

[Report 1949] / Medical Officer of Health, Pickering R.D.C.

Contributors

Pickering (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1949

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Rural District Council
of
PICKERING

Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
for the Year
1949

W. R. M. COUPER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

INCLUDING THE REPORT
of the

Sanitary Inspector

P. PICKERING, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.



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PICKERING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Officers of the Authority :

Medical Officer of Health :

W. R. M. COUPER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector :

P. PICKERING, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

District Health Office,
Hungate,
Pickering.

The Chairman and Members
of the Rural District Council of Pickering.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health of the Pickering Rural District for the year 1949. During the year, Dr. D. L. Fletcher relinquished the appointment of Medical Officer of Health and Mr. J. Storey resigned from the post of Sanitary Inspector.

During the year Sinnington, Kirbymisperton, Thornton-le-Dale and Newton suffered from shortages of water. Several parishes including Cawthorn, Hartoft, Kingthorpe and Pickering Marishes are without piped supplies and rely on springs. Every effort should be made to improve and extend existing supplies and where possible to provide piped water where there is at present none.

None of the parishes in the district are properly sewered with outfall to sewage treatment works. As water supplies become available to individual houses and the number of new houses increases the need for modern methods of sewage disposal becomes more and more urgent. In large villages such as Thornton Dale a modern sewage disposal plant is a necessity.

In a scattered rural district the collection and disposal of household refuse presents many difficulties but it is to be hoped that more frequent house to house collection of all types of household refuse can be arranged in the near future.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,
W. R. M. COUPER,
Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area in acres	74,865
Number of Inhabited houses	1,672
Register Generals estimate of Population	5,030
Rateable Value	£16,601
Sum presented by the Penny Rate ...	£66/11/6

VITAL STATISTICS

Births.

	Live Births		Still Births		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Legitimate	39	29	—	—	68
Illegitimate	5	3	—	—	8
Total ...	44	32	—	—	76

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age.

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	—	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Total ...	3	—	3

Live Birth Rate (birth per 1,000 population)	11.1
Illegitimate Rate (percentage of total births)	10.5%
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	39.5

	Male	Female	Total
Deaths	36	36	72
Death Rate (deaths per 1,000 population)			14.3

Comparative Table of Birth and Death Rates during 1949.

	Rates per 1,000 civilian population.		Infant	
	Live Births	Still Births	Death	Mortality
	Rate.	Rate.	Rate.	Rate.
England and Wales	16.7	0.39	11.7	32
126 Great Towns and County Boro's including London...	18.7	0.47	12.5	37
148 Smaller Towns...	18.0	0.40	11.6	30
London Admin. County	18.5	0.37	12.2	29
Pickering R.D.C. ...	11.1	Nil.	14.3	39.5

Table Showing Causes of Death.

	Male	Female	Total
All causes	36	36	72
Diphtheria	—	1	1
Influenza	2	1	3
Cancer of Buccal Cavity, Oesophagus (M) Uterus (F)	1	1	2
Cancer of Breast	—	2	2
Cancer of all other sites	3	2	5
Diabetes	1	—	1
Intercranial Vascular Lesions	3	5	8
Heart Diseases	12	12	24
Other diseases of Circulatory System	—	5	5
Bronchitis	2	3	5
Pneumonia	3	—	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	—	1	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	—	1	1
Appendicitis	—	1	1
Other Digestive Diseases	1	1	2
Nephritis	1	—	1
Congenital Malformation, Birth Injury, Infantile Distortions	1	—	1
Other violent causes	1	—	1
All other causes	4	—	4

Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Disease.

The following cases of infectious disease were notified during the year :—

Scarlet Fever	1
Diphtheria	2
Poliomyelitis	2
Measles	137
Whooping Cough	21
Pneumonia	1

There was a considerable number of cases of measles during the year but the disease was generally in a mild form. Two cases of poliomyelitis occurred during the year. These cases had no contact with one another and there was no evidence to show how the disease was contracted. An adult and a child in one family contracted diphtheria and the child who was not immunised against diphtheria died.

Cases of infectious disease are admitted to Isolation Hospitals in Scarborough and York when hospital treatment is considered necessary.

Tuberculosis. No new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year and there were no deaths from this disease.

General Provision of Health Services.

Nursing. Under the National Health Service Act, 1946, the North Riding County Council provide a domiciliary nursing and mid-wifery service for the district. District Nurse/Midwives stationed at Lockton, Snainton, Malton, Swinton, Sinnington, Lastingham and Pickering provide this service in the district.

Laboratory Facilities. Samples for bacteriological examination are examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Hull.

Ambulance Service. This is provided by the North Riding County Council under agency arrangements with voluntary organisations.

Hospitals. General medical and surgical cases are admitted to hospitals at Malton, Scarborough, York and Leeds. Maternity cases, where necessary, are admitted to hospitals at Scarborough and Westow.

Clinics for the treatment of venereal disease are held each week at Scarborough and York.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

Particulars of the water supply to parishes in the district are set out below in the following table :—

Parish.	Number of Dwellings.	Popula- tion.	Population supplied from :—		
			Public Mains.	Stand Pipes.	Other Private Sources
Thornton Dale ...	372	1220	1160	120	—
Levisham	21	94	94	—	—
Kingthorpe	7	30	—	—	30
Lockton	68	272	180	92	—
Pickering Marishes	29	125	—	—	125
Allerston	52	211	168	—	43
Wilton	21	99	89	—	10
Ebberston	121	229	157	52	20
Middleton	55	228	172	37	19
Aislaby	17	81	32	46	3
Wrelton	46	143	82	56	5
Cropton	76	304	252	52	—
Cawthorn	1	5	—	—	5
Newton	52	212	—	—	212
Rosedale East	95	380	300	—	80
Rosedale West ...	51	204	40	60	104
Hartoft	8	32	20	—	12
Normanby	27	108	81	27	—
Thornton Risboro'	1	5	—	—	5
Sinnington	86	354	280	44	30
Marton	46	196	94	90	12
Barugh's Ambo ...	35	154	86	54	14
Kirbymisperton	39	164	124	32	8

Farms and Farm Population are not included.

Sewage Disposal. No sewage disposal works in the area. Some individual houses and groups of houses have septic tanks for disposal of sewage.

Refuse Disposal. Private contractors arrange for the collection of tins, bottles and paper at approximately 3 monthly intervals.

Housing — New Houses.

Council Houses completed during the year:—

Sinnington	4
Ebberston	4
Marton	4
Kirbymisperton	4

Total ... 16

Houses Built by private enterprise ... 13

At the end of the year there were 92 applications for houses in the district.

Food and Drugs. There have been no outbreaks of food poisoning during the year.

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

January, 1950.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Pickering Rural District Council.

During the year under review Mr. J. Storey resigned the position of Sanitary Inspector and I took up duties in November. The majority of the work therefore reported upon was executed by Mr. J. Storey.

The Rural Housing Survey was completed during this period and from the report presented it is evident that considerable work is ahead, both from a new housing programme and general housing repairs and improvements point of view.

It is hoped to improve in the coming years, as far as expenditure will permit, the existing refuse collection service.

There are no villages in the area with a properly designed Sewerage System. This subject, from complaints received, is becoming more acute, particularly in the large village of Thornton Dale.

During my period of service with this Authority many problems have arisen and I wish to take this opportunity of thanking all members and officials for their close co-operation and attention shown during the course of my duties.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,
P. PICKERING,

Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supplies. Considerable difficulty has been experienced throughout the year due to shortage of water, particular in areas where the water supply is not controlled by the Local Authority. These have been reported upon in detail by the Medical Officer.

Work was commenced on a scheme to supply the parish of Newton but owing to non-delivery of materials had to be suspended.

One sample of water was taken for bacteriological examination during the year and was found to be satisfactory.

Sewerage. Every effort should be made to get approval for the Sewerage Scheme, already prepared by the Consultant Engineer, for Thornton-le-Dale, where it is apparent crude sewage is discharged into the village water course. This considerably detracts from the beauty of the village during the summer months when the water is considerably diminished apart from the health standpoint.

Closet Accommodation. Several dry closets have been converted during the year to the water carriage system with disposal through a properly constructed septic tank. There is, however, a considerable number of dry closets in the area, especially where no piped water supply is available.

Refuse Collection. The work is carried out by contract which only consists of collecting tins, bottles, and salvage. There are four contractors hired for this service. The parish of Thornton-le-Dale receives a fortnightly collection. In the remainder of the area posters are displayed at intervals of 2 to 3 months, when it is considered a collection is required. Refuse requiring removal has to be set out adjacent the roadway by individual householders.

Refuse disposal is by crude tipping.

Housing. The Rural Housing Survey was completed during the year. A summary of the position is given below :—

Number of working class houses in the area ... 1267.						
No. of Houses.	Categories.					No. of cases of
Surveyed.	1	2	3	4	5	Overcrowding
1267	339	284	549	448	95	11

NOTES.

- Class 1. Houses fit in all respects.
- Class 2. Houses requiring minor repairs.
- Class 3. Houses where structural alterations and repairs are required.
- Class 4. Houses suitable for reconditioning under the Housing (Rural Workers') Act.
- Class 5. Houses not capable of being rendered fit at a reasonable expense.

A considerable number of the older houses in the area are showing signs of disrepair which accumulated during the war period. Repairs are restricted to a minimum owing to the high cost of labour and materials and the small rents, shortage of essential materials particularly timber, and the limited number of skilled men.

Moveable Dwellings. Two moveable dwellings have been licensed during the year under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 269.

Factories. Of the 14 factories on the register 11 were inspected and no defects were found.

Meat and Food. There is no Ministry of Food Slaughterhouse within the area. No complaints have been received in relation to meat received for this area. No inspections or condemnations were necessary.

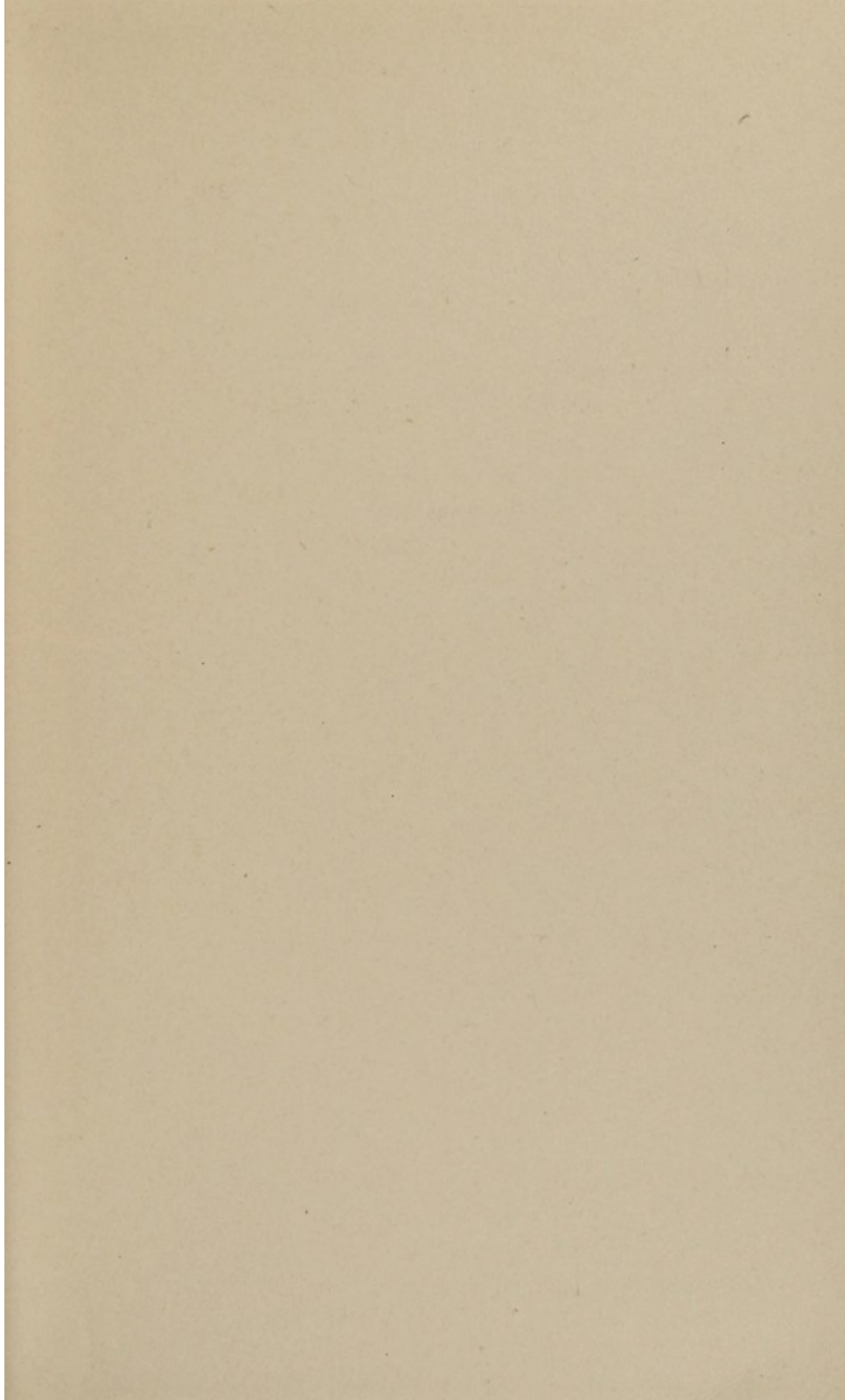
Twelve licences were granted under Section 3 of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Ice Cream. All premises where ice cream was stored and sold were inspected in accordance with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947, and no action was found to be necessary.

Milk and Dairies. The new Milk and Dairies Legislation which came into force on 1st October has relieved the Local Authority of some responsibility of supervision of Milk production. Certain registrations, however, are still necessary in relation to distribution.

Summary of Visits.

Housing Inspections	350
Water Supplies	187
Sewers and Sewage Disposal	42
Drainage Inspections	38
Refuse Disposal	27
Nuisances Investigated	47
Building Licence Applications	28
Ice Cream Premises	4
Housing Sites	32
Moveable Dwellings	4
Bakehouses	6
Factories	11
Cowsheds and Dairies	71



HEALTH
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