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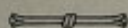


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WALSINGHAM  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

**Medical Officer of Health**

**for the year 1951**

to which is appended the

Report of the

**SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR**

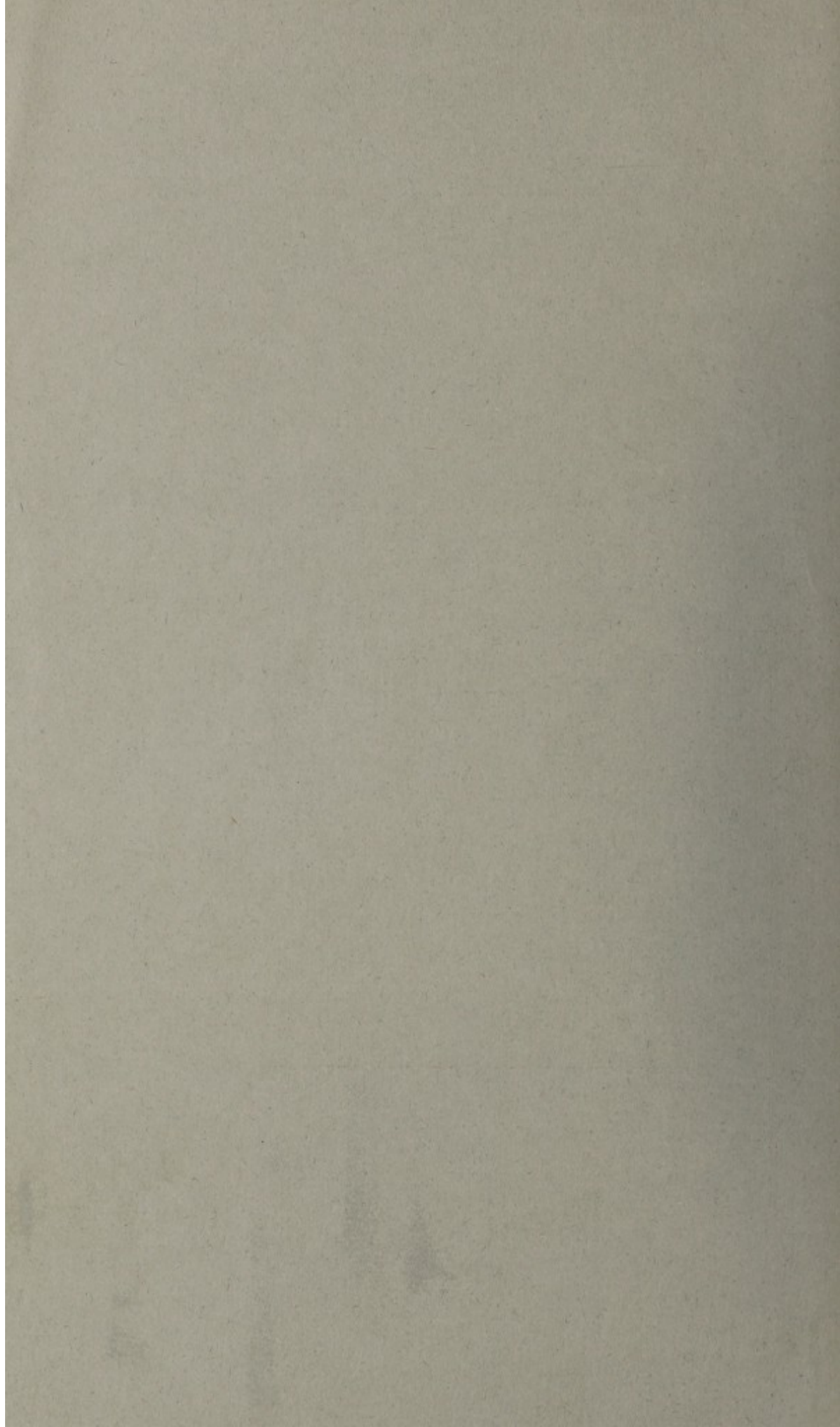
and **SURVEYOR**

and the

Report of the

**WATER ENGINEER**





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STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

J.C. JOHNSTON, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Surveyor and Senior Sanitary Inspector

A.H. EAGLE, A.M.I.S.E., M.R.San.I., Cert. S.I.B.  
Cert. R.S.I. as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.,  
Incorporated Sanitary Engineer

District Water Engineer

E. HAYMAN

Additional Sanitary Inspector and Deputy  
Surveyor

W.E. RAMM, M.R., San.I., Cert. S.I.B.  
Cert. R.S.I. as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods

Additional Sanitary Inspector

L.H. DOUGHTY, Cert. S.I.B. (from 20th February 1950)

Clerical Assistant

L.C. DAVEY (to May 1951)

Miss J.M. COLMAN (12th September to 19th November 1951)

Mrs E.G. DODMAN (from 12th November 1951)

Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health

Miss M. HEWITT



WALSINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Local Health Office,  
The Rectory,  
Church Street,  
WELLS.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE  
YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1951

INTRODUCTION

Mr Chairman, My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This has been another busy year, devoted primarily to routine duties. Steady progress has been made with the new water undertaking.

Vital Statistics show a check in the Birth Rate and also a lowering of the Death Rate. Infant Mortality is much higher than last year, but the total numbers are too small to be of any great significance. Despite this, the Infant Mortality Rate is not any higher than the rest of the Country. Amongst the causes of Death, two points emerged. Firstly, Deaths from all forms of Neoplasms (Cancer) are nearly half those of last year, a trend one hopes will continue. Secondly, the large increase of Deaths for Respiratory Diseases reflect the Influenzal Epidemic in the early part of the year.

Infectious Diseases have played a more conspicuous part this year. The Influenza Epidemic referred to above, although not comparable to that in the Northern parts of the Country, was serious. I am indebted to the General Practitioners who have voluntarily given me useful information about it. I made an appeal to them, and this was rapidly answered. Statistics are difficult to collect and those quoted are Ministry of National Insurance figures and represent trends rather than actual facts.

The outbreak of Sonne Dysentery in Warham was serious, not in the severity of the disease, but in the discomfort of the patients. Eventually, all the cases were traced back to two cases, who had not reported to their Family Doctors, although where these two cases were infected, is unknown.

Sewerage still remains an unsolved problem, but we still have hopes. Work in Food Premises had made a start and Rodent Control appears to have a considerable effect.

I would again like to express my appreciation of the support given me by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee, the constant sound advice and co-operation of the Clerk, and the continued support of the Senior Sanitary Inspector, Water Engineer and Members of the Public Health Department.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient Servant,

J. C. JOHNSTON.

Medical Officer of Health.

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

## PART 1

### (General Report of the Medical Officer of Health)

#### 1. STAFF

During the year the technical staff remained unchanged, although clerical assistance for the Senior Sanitary Inspector gave some difficulties. The Public Health Department were unfortunate in losing Mr L. C. Davey in May. During his term with the Council, he was a valuable Member of the Staff.

After the end of the year, and before the writing of this Report, Mr W. E. Ramm terminated his appointment. I would like to record my appreciation of his conscientious service and loyal support during his time with this Council.

Miss M. Hewitt has continued with her duties as Clerk to the Medical Officer of Health.

#### 2. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

##### (a) Abortus Fever

The question of making Undulant Fever notifiable is still under consideration at a high level. I hope we will get a decision next year.

##### (b) Tuberculosis

The administrative arrangements made last year have worked well.

The picture of T.B. in the District has improved slightly (See Table 15)

##### (c) Measles and Whooping Cough

I am pleased to report that the high incidence of last year was not repeated and numbers were average for the District.

##### (d) Poliomyelitis

There were five cases during the year. During the year the Ministry requested a Report on Poliomyelitis cases covering 1950 and 1951.

##### (e) Sonne Dysentery

During the year there was a fairly heavy outbreak of Dysentery affecting Warham, Wells and Little Snoring. In none of the three places was the outbreak connected. There were two cases at Little Snoring and 4 in Wells. In Warham there were 18 cases occurring in 5 families, and all these were traced back to two unconfirmed cases (never seen by a Doctor) (I never managed to discover where the initial infection came from).

During the investigation over 180 Faecal Samples were taken.

##### (f) Influenza

Investigations were made in connection with the Influenza Epidemic. I consulted with General Practitioners and the first week of these investigations showed :-

1. The incidence was higher in the more heavily populated areas (as naturally anticipated)

2. Presence of several distinct clinical varieties :-

(a) The usual persistence of the cough in the febrile variety did not seem to develop into bronchitis and pneumonia.

(b) Only about 50% of the cases were febrile, and all responded readily to sulphathiazole.

(c) Resultant debility was out of all proportion to the clinical manifestations and was persistent.

3. There was nothing in the epidemic comparable with those experienced in the "North" with regard to incidence, type and severity. The Influenza was typical symptomatic treatment.

4. In several cases, patients who had mild influenza felt better after three or four days, and then suddenly became much worse, taking a week or two to recover.

The second week showed :-

1. Incidence

This appeared to be generally moderate.

2. Nature of Onset :

Abrupt, pyrexia averaging 101° - malaise, dry cough and sore throat with general aches in limbs and head.

3. Signs and Symptoms

(a) Proportion of upper respiratory type - 90%

(b) Proportion of Gastric Intestinal type - 10% (50% in children)

(c) Cyanosis - Uncommon - Several cases of heart failure and cyanosis in chronic bronchitis and emphysematous persons - cyanosis in pneumonia, again only in persons with previous cardiac disease, emphysema or bronchitis.

4. Complications

(a) Tracheal - About 15% to 20% (more frequent in last 2 - 3 weeks than in earlier cases)

(b) Bronchial - Common - 30% to 80% - localised rhonchi and coarse creps. Common from 2 - 6 days.

(c) Pneumonia - Frequent in over 60 group - usually 2nd to 6th day.

(d) Acute Depression - Uncommon (perhaps 1 in 500), mild depression in convalescence.

(e) Suppurative lesions - Otitis media sometimes occurred in those already prone to this.

5. Average duration of uncomplicated cases

(a) Pyrexia 2 - 3 days

(b) Convalescence - Average 14 days

6. Any Marked difference in cases

Over 55 - Much more severe and liable to pneumonia and bronchitis, but chiefly affected those with past history of same, of those having emphysema or heart disease.

7. Deaths - Nature of

Normally all deaths were over 65 and the primary cause was heart failure, secondary, was pneumonia and broncho-pneumonia - mainly persons with a pre-existing lung and heart disease.

The third week showed :-

1. Incidence

Severe.

2. Nature of Onset

Rapid, aching all over, headaches, temperatures, coughs.

3. Signs and Symptoms

General malaise with cough.

(a) Proportion of upper respiratory type - 98%

(b) Proportion of Gastric Intestinal type - 2%

4. Complications

(a) Bronchial - 60%

(b) Pneumonia - 16%

(c) Acute depression - 1%

5. Average duration of uncomplicated cases

(a) Pyrexia - 10 days

(b) Convalescence - 10 days

6. Any Marked difference in cases

Over 55 - More prone to pneumonia

During that stage a nil return of "deaths" attributable to "Influenza" was received from the Registrars covering this area.

One school only was closed for 3 days due to Influenza, Coughs and Colds, during the week ended 24th February. Reports received from the schools in the area indicated that the epidemic was on the wane amongst the school population, and that the children were returning to school in ever-increasing numbers.

The fourth week showed :-

Reports received from schools, General Practitioners, etc., indicated that the epidemic was very much on the downward trend in the area. Those Reports were substantiated by information received from local offices of the Ministry of National Insurance where the claims for sickness benefit had decreased sharply.

The attendance figures for children at schools in the area were now getting back to normal for the time of the year, and no schools had been closed since the last Report.

I did receive Reports from Medical Officers of Service Camps in the area, but those did not differ greatly from those already given, except of course, the Reports were based on persons of a lower age group.

The final stage showed that the epidemic had waned and I give below tables summarising the above.

<u>Week Ending</u>	<u>New Claims for Sickness Benefit</u>			<u>Percentage increase over normal expectancy.</u>		
	<u>Holt</u>	<u>Wells</u>	<u>Heacham</u>	<u>Holt</u>	<u>Wells</u>	<u>Heacham</u>
2. 1. 51.	59	22	38	60%	120%	40%
9. 1. 51.	90	29	55	160%	190%	100%
16. 1. 51.	106	26	51	200%	160%	90%
23. 1. 51.	203	48	87	480%	380%	220%
30. 1. 51.	192	53	123	440%	430%	450%
6. 2. 51.	175	48	109	390%	380%	380%
13. 2. 51.	101	31	79	180%	200%	190%
20. 2. 51.	79	31	46	120%	200%	70%
27. 2. 51.	51	18	46	43%	80%	25%
6. 3. 51.	41	15	23	22%	50%	15%

#### Absenteeism of Children Attending Schools

<u>Week Ending</u>	<u>Walsingham R.D.</u>	<u>Docking R.D.</u>	<u>Hunstanton U.D.</u>	<u>Wells U.D.</u>
26. 1. 51.	37.5%	43%	38%	23.8%
31. 1. 51.	30%	38.5%	44%	23.3%
8. 2. 51.	28%	24%	16%	19%
16. 2. 51.	17%	21%	14%	15%

### 3. CANCER

It is interesting to note that deaths from Cancer and allied types of diseases have fallen from 44 in 1950 to 28 in 1951. I hope this trend continues.

### 4. SEWERAGE

This is the one aspect of Public Health that has remained unchanged in execution although the Clerk is battling on at Ministry levels. The need for the work on the other hand has changed for the worse, particularly in connection with Hempton. A ray of hope is in sight with this problem and in fact, as this Report is being printed, contracts for this are starting.

### 5. WATER

Progress on the Regional Water Supply continues and it is hoped that practical results will be well advanced by the end of 1952.

The introduction of a piped supply will reduce the constant potential danger of the numerous shallow wells.

## 6. HOUSING

### (a) General

The Public Health Department still struggles against the ever increasing problem. The Senior Sanitary Inspector has reported about this problem in detail and I can but agree with his comments.

### (b) Re-Housing

The same system of reporting has continued. Out of 88 cases investigated and recommended to the Council, 27 were rehoused out of a total of 39 families rehoused, also 5 tenants were transferred from hutted Camps.

## 7. MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

2 Orders were served restricting milk supplied unless pasteurised.

## 8. FACTORIES ACT

During the year 22 inspections were made and defects were found in 7 and in these, 4 cases were remedied.

## 9. SHELLFISH

The position is unchanged. Developments by the Eastern Sea Fisheries are still awaited.

## 10. ACCIDENTS IN THE HOME

The Voluntary Home Safety Committee continues to arrange Lectures in the District. The Poisonous Berry Strip has been used in a large number of schools.

A new innovation was a stand at the Royal Norfolk Agricultural Association Annual Show at Keswick. This exhibit was viewed by over 300 people.

## 11. FOOD HYGIENE

The Senior Sanitary Inspector's survey of Food Premises continues. In many cases basic faults have been remedied.

## 12. ICE CREAM

This commodity is carefully watched and recent sampling shows an all round improvement.

## 13. DISEASES OF ANIMALS

During the year one Anthrax Carcass was dealt with. No human contacts contracted the illness.

## 14. PUERPERAL PYREXIA REGULATIONS 1951

New Regulations came into force on the 1st August 1951. These are aimed at bringing the definition of the disease into line with modern chemotherapy. The Minister suggests the County Councils should carry out the investigations of notifications, as the Midwifery Service is under this control.

## 15. LEPROSY REGULATIONS 1951

These came into force and require General Practitioners to notify the Ministry direct the first time the Medical Officer

of Health has been by-passed on notifications and a dangerous precedent.

#### 16. WELL WATER CYANOSIS

Since the latter part of the year Water Supplies used in preparation of bottle feeds for infants were taken from 21 shallow wells and a certain number were found on analysis to be unsatisfactory. In the cases of Unsatisfactory results further investigations were made and alternative safe water supplies were found for use.

#### 17. CONCLUSION

The year has shown good progress especially in the Water Engineer's Department, and also in re-housing and rodent control. Sewerage and Food Handling now remain the Council's two largest problems.

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### PART 11

#### (General Medical Information)

The information in this section of the Report is the same as last year with the exception of the following :-

#### SCHOOL NURSES/HEALTH VISITORS

Miss L.B. Steel now resides at The Rectory Cottage, Ashwicken for the following Schools :-

Binham, Blakeney, Field Dalling, Holkham, Langham, Stiffkey and Wighton.

Mrs Wainwright, The Heath, Norwich Road, Fakenham, for the remaining Schools in the Walsingham area.

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### PART 111

#### (Medical Statistics)

TABLE 1 - GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in Acres) .. .. .	88,118
Estimated Resident Population . . . . .	23,270
Rateable Value .. .. .	£72,633
Sum Represented by a Penny Rate .. .. .	£300

TABLE 2 - LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate .. .. .	169	153	322
Illegitimate .. .. .	7	9	16
TOTAL	176	162	338

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of Estimated Resident Population .. .. . 14.53

TABLE 3 - STILL BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate .. .. .	1	2	3
Illegitimate .. .. .	-	-	-
TOTAL	1	2	3

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of Estimated  
Resident Population .. .. . 0.13

TABLE 4 - DEATHS (ALL AGES)

Males	Females	Total
116	125	241

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of Estimated  
Resident Population .. .. . 10.36

TABLE 5 - INFANT MORTALITY (DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate .. .. .	4	4	8
Illegitimate .. .. .	-	2	2
TOTAL	4	6	10

Infant Mortality per 1,000 of Live Births .. .. . 29.59

TABLE 6 - CAUSE OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR

	Males	Females	Total
23. Pneumonia .. .. .	1	1	2
27. Gastritis, enteritis and Diarrhoea .. .. .	1	1	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth abortion ..	1	4	5
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents .. .. .	1	-	1
TOTAL	4	6	10

TABLE 7 - CAUSE OF TOTAL DEATHS

	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis Respiratory .. .. .	2	1	3
3. Syphilitic Disease .. .. .	1	1	2
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases .. .. .	-	1	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach .. .. .	4	3	7
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .. .. .	3	-	3
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast .. .. .	-	3	3
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus .. .. .	-	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .. .. .	10	8	18
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia .. .. .	-	1	1
16. Diabetes .. .. .	-	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system .. .. .	11	11	22
18. Coronary disease, angina .. .. .	12	10	22
19. Hypertension with heart disease .. .. .	-	2	2
20. Other heart disease .. .. .	23	33	56
21. Other circulatory disease .. .. .	4	7	11
22. Influenza .. .. .	4	11	15
23. Pneumonia .. .. .	2	2	4
24. Bronchitis .. .. .	3	2	5
25. Other diseases of respiratory system .. .. .	-	1	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .. .. .	1	-	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .. .. .	2	3	5
28. Nephritis and nephrosis .. .. .	1	2	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate .. .. .	3	-	3
31. Congenital malformations .. .. .	1	-	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases .. .. .	15	19	34
33. Motor Vehicle Accidents .. .. .	5	-	5
34. All other Accidents .. .. .	9	2	11
TOTAL	116	125	241

TABLE 8 - DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGES

	Males	Females	Total
Under 1 year .. .. .	4	6	10
1 and under 5 .. .. .	3	-	3
5 and under 10 .. .. .	-	1	1
10 and under 20 .. .. .	3	1	4
20 and under 30 .. .. .	3	2	5
30 and under 40 .. .. .	1	1	2
40 and under 50 .. .. .	4	4	8
50 and under 60 .. .. .	10	11	21
60 and under 70 .. .. .	17	20	37
70 and under 80 .. .. .	37	35	72
80 and under 90 .. .. .	27	38	65
90 and under 100 .. .. .	7	6	13
TOTAL	116	125	241

TABLE 9 - CANCER

The following table shows the incidence of cancer deaths during the past five years :-

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Males .. .. .	20	16	6	16	17
Females . . . . .	12	18	9	26	15
TOTAL	32	34	15	42	32

TABLE 10 - SUMMARY OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS RATES

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Live Births .. .. .	22.7	19.4	17.55	19.32	14.53
Still Births .. .. .	0.58	0.4	0.11	0.62	0.13
Crude Deaths .. .. .	14.16	12.5	12.78	12.71	10.36
Infant Mortality .. .. .	17.95	11.8	31.6	8.7	29.59

TABLE 11 - SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Population . . . . .	17,160	17,550	17,990	17,862	23,270
Live Births . . . . .	390	240	316	345	338
Still Births .. .. .	10	7	2	11	3
Infant Mortality .. .. .	7	4	10	3	10
Crude Deaths .. .. .	246	219	220	227	241

TABLE 12 - BIRTHS RATES, CIVILIAN DEATH RATES, ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, MATERNAL MORTALITY AND CASE RATES FOR CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE YEAR 1951. PROVISIONAL FIGURES BASED ON QUARTERLY RETURNS

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	Walsingham R.D.C.
RATES PER 1,000 Home Population				
<u>BIRTHS</u>				
Live Births	15.5	17.3	16.7	14.53
Still Births	0.36	0.45	0.38	0.13
<u>DEATHS</u>				
All Causes .. .. .	12.5	13.4	12.5	10.36
Typhoid and paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough .. .. .	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Diphtheria .. .. .	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis .. .. .	0.31	0.37	0.31	0.04
Influenza .. .. .	0.38	0.36	0.38	0.34
Smallpox .. .. .	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00
Pneumonia .. .. .	0.61	0.65	0.63	0.30

	England and Wales	126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	Walsing- ham R.D.C.
RATES PER 1,000 Home Population				
<u>NOTIFICATIONS (CORRECTED)</u>				
Typhoid Fever .. .. .	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever .. ..	0.02	0.03	0.02	0.00
Meningococcal infection	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.04
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	1.11	1.20	1.20	0.34
Whooping Cough .. .. .	3.87	3.62	4.00	4.80
Diphtheria .. .. .	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.00
Erysipelas .. .. .	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.05
Smallpox .. .. .	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Measles .. .. .	14.07	13.93	14.82	5.88
Pneumonia .. .. .	0.99	1.04	0.96	0.34
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)				
Paralytic .. .. .	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.25
Non-Paralytic .. ..	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.00
Food Poisoning .. .. .	0.13	0.15	0.08	0.00
<u>DEATHS</u>				
RATES PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS				
All causes under 1 year of age .. .. .	29.6(a)	33.9	27.6	29.59
Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age	1.4	1.6	1.0	0.08
<u>NOTIFICATIONS (CORRECTED)</u>				
RATES PER 1,000 TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS				
Puerperal Fever and Pyrexia .. .. .	10.66	13.77	8.08	0.00

TABLE 13 - INFECTIOUS DISEASES (According to Age Group)

	Under One	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	20	35	45	65	Total
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	1	-	-	-	6
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	2	-	5
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Dysentery	2	-	-	-	-	7	2	-	-	3	3	-	17
Gastro- Enteritis	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total	3	-	-	-	-	13	3	-	2	3	7	-	31

TABLE 14 - MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Measles .. .. .	144	118	7	451	137
Whooping Cough .. .. .	32	82	11	209	111
Total	176	200	18	660	248

TABLE 15 - TUBERCULOSIS (Details of new cases during 1951)

Age Period.	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	1	1	-
5	1	2	-	2
15	-	2	-	-
25	2	1	2	-
35	-	1	-	-
45	2	1	1	-
55	-	-	-	-
65	-	-	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-
Age Unknown	1	-	-	-
Total	6	8	4	2
Totals	14		6	
Grand Total	20			

TABLE 16 - TUBERCULOSIS (Number of cases on T.P. Register ended 1951)

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary .. .. .	34	24	58
Non-Pulmonary .. .. .	4	6	10
Total	38	30	68

TABLE 17 - TUBERCULOSIS (Details of New Cases for last 5 years)

	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
Pulmonary .. M.	8	6	6	9	6
F.	7	8	3	11	8
Non-Pulmonary M.	3	1	0	3	4
F.	3	1	1	1	2
Total	21	16	10	24	20

TABLE 18 - DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION SCHEME

The following table shows the Immunisation state of the children in Area No. 8., comprising Walsingham and Docking R.D.C's and Hunstanton and Wells U.D.C's for the year ended 31st December 1951 :-

	Under School Age	School Age.	Total
Numbers Immunised	1,841	4,340	6,181
Estimated Population	3,780	6,065	9,845
Percentage Immunised	49%	72%	62%

## PART IV

### REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR AND SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR 1951

Mr Chairman, My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The following is my Report for the year 1951.

This is the sixth opportunity I have had of submitting a yearly Report for your consideration. One hears doubts as to the usefulness of these Annual Reports, but the Sanitary Inspector is bound by statute to render an annual account of his year's work. The Report gives him the opportunity of emphasising points to his Authority, and for the Authority, by comparison with other Reports, to see whether they are getting good results from their Sanitary Officers.

#### 1. RECORD OF INSPECTIONS

##### PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Initial Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	458
Revisits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	580
Schools Inspected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-2
Means of escape from fire	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11

##### DISTRICT SCAVENGING

Visits	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	369
Refuse Tips	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	111

<u>ROOMS DISINFESTED</u>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	33
--------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

##### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Cases Investigated	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	98
Rooms Disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	48
Schools Disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2

##### SEWERAGE

Inspections of Sewerage Systems and Plants (including sewer ditches)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	218
Visits to Fakenham Pumping Station	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	40
Visits to Fakenham Sewage Farm	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	21
Visits to Housing Sites in connection with proposed sewerage and water supplies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5

<u>BUILDING LICENSING VISITS</u>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	138
----------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

<u>BUILDING BYELAW INSPECTIONS</u>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	807
------------------------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

##### FOOD PREMISES

Premises Inspected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-192
Visits re manufacture and sale of Ice Cream	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
Visits to milk producers premises and dairies	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7

##### HOUSING ACTS

Housing Inspections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	191
Revisits in connection with above	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	68
Visits in connection with applications for grants under Housing Act 1949	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Carried Forward								3,427

FACTORIES ACT

Brought Forward								3,427
Inspection of factories with power .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Inspection of factories without power .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7

PETROLEUM ACTS

Installations inspected and tested .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
--	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

SMALL DWELLINGS ACQUISITION ACT

Valuations .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
--------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	---

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT

Inspections .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	336
---------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	-----

PUBLIC CONVENIENCE

Inspections .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24
---------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

KNACKER'S YARDS

Inspections .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
---------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	---

RIVERS POLLUTION

Inspections .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
---------------------	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	---

STREET NUMBERING

Visits .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5
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OTHER VISITS

Not classified under the headings above but made in connection therewith .. .. .								183
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Total Inspections made 4,031

NOTICES SERVED - INFORMAL NOTICES

Public Health Acts .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	122
Housing Acts .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	35
Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Food and Drugs Act .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	183
Factories Act .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Building Byelaws .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	81
Street Numbering .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	22

Total Notices served 452

FORMAL NOTICES SERVEDPUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

Permission to serve .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Served .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7

HOUSING ACTS

Permission to serve .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	28
Served .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17

Carried Forward 24

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

Permission to serve .. .. .	1
Served .. .. .	1

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

Permission to serve .. .. .	9
Served .. .. .	1

Total Formal Notices served 26

2. PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

I made certain recommendations as to suitable sites for a public convenience at Blakeney.

During the year I made two comprehensive Reports upon caravan sites in the Rural District and in my second Report, suggested the use of concrete standings at the former P.O.W. Camp at Pudding Norton for the formation of a permanent caravan site.

3. HOUSING ACTS

Despite the steady progress the Council is making in the erection of new houses, the deep core of bad housing has not yet been touched. Even those meagre results by way of house repairs which are obtained, come only after repeated notices and visits by your sanitary officers. The Rent Restriction Acts maintaining rents at a level much out of proportion to every other item of domestic expenditure provides the unwilling landlord with a ready excuse, but there are many cases, especially in the case of a man owning one or two cottages, where the potential repair bill would far outstrip the present (occupied) value of the cottage. Yearly I have the depressing knowledge that the figure of over 600 condemnable cottages existing in or about 1949 in the Rural District, as shown in my Report upon the Hobhouse Survey, has increased and the number of new houses being erected does not keep level with those falling beyond economic repair.

Continuing the Council's policy that following the re-housing of a tenant from an unfit house, the landlord should be given the opportunity to make proposals to the Council, either to render the house fit or to allow it to be condemned, I represented 7 houses as being unfit during the year. Condemnation Orders were made in 6 cases.

4. WORK DONE IN DEFAULTCase No. 1

This involved the repair of a ceiling, windows and roof to the value of £16. 15s. Od. work being carried out by Contractor.

Case No. 2

After repeated Notices an Owner of four cottages had failed to take up and relay a defective drain serving the four cottages, and this work was carried out for the Council by Contractors for the sum of £37. 15s. Od.

## 5. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

### Case No. 1

I appeared before the Walsingham Justices to obtain an Order for the cleansing of premises against a man at Stiffkey. The man was removed to an Institution and the house was cleansed by Council employees.

### Case No. 2

I appeared before the Holt Justices against a builder who had carried out drainage works without previous notice to this Department. He was fined.

## 6. SEWERAGE AND WATER

The year has seen no progress in the important field of sewerage. The installation of mains water progressed steadily however, but while it is true that a safe main supply removes the danger of polluted water sources, the practical question of how to get rid of the thousands of gallons of water used presents quite as urgent a problem.

I gave evidence to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government's Engineering Inspector on the 24th July 1951, at the inquiry regarding the proposed Fakenham and Hempton Sewerage Scheme, and gave details of the existing inadequate means of Fakenham sewage disposal, and the absence of sewerage in Hempton and The Heath. I particularly drew the Inspector's attention to the large amount of surface water finding its way to the sewerage system, emphasising the amount of road surface water which found direct access to the sewers, but I pointed out that even with the removal of this there would be embarrassment of the system by yard and roof water.

I reported once again to the Public Health Committee upon the inconvenience to the residents in the Hayes Lane/Nelson Road area of Fakenham, from the surcharging of the Council's sewer.

There are comparatively modern sewerage systems at Fakenham, Melton Constable and Little Snoring. Only inadequate and faulty systems of sewerage exist, however, in the Villages of Blakeney, Hempton, West Raynham, Great Ryburgh and Great and Little Walsingham. Crude sewage is discharged into the harbour at Blakeney and to the River Stiffkey at Walsingham. Sewers and sewer ditches exist in Brinton, Field Dalling, Helhoughton, Hindolvestone, Sculthorpe, Stiffkey and Tatterford. These are, without exception, liable to create nuisance, are unhealthy, and one can only hope that their replacement is in the not too distant future.

I can do no better than repeat a paragraph as it appears in my Report for 1950, for I am sure the Council share my views that sewerage schemes for Blakeney, Briston, Hempton, Great Ryburgh and Stiffkey are important projects with a claim to precedence in the Council's programme of improvement in the District.

## 7. DISTRICT SCAVENGING

A development foreshadowed in last year's Report under this heading went a step further in the year when the Council ordered a Dennis "Paxit" refuse vehicle of 18 cubic yards capacity. Four vehicles of about this capacity were demonstrated for a period of 2 to 4 days in the District, and I visited the works of one company at Warwick.

It is felt that a central tip (permission to negotiate for such a tip was also granted in the year) and a larger vehicle of almost double the present capacity with fewer journeys for discharging, and fitted with a diesel oil engine must mean an economy.

During the year the cesspool emptiers were fully employed, and 1,379 loads of 750 gallons each were removed from Council House cesspools, and 243 loads from cesspools at private dwellings.

The labour position has eased somewhat since the middle of the year. At that time with three Aerodrome contracts in the area, and the crop drying plant at North Creake as an added attraction, recruitment to the Scavenging Scheme from the already restricted field owing to the unpleasant nature of the duties involved, became acute. Despite this it was necessary to dismiss a number of men for failure to do their work, and this, plus the loss of men going to the work mentioned above, gave rise to a very difficult period of working the Scheme.

Complaints of non-collection reached high figures for the first time since 1946, but I am glad to Report that within a month of this crisis conditions were back to normal, and the very small number of complaints each week seldom exceeds six out of 13,000 and more visits made weekly by the Scavengers.

#### 8. BUILDING LICENSING

A great deal of work has been done under this heading and building licences for the value of £35,452 have been issued. £12,883 of this sum was issued in licences to the Melton Constable Estate.

Licences for the erection of 14 new dwelling houses were issued during the year, and 13 licences were issued for the conversion of buildings into dwelling houses, giving a total of 27 new dwellings in the District.

At the beginning of the year it was noticed that the demands of the Duke of Westminster's Estate in its rehabilitation programme for the Melton Constable Estate were proving too great for the Council to meet from its building licensing financial ceiling. Intimation to this effect was made both by the Duke of Westminster's Estate and the Council to the Ministry of Works, and a Meeting of the Ministry Officials, representatives of the Duke of Westminster's Staff, and Members of the Council was held at Fakenham on 12th June 1951. No extension of the financial ceiling could be arranged, and the Licensing Sub-Committee were forced to formulate a policy which permitted only essential repairs to the fabric of domestic buildings and many of the improvements in the shape of bathrooms, drainage and piped water had to be deferred, although the Duke of Westminster's Estate was more than willing to proceed with the work. By the end of the year licence applications totalling almost £20,000 were outstanding for work proposed on the Melton Constable Estate.

In April the Licensing Sub-Committee visited the Melton Constable Estate and noted with satisfaction the great improvements to cottages being carried out as the result of licences issued by the Council.

It should be noted that the Council's licensing powers cover only the issue of licences for work to dwelling houses, work on agricultural buildings (including farmhouses) and other non-domestic properties is the concern of the Ministry of Works.

9. DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

Success may be reported in this field, and since my last Report the following progress has been made :-

The three men attended a course of training men by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries at King's Lynn, and later the Infestation Division of the Ministry (from whom I am able to report the utmost co-operation through the year) treated Toftrees Tip to give the men further instruction.

In the eleven months of 1951, 4,380 premises were inspected by the gang, and of those 1,438 dwellings were treated. Poisoning of tips, buildings and other land belonging to the Council totalled 39 treatments. 170 non-domestic properties were treated and charges were made at 129 premises, and a sum of £96. 12s. 2d. was charged in fees for poisoning.

Records show that about 2,350 bodies were picked up after poisoning. This figure, is not indicative of the actual kills made. At Duffy's knacker's yard, Fakenham, for instance, in December one hole revealed 21 dead bodies after poisoning with "Antu".

By the end of the year the whole district with the exception of Barsham, Briningham, Brinton, Dunton, Gunthorpe, Hindolvestone, Kettlestone, Swanton Novers, Tattersett and Thurning had been treated. In addition to this the following Parishes had been surveyed :-

Bale, Thursford and Wood Norton.

10. SALVAGE

Paper, tyres and rags of a total value of £787. 5s. 7d. were sold during the year.

11. CONCLUSION

At the time of writing this Report Mr W. E. Ramm, my colleague for over four years has received promotion to another district. His loyalty and sound technical training made him a valuable servant of the Council.

These are frustrating times for enthusiasts, but obviously reformers' ideals must give place to hard financial facts. We are disappointed at the comparatively slow progress towards good housing, water, sewerage, sound food and all those other amenities which mean the difference between living and existing. Under the guidance of Dr Johnston, however, your sanitary officers are trying to retain their enthusiasm intact for the time when real progress in those fields mentioned is possible.

I am, Mr Chairman, My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

A. H. EAGLE.

Surveyor and Senior  
Sanitary Inspector

## PART V

### REPORT OF WATER ENGINEER

Mr Chairman, My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Report on the Water-works undertaking for the year ending 31st October 1951.

#### 1. FAKENHAM AND HEMPTON WATER SUPPLY

Water pumped during 1951 amounted to 33,088,000 gallons, an increase of 5,138,000 gallons over 1950.

The number of premises connected to the piped supply is 1,189, an increase of 34 during the past year.

#### 2. REGIONAL WATER SUPPLY

Distribution mains have been completed in the Parishes of East Barsham, Houghton St Giles, Great and Little Snoring, Thorpland, Thursford, Great and Little Walsingham and Wighton, and connections made to Fakenham mains.

Gunthorpe Reservoir is nearing completion, Houghton Pumping Station has been erected and pumping plant is now being installed. Completion of the rising main to the reservoir is held up owing to non-delivery of pipes.

Main laying has also been carried out, and work completed in the Parishes of Blakeney, Field Dalling and Hindolvestone, but so far no connections have yet been made to properties in these Parishes.

#### 3. NORTH CREAKE

This Pumping Station continues to supply British Field Products Limited, reconstructed Nissen Huts and Farm Premises.

#### 4. LITTLE SNORING

This Pumping Station continues to supply this Parish and has also been of considerable help to the Fakenham and Hempton Supply.

#### 5. PRESENT SITUATION

Difficulty has been experienced in maintaining a supply to West Raynham Air Station, but it is anticipated that the Regional Pumping Station and Reservoir at Gunthorpe will be in operation early 1952, when an adequate supply will be available.

#### 6. WATER ANALYST'S REPORT

Regular bacteriological samples were taken from the Fakenham and Hempton and Little Snoring water supply by the Public Health Department and all these were satisfactory (see attached Certificates)

#### 7. CONCLUSION

In concluding my Report, I may say that the supply has been maintained throughout the year, with very few disruptions, it is anticipated that house connections will be carried out in many Parishes and a water supply made available early in 1952.

I am, Mr Chairman, My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

E. HAYMAN.

District Water Engineer.

APPENDIX "A"

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

ISOLATION HOSPITAL

BOWTHORPE ROAD

NORWICH.

WATER

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORT

Copy sent to: The Medical Officer of Health

Authority or Sender: A. H. Eagle, Esq.,                      Lab. Ref. No. P669  
Fakenham.

Nature of Sample: Water taken from deep well 170' deep.  
Fakenham and Hempton main supply. Water taken from tap -  
Council Offices, Baron's Hall, Fakenham.

Date and hour of collection: 3. 12. 51.      9.30 a.m.

Date and hour of arrival: 4. 12. 51.

R E P O R T

Date of Report      7th December 1951

Plate Count. Yeastrel Agar 2 days 37°C aerobically ..... per ml

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days, 37°C  
0 per 100 ml

Probable number of faecal coli ..... per 100 ml

REMARKS

This sample is Highly Satisfactory

(Sgd) C. V. SIVELL.

APPENDIX "B"

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

ISOLATION HOSPITAL

BOWTHORPE ROAD

NORWICH.

WATER

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION REPORT

Copy sent to: The M. O. H. Norfolk.

Authority or Sender: A. H. Eagle, Esq.,                      Lab. Ref. No. P810  
Fakenham.

Nature of Sample: Water taken from bore - main piped supply  
Little Snoring Public Supply. Sample taken from tap -  
Mr Whitehead's Dairy, Little Snoring.

Date and hour of collection: 4. 12. 51.    11.00 a.m.

Date and hour of arrival: 5. 12. 51.

R E P O R T

Date of Report    7th December 1951

Plate Count.    Yeastrel agar 2 days 37°C aerobically ..... per ml

Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days 37°C  
0 per 100 ml

Probable number of faecal coli ..... per 100 ml

REMARKS

This sample is Highly Satisfactory

(Sgd) C. V. SIVELL

APPENDIX "C"

CLARENCE HOUSE

6, CLARENCE ROAD

NORWICH.

Cert. No. 1067 C.

11th December 1951

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS  
OF WATER

Sample received from: Walsingham R.D.C.

Marked: Little Snoring Public Supply taken from Mr Whitehead's  
Dairy 4. 12. 51.

Appearance when received: Clear

Colour:

Odour:

Reaction: Practically neutral pH 7.4 Taste:

Results of Chemical Analysis in Parts per Million

Ammoniacal nitrogen 0.01

Albuminoid nitrogen trace

Nitrate nitrogen Nil

Nitrite nitrogen Nil

Chlorine as chlorides 26.0

OPINION

This water is of very good organic quality and shows no sign whatever of pollution. It is quite fit for drinking purposes.

(Sgd) Eric C. Wood  
for LINCOLNE SUTTON AND WOOD

NORWICH.

## APPENDIX "E"

CLARENCE HOUSE

6, CLARENCE ROAD

NORWICH.

Cert. No. 330 D.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS  
OF WATER

Sample received from: Walsingham R.D.C.

Marked: Walsingham Regional Water, Gunthorpe Reservoir 25. 6. 52.

Appearance when received: Trace of vegetable matter

Colour:    Odour:

Reaction: slightly alkaline    pH 7.6    Taste:

Results of Chemical Analysis in Parts per Million

Ammoniacal nitrogen	Trace	Hardness as $\text{CaCO}_3$ :
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.02	Total:
Nitrate nitrogen	7.4	Carbonate (temporary):
Nitrite nitrogen	Nil	Non-carbonate (permanent):
Chlorine as chlorides	29.0	Alkalinity as $\text{CaCO}_3$ :
Oxygen absorbed (4 hr $27^\circ\text{C}$ )		Free carbon dioxide:
		Total Solids (at $180^\circ\text{C}$ ):
		Metals in solution:

OPINION

This water is of excellent organic quality and free from any sign of pollution. It is quite suitable for drinking and all the purposes of a public supply.

(Sgd) W. Lincolne Sutton.

APPENDIX "F"  
CLARENCE HOUSE  
6, CLARENCE ROAD  
NORWICH.

Cert. No. 88 D

5th May 1952

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS  
OF WATER

Sample received from: Walsingham R.D.C.

Marked: Public Supply (Fakenham - Hempton Main) Baron's Hall,  
Fakenham 21. 4. 52.

Appearance when received: Clear

Colour: Odour:

Reaction: Practically neutral pH 7.4

Results of Chemical Analysis in Parts per Million

Ammoniacal nitrogen	Trace
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.02
Nitrate nitrogen	2.2
Nitrite nitrogen	Nil
Chlorine as chlorides	34.0

OPINION

This water is of very good organic quality and free from any sign of pollution. It is quite fit for drinking purposes.

(Sgd) Eric C. Wood  
for LINCOLNE SUTTON AND WOOD

RECEIVED

OFFICE OF THE

SECRETARY OF THE

NAVY

WASHINGTON, D.C.

DECEMBER 10, 1918

TO THE SECRETARY OF THE

NAVY

FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE  
NAVY  
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

RE: [Illegible]

[Illegible text block]

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