

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

Contributors

Selby (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1949

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/v4g4s4pd>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

SELBY
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1949

SELBY:
E. M. RIMMINGTON LTD., "EXPRESS" OFFICE
1950

SELBY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman: Councillor W. Webster, J.P.

Vice-Chairman: Councillor C. E. Anson, J.P., C.C.

Medical Officer of Health:

S. KENNAUGH APPLETON, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Sanitary Inspector:

J. R. BLACKLEDGE,

Cert. S.I. Board,

Cert. Meat and Food Inspection R.S.I.

Clerks

WALTER WILBY,

DOROTHY CROFT.

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

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my third Annual Report on the health of the Rural District and the work of the Public Health Department for the year 1949.

The Birth Rate for the year was 18.9, an increase on 17.2 for 1948. Taken in conjunction with the Infantile Mortality Rate of 9.0, this is very satisfactory. In actual figures, 115 live births occurred and only one died before attaining the age of one year.

The Infantile Mortality Rate for England and Wales was the new low record of 32.

The Crude Death Rate was 10.0, which was lower than the previous year and compares favourably with 10.8 for the West Riding Rural Districts, 12.1 for the Administrative County, and 11.7 for England and Wales.

There were no deaths from infant diarrhoea, maternal causes, or the principal zymotic (infectious) diseases.

Notifiable infectious diseases were fewer than in 1948, but again Scarlet Fever was prevalent towards the end of the year, and accounted for over half of the cases notified. The 35 cases were the highest number for sixteen years and occurred as follows: Wistow 15, Brayton 6, Cawood 6, Hambleton 3, Thorpe Willoughby 2, and one each in Gateforth, Temple Hirst and West Haddlesey. The Wistow Parochial School was closed a few days before the Christmas vacation.

No case of poliomyelitis occurred and for the third year the District was free from diphtheria.

It is estimated from records available that at least 61% of the child population has been immunised against diphtheria and the figure may well be higher. It is most important that children immunised four or more years ago should receive a refresher injection to keep the protection active.

I would again draw your attention to the remarks made by the Sanitary Inspector under the heading Sewerage, and I am glad to note that the Council are giving further consideration to the problem in the larger villages.

Whilst drainage by open dykes is common practice in rural areas it was never expected to be a satisfactory method of dealing with a water carriage system from small housing estates.

In November the County Council were able to secure the services of a Home Nurse for the large part of the Rural District in which there was no District Nurse previously. The promise of a house was an important factor in establishing this valuable service and should do much towards keeping the area well nursed.

Finally, I wish to thank the Members and Officials of the Council for their co-operation and consideration during 1949.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

S. KENNAUGH APPLETON,

September, 1950.

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS, 1949.

Area of Rural District ....	....	33,304 acres
Population (mid 1949) ....	....	6,100
Rateable Value ....	....	£23,765
Product of Penny Rate ....	....	£115/9/9

VITAL STATISTICS.

	SELBY R.D.	Aggre- gate West Riding R.D.s	West Riding Admin. County	England and Wales (Provi- sional)
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 population)	18.9	18.4	17.2	16.7
CRUDE DEATH RATES (per 1,000 population)				
All causes	10.0	10.8	12.1	11.7
Principal Zymotic Diseases	0	0.09	0.08	—
Respiratory Tuberculosis	0.16	0.31	0.32	0.40
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0.16	0.06	0.05	0.05
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)	1.64	1.31	1.44	—
Cancer	1.64	1.61	1.81	1.87
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	2.95	3.70	4.19	—
INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	9	42	38	32
INFANT DIARRHŒA (Deaths under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births)	0	3.95	3.27	3.0
MATERNAL MORTALITY (Deaths of mothers in child- birth per 1,000 total births)				
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0.13	0.15	0.22
Other causes	0	0.90	0.68	0.76
Total	0	1.03	0.83	0.98

COMPARATIVE BIRTH AND DEATH RATES.

BIRTH RATE.

Average for	1930-1934	....	15.1	1947	....	19.3
" "	1935-1939	....	15.0	1948	....	17.2
" "	1940-1944	....	15.9	1949	....	18.9
" "	1945-1949	....	18.8			

TOTAL DEATH RATE.

Average for	1930-1934	....	12.3	1947	....	11.5
" "	1935-1939	....	12.2	1948	....	11.2
" "	1940-1944	....	11.9	1949	....	10.0
" "	1945-1949	....	11.4			

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS DEATH RATE.

Average for	1930-1934	....	0.51	1947	....	1.03
" "	1935-1939	....	0.27	1948	....	0.33
" "	1940-1944	....	0.22	1949	....	0.16
" "	1945-1949	....	0.44			

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

Average for	1930-1935	....	0.14	1947	....	0.34
" "	1935-1939	....	0.06	1948	....	0.17
" "	1940-1944	....	0.09	1949	....	0.16
" "	1945-1949	....	0.20			

RESPIRATORY DEATH RATE.

Average for	1930-1934	....	1.14	1947	....	1.20
" "	1935-1939	....	1.64	1948	....	0.83
" "	1940-1944	....	1.45	1949	....	1.64
" "	1945-1949	....	1.29			

CANCER DEATH RATE.

Average for	1930-1934	....	1.72	1947	....	1.72
" "	1935-1939	....	1.97	1948	....	1.65
" "	1940-1944	....	1.82	1949	....	1.64
" "	1945-1949	....	1.74			

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.
(principal notifiable diseases)

Average for	1930-1934	....	0.20	1947	....	0.17
" "	1935-1939	....	0.10	1948	....	0.00
" "	1940-1944	....	0.00	1949	....	0.00
" "	1945-1949	....	0.04			

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE.
(per 1,000 live births)

Average for	1930-1934	....	41	1947	....	27
" "	1935-1939	....	45	1948	....	29
" "	1940-1944	....	36	1949	....	9
" "	1945-1949	....	26			

BIRTHS, 1949.

			Male	Female	Total
Live Births.—	Legitimate	....	60	46	106
	Illegitimate	....	3	6	9
			—	—	—
	Total	....	63	52	115
Stillbirths	....	....	2	3	5

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1949.

			Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	....	....	0	1	1
Tuberculosis (other forms)	....	....	1	0	1
Cancer	....	....	8	2	10
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	....	....	2	5	7
Heart Diseases	....	....	11	6	17
Other diseases of circulatory system	....	....	1	0	1
Bronchitis	....	....	8	2	10
Influenza	....	....	1	1	2
Ulcer of Stomach	....	....	1	1	2
Diabetes	....	....	0	1	1
Other digestive diseases	....	....	0	0	0
Nephritis	....	....	0	1	1
Congenital causes	....	....	0	0	0
Road traffic accidents	....	....	0	0	0
Other violent causes	....	....	0	0	0
All other causes	....	....	4	4	8
			—	—	—
Total	....	....	37	24	61

TUBERCULOSIS.**New cases in 1949.**

			Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	....	....	2	2	4
Non-Pulmonary	....	....	2	1	3
			—	—	—
Total	....	....	4	3	7

Total cases on Register.

Pulmonary	....	....	4	5	9
Non-Pulmonary	....	....	2	3	5
			—	—	—
Total	....	....	6	8	14

SELBY RURAL DISTRICT.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1949.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED							CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL	DEATHS
	At all Ages.	According to Age							
		Under 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64			Over 65
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera (C) Plague (P)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	35	...	9	21	4	1	...	24	...
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever (R) Continued Fever (C)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	3	...	2	1	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	16	...	7	9	...	...	...	...	...
Primary Pneumonia	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Influenzal Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	8	...	4	4	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	67	...	21	36	5	6	...	24	2

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Immunised during 1949. Children under 5 years	....	46
Children over 5 years	....	10
		—
		56
Refresher Dose	....	192
		—
Total	....	248
		—

Total number of children under 15 years of age who have been immunised up to 31st December, 1949.

Age—Years	0—1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	Total
Number	0	47	74	80	46	332	231	810
Percentage	48.72%					67.67%		60.49%

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1949.

Water Supply.

The Selby R.D.C. is the water undertaker for the whole of the District. Water is obtained in bulk from the Selby Urban District Council's deep wells at Brayton Barff, and is of excellent quality. Temporary hardness is 8.4° (Clarke's scale), and permanent hardness 9.8° (Clarke's scale), and chlorination is carried out at the source. No samples were taken by the R.D.C.'s inspector during 1949, but samples taken by the Urban District Council were satisfactory in all cases.

During the year 300 yards of 3" main were laid to supply a new Council housing site at Burn, and new agricultural cottages at Carlton.

No complaints regarding the quality of the water were received during the year, but several outlying farms and cottages experienced difficulty in maintaining their private supplies. To overcome this problem, the Council have approved in principle a scheme for the extension of their water mains to supply 9 farms and a number of dwellinghouses, but owing to the extremely long delay in obtaining delivery of pipes, it is likely to be some considerable time before this work can be carried out.

Sewerage.

There are no sewage disposal works in the district, with the exception of the plants solely dealing with sewage from service establishments. Sewage is dealt with by retention in septic tanks and thence into open dykes.

With the erection of new houses, all of which are on the water carriage system of drainage, the unsatisfactory state of many of the dykes in the neighbourhood of the villages is further aggravated, and in those most populous parishes in the District, namely Carlton, Cawood and Brayton, consideration of proper sewerage systems should not be long delayed.

In connection with groups of proposed Council houses at Wistow, Burn and Camblesforth, small sewage disposal plants will be erected.

Scavenging.

The Council undertake the collection of house refuse throughout the district by means of two 7 cubic yd. "Karrier" motor vehicles, each manned by a crew of three.

Disposal is effected by means of controlled tipping on six tips, and every endeavour is made to comply with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health on Controlled Tipping.

In view of the unsatisfactory amount collected and the difficulty of disposal, waste paper is no longer separately collected as salvage.

Housing and Public Health Inspections.

Following complaints, a number of houses and other premises were visited and unsatisfactory conditions remedied mainly by personal interviews with owners and agents and by informal notices. It was found necessary in one instance to take statutory action, following which the necessary work was carried out.

Food Inspection.

Prior to the operation of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949 inspections were carried out at milk producing farms, but these functions have now been transferred to the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Food stores have generally been kept in a satisfactory condition, and one licence has been issued for the sale of prepacked ice cream.

No milk is pasteurised or heat treated in the district, and samples of such milk retailed in the area have been satisfactory.

Butchers meat for the district is slaughtered at Goole and York, there being no public abattoir. A considerable number of cottagers' pigs are slaughtered at Ministry of Food licensed slaughterhouses in the district, but these carcases are outside the scope of inspection by the local authority.

Rodent Control.

The Council do not employ a rodent operative, but rat destruction at the refuse tips is let by contract to the County Agricultural Pests Department, which regularly carries out inspections and treatment.

Disinfection of Premises.

Upon receipt of a notification of a notifiable infectious disease, the premises are visited and disinfected by means of formaldehyde. Sixteen such disinfections were carried out during the year.

Inspections.

The following is a tabulated statement of inspections etc. carried out during the year, under the Public Health Act Housing Act and Food and Drugs Act:—

Houses inspected	....	....	....	....	58
Informal notices served	....	....	....	....	23
Statutory notices served	....	....	....	....	1
Roofs repaired	....	....	....	....	10
Eaves gutters renewed or repaired	....	....	....	....	14
Floors renewed or repaired	....	....	....	....	6
Stopped drains cleared	....	....	....	....	26
Privies repaired	....	....	....	....	4
Ashbins provided	....	....	....	....	20
Firegrates renewed or repaired	....	....	....	....	2
Cesspools cleansed	....	....	....	....	29
Damp walls remedied	....	....	....	....	3
Premises disinfected	....	....	....	....	16
Cowsheds inspection	....	....	....	....	19
Dairy inspections	....	....	....	....	6
Walls and ceilings cleansed	....	....	....	....	6
Floors and walls repaired	....	....	....	....	1
Additional lighting provided	....	....	....	....	1
Food premises inspected	....	....	....	....	18
Bakehouse inspections	....	....	....	....	3

Factories Act, 1947.

No. of factories with mechanical power—8.

No. of factories without mechanical power—Nil.

Contraventions found—Nil.

Canal Boats. Public Health Act.

A canal owned by the Aire & Ouse Navigation Co. runs between the rivers Aire and Ouse, and is approximately 5 miles long. No inspection of canal boats were carried out during the year.

Water Supply.

No. of samples taken—Nil.

No. unsatisfactory (bacteriologically)—Nil.

No. unsatisfactory (chemically)—Nil.

New Housing.

New houses have been erected, or are in course of erection, within the district during the year as follows:—

		By Council		By Private Developers	
		Completed	Course of erection	Completed	Course of erection
Barlow	....	2	0	0	0
Burn	....	0	8	2	1
Brayton	....	0	0	0	1
Camblesforth		0	0	1	1
Carlton	....	0	0	2	1
Cawood	....	0	0	0	1
Drax	....	0	4	0	0
Gateforth	....	0	0	0	0
Hambleton	....	0	0	1	0
Hirst Courtney		0	0	0	2
Temple Hirst		0	0	0	1
West Haddlesey		0	0	1	0
Wistow	....	0	8	1	0
		—	—	—	—
		2	20	8	8
		—	—	—	—

