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Contributors

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P O C K L I N G T O N R U R A L D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

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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. 1947.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND CHARACTER AND GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT

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 1947 14,690. The number of inhabited houses is 3,897 and the number of families of separate occupiers is 3,897 (normally). The assessable value of £46,122 the sum represented by a penny rate being £188. 2. 9.

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 Public Assistance Institution, cases requiring hospital treatment being sent to the Hull Royal Infirmary, York County Hospital, Beverley Base or Driffield County Hospital.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT FOR THE YEAR 1947.

	Total	M.	F.
Births (Legitimate)	241	132	109
Deaths	141	76	65
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth.	(From Sepsis.....0 (From other causes....0		
Death of infants under 1 year of age:-			
Legitimate.....7	Illegitimate.....5		
Total.....12			

It will be of interest to note that the total number of births reported in the monthly reports add up to 130 whereas the total number of births returned by the Registrar General is 241. The difference between these two figures is accounted for by births occurring in Nursing homes outside the area of the Rural District Council. The monthly reports of births will therefore be seen to show approximately 50% less than the actual births.

Deaths from Measles (all ages).....	-
" " Whooping Cough (all ages).....	-
" " Diarrhoea (Gastric Enteritis) (under 2 years of age).....	1
" " Cancer (all ages) M. 11 F. 5.	
Total.....	16

Prevalence of and control over, infectious and other diseases. The number of cases notified during the year was 38 as compared with 51 in the previous year.

Disease	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria.....	-	-	-
Scarlet fever.....	15	15	-
Enteric fever (Paratyphoid)....	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia and Puerperal fever.....	-	-	-
Pneumonia	7	-	-
Erysipelas.....	5	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica.....	-	-	-
Polio Encephalitis.....	-	-	-
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis.....	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis.....	-	-	-
Measles.....	-	-	-
Tuberculosis (M.....2 (a) Pulmonary (F.....4 Total.....	6	-	5
(b) Non Pul- (M.....3 monary (F.....2 Total.....	5	-	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	-	-	-

The number of deaths from Tuberculosis was 6 and the number notified was 11. The cases of Tuberculosis are usually always notified but if not it is generally where a case is rapidly moved for sanatorium treatment, cases notified in previous years, or where a resident of the District dies outside the District.

CAUSES OF SICKNESS

Laboratory Work.

Medical men in the District can have bacteriological examinations made free of charge. The Council supply diphtheria antitoxin to any practitioners in the District who require it.

During the year 114 bacteriological examinations were made.

Fever Hospitals.

There is no fever hospital in the District but arrangements with York Isolation Hospital are now in force for the reception of patients from this area.

Ambulance Facilities for infectious cases.

Arrangements are made by the County Authority to remove patients to Isolation.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

Water Supply

The water supply of the District is pure and abundant and is adequately protected from every source of pollution. Pocklington and Market Weighton - two of the most populous parishes are supplied by private water companies. Goodmanham is supplied from Market Weighton and Lonsdale has a private supply. The Rural District Regional Scheme supplies the whole of

the remainder together with bulk supplies to neighbouring authorities and the total weekly distribution is about 2½ million gallons.

Satisfactory results have been obtained on bacteriological examination. All sources of supply come from the chalk in one way or another and there is no liability to plumbo solvent action. Chlorination is the only treatment applied.

The supply is taken direct to 80% of the houses which are equipped with scullery sinks, the remainder chiefly are in blocks of small houses where a standpipe in the yard is used. Many of the sculleries in these houses are too small to be fitted with sinks. The distance to these standpipes is a matter of yards only. In only one village are "street fountains" used, that of Sancton. House connections are being made there gradually and in due course these fountains, of which there are only two, will not be necessary.

In response to Circular 13/47 the information regarding each parish is appended.

Allerthorpe	Pocklington R.D.
Barnby Moor	"
Bielby	"
Bishop Wilton	"
Bugthorpe	"
Catton	"
Cottingham	"
Everingham	"
Fangfoss	"
Full Sutton	"
Goodmanham	Market Weighton Water Co. (Private)
Hayton	Pocklington R.D.
Huggate	"
Kirby Underdale	"
Londesborough	Private Estate Supply
Market Weighton	Market Weighton Water Co.
Melbourne	Pocklington R.D.
Millington	"
Nunburnholme	"
Pocklington	Pocklington Water Co. (Private)
Sancton	Pocklington R.D.
Seaton Ross	"
Shiptonthorpe	"
Skirpenbeck	"
South Cliffe	"
Stamford Bridge	"
Sutton-on-Derwent	"
Thornton	"
Warter	"
Wilberfoss	"
Yapham.	"

In 1945 the Council considered schemes for the supply of main water to about 500 of the more isolated dwellings, farmhouses and buildings of various kinds in about forty separate schemes. One of these schemes received the necessary sanction and was completed during the year. It involved the laying of six miles of mains and a similar distance in service pipes to provide a supply to 40 houses and numerous buildings. A second scheme to supply a village in Norton R.D. and several farms in the Council's area was commenced during the year.

167 new connections to houses, farms and buildings were made during the year.

Salvage

Since 1940 a Salvage scheme has been in operation. The figures of material salvaged and disposed of have been going down gradually as the need decreased. Many articles previously collected are now dealt with as refuse. The figures for 1947 are 33½ tons collected and disposed of for £229. 17s against 58½ tons and £343 for 1946.

Refuse Collections.

The Council adopted a post war scheme of refuse collection. In the meantime a monthly collection has been arranged and is working fairly satisfactorily although a more frequent collection is desirable. A fortnightly, or better still, a weekly collection by proper vehicles is hoped for.

Sanitary Administration.

Dwelling houses inspected including	
Housing Survey.....	1367
Dwelling houses Notices served (preliminary).....	27
New houses built.....	127
Have building byelaws been adopted.....	yes
Dwelling houses disinfected after cases of ordinary infectious disease.....	all
Dwelling houses disinfected after cases of Phthisis.....	all
Schools disinfected after cases of ordinary infectious disease.....	nil
Dwelling houses found overcrowded temporarily.....	many
Privies converted to W.C.s'.....	14
" " " " to pail closets.....	-
Offensive trades inspected.....	-
Total number of nuisances found.....	27
" " " " abated.....	27

Some overcrowding in dwelling houses must be acknowledged owing to circumstances.

Water Supplies -

Houses newly supplied from water mains.....	167
Samples of water sent for examination.....	21

Dairies and Cowsheds -

Number of dairies and cowshed on register.....	648
Number of cows.....	2650
Visits to cowsheds and dairies.....	110
Defects remedied.....	40

Common Lodging Houses -

Number on register.....	1
Visits to.....	3

General

The general inspection of premises, occupations Inspection of etc., coming under the control of the Council is on the District 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.

Housing

The Council adopted a Post war plan of 500 houses, sewerage scheme for every village, the extensions of the water mains to every habitable dwelling and a refuse collection and disposal scheme. 127 new houses were occupied during the year.

Factories Act.

About 50 factories employ a number of hands. The remainder chiefly consist of one man businesses and number 105. The general cleanliness is 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. Every school is connected with the Regional or other water scheme.

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

Total.....	127
(a) By local authority.....	92
(b) By private enterprise.....	35

A summary of the housing position at the end of the year is appended.

	Completed	Under Construction	Total
Traditional brick houses	60	54	114
Airey prefabricated	22	28	50
Swedish Timber	8	-	8
Temporary aluminium	30	15	45
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Pre war traditional	120	97	217
	-	-	192
<hr/>			
Total houses owned by Council completed or in hand.			409

Sewerage.

With regard to all villages in the Rural District, with the exception of Market Weighton and Pocklington there are neither sewage works nor adequate sewerage. The increase in the number of houses, the increase of conversion to water carriage, the requests for bathroom and washing facilities will constitute a rapidly increasing menace to the health of the district until such times as adequate sewerage arrangements are completed.

Plans have been submitted for the complete sewerage of the District. Up to the end of 1947 only one scheme had commenced, that of Huggate, which is on the gathering ground of the Council's water.

It cannot be too seriously stressed that the ultimate conveyance of all effluent in the area is by ditches and streams. The area being agricultural and milk producing it is most important that a pure effluent only be ejected into these streams. A clear effluent is not necessarily a pure one and particularly from a bacteriological point of view.

An improvement of sewerage schemes and extension should run concurrently with water schemes and should not have to catch up when difficulties arise out of increased water supplies.

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.

Registrations under the Order at the end of the year number 648.

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

The County Agricultural Executive Committee through their Milk Production Department has brought in many more producers of milk. Many visits were paid to ascertain the condition of premises and the methods used. This is a duty still in the hands of the Council and no agreement with the Wholesale Dairies is entered into till the Council is satisfied that conditions of production are satisfactory. A certain relaxation of peace time standards had to be made where structural alterations were involved but in the greater number of cases the necessary improvements were gradually carried out.

Meat.

Central slaughtering has taken the place of the individual slaughterhouses. The slaughtering establishment is not within the Council's area.

Systematic inspections are made from time to time of all butchers' shops, fish shops, bake shops, common lodging houses, milk and meat purveyors, fell-mongers' premises etc.

Particulars of slaughterhouses:-

	In Dec. 1933
Registered	12
Licensed	8
Total	<u>20</u>

Food and
Drugs.

The food and drugs Acts are now jointly the concern of the Council and the County Council.

In conclusion I consider the annual report is satisfactory.

The number of cases of notifiable disease is considerably less than last year and total 49.

Even during the present difficult situation regarding labour and materials a considerable number of sanitary improvements have been carried out. Whilst these improvements increase the standard of housing facilities and the comfort of the householder they do increase the dangers arising through lack of adequate sewerage already referred to. Value of building licences issued, chiefly in connection with general property repairs amounted to £44,527.

The children in the District are being immunised in accordance with Public Health Regulations.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

Cyrus Fairweather M.B.

Medical Officer of Health.

FAIRCOTE,
POCKLINGTON.

ARLF/NW.