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ANNUAL REPORT

. . . OF . . .

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

. . . OF THE . . .

Pocklington Rural District Council

FOR 1937.





TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF POCKLINGTON.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

As Medical Officer of Health for the Rural District of Pocklington, I beg to submit to you the following Report for the year ended December 31st, 1937.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND CHARACTER AND GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT.

SECTION A.

D

Natural and Social Conditions of the District.

The Pocklington Rural District is situated in the East Riding of Yorkshire, having York to the West and Great Driffield and Beverley to the East. It comprises 31 parishes, the total area of which is 101,521 acres, or 158 square miles. The total population at the census of 1931 was 12,723; estimated at midsummer 1937, 12,900. The number of inhabited houses is 3,479 and the number of families or separate occupiers is 3,484. The assessable value is £36,899, the sum represented by a penny rate on that amount being £153: 14: 11.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The District is almost entirely agricultural, and the chief occupations are in connection with that industry.

The 31 parishes comprising the District also form the area of the Pocklington Guardians Committee. The ordinary cases of illness amongst the poor are treated in the Workhouse, cases requiring hospital treatment being sent to the Hull Royal Infirmary or York County Hospital.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE REGISTRAR GENERAL FOR THE YEAR 1937.

Births.	Births Legitimate 150 75 75 Illegitimate 9 5 4
Deaths.	Deaths 187 85 102
	Number of women dying in, or in From Sepsis 0 consequence of, childbirth From other causes 0 Deaths of infants under 1 year of age—
	Legitimate7 Illegitimate0 Total7
	Deaths from Measles (all ages) 0
	,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages) 0
	" " Diarrhœa (Gastro Enteritis) under 2 years of age 0
	,, ,, Cancer (all ages): M 8, F 13 21

Prevalence of, and The number of cases notified during the year was 62 as comcontrol over, infectious pared with 67 in the previous year.

Total Cases, Cases admitted. Total

Disease.	100000		Total Cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Diphtheria				26	8
Scarlet Fever	***********		11	11	_
Enteric Fever (Paratyphe				_	_
Puerperal Pyrexia and Pu	erperal	Fever	0	_	
Pneumonia				_	5
Erysipelas				_	_
Encephalitis Lethargica					_
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis				_	_
Poliomyelitis				_	_
Tuberculosis—	M	8	_	_	_
(a) Pulmonary	F	4		_	_
	Total	12	12		4
(M	1	-	_	_
(b) Non-Pulmonary	F	1		_	_
	Total	2	2	_	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum			0	_	-

Analysis of total cases of Infectious Disease. Cases notified 62.

No.		Years.
0	uı	nder 1
2	1	to 3
5	3	- 4
5	4	- 5
8	5	- 10
10	10	- 15
8	15	- 20
6	20	- 30
2	30	- 40
5	40	- 50
11	50	& over
62		

The number of deaths from Tuberculosis was 4 and the number notified was 4. The cases of Tuberculosis are usually always notified, but if not it is generally where a case is rapidly moved for sanitorium treatment, cases notified in previous years, or where a resident of the District dies outside the District.

Analysis of deaths from notifiable Infectious Diseases.

No.		Year	18.
0	ur	idei	1
0	1	to	3
2	3	-	10
2	10	_	20
1	20	-	35
1	35	-	40
2	40	-	50
9	50	& u	pwards
17	197		
	[4]		

CAUSES OF SICKNESS.

The only special cases of sickness were due to the prevalence of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria.

SECTION B.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

General Provision of Health Services in the District. One qualified Sanitary Inspector is employed by the Council as a whole time officer, whose salary is contributed to under the Public Health Act. No other officers, health visitors or nurses are employed by the Council.

A health visitor periodically visits the District from the County Council.

Professional Nursing in the Home. General. In ordinary cases of sickness the nursing is done by the other members of the family unless the services of a trained nurse are requisitioned.

The East Riding Nursing Association sends nurses to working class patients who are subscribers, but these nurses are generally employed as monthly nurses, although their help is frequently given for cases of illness.

Infectious Diseases.

The milder forms of infectious disease are nursed by the other members of the family or by getting a reliable help if possible. This applies to Measles, Whooping Cough, Chicken Pox, &c. In the more serious diseases such as Scarlet, Diphtheria, Enteric, &c., most cases are removed, whenever possible, to the Isolation Hospital at Driffield. Unless this is done it is practically impossible to do anything approaching proper isolation in the patient's dwellinghouse.

There are no definite arrangements whereby nursing is supplied either by the County or Local Authority, the only private Association being the East Riding Association.

All cases of Puerperal Fever or Puerperal Pyrexia are notified to the County Medical Officer of Health.

There are no voluntary workers and no local arrangements are made for general nursing.

Midwives.

The East Riding County Council have midwives in certain areas in the District where it is considered necessary, and they are paid by the Council and employed as whole time officers.

Laboratory Work.

Medical men in the District can have bacteriological examinations made by the Clinical Research Association free of charge in cases of Diphtheria, Enteric, and Pulmonary Tuberculosis. The Council supply diphtheria antitoxin to any practitioners in the District who require it for either general or prophylactic use.

During the year 92 bacteriological examinations were made.

Legislation in force.

There are no by-laws or local regulations relating to the public health in force in the District, but the specified parts of Adoptive Acts have been put into force. Part II—Secs. 25, 30 and 33. Part III—The whole, with the exception of Secs. 39 to 42 inclusive, and

Secs. 47 to 51. Part IV—The whole, with the exception of Sec. 67. Part V—The whole. Adopted 13th June, 1910.

Sec. 27 of Part 2 (II) of the Public Health Acts (Amendment Act), 1907, relating to temporary dwellings, came into force on 12th May, 1924.

Two sections of the Public Health Act, 1925, were adopted by the Council in October, 1926. They are SS. 20 and 43, the former dealing with surface drainage of courts and streets and the latter with the occupation of tents, vans and sheds.

A number of the above provisions are consolidated in the Public Health Act, 1936.

Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council.

Tuberculosis.

Maternity.

Children.

Fever.

Smallpox.

Ambulance Facilities. For infectious Cases.

Non-infectious and Accident Cases.

Clinics and Treatment Centres; Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

Tuberculosis.

The Raywell Sanatorium is provided by the County Council. It is situated near Cottingham and has accommodation for 31 adults and 14 children. If there was not available accommodation at Raywell the County Council would make arrangements for a bed at some other Sanatorium such as Withernsea or Aysgarth.

There is no Maternity Hospital in the District, but cases are admitted, for those who are very poor, to the Workhouse Infirmary. Generally they are single women.

Any cases requiring Hospital treatment are sent to either York County Hospital or the Hull Royal Infirmary, but there is no Hospital in the District. Cases amongst the very poor are sent to the Workhouse Infirmary.

An Orthopædic Hospital at Kirbymoorside is now available for cripple children, on application to the County Authorities.

There is no Fever Hospital in the District, but the County provide an Isolation Hospital for the District at Driffield, which has accommodation for 62 beds.

The County Authorities have a Smallpox Hospital at Shiptonthorpe which has 18 beds.

There is no institution in the District for unmarried mothers, but when they have no home they are admitted on request to the Workhouse Lying-in Ward before confinement. This institution is in Pocklington, which parish is now within the District.

A motor Ambulance is provided from the Driffield Isolation Hospital by the County Authorities.

No ambulance is provided by the Authorities; a car would be hired and paid for through Public Assistance if the person was unable to provide it.

A centre has been opened in the District by the County Council at Pocklington. Nurses to superintend these meetings are sent by the County Council, and they examine and weigh the infants and give advice to mothers regarding them. There are no day nurseries or school clinics in the District.

Cases of Tuberculosis are, if the house accommodation be satisfactory, nursed at home; if not, the case is removed to a Sanatorium,

usually the Raywell Sanatorium, owned and maintained by the County Authority. If this is not available other Sanatoria would be used, such as Withernsea or Aysgarth. These institutions are all outside the District.

Venereal Diseases.

Arrangements have been made by the County Authorities whereby any one suffering from Venereal Disease can get free treatment either at the York County Hospital or the Hull Royal Infirmary. There is very little Venereal Disease in the District.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply.

The whole of the District with the exception of Barmby Moor, Goodmanham and Market Weighton, Pocklington, Shiptonthorpe and Londesborough is supplied by the Regional Scheme from springs in the chalk wolds. The supply is pure and abundant and is adequately protected from every source of pollution. Satisfactory chemical analysis was returned during the year.

Three of the parishes mentioned above are supplied by private companies or by estates while Barmby Moor and Shiptonthorpe are supplied by bores sunk by the Council 30 years ago. Should any shortage or grave defect arise the Regional Scheme is within striking distance of any of the supplies.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The need for proper sewerage schemes in every village is still great. The water supply has led householders to instal baths and W.C's and the greater number of the villages are still served only by the joint highway drain, to which, as years went on, sewage connections were made for want of better facilities. Now these drains are unable to cope with the present day requirements and, like other Rural Councils throughout the country this Authority looks with hope to the Ministry for similar grants towards sewerage as those given towards the provision of water. It is needless to say that without such grant no real advance can be made.

Drainage and Sewerage: Rivers and Streams.

No large extension of sewerage has taken place. A few short extensions, repairs and maintainance are only to be recorded.

The Privy, W.C. and in the District.

The most common form of closet accommodation in the villages Closet Accommodation is the privy. In the more populous parts these privies are giving way rapidly to the water carriage and in the parish of Pocklington with a population of 2,661 only a few remain, while at Market Weighton, a parish of 1,770, replacement is proceeding. In many of the villages water closets are being installed and drained to septic tanks. The privies number 1,400, pail closets 710 and water closets 900.

Arrangements for the removal of house refuse, and cleansing of earth closets and ashpits in the District.

In Market Weighton and Pocklington the scavenging is delegated to the Parish Councils. In five other parishes, Barmby Moor, Bishop Wilton, Shiptonthorpe, Wilberfoss and Sancton, a monthly house to house collection of refuse has been inaugurated.

Suitable tips have been found and these are put under the care of the collector. In several other villages, ground such as an old chalk quarry is available for the deposit of refuse.

Similar systems will become necessary in nearly all villages as time goes on, and a general scheme of refuse collection and controlled disposal is foreshadowed.

Sanitary Administration.

Dwellinghouses inspected	230
" notices served	103
New houses built	76
Have Building By-Laws been adopted?	No
Dwellinghouses disinfected after cases of ordinary infectious	
disease	58
Dwellinghouses disinfected after cases of Phthisis	all
Schools disinfected after cases of ordinary infectious diseases	0
Dwellinghouses found overcrowded	4
,, newly drained	2
,, redrained	6
Privies converted to W.C's	16
,, ,, pail closets	6
Offensive trades inspected	3
Total number of nuisances found	93
,, ,, abated	87
Water Supplies —	
Houses newly supplied with water mains	86
New wells made	0
New bore wells made	0
Wells closed, water unsafe Many gone out o	f use
Samples of water sent for examination	9
Water certificates granted for new houses in Rural Districts	0
Dairies and Cowsheds—	
Number of dairies and cowsheds on register	560
Number of Cows	
Visits to cowsheds and dairies	75
Defects found	6
,, remedied	6
Slaughter Houses—	
Number on Register—registered 12, licensed 8	20
Visits to	200
Number of Defects found	3
" " remedied	3
Common Lodging Houses—	
	0
Number on Register	2
Visits to	6
romadiad	1
Canal Boats inspected	0

Shops Act, 1934 ---

There has been little action taken in regard to the Act. All premises inspected have been satisfactory.

Smoke Abatement-

There is no call for any action in the Rural Area.

Swimming Baths and Pools-

There is no public bath or any privately owned bath open to the public. There is one private swimming bath in connection with Pocklington School.

Bugs-

Only one case of infestation was brought to notice and this was satisfactorily dealt with by the Local Authority.

General inspection of the District.

The general inspection of premises, occupations, &c., coming under the control of the Council is on a much larger scale than indicated by the figures. Many surprise inspections and visits are made and unless any special incident arises therefrom are not recorded.

Factory and Workshops Act.

The Workshops chiefly consist of one man businesses and number 105. The general cleanliness is satisfactory. A great number of these are rooms or buildings attached to the cottage where the worker lives, and the domestic sanitary arrangements are in common. The sanitary conditions of the larger establishments are satisfactory.

Rag Flock Acts, 1911 and 1928. There are no premises in the area on which Rag Flock is manufactured.

Schools.

These are inspected periodically. No case of insanitary conditions was reported during the year. Nearly every school is connected with the Regional or other water scheme.

Immunisation.

Owing to the prevalence of Diphtheria over 300 children and adults in the District were immunised. The epidemic very soon abated and very few cases have occurred since.

SECTION D.

Housing Statistics. Number of new houses erected during the year:-

	lotal	76
	a) By the Local Authority	28
(b) By private enterprise	48

Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year. Inspection of Dwellinghouses during the year:-

- - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose........... 160

	(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in	
	all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	40
2.	Remedy of Defects during the year without Service of for Notices:—	rmal
	Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in con- sequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	16
3.	Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—	
	(a).—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
	(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices	
	were served requiring repairs	0
	(2) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after	
	service of formal notices:—	
	(a) By owners	0
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
	(b).—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
	 Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 	9
	(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were	9
	remedied after service of formal notices:—	
	(a) By owners	7
	(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	1
	(c)Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing	
	Act, 1936:	
	(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition	
	Orders were made	3
	(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of	
	Demolition Orders	0
	(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	0
	(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms	v
	in respect of which Closing Orders were determined,	
	the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0
ŧ.	Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding:—	
	(a)(i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the	
	year	61
	(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	66
	(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	491
	(b).—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during	
	(c).—(i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during	11
	the year	15
	(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	78

- (d).—Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding......nil
- (e).—Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to reportnone

Housing Conditions, General.

Another year of improved housing conditions has to be recorded. Twenty-eight finished by the Council and occupied, and forty-eight by private enterprise.

Fifteen cases of overcrowding were directly relieved.

The Council engaged a new officer to expedite the housing programme and new sites are being sought throughout the District.

Unhealthy Areas. By-laws. There are no unhealthy areas.

There are no by-laws in force relating to houses or to houses let in lodgings, but Sec. 27 of Part II of the Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1907, relating to temporary dwellings, has been in force since 1924. This section is most helpful in regulating occupation of converted railway vans, about six of which are to be found in the District with three others occupied before 1924.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

Frequent inspections are made of cowsheds and dairies.

Action regarding tubercular milk or cattle consists of reporting suspected cows to the Veterinary Officer of the County Council.

No licence has been granted in the District for the sale of milk under any special designation, and no refusal or revocation of registration has occurred.

Milk and Dairies Order, 1926. Registrations under the Order at the end of the year numbered 560.

Each registration form sent out is accompanied by a leaflet which sets out at length the provisions of the Order.

Many improvements already have taken place and there is a general desire on the part of cowkeepers to meet the requirements. During the year several new floors were laid in cowsheds. Ventilation and lighting were improved and several new footpaths near sheds were made. The old method of milk distribution from cans is being gradually replaced throughout the whole District by bottled milk.

The inspection of meat is carried out systematically and at intervals.

Slaughterhouses, shops, stores and vehicles are more or less continuously under inspection.

There is no public slaughterhouse in the Council's District.

The class of animals slaughtered throughout the District is excellent, the trade catered for being constant and regular. There

Meat.

is no stall or vehicle from which second class meat is offered. Under the circumstances there is little condemnation of carcases.

The numbers of animals slaughtered are estimated as follow:

Cattle. Calves. Sheep and Lambs. Pigs. 1,520. 200. 3,500. 1,320.

About one third of these are inspected. There is no central slaughtering and the distances between slaughterhouses vary up to 16 miles. There is no meat marking scheme in the District.

Systematic inspections are made from time to time of all butchers' shops, fish shops, bakeshops, common lodging houses, milk and meat purveyors, fellmongers' premises, &c.

Particulars of slaughterhouses -

In	Dec., 1933
Registered	12
Licensed	8
Total	20

The Food and Drugs Acts are worked by the County Council.

In conclusion I have pleasure in presenting my report. The death rate is higher and the birth rate lower than last year. A large number of sanitary improvements has been made, and the number of cases of infectious disease is less. 76 new houses have been built. The water supply is copious and pure and the number of connections is increasing.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant.

Medical Officer of Health.

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FAIRCOTE, POCKLINGTON.



