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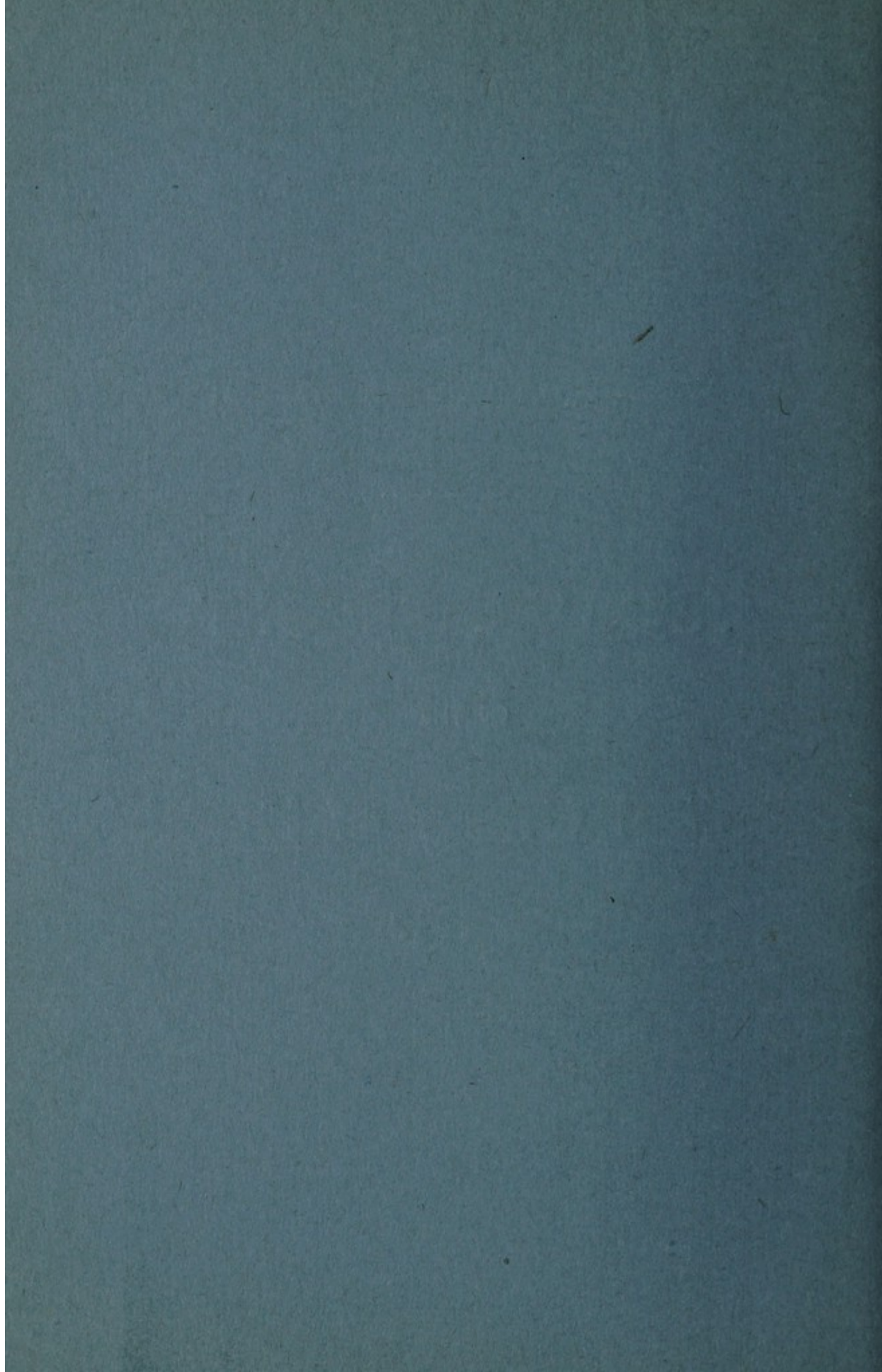
WALSINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

for 1938



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COUNCIL OFFICES,
FAKENHAM.

MR. CHAIRMAN, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for 1939, which is detailed in form and sequence in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health.

During the year under review, certain aspects of Public Health preventive medicine have received special attention.

A scheme whereby the Fakenham and Hempton main water supply is sampled by the Medical Officer of Health at regular weekly intervals, is now being applied and will prove a great help in determining at the earliest practical moment any evidence of pollution.

The immunisation of the public against diphtheria has been considered and approved by your council, and will be put into immediate operation as soon as the scheme is sanctioned by the Ministry of Health.

With regard to housing matters. The parish of Hindringham has been inspected and the parish of Binham commenced. The housing problem in the Rural District of Walsingham is an acute one, and I cannot help but feel that the limited time at my disposal prevents this important section from receiving as much attention as is its due.

In conclusion, I wish to acknowledge with gratitude the progressive and encouraging support given to me by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and the loyal co-operation of every member of the staff, for upon these factors depends the continued march of progress towards improving the Public Health conditions of our fellow citizens.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

L. G. ANDERSON.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health:

L. G. ANDERSON, M.D. Liverp., Ch.B., D.P.H. Liverp.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector:

W. H. MOFFATT, C.R.S.I., Meat Cert. Lond., C.S.I.B. Lond.,
Diplomee Inst. M. & Cy. E.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS
OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	88,818
Registrar - General's estimate of resident population mid-1938	16,830
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1938) according to rate-books	6,346
Rateable value (end of 1938)	£50,514
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£220

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND CLIMATE.

The Rural District of Walsingham is situated in the north-west of the County of Norfolk, and has approximately nine miles of coastline. The sub-soil is extremely variable and frequent pockets of clay render efficient sewage effluent drainage, difficult and unreliable. A characteristic feature of the area is the extensive deposits of chalk and flint, a considerable portion of which has been quarried and used for building purposes in the past.

The meteorological conditions are such that the population enjoys a bracing though rather extreme type of climate. These extremes are, however, tempered to a great extent along the coastline by the sea. There are very few factories in the area, and the absence of smoke and dust which might cause atmospheric pollution, allows the maximum amount of ultra-violet light to reach the ground. This in itself is probably responsible to a great extent for the longevity found in these parts.

Fogs are extremely rare, and sea fogs only seen on very infrequent occasions. The outstanding features of the climatic conditions, as recorded by H. Norman Edge, F.R.M.S., at his observatory at Kettlestone, were the abnormally low rainfalls of the spring, the phenomenally high temperatures of March and November, the thunderstorms of August and September, and lastly, the cold December with snow.

The low annual rainfall of 22.58 inches compares very favourably with that of other coastal areas in which 35 inches or more is frequently recorded. The large amount of sunshine, the low humidity of the air and the bracing climate is admirably suited to the prevention and treatment of rheumatic and pulmonary ailments.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

including the chief industries carried on in the area and the extent of unemployment.

Of the population the agricultural labouring classes are in the majority, this being the chief industry of the district. In addition the following industries absorb a small proportion of the local labour:—

Letter Press Printing and Binding.

Flour Milling and Malting.

Gas Making.

Seed Cleaning.

Quite a number of local men are employed at the Bircham Newton and Raynham Aerodromes respectively.

Full use has been made of the picturesque waterways around the coastline and these, combined with the stimulating climatic conditions attract numerous summer visitors. Advantage has been taken whenever possible in preserving the amenities of the coastal district, and every effort has been made to preserve all houses of architectural or archæological interest.

Unemployment.

It is not possible to obtain accurate unemployment figures for the district, but it is evident that unemployment has decreased by the temporary absorption of labour by Government Schemes in the county.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR:

which relate to the net births and deaths after correction for inward and outward transfers as furnished by the Register-General.

		Total	Males	Females		
Live Births 243	Legitimate	228	121	107	Birth-rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population ..	12.8
	Illegitimate	15	6	9		
	Total	243	127	116		
Stillbirths 10	Legitimate	8	4	4	Rate per 1,000 total births	39.5
	Illegitimate	2	1	1		
	Total	10	5	5		
Deaths ..	Total	185	83	102	Death rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population ..	10.2

Deaths from puerperal causes :—

	Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 births.
(a) Puerperal sepsis ..	1	3.95
(b) Other puerperal causes ..	1	3.95
Total	2	7.90

Death-rate of infants under one year of age :—

	Total.	Males.	Females.	
Legitimate ..	7	4	3	
Illegitimate ..	2	0	2	
Total ..	9	4	5	
All infants per 1,000 live births ..				37.07
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ..				30.7
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births ..				133.3
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) ..				33
„ Measles (all ages) ..				0
„ Whooping Cough (all ages) ..				0
„ Diarrhoea (under two years of age) ..				0

During the year there has been no unusual or excessive mortality.

The rural housing conditions under which a large percentage of the population live, appears to have a definitely marked effect upon the health of the children. A great number of their houses are of considerable age, built of chalk and flint and with no damp-proof courses. They are, therefore, damp, and it would appear that this factor bears a close relation to the presence of large numbers of cases of chronic pulmonary catarrh and chronic tonsilitis found in these parts.

It might be expected that the rural conditions would be an ideal environment for the prevention of these complaints, but it does not compensate for the small, stuffy and crowded homes with their large families and relatively small incomes.

Births.

The number of live births registered during the year was 243, of which 127 were male and 116 female. There were 228 legitimate births and 15 (6.2 %) illegitimate births. The birth-rate was 12.8 per thousand as compared with 12.06 in 1937, the rate for England and Wales in this year being 15.1. The stillbirth rate was 0.59 compared with a rate of 0.60 for England and Wales.

Deaths.

The total number of deaths registered in the Walsingham Rural District during 1938 was 185, corrected for outward and inward transfers.

The crude death-rate was 10.2 per thousand as compared with 14.07 in 1937. The death rate for England and Wales in 1938 was 11.6. In order to make adjustments for age and sex distribution of the district, the Registrar-General supplies an "area comparability figure" (A.C.F.) with which to multiply the crude death-rate. The A.C.F. for Walsingham Rural District for 1938 was 0.77 and this gives an adjusted local death-rate of 7.85 as compared with 10.78 for the previous year.

The age distribution of the deaths is shown in the adjoining table.

Age Group					1938.
Under 1 year	..	..	..	..	9
1 and under 2	..	..	..	..	2
2 and under 5	..	..	..	..	1
5 and under 15	..	..	..	..	1
15 and under 25	..	..	..	..	1
25 and under 45	..	..	..	..	14
45 and under 65	..	..	..	..	31
65 and upwards	..	..	..	..	126
Total Deaths (all ages)	..	..	..	..	185
Death-rate	..	..	..	..	10.2

The parish distribution of deaths was:—

Parish	Males	Females	Total
Barney	—	1	1
Barsham	1	2	3
Binham	1	2	3
Blakeney	3	5	8
Briningham	—	1	1
Brinton	—	1	1
Briston	5	8	13
Dunton	—	1	1
Fakenham	16	17	33
Field Dalling	3	3	6
Fulmodestone	3	7	10
Great Ryburgh	1	3	4
Great Snoring	3	—	3
Great Walsingham	5	—	5
Gunthorpe	1	4	5
Helhoughton	3	2	5
Hempton	4	3	7
Hindolvestone	4	2	6
Hindringham	1	4	5
Holkham	2	1	3
Kettlestone	—	2	2
Langham	—	2	2
Little Snoring	1	—	1
Little Walsingham	6	8	14
Melton Constable	1	4	5
Sculthorpe	5	5	10
Stibbard	1	—	1
Stiffkey	3	3	6
Swanton Novers	4	3	7
Toftrees	—	1	1
Warham	—	2	2
West Raynham	1	—	1
Wighton	4	4	8
Wiveton	1	1	2
Totals	83	104	185

The causes of death given in this table are supplied by the Registrar-General:—

CAUSES OF DEATH.						MALES.	FEMALES.
All Causes						83	102
1	Typhoid and Paratyphoid	..	..	..	..	—	—
2	Measles .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
3	Scarlet Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
4	Whooping Cough .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
5	Diphtheria .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
6	Influenza .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
7	Encephalitis Lethargica .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
8	Cerebro-spinal Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
9	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	..	..	..	..	1	6
10	Other Tuberculous Diseases	..	..	..	..	—	1
11	Syphilis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	—
12	General Paralysis of the Insane .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
13	Cancer .. .. .	..	..	..	..	17	16
14	Diabetes .. .. .	..	..	..	..	5	4
15	Cerebral Hæmorrhage, etc. .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	4
16	Heart Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	21	32
17	Aneurysm .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	—
18	Other Circulatory Diseases	..	..	..	..	6	12
19	Bronchitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	4	3
20	Pneumonia (all forms) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	—
21	Other Respiratory Diseases	..	..	..	..	1	3
22	Peptic Ulcer .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	—
23	Diarrhœa, etc. (under two years)	..	..	..	..	—	—
24	Appendicitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	1
25	Cirrhosis of the Liver .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	—
26	Other Diseases of the Liver	..	..	..	..	—	—
27	Other Digestive Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	1
28	Acute and Chronic Nephritis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	4
29	Puerperal Sepsis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	1
30	Other Puerperal Diseases	..	..	..	..	—	1
31	Congenital Debility, Prematurity, Malformations, etc. .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	3
32	Senility .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	3
33	Suicide .. .. .	..	..	..	..	1	—
34	Other Violence .. .. .	..	..	..	..	3	3
35	Other Defined Diseases .. .. .	..	..	..	..	6	4
36	Causes Ill-defined or Unknown .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)							
	Smallpox .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
	Poliomyelitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—
	Polioencephalitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	—	—

The Zymotic death-rate for the year was 0.00. This is the rate due to small-pox, measles, whooping cough, scarlet fever, diphtheria, and diarrhoea under two years of age.

Death from:				1938
Smallpox	..	..	..	—
Measles	..	..	..	—
Whooping Cough	..	..	..	—
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	—
Diphtheria	..	..	..	—
Enteric Fever	..	..	..	—
Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	..	..	..	—
Zymotic death-rate				0.00

The following table gives the birth-rates, death-rates, an analysis of mortality, maternal death-rates, and case-rates for certain infectious diseases in 1938. The rates are for England and Wales, for 122 County Boroughs and Great Towns, for 143 Smaller Towns, for London, and for the Walsingham Rural District to show the comparison.

(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns.)

	Walsingham R.D.	England and Wales	126 County Boro's and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (Residen- tial Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Adminis- trative County
Rates per 1,000 Population					
BIRTHS :					
Live	12. 8	15. 1	15. 0	15. 4	13. 4
Still	0.59	0.60	0.65	0.60	0.48
DEATHS :					
All Causes	10. 2	1.16	11. 7	11. 0	11. 4
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	—	0.00	—
Measles	0.00	0.04	0.05	0.03	0.06
Scarlet Fever ..	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Whooping Cough ..	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Diphtheria	0.00	0.07	0.07	0.06	0.05
Influenza	0.00	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.06
NOTIFICATIONS :					
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	—
Scarlet Fever ..	1.01	2.41	2.60	2.58	2.05
Diphtheria	0.11	1.58	1.85	1.53	1.90
Enteric Fever ..	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.04	0.05
Erysipelas	0.00	0.40	0.46	0.39	0.46
Pneumonia	0.17	1.10	1.28	0.98	0.98
Rates per 1,000 Live Births					
Deaths under 1 year of age	37.00	53	57	51	57
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	0.00	5. 5	7. 8	3. 6	13. 1
MATERNAL MORTALITY :					
Puerperal Sepsis	4.44	0.89	Not	available	
Others	4.44	2.19			
Total	8.88	3.08			
Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)					
MATERNAL MORTALITY :					
Puerperal Sepsis ..	3.95	0.86	Not	available	
Others	3.95	2.11			
Total	7.90	2.97			
NOTIFICATIONS :					
Puerperal Fever ..	3.95	14.42	18.08	12.51	{ 3.53 15.46
Puerperal Pyrexia ..					

The chief causes of death in the Walsingham Rural District will be seen to be cancer, heart and other circulatory diseases and diabetes.

Cancer.

There were thirty-two deaths from cancer registered and the age and sex distribution was as tabulated below:—

Age Group	Under 30	30-35	35-45	45-55	55-65	65-75	75	Total
Males ..	—	—	—	4	2	5	5	16
Females ..	—	—	—	2	3	4	7	16
Totals ..	—	—	—	6	5	9	12	32

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR
THE AREA.

1. (i) At the end of April, 1938, Dr. R. A. Norman relinquished his duties as part-time Medical Officer of Health to the Walsingham Rural District Council. A combined district consisting of Walsingham and Docking Rural Districts and Wells-next-the-Sea Urban District was created, and Dr. L. G. Anderson, Deputy Medical Officer of Health to the Borough of Torquay, was appointed Medical Officer of Health to the three combined Districts.

(ii) (a) *Laboratory Facilities.*

Bacteriological and serological examinations are carried out by the County Council Bacteriologist at Norwich. Below is a tabulated summary of the work carried out for the Walsingham Rural District Council.

SPECIMEN	Positive results	Negative results
Swabs for Diphtheria	11	69
Sputa for T.B.	10	46
Blood for Widal	—	2
Urine for Typhoid	—	4
Fæces for Typhoid	—	—
Pus for T.B.	—	—
Swabs for Hæmolytic Streptococci ..	—	1
Specimens of Mussels	—	—
Urine for T.B.	—	3

(b) *Ambulance Facilities.*

All infectious cases are removed to hospital by the Dereham County Isolation Hospital's ambulance. Non-infectious cases are transported by the ambulance belonging to the St. John and Red Cross Societies and stationed at Fakenham. It is staffed by voluntary workers who have performed excellent work during the past year.

The ambulance service may be said to be adequate.

(c) Nursing in the Home.

Below are given the various local nursing associations, the parishes which they serve and the nurse in attendance.

Nursing Assn.	Parishes.	Nurse.
BINHAM	Binham, Field Dalling, Langham, Stiffkey, Warham, Cockthorpe, Sharrington, Saxlingham, Wighton.	Nurse Spence, Binham.
GREAT RYBURGH	Great and Little Ryburgh, Stibbard, Fulmodestone, Kettlestone, Testerton.	Nurse Steward, 8, Council Houses, Great Ryburgh.
WALSINGHAM	Great and Little Walsingham, Egmere, Great Snoring.	Nurse Hood, Manor House, Great Walsingham.
HINDRINGHAM	Hindringham, Gunthorpe, Little Snoring (midwifery only), Bale, Barney, Thursford.	Nurse Perkins, Nurse's Cottage, Hindringham.
HOLKHAM	Holkham, Quarles.	
MELTON CONSTABLE	Briston, Hindolvestone, Thurning, Melton Constable, Swanton Novers.	Nurse Gronow, Melton Road, Hindolvestone Road, Guist.
SCULTHORPE	East, West and North Barsham, Doughton-cum-Dunton, Sculthorpe, Shereford.	Nurse Green, Guy Wells, Sculthorpe, Fakenham.
WHISSONSETT	Toftrees, Helhoughton, Pudding Norton, East, West and South Raynham.	Nurse Pauley, Colkirk, Fakenham.
THORNAGE	Brinton, Briningham.	Nurse Deane, Hill Crest, Brinton, Melton Constable.
CLEY	Blakeney, Morston, Wiveton.	Nurse Weston, "Enfield," Cley-next-Sea.
SYDERSTONE	Tatterford, Tattersett.	Nurse Graveling, Syderstone, King's Lynn.
FOULSHAM	Wood Norton.	Nurse Phillippo, Main Street, Foulsham, Guist, S.O.

(d) Treatment Centres and Clinics.

Two Infant Welfare Centres are held each month in the Court House, Holt Road, Fakenham. The Medical Officer of Health in his capacity of Assistant County Medical Officer of Health, attends these clinics, one of which is held on the second Wednesday of the month at 2 p.m., and the other on the third Thursday of the month at 1.30 p.m. The former is intended for the convenience of those living in Fakenham, whilst the latter serves the population residing outside the town in the surrounding villages. These clinics are controlled by the Norfolk County Council Maternity and Child Welfare Department.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The following clinics are available for the treatment of venereal diseases:—

Norfolk and Norwich Hospital:—

Males	Tuesdays, 10—11 a.m.	Fridays, 6—7 p.m.
Females:	do. 11—12 noon	do. 5—6 p.m.

West Norfolk and King's Lynn Hospital, King's Lynn:—

Males:	Tuesdays, 7—8 p.m.	Fridays, 7—8 p.m.
Females:	do. 3 p.m.	Wednesdays, 8 p.m.

The approved Venereal Disease Laboratory at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital deals with the examination of specimens. The necessary apparatus can be obtained on direct application to the Pathologist at the Laboratory.

SCHOOL CLINICS.

School clinics are administered by the Norfolk County Council School Medical Service, and are held at various council schools throughout the district. They are attended by the School Nurse. The Medical Officer of Health, who is also the Assistant School Medical Officer, attends at the clinic in the Fakenham Junior School once each month.

(e) *Hospitals—Public and Voluntary.*

There are no Hospitals in this area. Arrangements can be made through the County Medical Officer for admission of maternity cases to the following Hospitals:—

- (a) Norfolk and Norwich Hospital.
- (b) West Norfolk and King's Lynn Hospital.

These hospitals, together with the Cottage Hospital, Wells-next-the-Sea, also take general Medical and Surgical cases from the Walsingham Rural District.

Cases of Infectious Disease are now admitted to the County Council's Isolation Hospital at East Dereham. Through the generosity of the Nuffield Trust this hospital is now equipped with a Respirator or Iron Lung for the treatment of Infectious Disease with respiratory paralysis.

Smallpox cases are admitted to the Smallpox Hospital built jointly by the Walsingham and Docking Rural District Councils and situated on the Docking Common. There is accommodation for four patients and two nurses.

SECTION C.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

1. (i) *Water.**The Fakenham and Hempton Water Scheme.*

The properties connected to the piped supply now number 592, 23 of the supplies are by meter, and 21 garden stand pipes are in use.

During 1938, samples of water were taken from private wells on 16 occasions and submitted to the Public Analyst. The results of the analyses were as follows:—

Unfit for drinking purposes	..	..	3
Classed as fit for drinking purposes	..	..	13

Four private wells were closed, six were cleansed and repaired, and one new well was sunk.

The main water supply to the parishes of Fakenham and Hempton is subjected to the following routine tests:—

- (a) Samples are taken each week from the Water Tower and tested for the presence of *Bacillus Coli*. The test in operation is as follows: 100 c.c's. of water are added to an equal volume of Bile salt lactose peptone broth, to which neutral red has been added as an indicator. The bottles are then incubated at 37 deg. centigrade for 48 hrs. and the presence of *Bacillus Coli* indicated by the formation of gas in the Durhams tube, a change of colour due to the splitting up of the lactose and the formation of acid. This is a very sensitive test, and will indicate the presence of one or more organisms in 100 c.c's. of water. By virtue of its sensitivity it is of no practical use in the case of open wells. These tests are carried out by the Medical Officer of Health, and the results of the tests show no *B. Coli* in any of the 16 samples examined.
- (b) Twice yearly the water from the Water Tower is subjected to a complete bacteriological and chemical analysis.
- (c) All persons, whom by nature of their occupation are brought into contact with the Waterworks, are examined to exclude the possibility of their being Typhoid, etc., Diphtheria, or hæmolytic streptococcal carriers.

The water supplies to the Walsingham Rural District's Council houses are as follows:—

Parish.	Description of Water Supply.
1-10, Church Lane, Walsingham.	One well (with hand pump).
1-10, Scarboro' Road, Walsingham.	One well (with hand pump).
1-29, Wells Road, Walsingham.	Borehole with piped supply—automatic electric pump.
1-6, Wells Road, Stiffkey.	Well—semi-rotary pumps in sculleries.
1-11, Camping Hill, Stiffkey.	Borehole with piped supply. Pump driven by internal combustion engine with pump attendant.
1-6, Helhoughton.	Deep well with piped supply. Pump driven by internal combustion engine with pump attendant.
1-4, Field Dalling.	Well with semi-rotary pumps in sculleries.
1-10, Little Snoring.	2 wells with semi-rotary pumps in sculleries. (Piped supply under review in connection with new building programme).
1-6, Great Snoring.	2 wells with hand pumps.
1-4, Warham.	Well with hand pump. (Piped supply under review in connection with new building programme.)
1-24, Greenway	Piped supply fed by Fakenham and Hempton Waterworks.
1-24, King's Road	
1-53, Jubilee Avenue	
1-28, Hempton	
1-32, Moor Lane, Sculthorpe.	
1-12, Sculthorpe Road, Sculthorpe.	Borehole with piped supply—automatic pumping plant.
1-4, Sandy Lane.	Borehole with piped supply—Windmill.
1-20, Melton Constable	Well with piped supply—Windmill with pump attendant.
21-44, Briston.	Deep well with piped supply. Automatic pumping plant and settling tanks.
1-4, Fulmodestone.	Well with hand pump.
5-8, Fulmodestone.	Deep well with piped supply—Pump driven with internal combustion engine with pump attendant.
1-8, Hindringham.	Borehole with piped supply. Pump driven with internal combustion engine with pump attendant.
3-8, Swanton Novers.	Wells with semi-rotary pumps in sculleries.
1-6, Langham.	Well.
1-6, Barney.	Well.
1-6, Bale.	Well.
1-6, Thursford.	Well.
1-4, Sharrington.	Well.
1-4, Kettlestone.	Well.
1-12, Hindolvestone.	Well.
1-4, Wood Norton.	Well.
1-6, Wiveton.	Well.
1-12, Great Ryburgh.	Borehole with piped supply with automatic pump.
1-12, Blakeney.	Borehole with piped supply. Pump driven by internal combustion engine with pump attendant.
1-4, Stibbard.	This plant is also equipped for automatic action.
1-6, East Barsham.	Well with semi-rotary pumps in sculleries. (Piped supply under review in connection with the new building programme).
	Well with hand pump. (Piped supply under review in connection with the building programme).

(ii) *Drainage and Sewerage.**Fakenham Sewers.*

Referring to the Special Report submitted to the Fakenham Sanitary Committee in 1937, pointing out that night observations and tests has shown that the sewers in the low-lying waterlogged part of the town were defective and that there was an excessive flow of sub-soil water during the night period, a Contract was placed for opening up the ground and re-laying the sewers. Owing to the depth and natural difficulties—i.e., running sand and powerful springs—which entailed constant pumping—this work extended over a period of several months, and entailed practically constant supervision.

The completion of the work and the consequent elimination of the very considerable volume of ground water has of course resulted in reducing the pumping costs, also the existing Plant can now successfully deal with the normal days flow of sewage.

Difficulty is sometimes experienced during periods of heavy rainfall. Practically all the surface water from private property and a portion of Highway Drainage is admitted to the sewers, and on occasion the collecting Tank has rapidly filled even with two pumps working. On these occasions when the volume exceeds six times D.W.F., the second pump delivers the dilute sewage into the River Wensum. Although the Sewage Commissioners have suggested that such dilution may be permitted to discharge into watercourses, exception has been taken from time to time by various interested parties. If this practice is to be avoided then the only alternatives are to either take the necessary steps to eliminate the surface water as far as practicable, or increase the pumping capacity. The River Wensum is one of the sources of the water supply of Norwich City, and periodical sampling is undertaken by the City Water Engineer and the County Analyst—at times when pumping into the River actually occurs—but no exception has been taken by them to this practice.

Sewage Farm, Fakenham.

The sewage of Fakenham is pumped from the Hall Staithe Station to the Farm at Creake Road, Sculthorpe, where it is treated by Tank Treatment and Broad Irrigation. Conditions at the Farm have been satisfactory during the year under review.

Other Sewers.

Melton Constable has a modern system of sewerage, and the sewage is dealt with at the Works by means of a Septic Tank and Rotary Filters. A good effluent is maintained at these Works, and discharges into an adjoining watercourse. No trouble has

been experienced during the year. The following is a typical analysis of the effluent produced:—

Free Ammonia	..	1.2 parts per 100,000.
Nitrates	..	Abundant.
Nitrates as Nitric Nitrogen		4.0 parts per 100,000.
Chlorine	..	15.9 parts per 100,000.
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours		
at 25 degrees C.	..	0.94 parts per 100,000.
Hardness	..	30 degrees.

The High Street and adjoining area of Blakeney is sewered, and takes surface and waste water from cottage property and the effluent from Septic Tanks at houses where W.C's and Baths are installed. The Main Sewer discharges into a tidal estuary at the Quay.

Hempton has a very old system of sewerage which discharges into a watercourse near the Railway Crossing. The pipes are laid more or less haphazard with little or no fall. Frequent stoppages have occurred during the year, and in their present defective condition trouble is bound to recur from time to time and, in the near future an adequate and modern system of sewerage will become an imperative necessity. The need for this improvement will become more vital with the extension of the Public Water Supply to the various properties, the conversion of Privies to Water Flushed Closets and the consequent larger volume of Sewage for disposal.

New Sewers.

The 6-inch Sewer in Saxlingham Road, Field Dalling, was extended for a length of 252 lineal yards, and four new Manholes constructed during the early part of 1938.

Some 68 lineal yards of 9-inch Sewer was laid at the rear of Olney Place and the Manse, Briston, to alleviate flooding of this particular area.

Water courses.

The open watercourses used for drainage purposes in various outlying villages have been frequently cleansed during the year, and every effort made to keep them in a sanitary condition and free from nuisance.

2. Rivers and Streams.

During the year evidence was supplied which indicated that the River Wensum, which passes through Fakenham and is the

source of water supply for the City of Norwich, was being polluted. This matter was investigated and it was found that pollution was taking place at three places.

These included the sewage from the Sewerage Works Pumping Station. Unfortunately at this time one low-lying portion of the town sewers was defective and was allowing influx of a large quantity of sub-soil water, which naturally necessitated a great deal of extra pumping to empty the sewerage tanks. This, in many instances, could not be done, and a certain amount of the diluted sewage was allowed to pass over to the River Wensum. Also, no pumping was carried out from Saturday mid-day until the following Monday morning, resulting in the tanks becoming full of crude sewage. In the event of a heavy rainfall, a great deal of the sewage had to be allowed to enter the Wensum.

Steps were therefore taken to alleviate these sources of pollution and with the repair of the faulty sewer and extra pumping hours, it is only as a result of severe storms that any sewage is allowed to enter the River Wensum, and then it is diluted to more than six times the dry weather flow.

The other two sources of pollution were found to be the effluent from gas washings and the discharge of faecal matter directly into the river. Both of these have now ceased.

3. (i) *Closet Accommodation.*

The majority of the houses in the Walsingham Rural District are provided with pail closets, others are still using privy middens, whilst in the sewered areas water closets are in use. During the year there were seventeen conversions from privy middens to pail closets.

(ii) *Public Cleansing.*

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.

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.

The street cleansing is carried out by the Norfolk County Council.

(iii)

SUMMARY OF WORK OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Houses :

Houses inspected	101
Houses visited	345
Dirty premises whitewashed and cleansed	5
Rooms disinfected	—
Defective floors repaired or relaid	35
Defective yards repaved	3
External plastering and walls repaired	39
Internal plastering repaired	23
Stoves repaired	3
Coppers repaired	7
Rain water pipes and gutters repaired	13
Nuisances from the keeping of fowls and animals	5
Ashbins provided for house refuse	43
Roofs repaired	22
Handrails fixed	3
Doors and door frames repaired or renewed	15
Windows repaired or renewed	12
Yards and outbuildings cleansed	10
Wells closed	4
Wells sunk	1
Wells cleaned or repaired	6

Drainage :

Smoke tests applied	9
Water tests applied	3
New sets of house drains laid	14
Defective house drains repaired	8
Intercepting traps fixed	3
Fresh air inlets fixed	3
Inspection chambers to drains fixed	18
Drains ventilated to head of system	9
Iron and brick traps removed and earthenware gullies fixed	25
Waste pipes from baths, lavatories and sinks trapped	5
Choked drains cleared	33
W.C's repaired or new provided	—
Glazed sinks fixed	9
Lavatory basins fixed	7
Conversions from privy middens	17
Urinals reconstructed and cleansed	6
Pail closets and privy middens repaired	15

Workshops :

Workshops visited	89
Workshop notices	1

Food and Places where Food is Prepared :

Slaughter houses visited	504
Butchers' shops	70
Butchers' carts	5
Market stalls	204
Other shops	10
Bakehouses	45
Fish and chip shops	4
Ice cream shops	—
Tripe dressers	—
Cafés visited	9

Carcases inspected	15
Slaughter houses inspected	504
Weight of food destroyed	44 lbs.
Visits to dairies	220
Visits to cowsheds	220
Samples of milk and other foods obtained	95

Other Visits and Miscellaneous:

Visits to piggeries	27
„ stables	14
„ common lodging houses	—
„ public elementary schools	—
„ private schools	—
Marine stores	8
Places of entertainment	—
Offensive accumulations removed	4
Nuisances from stables and manure pits abated	4
Miscellaneous	18
Public conveniences inspected	12
Caravans and tents inspected	—
Revisits in connection with the above works	425

Clerical Work:

Legal notices	10
Preliminary notices	35
Letters and communications in connection with the work of the department	1236
Verbal notices	14
Written and verbal complaints received	45
Personal interviews, appointments, etc.	412

(iv) *Shops and Offices.*

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. (1)	Number of		
	Inspections. (2)	Written Notices. (3)	Prosecutions. (4)
FACTORIES (including Factory Laundries) ..	—	—	—
WORKSHOPS (including Workshop Laundries) ..	75	1	—
WORKPLACES (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	14	—	—
Total	89	1	—

2.—DEFECTS FUND

Particulars. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecu- tions. (5)
	Found. (2)	Remedied. (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts* :—				
Want of Cleanliness	1	1	—	—
Want of Ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—
Want of Drainage of floors ..	—	—	—	—
Other Nuisances	—	—	—	—
Sanitary accommo- dation { insufficient	—	—	—	—
{ unsuitable or defective ..	—	—	—	—
{ not separate for sexes ..	—	—	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Act*—				
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	1	1	—	—

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

4. *Schools.*

The majority of schools in the area are provided with pail closets, but in those districts in which there is a piped water supply water closets are in use. The sanitary arrangements may be said to be satisfactory.

There have been no serious outbreaks of infectious disease during the year necessitating any action other than the temporary closing of the schools.

The following schools were closed for this purpose during 1938:—

School.	Period.	Reason for Closure.
Helhoughton	10.1.38—21.1.38	Measles.
West Raynham	do. do.	do.
Blakeney	28.1.38— 4.2.38	Coughs and Colds.

SECTION D.

HOUSING.

1. <i>Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—</i>	
(1) (a) Total number of houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	101
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	107
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ..	69
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	75
(3) Number of houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	29
(4) Number of houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	72
2. <i>Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :—</i>	
Number of defective houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	52
3. <i>Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—</i>	
(a).—Proceedings under sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	19
(2) Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	16
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(b).—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
(1) Number of houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(2) Number of houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.—	
(a) By owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil
(c).—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Acts, 1936 :	
(1) Number of houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(2) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	22
(d).—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ..	Nil
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil
4. <i>Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding :—</i>	
(a).— (i) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	71
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	71
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	403

- (b).—Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year Nil
 (c).— (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 3
 (ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases 18
 (d).—Particulars of any cases in which houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding Nil
 (e).—Any other particulars with respect to overcrowding conditions upon which the Medical Officer of Health may consider it desirable to report.

HOUSING ACT 1936.

YEAR 1938.

Summary of action under Clearance Orders.

	No. of Orders.	No. of Houses.
Orders made by Council	28	92
Orders rescinded by Council (No. 14, Field Dalling) (No. 24, Little Snoring)	2	5
	<hr/> 26 <hr/>	<hr/> 87 <hr/>

The results of the Local Inquiry, held 15th March, 1938, were as follows:—

Orders confirmed without modifications	19	60
Orders confirmed with modification ..	6	18
Orders not confirmed	1	—
	<hr/> 26 <hr/>	<hr/> 78 <hr/>

Clearance Orders confirmed without modification.

	No. of Houses.		No. of Houses.
Barsham No. 1	3	Field Dalling No. 12 ..	2
Barsham No. 2	5	Field Dalling No. 13 ..	3
Barsham No. 4	3	Raynham No. 17 ..	4
Wighton No. 5	4	Raynham No. 18 ..	4
Warham No. 6	4	Little Ryburgh No. 21 ..	2
Warham No. 7	4	Little Snoring No. 23 ..	2
Langham No. 8	2	Little Snoring No. 25 ..	3
Langham No. 9	2	Stibbard No. 27 ..	5
Langham No. 10	2	Stibbard No. 28 ..	4
Field Dalling No. 11 ..	2		

No. of persons to be displaced—191.

The Minister of Health directed that payment of compensation, under section 42 of the Housing Act 1936, is to be made in respect of

the house occupied by J. Goodman, in the Field Dalling No. 12 Clearance Order 1937 (Owners—Exors. of E. Walker, decd.).

Clearance Orders confirmed with modifications.

				No. of Houses.		
				Total.	Excluded.	Confirmed.
Barsham No. 3	..	..	..	5	1	4
Field Dalling No. 15	..	..	..	4	2	2
Field Dalling No. 16	..	..	..	5	2	3
Little Ryburgh No. 20	..	..	..	4	2	2
Raynham No. 19	..	..	..	5	—	5
Little Snoring No. 26	..	..	..	2	—	2
				25	7	18

Buildings excluded from Orders.

Ref. No.	Occupier.	Owner.	Description.
Barsham No. 3 Clearance Order, 1937	H. Neale	Walsingham Estate Co.	House, 118, Fakenham Road, Houghton.
9		"	Shed.
10		"	2 earth closets.
Field Dalling No. 15 Clearance Order, 1937.	H. G. Wakefield	Massingham, S.	House, Binham Road, Field Dalling.
3		"	"
4	W. T. Neal	"	"
5		"	Shed.
6		"	3 sheds, 2 earth closets.
7		"	Brick well.
Field Dalling No. 16 Clearance Order, 1937.	R. Riseborough	Exors. of E. Walker, decd.	House, Little Marsh, Field Dalling
2		"	"
4	H. Guymer	"	"
6		"	Washhouse.
part of 7		"	4 earth closets and 4 sheds.
Little Ryburgh No. 20 Clearance Order, 1937.	A. Moore	Sir T. A. Cook, M.P.	House, The Street, Little Ryburgh.
4		"	"
5	Mrs. W. Nobes	"	"
3		"	Brick well.
6		"	Shed.
7		"	2 earth closets and 1 washhouse.
8		"	"
Raynham No. 19 Clearance Order, 1937.		Marquis Townshend	Portion of 3 sheds used as boot and shoe repairer's shop.
part of 8			
Little Snoring No. 26 Clearance Order, 1937.		Jacobs, G.	Brick well.
4			

Clearance Orders not confirmed.

Ref. No.	Occupier.	Owner.	Description.
<i>Little</i> 1	<i>Ryburgh</i> No. 22 C Fenn, S.	Clearance Order, 1937. Sir T. A. Cook, M.P.	House, Church Hill, Little Ryburgh.
2	Goddard, —	"	Washhouse. "
3		"	Earth closet.
4		"	
5		"	Washhouse. "
6		"	

Field Dalling No. 12 Clearance Order.

In accordance with Section 42 of the Housing Act, 1936, the Minister has decided that a payment under that Section should be made in respect of the cottage occupied by J. Goodman and owned by the Exors. of E. Walker, decd., included in this Order. The Council are asked to bring the direction made to the notice of all persons likely to have a claim under the terms of the Section.

The Section provides (*inter alia*) that, where, as respects a house which is made the subject of a clearance order, the Minister is satisfied, after causing the house to be inspected by an officer of the Ministry, that, notwithstanding its sanitary defects, it has been well maintained, the Minister may give directions for the making by the local authority of a payment under this section.

*Barsham No. 3 Clearance Order.**Field Dalling No. 15 Clearance Order.**Field Dalling No. 16 Clearance Order.**Little Ryburgh No. 20 Clearance Order.*

The houses excluded from these orders total seven in number, and the Minister states that undertakings to recondition these properties have been offered by the various owners. It would appear that the owners concerned should be requested to submit reconditioning proposals to the Council at once.

Little Ryburgh No. 22 Clearance Order.

The Minister has decided not to confirm the Order (2 houses) in view of the undertaking offered by the owner to carry out reconditioning works. The owner concerned should be requested to submit reconditioning proposals to the Council at once.

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	

No council houses were erected during 1938.

The Housing Officer reports as follows:—

Building Operations between 1st January and 31st December, 1938.

Private dwellings:— Houses	..	..	..	15
Bungalows (permanent)	..	..	..	7
„ (temporary)	..	..	..	4
Alterations and additions to existing dwellings			..	15
Additions to hotels	..	..	..	4
Extensions to factories, workshops, etc.		..	..	3
New garages	..	..	..	4

Although water samples are sent to the Public Analyst in connection with all new dwellings, the Council welcome the control given under the new building byelaws for the construction of wells.

Apart from portions of the parishes of Fakenham, Hempton, and Melton Constable (the latter being a railway undertaking for its own property), wells constitute the main source of supply in all other parishes.

The septic tank treatment of sewerage is used in connection with all new dwellings when no sewer is available, but lack of suitable outfall makes it necessary in many cases to raise the effluent above ground level and thence by sub-irrigation.

Council Houses.

No Council houses have been erected during the past year, but tenders are now being invited for 142 dwellings.

Sanitary Improvements to Council Property.

Blakeney.—A piped supply was extended to six additional houses.

Ryburgh (Gt.).—Twelve Council houses previously depended upon two wells which had become badly polluted.

A 6 inch diameter steel lined borehole was sunk 180 feet into the hard chalk, and a water tower, main, and automatic pumping plant were installed.

The yield from the borehole is such that not only can the existing houses be supplied, but any other building proposals in the vicinity.

Sculthorpe.—A watermain which supplied sixteen Council houses was extended to sixteen additional Council houses, and sixteen earth closets were converted to water closets.

A new disposal plant was constructed and improvements carried out to two others.

HOUSING (RURAL WORKERS ACT.)

During the year 1938 six applications for assistance under the above Act were received from property owners in the district, details of which are as follows:—

Situation of Property.	Works carried Out.	Amount of Grant or Loan.
Cottage in Swan Street, Fakenham	Structural alterations and the provision of bath, W.C., and outside scullery.	Grant of £75 0s. 0d.
Bungalow at Mill Road, Briston	Conversion into two story cottage, provision of water, supply, drainage, etc.	Grants of £100 0. 0d.
2 Cottages, Knight Street, Little Walsingham.	Conversion into one dwelling; and provision of W.C., bath, etc., and improvement of existing drainage	Grant of £80 0s. 0d.
Cottage at Field Dalling (Tudor Period)	Structural improvements and the provision of drainage, etc.	Grant of £50 0s. 0d.
2 Cottages at Little Ryburgh	Structural improvements and the improvement of drainage	Grants of £50 and £35 respectively
2 Cottages at Little Ryburgh	Structural improvements	Grants of £72 each cottage

SECTION E.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

*(a) Milk Supply.**Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.*

The Premises on the Registers at the end of 1938 were as follows:—

Wholesale Producers	..	..	..	..	56
Retail Purveyors	..	..	..	..	71
Dairymen	..	..	..	..	30

The number of Wholesale Producers holding Licences to produce "Accredited Milk" has increased from one in 1934 to 34 at the present time. One Producer holds a Licence to produce "Tuberculin Tested" milk.

During the year 220 inspections of Dairy Premises were made and the following is a list of defects discovered and improvement works carried out:—

Failure to Limewash	..	..	..	..	1
Accumulation of Manure	..	..	..	..	1
Drainage Defects	..	..	..	..	5
New Pavings and Channeling	..	..	..	..	6
Walls Rendered	..	..	..	..	3
Lighting Improved	..	..	..	..	4
External Doors to Dairies provided	..	..	..	..	3
New Dairies constructed	..	..	..	..	5
Steam Sterilisers installed	..	..	..	..	2

Ninety-five Samples of Milk were taken during the year from accredited producers premises. Of these 62 were passed as satisfactory, while 33 failed to pass the test. In the majority of cases a second sample proved satisfactory.

Sampling was restricted during the year by an outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease.

(b) Meat and other Foods.

There are 21 Slaughterhouses in the district—20 of which are licensed and one registered.

Five hundred-and-four inspections were made during the year, and the following Carcases inspected:—

620 Bovines.
704 Sheep and Lambs.
250 Pigs.

With the exception of 4 Ox Livers affected with "Fluke" it was not necessary to condemn any of the above as unfit for consumption.

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.

Inspections are also made from time to time of Foodshops, Market Stalls (Fish and Fruit), etc.

In this connection 4-lbs. of Danish Ham Roll was surrendered and destroyed.

It is to be regretted that the shortage of Staff makes it impossible to devote as much time as might be desired to this very important branch of Public Health Work.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle, excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known) ..	Not	known			
Number inspected		620		704	250
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i> Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis	0.64	—	—	—	—
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i> Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—

SHELL-FISH.

At various points along the coastline between Wells-next-the-Sea and Blakeney, numerous mussel and cockle lays are to be found. A greater proportion of the shell-fish are distributed locally.

It is hoped in the near future a comprehensive scheme will be adopted ensuring that all mussels undergo tank cleansing treatment before being marketed.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.1. *Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).*

The incidence of notifiable disease during the year is shown in the two subjoined tables; the first table sets out the total notifications, whilst the second shows the distribution according to age.

Disease.	Total Cases.	Admitted to Hospital.	Deaths.
Smallpox	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever	17	1	—
Diphtheria	2	1	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—
Pneumonia	3	1	—
Cerebro-spinal Fever	—	—	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—

Disease	Under One Year	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	35—	45—	65—	Total Cases
Smallpox ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ..	—	—	—	1	—	6	3	2	4	1	—	—	17
Diphtheria ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2
Enteric Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	3
Cerebro-spinal Fever ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	1	—	—	1	—	7	4	2	6	2	1	—	24

The following schools were closed for infectious disease:—

Helhoughton	10.1.38—21.1.38	for Measles.
West Raynham	do. do.	do.
Blakeney	28.2.38— 4.3.38	Coughs and colds.

There was no excessive incidence of Infectious Disease during the year.

2. *Diphtheria Immunisation.*

A scheme for the immunisation of the Public against Diphtheria was submitted to the District Council and received their approval.

It was agreed that children of school age should be treated by the Medical Officer of Health and that any other persons desiring treatment should be immunised by their own General Practitioner. In cases where injections are performed by the General Practitioners the scale of remuneration agreed upon was as follows:—

(a) Anterior Schick Test including reading ..	5s. 0d.
(b) For attendance at Surgery per injection of Prophylactic T.A.F.	2s. 6d.
(c) For attendance at the patient's home per injection of T.A.F.	4s. 0d.

In case (c) the patient to be responsible for the payment of 1s. 6d. These remunerations to include a report on cases treated on the special form provided.

It was agreed that the school children be innoculated by the Medical Officer of Health with three doses of Diphtheria Prophylactic T.A.F. at fortnightly intervals and the injections to be given at the various schools after school hours in order to avoid any disturbance of the school curriculum.

Propaganda in this respect includes talks to the parents at the school medical inspections and the circulation of a letter to the parents bringing to their notice the dangers of diphtheria and the means of gaining protection.

3. *Prophylactic Serum.*

On the recommendation of the Medical Officer of Health the Rural District Council have agreed to remunerate General Practitioners for their services in administering anti sera in the cases of contacts of infectious disease. The scale of fees agreed upon was 2s. 6d. per case injected.

4. (a) *Prevention of Blindness.*

The two chief causes of blindness are ophthalmia neonatorum in children, and industrial injuries in the case of adults. Arrangements are in force for the prompt and efficient treatment of

ophthalmia. School eye clinics are held by the Assistant School Medical Officer and by the approved Local General Practitioners for the treatment of errors of refraction found in school children.

5. Tuberculosis.

Particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and of deaths from the disease in the area during 1938 are given in the following table:

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
0-	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5-	—	1	1	5	—	—	—	—
15-	2	1	1	1	1	—	—	—
25-	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—
35-	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	—
45-	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—
55-	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 upwards	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
TOTALS	5	4	4	7	4	3	0	0

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of the year was:—

	Males	Females	Total
Respiratory	39	20	59
Non-respiratory	33	26	59
TOTALS	72	46	118

There were no cases of non-notifiable tuberculosis deaths in the area. The efficiency of notifications seems satisfactory, and there is no evidence to suggest that there were any cases of wilful neglect or refusal to notify on the part of the General Practitioners.

6. *Disinfection.*

Disinfection is carried out, without charge, in all cases of infectious disease and after removal or death of tuberculous patients. In cases of cancer and other non-notifiable diseases, disinfection is carried out on request.

The method in operation remains unaltered. Formalin vapour is used for rooms and bedding, the number of rooms so treated during 1938 being 34. There is no reason to doubt that fumigation is of value, but equally, if not of more value, is the subsequent household cleansing with soap and water, distempering and repapering, for the great source of danger with which man has to contend is the human "Carrier."

