

[Report 1937] / Medical Officer of Health, Walsingham R.D.C.

Contributors

Walsingham (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1937

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/qvy3zw6v>

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>

1937

THE
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE
WALSINGHAM RURAL
DISTRICT
ALSO OF THE
Engineer, Surveyor, and
Sanitary Inspector.





1937

THE
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
FOR THE
WALSINGHAM RURAL
DISTRICT
ALSO OF THE
Engineer, Surveyor, and
Sanitary Inspector.

Walsingham Rural District.

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area	..	..	..	..	..	88,818 acres
Population	..	..	..	..	..	16,910

(Registrar General's estimate for mid-1937.)

1931 Census, 18,119.

Number of Inhabited Houses ..	..	..	5,382
Rateable Value ..	..	..	£50,023
Sum represented by a penny rate	..	..	£217

The Walsingham Rural District, situated in North-West Norfolk, is essentially an agricultural one. The population is fairly evenly distributed Fakenham, the largest town, having a population of about 3,000. There are few factories existing, Melton Constable Railway Works, Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Printers, Fakenham, and the Farmers' Foundry, Great Ryburgh, being the only works employing over forty people and coming under the Factory Act of 1901.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population for mid-1937 again shows a fall over the previous year, and this reflects the drift away from agricultural employment. The estimate of population for mid-1937 shows a population less by 650 than that of 1935. Not since 1907 has there been any increase in the population and since 1909 it has been steadily falling in spite of a birth rate that always exceeded the death rate. In addition to this 1937 shows for the first time a death rate that exceeds the birth rate.

Births.

STATISTICS.

Live Births—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Legitimate	103	93	196
Illegitimate	5	3	8
Birth-rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population, 12·06.			
Stillbirths	5	5	10
Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births			46·7
Rate per 1,000 of population			0·59

Deaths.

Males.	Females.	Total.
126 ..	112 ..	238

Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population, 14·07.

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

	Deaths.	Rate per 1000 total live and stillbirths.
Puerperal Sepsis	0	0
Other Puerperal Causes	1	4·69
Total	1	4·69

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age.

All infants per 1,000 live births	34·3
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..	40·81
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	40
Deaths from measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from whooping cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) ..	1

The birth rate of 12·06 is the lowest I can find ever recorded for the district.

The crude death rate is higher as it must tend to be with the rising average age of the population.

The corrected death rate is 10·78 which is favourable.

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, } England and Wales, London, 125 Great Towns and
Maternal Death-rates, and Case-rates for cer- } 148 Smaller Towns.
tain Infectious Diseases in the year 1937.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.)

	England and Wales.	125 County Boro's and Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census).	London Adminis- trative County.
	Rates per 1,000 Population.			
<i>Births :—</i>				
Live	14.9	14.9	15.3	13.3
Still	0.60	0.67	0.64	0.54
<i>Deaths :—</i>				
All causes	12.4	12.5	11.9	12.3
Typhoid and Para- typhoid fevers ..	—	0.01	—	—
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.01
Scarlet fever ..	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping cough ..	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.06
Diphtheria	0.07	0.08	0.05	0.05
Influenza	0.45	0.39	0.42	0.38
Violence	0.54	0.45	0.42	0.51
<i>Notifications :—</i>				
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ..	2.33	2.56	2.42	2.09
Diphtheria	1.49	1.81	1.38	1.93
Enteric fever ..	0.05	0.06	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas	0.37	0.43	0.34	0.44
Pneumonia	1.36	1.58	1.20	1.18
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births.			
Deaths under 1 year of age	58	62	55	60
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age ..	5.8	7.9	3.2	12.0
<i>Maternal Mortality :—</i>				
Puerperal Sepsis ..	0.97	Not available.		
Others	2.26			
Total	3.23			
	Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still).			
<i>Maternal Mortality :—</i>				
Puerperal Sepsis ..	0.94	Not available		
Others	2.17			
Total	3.11			
<i>Notifications :—</i>				
Puerperal fever } Puerperal pyrexia }	13.93	17.59	11.52	{ 4.15 14.34

General Provision of Health Services for the Area.

The Public Health Staff of the local authority consists of :

- (1) Part-time Medical Officer of Health.
- (2) One Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

There is a County Laboratory at Norwich where bacteriological examinations in respect of diphtheria, tuberculosis and typhoid are made free of charge.

Ambulance Facilities.

(a) For infectious cases, *nil*.

(b) There is a motor ambulance for use in non-infectious cases, stationed in Fakenham at the instance of the St. John and Red Cross Societies for the use of the district. Staffed by voluntary workers, it has again done excellent work in 1937, carrying the record number of 370 cases and travelling, during the year, 16,386 miles.

Professional Nursing in the Home.

(a) There are nine district nurses, whose work is carried out under the supervision of local committees, who raise the necessary funds. All the nurses have the C.M.B. qualification and a good deal of the midwifery is done by them.

The whole area should soon be covered by qualified midwives. This is being done by the County Council, chiefly through the Nursing Federation.

(b) In infectious cases *nil*.

Clinics and Treatment Centres.

There are two Maternity and Child Welfare Centres—at Walsingham and Fakenham respectively.

Clinics are held at the various Council Schools by the School Medical Officer. There is a free treatment centre for venereal disease in Norwich and another at King's Lynn.

The County Council, by means of County Tuberculosis Officers, gives assistance to notifying practitioners in the diagnosis, especially of early cases of tuberculosis and, afford facilities for treatment.

Hospitals.

No hospitals are provided or subsidized by the local authority, with the exception of the Smallpox Hospital built jointly by the Walsingham and Docking R.D.C.s on Docking Common, to accommodate four patients and two nurses.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Progress was made with the Public Water Supply for Fakenham and Hempton. The water tower was completed and filled and the mains laid. Over 100 houses were connected and there was a large waiting list.

Drainage and Sewerage.

One of the main Fakenham sewers was found to be defective and to be admitting subsoil water.

Rivers and Streams.

The pollution of the Wensum mentioned in my reports for 1933, 1935 and 1936 has not been alleviated.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1937, on the administration of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, in connection with

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

I.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Writt'n Notices (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	—	—	—
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	98	2	—
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	34	—	—
TOTAL.. .. .	132	2	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecu- tions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts—*</i>				
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	—	—
Want of Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances	1	1	—	—
Sanitary { insufficient	—	—	—	—
accommo- { unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—
dation { not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Work- shop Act—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Breach of special sanitary require- ments for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)	—	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—
(Excluding offences relating to out- work which are included in Part 3 of this report)				
TOTAL	2	2	—	—

* Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8, of the Factory and Workshop Act as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

3.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

WORKSHOPS ON THE REGISTER AT THE END OF THE YEAR.

Bakehouses	24
Smiths	18
Dressmakers and Milliners	7
Tailors	4
Carpenters	11
Bootmakers	8
Builders	7
Miscellaneous	40
Total number of Workshops on Register	119

Housing.

Number of new houses (exclusive of Council houses) 23

Number of New Council houses erected 85

Council Housing Schemes.

There are now 422 houses in the area which have been erected as part of the Council's scheme, including houses taken over from Aylsham and Erpingham R.D.C.s at January 4th, 1935, situated in the following centres :

WALSINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Parish.	No. of Houses.	Rent per Week.
Barsham (East)	6	4/- inclusive of rates
Blakeney	12	6/6, 5/-, 3/6 " " "
Brinton (Sharrington) ..	4	4/6 " " "
Briston (for Melton Constable)	20	8/3 " " "
"	24	7/-, 5/-, 4/6, 3/6 " " "
Fakenham	48	7/6 to 5/- exclusive " "
" (Jubilee Avenue) ..	46	6/- to 5/6 and 5/- inclusive " "
Field Dalling	4	4/6 " " "
Fulmodestone	8	4/6 " " "
" (Barney)	6	4/6 " " "
" (Thursford)	6	4/6 " " "
Gunthorpe (Bale)	6	4/6 " " "
Helhoughton	6	4/-, 4/6 and 5/- " " "
Hempton	28	6/6 exclusive " "
		5/- and 3/6 inclusive " "
Hindolvestone	12	2/6 exclusive " "
Hindringham	8	4/6 and 4/9 inclusive " "
Kettlestone	4	4/6 " " "
Langham	6	4/6 " " "
Ryburgh, Great	6	8/3 " " "
"	6	4/6 " " "
Sculthorpe	4	7/- " " "
"	46	5/6, 4/9, 4/6, 3/6 " " "
Snoring, Great	6	4/6 " " "
Snoring, Little	10	4/6 " " "
Stibbard	4	4/6 " " "
Stiffkey	6	4/6 " " "
" (Camping Hill) ..	11	5/6 " " "
Swanton Novers	6	4/6 " " "
Walsingham, Gt. (Bungalows)	10	4/6 " " "
" (Houses)	39	4/6 " " "
Warham	4	4/- " " "
Wiveton	6	7/- " " "
Wood Norton	4	2/6 " " "
	422	

INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

1. (1) (a) Total number inspected for defects (Public Health Acts or Housing Acts) 609
 - (b) Number of inspections made for purpose .. 896
(Including re-inspections.)
- (2) (a) Number of houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Consolidated Housing Regulations, 1925 .. 459
 - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. 459
- (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 125
- (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 150
2. *Remedy of Defects during the Year without the service of Formal Notice.*
 - Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by local authority or their officers 132
3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.*
 - (1) Proceedings under Sections 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1930.
 - (a) Number of houses in respect of which notices were served for repairs —
 - (b) Number of houses rendered fit after service of notice :
 - (i) By owner (outstanding at end of 1935) .. —
 - (ii) By local authority in default —
 - (2) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.
 - (a) Number of houses requiring defects remedied .. —
 - (b) Number remedied after service of notice :
 - (i) By owner —
 - (ii) By local authority in default —
 - (3) Proceedings under Sections 19–20 Housing Act, 1930.
 - (a) Number of houses in which demolition orders were made 22

(Note.—One undertaking not to re-let accepted.)

 - (b) Number of Houses demolished in consequence 10
 - (c) Undertakings accepted 21

- (4) Proceedings under Section 20 Housing Act, 1930.
- (a) Number of separate underground rooms or tenements in respect of which closing orders were made nil
- (b) Number rendered fit nil
- (5) Unfit houses dealt with by clearance areas .. 87
4. *Housing Act, 1935.—Overcrowding :—*
- (1) (a) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year 108
- (b) Number of families dwelling therein 110
- (c) Number of persons dwelling therein 610
- (2) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year nil
- (3) (a) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year nil
- (b) Number of persons concerned in such cases.. nil
- (4) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding. nil
- (5) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

The number of cowsheds and dairies remain about the same.

73 Retail Purveyors of Milk.

55 Wholesale Traders.

30 Dairymen.

There are two Tuberculin Tested Herds in the area.

Meat.

Diseased or unsound meat destroyed: 12 sheep, 1 pig.

Unsound Bacon, 60 lbs.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Cases of infectious disease notified during 1936 :

Smallpox	..	..	..	..	..	—
Scarlet fever	..	..	..	..	..	7
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	2
Enteric fever	..	..	..	..	..	—
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	15
Puerperal fever	..	..	..	..	..	—
Puerperal pyrexia	..	..	..	..	..	3
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.			NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
			Respiratory		Non-Resp.		Respiratory		Non-Resp.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0-1	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-5	..	..	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	—
5-15	..	..	—	1	4	9	—	—	—	—
15-25	..	..	4	1	1	1	—	—	—	1
25-35	..	..	1	—	1	1	1	2	—	—
35-45	..	..	2	1	—	1	3	1	—	—
45-55	..	..	1	2	—	2	—	—	—	—
55-65	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	..	..	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	..	..	9	6	7	17	5	3	—	1

RICHARD A. NORMAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
**Engineer, Surveyor, and
Sanitary Inspector.**

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit herewith a Report upon the work of my Department, this being my twelfth Annual Report to you.

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR'S DEPARTMENT.

Sewerage Matters.

During the year the two 3-inch Stereo-phagu Pumps were thoroughly overhauled and refitted with new working parts where required. With this exception very little maintenance work except the periodical decarbonizing was necessary. It will be necessary in the immediate future to dismantle and thoroughly overhaul and refit the two Gas Generators as the efficiency of these was, towards the end of the year, falling considerably.

During the year it became apparent that the normal dry-weather flow of sewage had very considerably increased—so much so, indeed, that a normal day's pumping was insufficient to cope with the quantity. Night observations and tests were carried out and it was found that the flow in the sewers during the period from 12 p.m. to 5 a.m. was but little less than the peak day flow. This pointed to a considerable leak in the sewers, and further tests revealed that the defects were in the main sewer between the Pumping Station in Hall Staithe and Barons Hall. This sewer was at a depth of about 12 feet and laid in running sand and water. It can thus be readily conceived that the defective portions allowed a continuous flow of subsoil water into the sewers during the whole of the twenty-four hours period—this in addition to the normal or legitimate sewage flow. As I pointed out to the Fakenham Sanitary Committee in a special report on the subject, this large extra volume made a very substantial increase in the running costs of pumping, etc., also the

quantities of fine sand carried into the sewers caused additional wear on the working parts of the pumps. On the instructions of this Committee I prepared Specifications, etc., for opening up the ground and repairing the defective portions of sewer and this work will be proceeded with early in 1939. Considerable difficulty has been experienced during periods of heavy rainfall. Practically all the surface water from private property and a considerable portion from the Highways is discharged into the Sewerage System, and on many occasions the collecting tank has been rapidly filled even with both pumps working. On these occasions when the volume exceeds six times the dry-weather flow the second pump delivers the diluted sewage into the Wensum. Although the Sewage Commissioners have suggested that the discharge of sewage so diluted is permissible exception has been taken to this practice by certain interested parties. If this is to be avoided steps must be taken to eliminate as far as possible the surface water discharged into the sewers or, on the other hand, increase the pumping capacity.

Sewage Farm, Fakenham.

The sewage of Fakenham is collected at the Hall Staithe Pumping Station and raised some 60 feet to the farm on the Creak Road, Sculthorpe, where it is treated by Septic Tank Treatment and Broad Irrigation. Conditions generally have been fairly satisfactory during the year.

Others Sewers.

Blakeney has a system of Sewers which take the surface water and waste water from cottages and the effluent from Septic Tanks in houses where W.C.'s, etc., are installed. The main sewer discharges into the tidal estuary by the Quay.

Melton Constable also is properly sewered and the Sewage is dealt with at the Sewage Works by means of a Septic Tank and Rotary Filters. A good effluent is maintained at these works and is discharged into an adjacent watercourse.

No trouble has been experienced during the year from either of the above systems.

The Hempton Sewers have been choked and overflowing several times during the year under review. As I have previously reported on several occasions these are old, defective and laid more or less haphazard and with little or no fall. Under these circumstances it must be obvious that trouble will occur from time to time.

With the extension of the Public Water Supply to the various houses and the provision of modern sanitary conveniences in the near future an adequate and up-to-date Sewerage System will become an imperative necessity.

During the year I prepared a scheme for relaying some 550 feet of very defective sewer at the Drove, West Raynham. This sewer drains a portion of the Parish in Hollow Lane, near the Schools.

It is my duty to warn the Council that the drainage of this particular area is in a bad state and frequent stoppages occur. From investigations made from time to time it seems apparent that the question of re-sewering the whole of this area will have to be faced in the near future.

The various open watercourses used for drainage in various outlying villages have been frequently cleansed during the year and every effort made to keep them in a satisfactory condition.

New Building Works.

The work of supervision of New Buildings under the Councils Building By-laws and the preparation of Council Housing Schemes is now carried out by the Housing Officer, Mr. J. Bamford, who has supplied me with the following details:

From 1st Jan., 1937, to 31st Dec., 1937.

Private Dwellings:

Houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Bungalows, Permanent	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Temporary Licence	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Additions to existing houses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Additions to Hotels	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Extensions to Factories, Workshops, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Store Sheds, etc.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Temporary Stores	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Pavilions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Extension to Churches	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Alterations to Cinemas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1

Council Houses:

Fulmodestone	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 houses
Briston	..	..	..	4 bungalows			4 houses
Fakenham	..	..	..	6 bungalows			
Walsingham	..	..	..	..	..	..	29 houses
Helhoughton	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 houses
Hindringham	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 houses
Blakeney	..	..	..	2 bungalows			4 houses
Hempton	..	..	..	4 bungalows			6 houses

Housing (Rural Workers) Act.

During the year five applications for assistance under the provisions of the above Act were received. Details and amount of Grants made are as under:—

Swan Entry, Walsingham ..	Conversion of part of disused Chapel into a Dwelling House. <i>Grant of £100.</i>
Brazenhall Farm, Tattersett	Improvements and additions to House. <i>Grant of £200.</i>
The Street, Langham ..	Improvements and additions to three cottages. <i>Grant of £183.</i>
High Street, Wighton ..	Improvements to Nos. 73-74 Cottages. <i>Grant of £70.</i>
Church Street, Brinton ..	Additions to Cottage. <i>Grant of £87.</i>

The above number of applications is a decided increase on that of previous years. It is to be hoped that property owners will take still further advantages of the provisions of this Act in the future, as many quite suitable cottages which with timely attention might be saved are allowed to get into such a state of general dilapidation that a Demolition Order is the only solution.

SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

The numbers of the above remain approximately the same as in previous years. The following is a summary of the registered premises at the end of the year under review:

Wholesale Producers	55
Retail Purveyors	73
Dairymen	30

128

The number of persons holding Licences under the "Accredited Scheme" to produce what was formerly known as "Grade 'A' Milk" has increased from one in 1934 to 37 at the present time.

Two hundred and ten visits of inspection were made during the year and defects found and remedied were as follows:

Premises needing Limewashing	10
Accumulation of Manure	1
Deficient Light and Ventilation	4
Defective Paving	1

In addition to the above 140 inspections were made in respect of accredited producers' premises.

Samples were taken in 112 cases, and of these 69 were passed as satisfactory, while 38 failed to pass the test. Of the remaining five 4 were curdled on arrival and one bottle had leaked and arrived empty.

NOTE. Sampling was restricted during the last quarter of the year owing to the outbreak of Foot & Mouth Disease.

Meat and Food Inspection.

The number of Slaughterhouses remains as in previous years—viz.:

Registered Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	1
Licensed Slaughterhouses	..	..	..	..	..	21

These premises are periodically visited—if possible either when slaughtering is in progress or as soon after as practicable—also at odd times to see that a general state of cleanliness is observed.

Inspections were also made of Market Stalls, etc., where foodstuffs were deposited for sale.

In connection with the above it was necessary to condemn as unfit for consumption:—

12 Sheep
1 Pig and
60 lbs. Bacon

The use of the Humane Killer is now compulsory in this district, and in most cases the Cash Captive Bolt Pistol or the N.U.T. Cox Pistol is used.

One or two older pattern Humane Killers—such as Greeners—are also in use, these having been in possession of the Butchers previous to the Act coming into force.

Water Supply.

During the year I procured 15 samples of well water for submission to the County Analyst. The results of his examination were as follows:

Passed as Satisfactory	..	..	..	..	..	9
Polluted	..	..	..	..	..	3
Suspicious	..	..	..	..	..	3

Two out of the three polluted wells were, after subsequent tests permanently closed down, also two of the three “suspicious” cases. The others were receiving attention at the end of the year and works of cleansing, etc., carried out.

In the case of wells in connection with newly-erected houses samples are obtained by the Housing Officer and submitted to the Public Analyst for examination. If satisfactory the usual certificate under the Public Health (Water) Act 1878 is issued.

The scheme of public water supply for Fakenham and Hempton, prepared by Messrs. Cotterell & Son, Chartered Civil Engineers, Westminster, commenced during 1936 was completed and in use during 1937.

Housing Act 1930. (Inspection of District.)

459 houses were inspected during the year under the above Act and the chief defects discovered resolve themselves under the following headings:

General structural defects, dampness, defective drainage, insufficient sanitary accommodation, lack of sufficient light, ventilation, etc.

These matters were dealt with by the issue of informal notices on the persons concerned, and in the majority of cases had the desired effect.

Forty-three cottages which were unfit for human habitation and were incapable of being rendered so fit at a reasonable cost were reported to the Council and Demolition Orders were subsequently made in respect of 22 while undertakings to repair were accepted in the remaining cases.

Petroleum (Consolidation) Act 1928.

Two new licences were granted under the above during the year 1937, as under:

License to store up to 500 gallons	2
------------------------------------	----	----	----	---

The number of licensed premises at the end of the year were as follows:

Storage of Petroleum Spirit	..	..	..	..	..	80
Storage of Calcium Carbide	..	..	..	..	..	14

Factory and Workshops Act.

The number of registered premises remains approximately the same as in previous years. Details of inspections made and contraventions of the Act are tabulated in the report of the Medical Officer of Health.

Special analyses are made of water supplies at bakehouses and certificates issued at the request of H.M. Inspector of Factories from time to time.

Scavenging of District.

Regular scavenging is carried out in the following parishes:

Fakenham, Melton Constable, Little Walsingham, Great Walsingham, Blakeney, Stiffkey, Great Ryburgh, Hempton and Briston.

The whole of the scavenging for these parishes is carried out by contract and the work has been performed in a very satisfactory manner with the one exception of Little Walsingham. The contractor for this district has had to be severely

reprimanded on several occasions for neglect, and finally his services were terminated and a new Contractor appointed, since when the scavenging of Little Walsingham has been carried out without a single complaint having been made.

In all instances with the exception of Fakenham the contractor has to find a tip approved by the Council. In the case of Fakenham the Council have a tip at Bridge Street where controlled tipping is enforced.

Notices Issued.

	No. Issued	Complied with.	Outstanding Dec 31.
Informal Notices	150	132	18
Housing Act, 1930 (Demolition Orders)	26	4	22
„ „ Undertakings accepted	21	7	14

It is pleasing to again record that I have succeeded in getting the majority of the nuisances or sanitary defects discovered on inspection remedied without any undue friction. An interview with the property owner or person concerned or an informal notice has usually sufficed, and it has not been necessary to report matters to the Council for instructions as to Statutory action.

As a consequence no legal proceedings were necessary during the Year.

Matters dealt with include those enumerated below:

HOUSING.—Structural dilapidations, defective spouting, paving, etc., and overcrowding.

DRAINAGE.—Defective drains, choked drains, etc.

WATER SUPPLY.—Polluted wells, defective pumps, wells unprotected from storm waters and surface drainage.

GENERAL.—Nuisance from keeping of animals, accumulations of manure, defective pail closets, etc.

Clerical Work.

Considerable time is taken up by the necessary clerical work of the Department, which in addition to general correspondence includes keeping the various Registers, Reports to Council, Committees, Special Reports to Medical Officer of Health, Ministry of Health, preparation and services of Notices, etc., etc.

Since my Assistant left in October, 1929, I have been without the help of a general assistant, consequently much of my time is taken up with work which could be undertaken by an intelligent junior clerk.

In conclusion I beg to thank the Council for their continued confidence and for the support rendered from time to time when legal measures have been absolutely necessary.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. H. MOFFATT,

Engineer, Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.



