPITAL serving  
Northallerton Rural, Northallerton Urban,  
Thirsk Rural, Helmsley Rural and Bedale Rural Districts  
For convenience in typing,

The present report deals with the whole of the past year 1941, instead of from March 31st of the previous year to April 1st of the present. During 1941, 120 new cases were received and in addition, on January 1st there were 12 still in hospital who were received during 1940. Of the new cases 33 were Scarlet Fever, 61 Diphtherias, 6 Cerebro Spinal Fever, 2 Typhoid Fever, 4 Measles, 7 Mumps and 2 Chicken Pox. The cases of measles, mumps and chicken pox were all soldiers; the necessity of accommodation and adequate isolation for these led to difficulty and during the year 5 patients had to be transferred. Some of the cases were severe, 4 proved fatal, 2 from Diphtheria and 2 from Cerebro Spinal Fever, 3 required tracheotomy, 4 tonsillectomy and the Cerebro Spinal Fevers repeated spinal puncture.

The laundry is now equipped with an electric washer which is proving a success. The Esso Cooker installed the year before is much appreciated and saves some coal. The new Wireless Set is also appreciated. The Ambulance purchased from Messrs Naylor's is a great improvement on the original vehicle serving the hospital. 8 extra beds in the converted Emergency Block are now in service. The interior of the Urban Block has been redecorated.

The permanent Nursing Staff comprises Matron, Sister and 2 nurses, extra help is obtained when necessary. There is at present some difficulty in securing necessary unskilled service. The hospital has been efficiently administered throughout the year.

THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES

The history of the United States is a story of growth and development. It begins with the first settlers who came to the continent in search of a new home. These settlers found a land of vast resources and potential. They worked hard to build a life for themselves and their families. Over time, the colonies grew in number and in size. They developed their own laws and customs. They fought for their rights against the British. Finally, they won their independence and became a free and sovereign nation. The United States has since grown into a great power, with a rich culture and a strong economy. It has helped to shape the world as we know it today.

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Sanitary Inspector's Report  
For the year Ending 31st December 1941.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

As directed by the Ministry of Health, the report is a brief one. There were no exceptional circumstances during 1941 requiring report. War conditions continue to thrust upon the Council a great variety of abnormal duties and functions which have the effect of seriously interfering with routine sanitary duties.

Inspection of the District.

300 letters were written in connection with Water, Sewerage, Scavenging, Milk, Housing, Hospital, Cemeteries etc.

1 Statutory notice was served under the Public Health Act 1936 in respect of filthy dwellinghouse (abated)

45 Houses were fumigated after removal of infectious patients.

1 Verminous house was disinfected, (bugs)

101 Disinfectants were supplied.

As a result of the outbreak of diphtheria in Osmotherley during the autumn, drains, gullies, etc were examined and disinfected.

Sewerage and Drainage.

The sludge lagoons at the Romanby Sewage Farm were pumped off by means of the County Council power pump and the sludge removed. The Osmotas jars (precipitant and deodorant) were renewed. As pointed out by the Medical Officer of Health, the land treatment is now practically non-existent due to the beds having been rendered inert by the strong lactic sewage. The projected sewage works should be proceeded with at the first available opportunity.

15 yards of 6" sewer relaid at Osmotherley (Back Lane to Main Street - Jamesons Passage)

74 yards of new sewer laid from corner of Hornby Road to Junction of East House (Great Smeaton)

Sewage tanks at Yafforth and East Cowton were provided with proper fitting covers.

All the sewage tanks in the district were cleaned out during the year.

Sewers have been cleaned of obstructions from time to time in the villages of Ainderby Steeple, Borrowby, Brompton, Cowton East, East Harlsey, Great Langton, Osmotherley, Romanby, Great Smeaton and Nether Siltan

Water Supply.

Wells at Danby Wiske and Great Langton were re-lined and anti-pollution measures taken (a new pump box and ironwork were provided in connection with the Danby Wiske pump)

Oak Tree Hill (Brompton Parish) The well was cleaned and sterilized and the top cemented. A notice board was erected warning users to draw by means of pump only.

Osmotherley. A number of stop tap covers were lowered to ground level and new firehydrants provided. A new stop valve was installed at the main head. A shortage of water occurred toward the end of the year due to reduced inflow at the reservoir and attributable to the dry season. The position was aggravated by careless use of the public standpipes in the village. Warning notices were

displayed and the supply cut off from late evening to early morning.

Appleton Wiske. The public well supply failed due to the dry sea son and abnormal use. An alternative well supply was used and a new pump ordered.

4 Samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination. 5 samples of water were taken for office examination.

Brompton. Towards the end of the year an improvement was effected in the supply to the village. A length of 850 lineal yards of new 4" main was laid from Northallerton to a point terminating north of Stone Cross, thus bye-passing the new building development and Senior School in the Urban area. The capacity of the new and old main taken together being nearly three times the original capacity of the old main on this section.

Frequent night tests were made in the village and maintenance works carried out. The Military billets in the village are responsible for a good deal of water wastage.

#### Consumption.

<u>Brompton.</u>	<u>Romanby</u>	<u>West Rounton.</u>
Jan. to Mar. 1,678,000	1,546,000	85,000
Apl to June. 1,619,000	2,298,000	78,000
July to Sept. 2,099,000	2,141,000	83,000
Oct to Dec. 1,438,000	1,491,000	38,000
6,834,000	7,476,000	284,000.

#### Housing.

10 Houses were inspected. Defects were discovered and dealt with by informal procedure under the Public Health Act.

No notices were served in connection with the Housing Act 1936.

2 Houses at Thrintoft which were closed by procedure under the Housing Acts were licensed by the Council for habitation for a limited period and subject to certain repairs etc being carried out.

14 Licenses were granted in respect of moveable dwellings at Osmotherley.

Plans were approved by the Council.

#### Milk and Dairies.

Inspections of cowbyres were made during the year. Further information is contained in the report of the Medical Officer of Health. Shops, Factories etc are the same as for last year.

Assistance is rendered to the Urban Inspector in connection with the inspection of Meat at the Central Slaughter house.

Squads have been trained in the technique of food decontamination.

#### Scavenging.

This is the same as for last year. The system of contract scavenging is becoming increasingly costly yet tends to decrease in efficiency and demands constant supervision.

#### Burial Grounds.

As last year.

I am, Mr. Chairman & Gentlemen.  
Your obedient Servant,

H. TEMPLEMAN.  
Sanitary Inspector.