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SKELTON AND BROTON
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT
for the Year 1961

of the Medical Officer of Health

T. M. B. ROHAN,
M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.



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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE
SKELTON & BROTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1961, the contents and arrangements of which are in accordance with Circular 1/54 of the Ministry of Health.

I would like at the outset to record my thanks to the Chairman and members of the Health Committee for their encouragement throughout the year.

To the heads of Departments I am again obliged for their co-operation at all times. To Mr. J. H. Rhodes, whose report follows mine, I owe an especial debt for his unstinted help in all matters concerning the health of the District.

Finally I wish to thank the two clerical officers, Mr. R. K. Nuttall and Miss D. E. Fox, who, working in the Area Health Office, have contributed materially to the smooth conduct of affairs.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

T. M. B. ROHAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

18th July, 1963.

TABLE 1**Public Health Officers**

Whole Time Officers	Guisborough Urban District	Skelton & Brotton Urban District	Loftus Urban District
Medical Officer of Health who is also Asst. County Medical Officer No. 4 Area N.R.C.C. and School Medical Officer, N.R.C.C.	Dr. T. M. B. Rohan (commenced duty 5/6/61)		
Public Health Inspectors	*Mr. A. T. Pallister	Mr. J. H. Rhodes	*Mr. W. C. Ranson
Additional Public Health Inspector	Mr. E. Ward		Mr. W. Murray

*Also Surveyor of the district concerned

County Public Health Staff attached to the Skelton and Brotton Area.

Miss M. Nuttall	Health Visitor
Miss J. A. F. Bauld	Health Visitor/School Nurse
Miss L. Sanders	District Nurse/Midwife
Miss A. Wardhaugh	District Nurse/Midwife
Mrs. G. E. Delap	District Nurse/Midwife
Mr. R. K. Nuttall	Senior Clerk
Miss D. E. Fox	Clerk/Typist

Statistics of the Area

Population

The Registrar-General's estimate of the population of the district in the mid-year 1961 is 13,200, as compared to an estimate of the population in the mid-year 1960 of 13,140.

General Statistics

I am indebted to the Financial Officer of the Council for the following figures:—

1. Area of the District in acres	....	....	15,419
2. No. of inhabited houses according to the rate books			4,258
3. Rateable Value	....	....	£88,091
4. Sum represented by a penny rate	....	....	£349

TABLE 2

Vital Statistics

			MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Live Births	....	....	138	126	264
Legitimate	....	....	131	119	250
Illegitimate	....	....	7	7	14
Still Births	....	....	4	3	7
Legitimate	....	....	4	3	7
Illegitimate	....	....	—	—	—

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

			MALE	FEMALE
Total	....	....	5	—
Legitimate	....	....	5	—
Illegitimate	....	....	—	—

The number of births registered being 264 gives a corrected birth-rate of 20.4 per 1,000 of the population; compared to 17.4 for England and Wales. 5 infants under the age of one year died giving an infant mortality rate of 18.9 per 1,000 live births compared to the rate for England and Wales of 21.6.

TABLE 3 — Vital Statistics

CAUSES OF DEATH

			MALE	FEMALE
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	....	....	—	—
Tuberculosis, other	....	....	—	—
Syphilitic disease	....	....	—	—
Diphtheria	....	....	—	—
Whooping Cough	....	....	—	—
Meningo-coccal infection	....	....	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	....	....	—	—
Measles	....	....	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	....	....	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach	....	....	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm of Lung, Bronchus	....	....	4	—
Malignant Neoplasm of Breast	....	....	—	3
Malignant Neoplasm of Uterus	....	....	—	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	....	....	7	6
Leukaemia	....	....	—	1
Diabetes	....	....	—	1
Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System	....	....	15	14
Coronary Disease, Angina	....	....	19	7
Hypertension with Heart Disease	....	....	1	3
Other Heart Diseases	....	....	15	10
Other Circulatory Diseases	....	....	4	2
Influenza	....	....	1	—
Pneumonia	....	....	5	3
Bronchitis	....	....	4	4
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	....	....	—	—
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	....	....	—	1
Gastro-enteritis and diarrhoea	....	....	—	—
Nephritis and Nephrosis	....	....	3	1
Hyperplasia of Prostate	....	....	3	—
Pregnancy, child-birth, abortion	....	....	—	—
Congenital malformations	....	....	1	—
Other defined or ill-defined diseases	....	....	5	1
Motor vehicle accidents	....	....	2	—
All other accidents	....	....	6	—
Suicide	....	....	1	—
Homicide and operations of war	....	....	—	—
ALL CAUSES	....	....	98	60

The deaths are classified under thirty-six headings based on the Abbreviated List of International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948. 158 deaths of residents gave a corrected death-rate of 14.0 per 1,000 of population compared to 12.0 for England and Wales.

TABLE 4

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES 1961

(other than Tuberculosis)

	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 year	2	3	4	5—	10—	15—	25—	35—	45—	65—
Scarlet Fever	7	—	2	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Measles	106	2	12	13	13	14	49	3	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	4	1	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Meningo-coccal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Infectious Diseases

Table 4 shows the incidence of notifiable diseases other than tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis

Two new cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified during the year and none of non-respiratory tuberculosis.

There were no deaths from tuberculosis during 1961.

TABLE 5

Immunisation and Vaccination

Immunisation against Diphtheria

	UNDER 1	1 TO 4	5 TO 14	TOTAL
Completed	128	50	—	178
Reinforcing	—	23	100	123

Immunisation against Whooping Cough

	0 TO 4	5 TO 14	TOTAL
	145	1	146

Vaccination (Smallpox)

PRIMARY	RE-VACCINATION
139	6

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

PRIMARY	REINFORCING
797	752

The General Provision of Health Services in the District

1. Laboratory Facilities

This work is now done at the Public Health Laboratory, Middlesbrough, only the biological test for tuberculous milk being carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Northallerton.

2. National Health Service Act, 1946

With certain exceptions the Guisborough Area Health Sub-Committee of the Health Committee of the County Council exercises the functions of the Local Health Authority in supervising the day to day administration of the services provided under this Act. The Committee met every two months. It is composed of members of the County Council, of the three District Councils of Guisborough, Skelton and Brotton, and Loftus, and of certain co-opted members. Among the services administered are the following:—

Domestic Help Service	Home Nursing
Prevention of illness: Care and After Care	Health Visiting
Ambulance Service	Midwifery
Vaccination and Immunization	Care of Mothers and Young Children.

3. Voluntary Care Committee

I would like to record the work done by this Body for the welfare of persons suffering from Tuberculosis and other illnesses. Enquiries and requests for assistance may be made to the Honorary Secretary, District Health Office, Park Lane, Guisborough (Telephone: Guisborough 2521).

4. National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951 — Section 47.

No procedure has been taken during the year.

SKELTON & BROTTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
SKELTON-IN-CLEVELAND

*To the Chairman and Members of
Skelton & Brotton Urban District Council.*

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my fourth Annual Report to the Council for the year 1961.

My four years here have been dominated by the words "pan closets". These unsightly, unhealthy boxes of sewage have been a blot on the district for many years and I am pleased to record that 1961 saw the bulk of them abolished.

A small slum clearance programme of a hundred houses is now being tackled but there are many hundreds of houses in the area which are unworthy of expensive improvements and repairs. I hope the Council will not regard the present programme as the end of the problem but as the beginning.

I wish to express my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council for their encouragement during the year, to all my colleagues for their co-operation, and to my clerk, Mrs. M. E. Simon.

Certain information in the report relating to Council housing, sewerage and improvement grants has been kindly provided by your Clerk and Surveyor.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. H. RHODES,

Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT

A summary of visits made is tabulated below:—

TABLE 6

	No. of Inspections
Dwellinghouses	1436
Conversions	1056
Slaughterhouses	937
Factories	8
Food Premises	49
Water Supplies	104
Drainage and Sewerage	47
Pests	48
Infectious Diseases	13
Miscellaneous	131
TOTAL	3829

WATER SUPPLY

With the exception of Charltons and some outlying farms and cottages water is supplied by the Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board. Table 7 summarises the position as follows:

TABLE 7

Number of houses having mains supply in pipes inside	4173
Number of houses supplied by standpipes	40
Number of houses supplied by wells and springs	120

26 samples of water were taken during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination. Details are given in Table 8.

TABLE 8

Area	No. of Samples	Result	
		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Skelton Green	2	2	—
Kilton	3	2	1
Brotton	3	3	—
North Skelton	2	2	—
Skelton	2	2	—
Lingdale	7	5	2
Charltons, Aysdalegate	4	—	4
Carlin How	3	2	1

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

With the exception of outlying houses and farms and the village of Moorsholm, the district is served by public sewers discharging to the sea. Sewage disposal works owned by the Council receive the sewage from the village of Moorsholm. These works are inadequate and a scheme to provide a new sewage disposal works is under active consideration.

Some lengths of sewer damaged by mining subsidence need re-laying. Sewers laid and repaired during 1961 were:—

New sewers laid	....	....	6" — 200 yards
Old sewers re-laid	....	....	18" — 100 yards

CLOSET CONVERSIONS

There were 91 pan-closets remaining in the built-up areas of the district at the end of the year. Most of these were in builders' hands, and the Council's programme for abolishing pan-closets will be virtually complete during 1962. Efforts are now being made to persuade owners of outlying houses and farms to instal water-closets where necessary.

TABLE 9

Number of conversions carried out under voluntary grant scheme	....	....	132
Number of conversions carried out by Council	....	....	65
Number of conversions carried out in connection with Improvement Grants and Standard Grants	....	....	47
Number of pan closets remaining	....	....	91

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

A weekly collection of house and trade refuse is maintained throughout the district.

Refuse disposal was by controlled tipping at the Brotton Tip throughout the year.

The time lost during the year in sickness amounted to 1857 man/hours. For the financial year ended 31st March, 1962, the cost of the service was estimated at £7,510.

Other details relating to this service were:—

Total mileage of vehicles	....	....	14,691
Loads of refuse collected and tipped	....	....	3,805
Approximate weight of refuse	....	....	7,610
Trade refuse collected—Loads	....	....	14
Bins	....	....	1,672

FACTORIES

Tables 10 and 11 give details of factory inspection work carried out during the year.

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the

Factories Act, 1937

Part I of the Act

TABLE 10

1. Inspections

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1 to 6 are enforced	22	2	—	—
2. Factories in which Section 7 is enforced	33	8	—	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced	1	—	—	—
TOTALS	56	10	—	—

TABLE 11

2. Cases where defects were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness	0	0	0	0
Overcrowding	0	0	0	0
Unreasonable Temperature	0	0	0	0
Inadequate Ventilation	0	0	0	0
Ineffective Drainage of Floors	0	0	0	0
Sanitary Conveniences				
(a) Insufficient	0	0	0	0
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	0	0
(c) Not separate for sexes	0	0	0	0
Other offences against the Act	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	1	1	0	0

Part VIII of the Act

Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

No outworkers were reported in the Urban District during the year.

HOUSING

Housing is, and will be for some considerable time, the main public health problem in the district. A large number of terrace houses, particularly in Boosbeck and Lingdale, are in poor condition and are not good enough to merit substantial improvements. The main effort is directed towards the patching-up of such properties for a further 10 or 15 years life, although we find it necessary to insist on new roofs being provided in many cases where the old slate roofs are unrepairable. However, no amount of repair can save houses which are worn out and some large-scale clearance schemes will need to be carried out within the next 10 to 20 years.

The Public Health Act, 1961 came into force on the 3rd October, 1961, and Section 26 of that Act enables local authorities to deal with urgent nuisances quickly; it provides a procedure which is a great improvement on the nuisance provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, and we have made use of it on numerous occasions.

TABLE 12

Housing Appendix—Statistics

1. *Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year*

1.	(a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	304
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1407
2.	(a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	0
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	0
3.	Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	102
4.	Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	51

2. *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices*

(1)	Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit or repaired in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	63
-----	---	----

Housing Statistics—continued

3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year*

A. Proceedings under Sections 9 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	....	....	....	18
(2) Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices				
(a) By Owners	....	....	....	2
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	....	....	....	4

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	....	....	....	17
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices				
(a) By Owners	....	....	....	6
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	....	....	....	1

C. Proceedings under Section 17, 18, 26, 27 and 28 of the Housing Act, 1957

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	....	....	....	3
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	....	....	....	1
(3) Number of dwellinghouses subject to undertaking or closing orders	....	....	....	7
(4) No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the premises having been rendered fit	....	....	....	—

4. *Housing Act, 1957, Part 4, Overcrowding*

(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year	....	Not known
(2) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year	....	1

Improvement Grants

Number of Improvement Grants made	....	....	....	28
Number of Improvement Grants refused	....	....	....	—
Number of Standard Grants made	....	....	....	19

Rent Act, 1957

27 visits were made to houses in connection with the Rent Act, 1957, and many enquiries were dealt with at the office.

TABLE 13

Number of applications for Certificate of Disrepair	....	3
Number of Certificates of Disrepair issued	....	2
Number of Undertakings Accepted	....	—
Number of Applications for Certificates as to Remedying of Defects	....	—
Number of Certificates as to Remedying of Defects issued	....	—
Number of Applications for Cancellation of Certificates of Disrepair	....	6
Number of Certificates of Disrepair cancelled	....	4
Number of Refusals to cancel Certificates of Disrepair	....	1

New Housing

Number of Council houses erected during year	....	52
Number of private houses erected during year	....	38

Council Housing

The Council own 583 houses and 5 shops as follows:—

	Houses	Shops
Skelton	173	—
Brotton	270	5
Boosbeck	108	—
Lingdale	32	—
Total	583	5

Re-housing

No. of families re-housed during year	....	37
No. of housing applicants as at 31st December, 1961		297

Analysis of Waiting List

Accommodation Required	Number of applicants
Bungalows	98
Houses—	
Skelton	82
Lingdale	9
Boosbeck	10
Brotton	27
Hollybush	4
More than one estate	67
	297

FOOD

General

There are 147 food premises in the area, and 83 of these are registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. The premises may be classified as follows:—

Public Houses	....	....	20
Off-Licence Premises	....	....	7
Clubs (5 Workingmen's Clubs, 1 British Legion, 4 Institutes)	....	....	10
Fish and Chip Shops	....	....	15
Grocers, Confectioners, General Dealers			87
Bakehouses	....	....	5
Ice Cream Retailers	....	....	56
Butchers	....	....	14
Greengrocers	....	....	1
Cafes and Canteens	....	....	2

37 visits were made to various food premises.

Milk

The Council is responsible for milk registrations as shown in Table 14, and for retail milk sampling.

TABLE 14

Milk Registrations

Number of Milk Distributors registered	12
Number of Dairy Premises registered	8

Samples of "Pasteurised" milks taken during the year were found to be satisfactory.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There are now four private slaughterhouses which are licensed by the Council, one slaughterhouse having closed during the year. Two slaughterhouses are being used for the slaughter of animals for sale outside the area in addition to local trade.

All the slaughterhouses were improved during the year, and at two premises substantial extensions were also made. These alterations were necessary in order to meet certain requirements of the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations, 1958, and The Slaughterhouses (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958, which applied to slaughterhouses in this area as from the 1st July, 1961.

The number of animals slaughtered in the area showed another large increase—9,345 as compared with 5,904 in 1960 and 3,559 in 1959. Eight hundred and ninety-nine visits were made for meat inspection purposes including regular Sunday and evening visits. In addition, 38 visits were made to slaughterhouses outside the area under an arrangement made with Saltburn and Marske U.D.C. regarding relief meat inspection work. There are 17 licensed slaughtermen in the district.

TABLE 16

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle exclud- ing cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	1677	261	18	5727	1662	—
Number inspected	1677	261	18	5727	1662	—
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned	2	1	—	5	4	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	83	35	—	29	26	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than tubercu- losis and cysticerci	5.06%	13.79%	—	.59%	1.8%	—
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	1	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	5	—	—	—	22	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	.38%	—	—	1.32%	—
Cysticercosis						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	19	2	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	19	2	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally con- demned	—	—	—	—	—	—

Other Foods Condemned

		lbs.	ozs.
Lunch Tongues ....	....	12	0
Jellied Veal ....	....	12	0
Pork Shoulder ....	....	16	9
Total ....	....	40	9

TABLE 17.—FRESH MEAT CONDEMNATIONS DURING 1961

Reason for Condemnation	BEASTS		COWS		SHEEP		PIGS		TOTAL lb
	Carcass lb	Offal lb	Carcass lb	Offal lb	Carcass lb	Offal lb	Carcass lb	Offal lb	
Actino Bacillosis	70	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	70
C. Bovis	372	—	45	—	—	—	—	—	417
Cirrhosis	—	4	—	21	—	—	—	—	25
Abscesses	—	439	—	—	—	2	—	4	445
Telangiectasis	—	40	—	106	—	—	—	—	146
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	40	8	—	18	66
Hydronephrosis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Milk Spots	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	37	37
Bruising and Injuries	200	20	61	14	—	6	—	—	301
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	240	—	240
Parasites	—	236	—	156	—	42	—	32	466
Septicaemia	—	—	—	—	—	—	92	—	92
Bacterial Necrosis	—	40	—	28	—	—	—	—	68
Contamination	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	—	—	544	—	—	—	—	303	847
Emaciation	—	—	—	—	24	—	70	—	94
Pyæmia	350	—	—	—	—	—	70	—	420
Miscellaneous	—	75	—	14	113	15	—	30½	247½
TOTAL	550	1296	605	384	177	73	472	424½	3981½

All food was voluntarily surrendered and, after being coloured with acid green dye, was mostly disposed of to the Council's refuse tip.

Adulteration

Sampling of food, etc. for this purpose is undertaken by the County Weights and Measures Office and the District Inspector has kindly supplied the following information regarding samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act in the Urban District during 1961.

Milk Samples	....	32
Foods other than milk		24

All the samples taken were reported to be genuine and no proceedings were instituted.

CLEAN AIR

No complaints of smoke nuisances were received during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

The Rodent Operator appointed jointly by Loftus U.D.C. and Skelton and Brotton U.D.C. has continued his duties in the two areas, and the arrangement has worked satisfactorily. The Council's sewers were treated twice, and only light infestations were found in a few areas. The Council's tips were kept under constant supervision and minor infestations dealt with on several occasions.

"Warfarin" has been used to treat all the infestations during 1961. This poison gives very good results and the technique recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is followed.

Details of work done are set out below.

			Inspections	Treatments
Domestic Premises	....	....	20	58
Business Premises	....	....	6	8
Allotments	....	....	19	18
Farms	....	....	38	19
Council Tips and Buildings	....	....	4	5
Sewers	....	....	—	2

DISINFESTATIONS

Five infestations were dealt with.

CARAVAN SITES

There are eight licensed sites in the area, although four of these relate to individual caravans.

36 visits were made to sites during the year.

KNACKER'S YARD

The Knacker's Yard at Charltons was again licensed and periodical visits were made.

