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Contributors

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WITH DR. COATES' COMPLIMENTS.

Black Horse, Patrington, January 1st, 1906.

To the District Council of Patrington, I present my fourteenth annual report dealing with the health of this district for the year ending December 31st, 1905.

The population of the district is estimated at 7,821. The number of births has been 1941; that is 9 more than last year. Of these 4 were illegitimate—a proportion of one in 48, compared with one in 15.5 in the previous year. The total number of males born in 1905 was 99, and the number of females 95. The birth-rate for 1905 is 26.20 per 1,000, compared with 25.06 in 1904. The average for the last ten years is 23.74. The birth-rate of the East Riding for 1905 was 23.7. The births took place as follows:—

First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Total
1905	511	479	465	1,455
1904	496	465	438	1,404

One hundred and sixty-four children have been vaccinated out of the 194 births.

During the past year 92 persons have died, viz., 49 males and 43 females. This is at the rate of 11.90 per 1,000, compared with 13.28 in the previous year, and 14.5 the average for the last ten years. The death-rate of the East Riding for 1905 was 14.5.

The average age death for this district is: For males 56.93 years, and for females 57.32 years. The average age of all deaths is 49 years 3 months 15 days in 1905. The average duration of life in England is 47 years 3 months.

The relative number of deaths at the various ages came out as:—

Age	Number of Deaths
Under 1 year	12
Between 1 and 5 years	44
Between 5 and 10 years	106
Between 10 and 15 years	95
Between 15 and 20 years	126
Between 20 and 25 years	119
Over 25 years and under 35 years	2
Over 35 years and under 45 years	4
Over 45 years and under 55 years	24
Over 55 years and under 65 years	95
Over 65 years	96

I append the mortality of chief European countries for contrast:—

Country	Annual Mortality per 1,000	Of 1,000 Children under 1 year
Sweden and Norway	17	20
Denmark	18	22
Belgium	20	24
France	21	25
Germany	22	26
Austria and Portugal	23	27
Italy	24	28
Switzerland	25	29
Spain	26	30
Hungary	27	31
Russia	28	32
Average for all Europe	27	33

Ten inquests have been held in 1905—4 accidents, 1 suicide, 1 natural cause, 1 found drowned, 2 heart disease, and 1 blood poisoning. Three persons belonging to this district died in the East Riding Asylum. Three non-residents have been accidentally drowned, and one person unknown has been washed up.

The following have been the chief causes of death:—Diphtheria, 1; phthisis, 9; cancer, 6; heart, 21; pneumonia, 4; alcoholism, 2; heart, 21; erysipelas, 4; suicide, 1; and all other causes, 33.

No deaths took place at Frodingham, Hildon, Kilton, Othorpe, or Tunstall. No births took place at Hildon or Othorpe.

The deaths took place as follows:—

First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Total
1905	47	44	43	138
1904	46	43	41	130

I append a table showing at a glance (1) the births, (2) the deaths, (3) the average death-rate, (4) the average birth-rate, and (5) the average age at death in the following parishes:—

Parish	Births	Deaths	1,000 Births	1,000 Deaths	Age at death
Burton Pidoe	13	7	24.52	13.18	51.66
Hilham	3	3	8.42	11.43	48.31
Hilham	4	5	12.43	15.62	47.14
Hilham	2	4	16.14	21.81	41.83
Hilham	1	2	2.43	5.71	37.87
Hilham	2	1	5.71	2.43	44.14
Hilham	1	1	2.43	2.43	37.87
Hilham	1	1	2.43	2.43	37.87
Hilham	1	1	2.43	2.43	37.87

Compared with this, the following table shows the average for the past two years, 1903-1904:—

Parish	1903	1904	1905
Burton Pidoe	15	12	13
Hilham	4	5	3
Hilham	3	4	2
Hilham	2	1	4
Hilham	1	2	1
Hilham	1	1	2
Hilham	1	1	1
Hilham	1	1	1
Hilham	1	1	1

The number of inhabited houses in the district is 1,649; the average number of people per house is 4.75. For the whole of the East Riding 4.5. The average is 4.28 for this district; the density of population is one person to 8.7 acres, compared with 7.7 the East Riding rural average and 5 acres the entire Riding average.

The infantile mortality is 10 against 100 in the previous year. The average for the past ten years is 18.7. One death of an illegitimate child under one year has been recorded. There are distinct improvements in previous years.

The cancer rate is one in 15.33, as against one in 15.5 in 1904. The average for England and Wales is one in 36.

The average age at death from cancer is 61.6 years. Two cases were males and four females. The average age at death from heart affection is 63.4. The lung diseases—phthisis, bronchitis, and pneumonia—average 59.3 years. Nine deaths took place from phthisis, compared with 7 the previous year.

Sixty-two cases of notifiable infectious diseases have been notified to me during 1905, as against 41 in 1904. The cases were: Diphtheria, 20; erysipelas, 21; scarlet fever, 12; enteric fever, 5. Death occurred: Diphtheria, 1, which is at the rate of 19.80 per 1,000 deaths, or .11 per 1,000 of the population.

The total number of people receiving in and out relief belonging to this union is 184, or one in 36. In 1904 there were 196, or one in 35. The average for England and Wales is one in 30.

The number of pauper lunatics belonging to the union is 23, or one in 339 (including Withernsea, which is in this union), or 2 per 1,000, as compared with 2.98 for the whole East Riding, and 3.42 for England and Wales. For the East Riding the number of pauper lunatics is 220 in 1905.

The rainfall at Patrington for last year was 27.58 inches. The most rain fell in August (5.05), and the driest month was January (6.64). The average rainfall per month is 2.32 inches, compared with 1.54 in 1904.

During the year 230 children have been excluded by special certificates for various complaints from the schools of the district with this area:—

Complaint	Number of Children
Chicken pox	30
Typhoid fever	1
Wagoners	1
Mumps	1
Whooping cough	1
Measles	1
Scarlet fever	1
Erasms	1

The special number of cases excluded from each school, including the unaffiliated members of the same families, were: Withernsea, 13; Kyringham, 20; Patrington, 30; Hilham, 1; Burton Pidoe, 5; Othorpe, 1; Hildon, 1; Bywell, 2; Burstwick, 17; Spurn Head, 2. Three schools have been closed for infectious diseases, viz., Hilham for measles; Burton Pidoe for diphtheria, and Spurn Head for measles.

To more effectively cope with school hygiene a number of regulations have been made by Section 13 of the Education Act of 1907, the School Medical Officer obtaining more power over the exclusion of such children. It aims at cooperation with the Medical Officers of Health. The School Medical Officer can now exclude for (1) To prevent the spread of disease; (2) uncleanly or venereal diseases; (3) contagious or physical or mental defects, or owing to the state of health. The School Medical Officer must now approve of the closure of the schools, this indicates the desirability of a working arrangement between the Medical Officer of Health and the School Medical Officer. The Medical Officer of Health is still responsible for dealing with outbreaks of infectious disease, and he will not take such steps as are consistent with the public interest to prevent the spread of infection, so farly reported cases should be notified by teachers to the Medical Officer of Health and the School Medical Officer, for it is in groups exclusion of few cases which will stave off an epidemic. If scarlet fever should be excluded until pox has ended, and fourteen days after the discontinuation of the disease. Diphtheria contacts should be excluded for four weeks after recovery, or until swabs show negative examination. Measles should be excluded 21 days after recovery, or until the same. Measles one month. Whooping cough at least six weeks. These rules apply to all children attending school from infected houses, and should also apply to attendants at Sunday schools, churches, clubs, or any public gatherings. Children under the age of five will be excluded from all schools on the first case of diphtheria being notified and confirmed. The outbreak of diphtheria at Burton Pidoe caused unnecessary panic. The origin was distinctly traceable to what is known as carriers from a distance. Diphtheria infection may remain in the throat of an infected patient for a prolonged period extending up to months.

There has only been one case of anthrax notified by the police during 1905. This was at Hilham. The cleaning of milk cows is one which I am afraid is not receiving the attention it deserves from the numerous responsible for the milk supply of this district. It is absolutely of the highest importance that not only should the animals be kept scrupulously clean, but that the milkers themselves should give special attention to the cleaning of the udder and their own hands. Milk is one of the foods which bacteria, especially those affecting the alimentary canal, thrive in, and all milk should be strained and boiled before giving it to children. I cannot too strongly insist on the dairy people the extreme importance of cleanliness in every detail connected with the management of this most important article of food.

There are 42 cowsheds registered in the Patrington area. The Inspector has inspected them, and reports on them from time to time. Some of them would do with a little improvement.

During the year a prosecution was undertaken by myself and the Education Department of the County Council in regard to a child attending the Patrington schools whose mother was, presumably ill. A conviction was obtained against the male and female defendants, who were sentenced to three and four months respectively. This conviction was the first one under the new Children Act in England, and I draw attention to it again because if children are so neglected and permission as to materially affect their health, the persons having the charge of them can be summarily convicted and sentenced to prison for serious offences. The child in the aforementioned case was taken in from the parents' custody and sent to a special school, where he will be trained to be a useful citizen. It is sorry to record the fact that your Council, after requesting from me a report on the sanitary condition of houses at Withernsea, and after receiving a satisfactory report from me, and a similarly satisfactory report from my Sanitary Inspector, neglected the obvious duty

of proceeding at the Sessions for an order to close. One cannot understand an authority serving a person with a notice of unsanitary property, and after the landlord himself enquires, and asks the Council to obtain a closing order, dropping the entire business and considering it satisfactorily disposed of. The result has been that the East Riding County Council, owing to the default of the Patrington Rural District Council, had to initiate proceedings and obtain the necessary order for closure at a greater expense than your Council would have been at, and the ultimate cost will fall upon the ratepayers of this district. I trust that the Council will in future, for its own dignity, do its own work, and not have the odium of another body undertaking the work, and charging the Patrington Council with the expense.

There is no isolation hospital within this area at present. During 1905 thirteen notifications have been complained of, and, in addition, 45 sanitary matters have been reported and put right.

During the year six well water were analysed, and one of these was condemned.

There are eleven workshops registered under the Factory and Workshop Act. These have been inspected from time to time and found in proper order.

All persons under 16 must be certified by the respective factory surgeons before they can be employed even as apprentices or dressmakers. This has rather been more labour in the breach than in the observance in the past.

I also deeply regret the dilatoriness in proceeding with the flushing of the Patrington drains. I have called attention annually to this neglect for 10 years. The local Sanitary Committee, the Patrington Parish Council, has unanimously passed resolutions requesting your Board to proceed with the work. They have themselves placed a suitable plot of land at my disposal, where water can be obtained, and from which source a satisfactory flushing system could be well and cheaply maintained. It so happens that this year we have had an exceptional amount of rainfall, and the necessity for flushing has not been so apparent, but sooner or later we shall have a dry season, with serious results arising from the main drains, and consequent epidemics. It is the Council's duty to attend to this. The drainage system of Patrington is good, although I constantly maintain it should never have been permitted without some form of flushing having been arranged for, and it cannot be satisfactory until this is done. I do most sincerely hope that the Council will remedy this defect, especially as it is the wish of the inhabitants, apart from the greater sanitary reason of protecting the health of the ratepayers. After my earnest request last year, I am surprised that the Council cannot see the danger of so long delaying a much-needed improvement.

Nothing more has been heard of the scheme for supplying the district with water. There should be some systematic analysis of the existing supplies to check contamination. The Kyringham drains have not been closed out as frequently as they should have been, and I am sorry to say that what I predicted has happened—that an outbreak of diphtheria has been caused, in spite of the open drain on the roadside leading from the inn to the schools. The schools were not had to be closed, and the Council to seriously consider Kyringham. It is not sufficient to do away with the settling pits, which were all right if they had been attended to properly. The settling pits are all satisfactory, and should be dealt with as early as possible.

Thirty-five bacteriological examinations have been made of suspected infectious cases; 12 have been positive and 23 negative. These examinations have been well worth the expense, and are certainly most valuable and necessary from a public health point of view.

The schools of the East Riding have been inspected, some of them in this district by the County Council's Medical Officer. 90 have satisfactory clothing and feet gear; 85 are satisfactory from the point of nutrition, and 94.9 from a cleanliness standpoint. This is eminently satisfactory. It is to be hoped that the parents will carry out the recommendations of the School Medical Officer in regard to children suffering from curable conditions, and have those attended to in the earliest opportunity.

With the advent of 1906 comes into operation the Housing and Town Planning Act, one of the most valuable measures passed in the interests of the health of the people. A local authority can now make a closing order in the case of unsanitary property, and an appeal against this order can be made to the Local Government Board instead of to the Petty Sessions Court. Again, if a landlord lets property to working classes, and does not keep the premises in reasonable repair, and in all respects fit for habitation, the local authority may serve him with a notice to do the necessary work, which they must specify, and if he fails to comply he can appeal to the Local Government Board. This fills a long-felt want, because there are many premises, not necessarily insanitary, which are still let at for many years. These can now be dealt with effectively, and without so cumbersome a proceeding as formerly.

Your Council do not possess any building regulations. If you had such it would prevent people building houses unfit themselves without any regard to sanitary requirements.

I have drawn the attention of the Harbour Conservancy Board to the unsatisfactory condition of the water supply of the Trinity Lifeboat Cottages at Spurn. Owing to the quantity of birds alighting at Spurn it's water gets contaminated with micro-organisms matter, and the spray of the sea during a storm often throws over the water and so is carried to the tanks. These tanks are not sufficiently often cleaned out, and there exists no arrangement by which the water might be filtered. I have had communications from the Board, but the matter has not yet been satisfactorily dealt with.

Some crematoria has been provided for the district, and I have certified as satisfactory one.

The year has been a satisfactory one from the hygienic standpoint, and, as usual, compared very favourably with other districts.

Yours, &c.

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