

[Report 1951] / Medical Officer of Health, Selby R.D.C.

Contributors

Selby (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1951

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/r9hx743g>

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>

LIBRARY

SELBY
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1951



SELBY:
E. M. RIMMINGTON & CO., FINKLE STREET
1952

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 fifth Annual Report on the health of the Selby Rural District and the work of the Public Health Department during 1951.

The Birth Rate of 15.2 is almost the same as in 1950 and is only slightly under the national figure of 15.5.

The Infantile Mortality Rate of 10.0 (one death from prematurity) is again very satisfactory.

The Crude Death Rate was 13.4 and the Adjusted Death Rate 12.3. The increase in the rate for the diseases of the respiratory system was due to eight deaths attributable to influenza. There were no deaths from maternal causes, zymotic diseases, and only one each from pulmonary and non-pulmonary tuberculosis.

Of the 83 notifiable infectious diseases recorded, 57 were due to measles, which was prevalent in the early months of the year, and 16 to whooping cough.

I would draw your attention to the remarks made by your Sanitary Inspector regarding the gross pollution of many dykes. The state of the national economy will prevent adequate sewerage of the larger villages for some considerable time, but it is necessary to record these unsatisfactory conditions, which can only become worse. No doubt the Council will go ahead with the plans it has in mind as soon as possible.

I am pleased to report that it was not necessary to take any action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, during the year.

Finally, I wish to place on record my appreciation of the continued co-operation and interest of the Members and Officials of the Council during 1951.

I remain, your obedient servant,

S. KENNAUGH APPLETON,

July 1952,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS, 1951.

Area of Rural District	....	....	33,304 acres
Population (mid 1951)	....	....	6,492
Rateable Value	....	....	£26,596
Product of Penny Rate (March 1952)	....	....	£105/11/2

VITAL STATISTICS.

	SELBY R.D.	Aggre- gate West Riding R.Ds.	West Riding Admin. County	England and Wales (Provi- sional)
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 population)	15.2	16.5	15.8	15.5
CRUDE DEATH RATES (per 1,000 population)				
All causes	13.4	10.7	12.7	12.5
Infective & Parasitic Diseases	0	0.09	0.10	—
Respiratory Tuberculosis	0.15	0.22	0.24	0.28
Other forms of Tuberculosis	0.15	0.05	0.04	0.04
Respiratory Diseases (excluding Tuberculosis)	2.00	1.55	1.81	—
Cancer	1.39	1.56	1.80	1.96
Heart and Circulatory Diseases	5.39	3.72	4.72	—
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	2.46	1.33	1.72	—
INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths under one year per 1,000 live births)	10	34	32	30
INFANT DIARRHŒA (Deaths under 2 years of age per 1,000 live births)	0	—	—	1.4
MATERNAL MORTALITY (Deaths of mothers in child- birth per 1,000 total births)	0	1.24	0.93	0.79

Comparability Factors:

For Births, 1.04.	Adjusted Birth Rate, 15.9
For Deaths, 0.92.	Adjusted Death Rate, 12.3

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR TEN YEARS.

BIRTH RATE

(per 1,000 population)

(per 1,000 population)								
1951	....	15.2						
1950	....	15.3	1947	....	19.3	1944	....	17.3
1949	....	18.9	1946	....	20.8	1943	....	18.9
1948	....	17.2	1945	....	17.7	1942	....	13.8

STILLBIRTHS

(per 1,000 total births)

(per 1,000 total births)								
1951	....	38.8						
1950	....	20.6	1947	....	26.1	1944	....	45.9
1949	....	41.7	1946	....	32.3	1943	....	8.5
1948	....	28.0	1945	....	19.8	1942	....	33.3

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

(per 1,000 total births)

(per 1,000 total births)								
1951	....	58.3						
1950	....	82.5	1947	....	104.4	1944	....	64.2
1949	....	75.0	1946	....	—	1943	....	85.6
1948	....	64.4	1945	....	158.4	1942	....	77.8

TOTAL DEATH RATE

(per 1,000 population)

(per 1,000 population)								
1951	....	13.4						
1950	....	14.1	1947	....	11.5	1944	....	14.1
1949	....	10.0	1946	....	11.8	1943	....	13.9
1948	....	11.2	1945	....	12.7	1942	....	9.5

ZYMOTIC DISEASES

(principal notifiable diseases)

(principal notifiable diseases)										
1951	....	0								
1950	....	0		1947	....	0.17		1944	....	0
1949	....	0		1946	....	0		1943	....	0
1948	....	0		1945	....	0		1942	....	0

PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

1951	....	0.15						
1950	....	0.16	1947	....	1.03	1944	....	0.16
1949	....	0.16	1946	....	0.35	1943	....	0.49
1948	....	0.33	1945	....	0.36	1942	....	0

NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS

1951	....	0.15					
1950	....	0	1947	....	0.34	1944	 0
1949	....	0.16	1946	....	0	1943	 0.16
1948	....	0.17	1945	....	0.36	1942	 0.16

RESPIRATORY DISEASES

1951	....	2.00					
1950	....	1.13	1947	....	1.20	1944	 0.83
1949	....	1.64	1946	....	1.04	1943	 1.96
1948	....	0.83	1945	....	1.79	1942	 1.11

CANCER

1951	....	1.39					
1950	....	2.09	1947	....	1.75	1944	 2.49
1949	....	1.64	1946	....	1.64	1943	 2.45
1948	....	1.65	1945	....	2.15	1942	 1.60

HEART AND CIRCULATORY DISEASES

1951	....	5.39					
1950	....	5.95	1947	....	2.06	1944	 3.99
1949	....	2.95	1946	....	2.61	1943	 2.60
1948	....	3.64	1945	....	3.40	1942	 2.54

INFANTILE MORTALITY

(per 1,000 live births)

1951	....	10					
1950	....	74	1947	....	27	1944	 38
1949	....	9	1946	....	33	1943	 17
1948	....	29	1945	....	30	1942	 23

MATERNAL MORTALITY

(per 1,000 total births)

1951	....	0					
1950	....	10.3	1947	....	0	1944	 0
1949	....	0	1946	....	0	1943	 0
1948	....	0	1945	....	0	1942	 0

BIRTHS, 1951.

		Male	Female	Total
Live Births.—Legitimate	....	47	46	93
Illegitimate	....	5	1	6
		—	—	—
	Total	52	47	99
Stillbirths	....	4	0	4

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1951.

	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	1	0	1
Tuberculosis (other forms)	1	0	1
Cancer	3	5	8
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	6	10	16
Heart Diseases	16	17	33
Other diseases of circulatory system	0	2	2
Bronchitis	3	2	5
Influenza	5	2	7
Pneumonia	0	0	0
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	0	1
Leukæmia	1	0	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	—	1
Suicide	1	1	2
Accidents	0	1	1
All other causes	2	6	8
	—	—	—
Total	41	46	87

TUBERCULOSIS**New cases in 1951.**

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	2	0	2
Non-Pulmonary	1	2	3
	—	—	—
Total	3	2	5

Total cases on Register.

	Male	Female	Total
Pulmonary	5	7	12
Non-Pulmonary	2	4	6
	—	—	—
Total	7	11	18

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

One death from Prematurity—under 1 week old.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE
notified during the year 1951.

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	4	...	1	3	...	...	...	3	...
Typhus Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever (R) Continued Fever (C)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Poliomyelitis, paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" non-paralytic	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Acute Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	3	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	1
Measles	57	...	26	30	1	...	...	...	...
Primary Pneumonia	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenzal Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	16	1	6	9	...	...	...	...	...
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	83	1	35	44	2	1	...	3	2

WEST RIDING COUNTY DIVISIONAL HEALTH SERVICES IN SELBY RURAL DISTRICT, 1951.

The Public Health Nursing Staff in this Division no longer works according to County District boundaries. Most of the figures in the following summaries refer to Selby R.D., but in a few cases the figures are those for the Rural and Urban Districts combined, or for Division No. 10 as a whole.

1. BIRTHS.

Live Births	....	....	....	....	....	....	99
Stillbirths	....	....	....	....	....	....	4
Illegitimate	....	....	....	....	....	....	6
Males	....	....	....	....	....	....	56
Females	....	....	....	....	....	....	47

2. PREMATURE BABIES. Babies weighing 5½ lbs. or less at birth.

(i) Born at home	....	....	....	....	Alive	3
					Stillborn	0
(ii) Born in an institution	....	....	....	....	Alive	1
					Stillborn	0
Total						4

3. HEALTH VISITING (Selby R.D. and U.D.)

	First Visits	Other Visits	Total
Expectant Mothers	45	111	156
Children under 1	215	2365	2580
Children between 1 and 5	—	1324	1324
Other cases	47	538	585
Ineffective	—	—	685
Total	307	4338	5330

4. CHILD WELFARE CLINIC (WEST BANK).

(a) Total number of children under 5 yrs. of age who first attended the Clinic during the year, and who at the date of their first attendance were:

(i) under 1 year	....	....	....	....	....	5
(ii) over 1 year	....	....	....	....	....	3

- (b) Total number of children under 5 years of age who attended the Clinic during the year and who at the end of the year were:

(i) under 1 year	....	....	....	....	....	4
(ii) over 1 year	....	....	....	....	....	20

Number of Sessions held:

West Bank	....	....	....	....	....	12
Total attendance	....	....	....	....	....	148
Average per session	....	....	....	....	....	12.3

5. SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

Total number attending Pædiatric Consultant	....	....	....	....	....	4
Total number attending Orthopædic Surgeon	....	....	....	....	....	10
Total number attending County Occulist	....	....	....	....	....	49
Numbered ordered Spectacles	....	....	....	....	....	13
Number attending Speech Therapy	....	....	....	....	....	6
Total number inspected in School by School M.O.	....	....	....	....	....	255
Total number inspected in School by School Nurse	....	....	....	....	....	825
Total number of verminous heads	....	....	....	....	....	71
Tests for mental defect, primary	....	....	....	....	....	10
Re-examinations	....	....	....	....	....	2
Reported to M.D. Authority as uneducable	....	....	....	....	....	1
Recommended for Residential Schools	....	....	....	....	....	3

The following defects were found at medical inspections:

					Requiring treatment	For ob- servation
Verminous heads	....	....	....	....	71	—
Skin	....	....	....	....	1	1
Vision	....	....	....	....	21	11
Other eye conditions	....	....	....	....	3	4
Hearing	....	....	....	....	0	0
Other ear defects	....	....	....	....	1	2
Nose and throat	....	....	....	....	4	8
Speech	....	....	....	....	1	1
Cervical glands	....	....	....	....	3	5
Heart and circulation	....	....	....	....	0	0
Lungs	....	....	....	....	1	1
Developmental	....	....	....	....	1	1
Orthopædic	....	....	....	....	4	7
Nervous System	....	....	....	....	0	1
Psychological	....	....	....	....	0	4
Other conditions	....	....	....	....	2	4

6. MATERNITY SERVICES.

Ante-natal Clinics:

		First Visits	Total Visits	Mothers attending
West Bank	....	2	4	8
Goole	....	2	9	3
Selby	....	32	116	34
Snaith	....	2	9	32

Mothers Confined in Hospital.

Leeds Maternity Home	....	....	....	7
York Maternity Home	....	....	....	8
Hazlewood Maternity Home	....	....	....	18
Goole Borough Maternity Home	....	....	....	6
			Total	39

County Midwives.

There were 61 domiciliary confinements in Selby Rural District in 1951.

The following summary of the work of the County Midwives is for Division 10 as a whole:—

Number of Cases	....	....	449
Number of Visits	....	....	13995
Gas and air analgesia	....	....	269
Number of midwives	....	....	11

7. HOME NURSING.

Number of new cases	....	....	99
Number of visits	....	....	3411

8. HOME HELPS.

There was one full-time and five part-time Home Helps employed during the year and they attended the following cases:

Lying in	....	....	....	24
Expectant Mothers	....	....	....	2
Illness	....	....	....	4
Aged	....	....	....	1
			Total	31

9. IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA during 1951

Children under 5 years	....	....	....	....	98
Children over 5 years	....	....	....	....	47
				Total	145
Booster doses	....	....	....	....	147
				Total	292

Total number of children under 15 years of age who have been immunised up to the 31st December, 1951:

Age—Years	0—1	1—2	2—3	3—4	4—5	5—10	10—15	Total
Number	4	38	50	48	60	451	394	1045
Percentage	39.21%					93.99%		74.16%

10. MENTAL HEALTH.

The number of mentally defective persons under supervision at the end of 1951 was as follows:

	Male	Female	Total
Under Guardianship	0	0	0
Under Statutory Supervision	3	2	5
Under Voluntary Supervision	2	1	3
On Licence from Institutions	1	0	1

11. COUNTY AMBULANCE SERVICE.

The following are the details of patients from Division No. 10 carried by the W.R.C.C. ambulances during 1951:

Maternity cases	238
Accident cases	310
Other urgent cases	236
Journeys made	3878
Total patients carried	10205
Mileage travelled	166151 miles

A large proportion of cases were taken to hospitals in Leeds, Wakefield and York, but journeys were made over a large area of the West and East Ridings.

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR for the year 1951.

Water Supply.

The Rural District Council is the water undertaker for the whole of the district, and the distribution system covers the entire district, with the exception of two isolated farms and three dwellinghouses. Proposals are in hand for the supply of all but one of these properties.

Water is taken in bulk from the Selby Urban District Council's mains, the water being obtained from deep boreholes in the new red sandstone. Temporary and permanent hardness is approximately 125 p.p.m., and chlorination is carried out at the source.

No samples were submitted for analysis during the year, and it is understood that those taken at the source by the U.D.C. Inspector were all satisfactory. No complaints as to quality were received during the year.

Mains extensions of approximately 5 miles were completed during 1951, supplying a total of 8 farms and 5 private houses.

Sewerage.

There are no outfall works for any of the villages with the exception of small plants dealing solely with Council houses at Burn, Wistow, Brayton, Camblesforth and Hambleton, and private works owned by the War Department for military camps in the district.

The existing arrangements are most unsatisfactory, and the dikes around the larger villages are grossly polluted. The trouble is increasingly aggravated by the installation of water closets and baths in older property and by the erection of new houses, and the construction of proper sewerage systems and disposal works are an urgent necessity.

The Council have under consideration proposals for the Parishes of Brayton and Carlton, but it is likely that the restriction on capital expenditure may cause delay in carrying out the proposals.

Scavenging.

The collection of house refuse is carried out throughout the district by direct labour, and the Council possess two 7 cubic yard "Karrier" motor collectors.

Disposal is effected by means of controlled tipping on five tips, and every endeavour is made to carry out the recommendations of the Ministry of Health on the subject.

Rodent Control.

The Council undertake the destruction of rodents and a part time operative is employed.

The system of letting by contract the destruction of vermin on the Council's refuse tips has now been discontinued; such work will in future be dealt with by the Council's staff.

Disinfection of Premises.

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

Food Inspection.

The three dairies in the district have been satisfactorily maintained, and in general, food shops and stores are kept in a reasonably good condition.

There are no ice cream manufacturing premises in the district, and in five cases licences have been issued to retailers for the sale of pre-packed ice cream only.

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, there being no public abattoir. A considerable number of cottagers' pigs are slaughtered at Ministry of Food licensed slaughterhouses in the district, but these carcasses are outside the scope of inspection by the local authority.

Inspection of Premises under Housing & Public Health Acts.

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 is becoming increasingly difficult to enforce even a minimum amount of repairs to older property largely owing to the extremely low rent yield, and it is unfortunate that deterioration of such property will be inevitable in the absence of some legislation to rectify the situation.

Advantage has not been taken of the Housing Act, 1949, to recondition any such property, and any inquiries as have been made with a view to obtaining a grant have been in respect of owner-occupied houses.

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	....	....	....	....	50
Informal notices served	....	....	....	....	49
Statutory notices served	....	....	....	....	Nil
Roofs repaired	....	....	....	....	10
Eaves gutters renewed or repaired	....	....	....	....	6
Floors renewed or repaired	....	....	....	....	2
Stopped drains cleared	....	....	....	....	45
Privies repaired	....	....	....	....	10
Ashbins provided	....	....	....	....	24
Firegrates renewed or repaired	....	....	....	....	16
Cesspools cleansed	....	....	....	....	20
Damp walls remedied	....	....	....	....	4
Premises disinfected	....	....	....	....	4
Dairy inspections	....	....	....	....	3
Walls and ceilings cleansed	....	....	....	....	2
Floors and walls repaired	....	....	....	....	—
Additional lighting provided	....	....	....	....	—
Food premises inspected	....	....	....	....	20
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 British Inland Waterways runs between the rivers Aire and Ouse, and is approximately 5 miles long. No inspection of canal boats was 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
48	12	2	6