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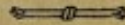
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WALSINGHAM
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the year 1960

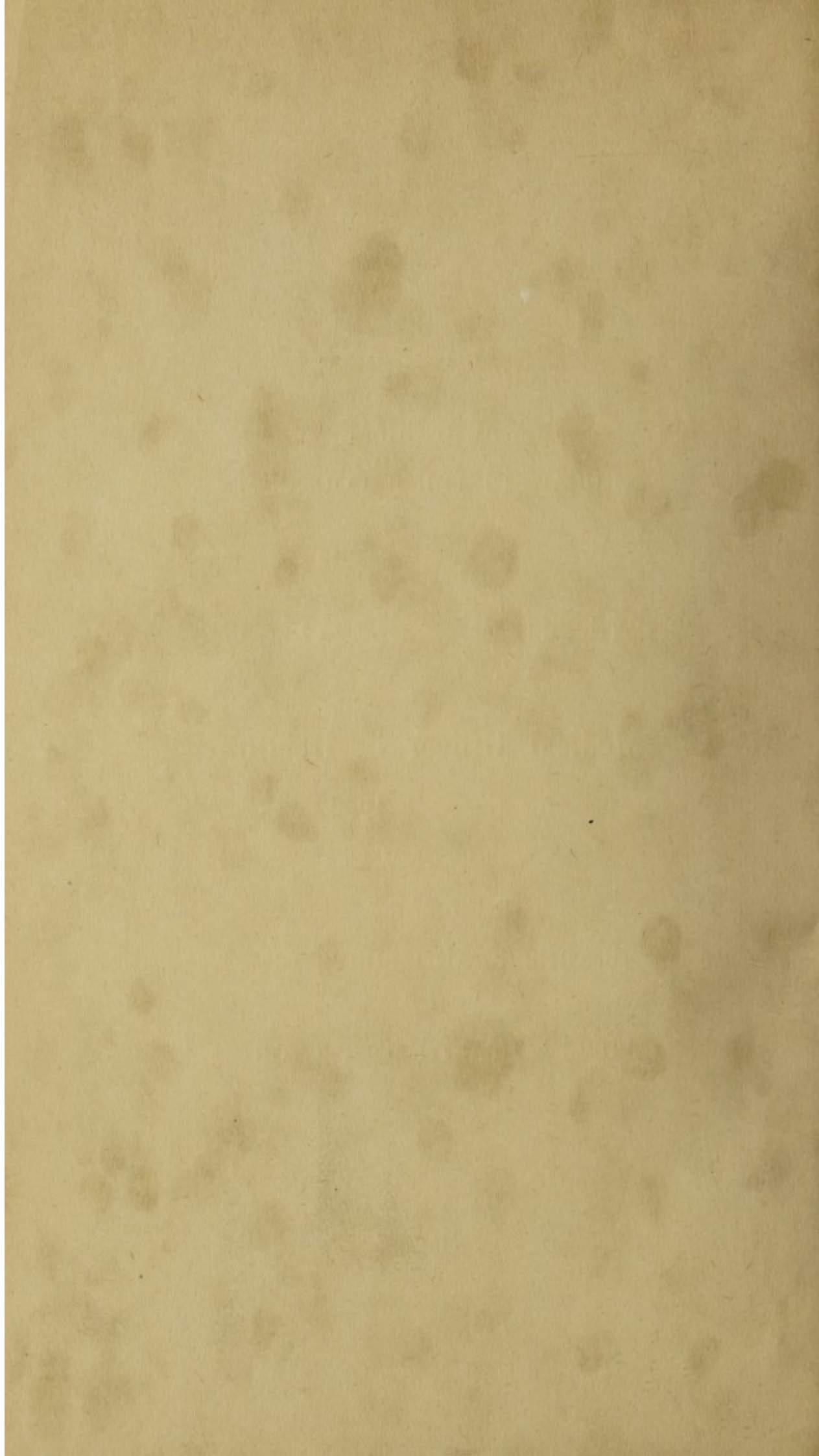
to which is appended the

Report of the

ENGINEER AND SURVEYOR

and

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR



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WALSINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Department

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Clerk of Works for Water and Sewerage Contracts.

Mr. D.G. SHIRLEY.

Clerical Assistant.

Mrs. E.G. SHIRLEY.

WALSINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Public Health Committee

1960.

Chairman	-	Mrs. J.M. Gosselin
Vice-Chairmen	-	the late Mr. G. le Strange Mrs. N.S. Clogstoun
Members	-	Mr. C.D. Andrews M.B.E. Mr. H.A. Bond Mr. R.C. Edmondson Mr. D. Hoy Mrs. L.V. Neale, J.P. Mr. P. Savory Miss V.M. Sprott Mr. E.A.E. Turner Mrs. E.G. Whitehead Capt. M.E.B. Sparke J.P. (ex officio) Colonel P.H. Labourhere O.B.E., J.P. (ex officio)

- PREFACE -

The Chairman & Members,
Walsingham Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

It is with regret that I present to you this, my last Annual Report on the public health of the District.

As in former years, the Report incorporates that of the Engineer & Surveyor (Mr. Eagle) and of the Housing Manager (Mr. Riches) to both of whom I am greatly indebted for their contributions and assistance. It also includes a report under the Factories Act which is submitted as Appendix E (page 20).

In the section on Vital Statistics the following points are of special interest:-

a) the high birth rate compared with that of England & Wales, now almost a constant feature due to the presence of a large number of American service families in the District;

b) the steady rise in the illegitimate birth rate;

c) the very much higher proportion of infant deaths among legitimate than among illegitimate infants, a fact which bears excellent witness to the care provided by the State services for the care of the unmarried mother and her child;

and d) the low death rate compared with that of England & Wales.

The section on Communicable Diseases shows a rise in incidence due mainly to measles and dysentery. It is gratifying to know that scientists are actively engaged on the preparation of an attenuated virus vaccine against measles which will, it is hoped, be available for the protection of young children in the not too distant future. Against dysentery, there is no hope of a specific vaccine - just education in personal hygiene and the provision of facilities, both at home and in schools, which make it possible to teach and practice the principles of personal hygiene.

The main achievement in communicable disease however, has been the very considerable increase in the number of immunisations for its prevention, particularly B.C.G., (vaccination against tuberculosis) and diphtheria "boosters".

In the sphere of Environmental Hygiene it has been a year of the greatest activity as revealed by Mr. Eagle in his report, especially in the expansion of essential public services which have a direct bearing on the public health namely safe water supplies and sound sewage disposal. The Council can look back, as Mr. Eagle has done, to an excellent record of achievement during the past 15 years, indeed the past five years to my personal knowledge. But I hope that the Council will not rest until every sub-standard house has been appropriately dealt with; every hutment used for human habitation demolished; and every applicant for a house provided with reasonable hope for a good house for himself and his family within measurable time.

I leave the service of the Council on my retirement with the greatest regret, not only because of the unfailing support and encouragement you have always given me but also because of the happy relationship and atmosphere which has prevailed and which has made it a pleasure to work with you and with the Clerk & Staff of the Council, particularly in the Public Health Department who have always given me the most loyal assistance.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant

W.H. CRICHTON

C.I.E., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

PART I- General -(1) Staff of the Public Health Department -

There have been no major changes in the Staff of the Public Health Department.

(2) Area & Population & Meteorological Factors -

(a) Area - No change - 39 Parishes; 88,818 acres.

(b) Population - The estimated mid-year population of the District for 1960 was 23,640. This is the lowest figure for the last ten years. The difference between deaths and live births shows a natural increase of 194. Instead of this there appears to have been a decrease of 250 on the preceding year's estimated population (23,890).

(3) The Rateable Value of the District is - £210,507

(4) The product of the ld. rate was - £825

(5) Meteorological Factors - The data, acquired by courtesy of the R.A.F. from West Raynham, are shown in Appendix A. It will be noted that the rainfall in inches compared very favourably with that of the preceding year until the end of July. Then, perversely, when thousands of people set out on their summer holidays, it poured during August & September and also in October and November. This depressed everybody and pleased nobody, not even the farmers who had complained so bitterly about the drought in 1959. This inclement weather and general depression may well have assisted in the spread and persistence of colds, coughs and even measles. The total rainfall in 1960 was 30.24 inches as against 21.40 in 1959.

- Vital Statistics -

(1) Births - The Registrar General's figures for live births and still births in the District in 1960 are as follows:-

Live Births	Males	Females	Totals
Legitimate	178 (182)	191 (173)	369 (355)
Illegitimate	19 (4)	6 (11)	25 (15)
Totals	197 (186)	197 (184)	394 (370)
Still Births			
Legitimate	1 (3)	3 (5)	4 (8)
Illegitimate	1 (-)	- (1)	1 (1)
Totals	2 (3)	3 (6)	5 (9)
Grand Totals			
Live & Still Births	199 (189)	200 (190)	399 (379)

* Figures in brackets relate to 1959

(2) The Live Birth Rate - The crude rate is 16.6 per 1,000 population compared with 15.4 in 1959. The corrected birth rate is 21.2 per 1,000 as compared with 197 in 1959 and with 17.1 for England & Wales.

(3) Illegitimate Births - The percentage of illegitimate live births (25) of the total live births registered has risen again this year to 6.3% as compared with 4.2% in 1959, 2.6% in 1958 & 1.9% in 1957.

(4) Still Births - Only 5 as against 9 in the preceding year. The rate per 1,000 total live and still births is only 12.5 as compared with last year's figure of 23.7 and with 19.7 for England & Wales.

(5) Infant Deaths - 11 infants under the age of 1 year died in 1960 compared with 5 in 1959. It is interesting to note that, of these, 10 were legitimate children and only 1 was illegitimate.

(6) Infant Mortality Rates -

(a) Total infant deaths per 1,000 live births = 27.9

This is an appreciably higher figure than that for 1959 which, at 13.5, was perhaps lower than that of the trend during the last five years. Thus:-

<u>1960</u>	<u>1959</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957</u>	<u>1956</u>
27.9	13.5	27.1	29.4	21.4

The figure for England & Wales for 1960 was 21.7 which was the lowest on record in this country.

(b) Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births = 27.1.

This again is considerably higher than the rate obtained in the preceding year, i.e. 10.81 per 1,000.

(c) Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births = 40

It will be noted that although the number of illegitimate infant deaths is very much lower than that of legitimate deaths, the proportion of deaths to live births is much higher.

(d) Neonatal Mortality Rate - (i.e. deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births). Nine of the eleven infants died under 4 weeks of age (6 males; 3 females) including the one illegitimate infant male death. The rate is therefore 22.8 per 1,000 live births compared with 13.5 in 1959 and 19.0 in 1958.

(e) Early Neonatal Mortality Rate = (i.e. deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births). Eight of the eleven infants died under 1 week (5 males; 3 females) including the illegitimate infant male death. The rate is therefore 20.3 per 1,000 live births. The preceding year the rate was 8.1 per 1,000.

(f) Perinatal Mortality Rate = (i.e. combined still births and deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live & still births) = 32.6 compared with 31.7 in 1959.

(g) Causes of death in infants -

Prematurity	-	7 cases
Congenital abnormalities	-	3 cases
Bronchitis	-	1 case

(7) Maternal Mortality - No cases of death due to pregnancy & childbirth occurred during the year.

(8) Deaths -

(a) The total number of deaths from all causes was 200, three less than the figure for 1959. Of these 108 were males and 92 females.

(b) The Death Rate - The crude death rate per 1,000 of the estimated population is 8.4 which is the same as the rate for the preceding year. The corrected death rate is 9.3 which again is the same as that for 1959 and which compares favourably with that for England & Wales which was 11.5 per 1,000 for the same period.

(c) The Causes of Death - These are set out in the statement in Appendix B (p. 17). There is little or no change in the general pattern of the causes of death.

The proportion of deaths from cancer has fallen from 20.6% to 15.5% since last year and the four recorded cases of cancer of the lung were all males varying in age from 50 to 66. It is not known if they were smokers.

Deaths from coronary disease of the heart have not increased relatively since last year and by only one death actually. They still constitute the next highest cause of death after cancer.

Two deaths of leukaemia in young males; a death of Hodgkin's disease in a man of 54 yrs; and another from infective hepatitis in a woman of 55 are unusual features, but the most noteworthy one is the death from pulmonary tuberculosis, the first recorded since 1956.

In this County, justly reputed for its good health and longevity, it is perhaps interesting to study what is the proportion of those who failed to attain their allotted span of "three score years and ten". I find that 62 deaths or 31% of the total recorded cases came within this category, including infants under 1 yr. of age. The main causes of death in this group are cancer; accidents (11 cases all males); coronary heart disease; other heart conditions (5 cases including one congenital defect); cerebro vascular accidents; and hypertension and its complications. The rest, in one's & two's, succumbed to bowel conditions like gastric duodenal ulcers, volvulus & colitis; to bronchial conditions like asthma, bronchiectasis and broncho pneumonia; and finally to kidney conditions i.e. nephritis and its complications.

- Communicable Diseases -

(1) The number of infectious diseases notified during the year was 272, an increase of 63 cases over the preceding year. This increase is accounted for largely by the incidence of measles and by an outbreak of Sonne dysentery. The figures are as follows for the year under review and the three preceding years :-

	1960	1959	1958	1957
Measles	197	160	60	425
Whooping Cough	16	17	2	43
Scarlet Fever	-	5	1	4
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	-	4	2	5
Tuberculosis, Non-Pulmonary	1	4	1	2
Pneumonia	3	4	8	19
Poliomyelitis	-	1	1	2
Food Poisoning	4	12	15	4
Dysentery	51	-	2	-
Erysipelas	-	-	1	-
Infective Jaundice	-	1	-	-
Tetanus	-	1	-	-
Totals	272	209	93	514

(2) Measles - This disease, troublesome because of the disruptions it causes among the school communities and because of its possible complications, occurred in the District throughout the year. It first started in the West Raynham (R.A.F.) and Helhoughton areas continuing sporadically until June when there was a flare-up in the same area which extended during July and August to the southeastern (Melton Constable) corner of the District, finally attacking Holkham, in the extreme north-west and persisting sporadically until the end of the year. This is the second year in succession that a measles outbreak has reached its peak during July and August. Although the vast majority of cases occurred amongst children of preschool and school ages, four adults ranging in age from 25 to 43 years were also affected. Thus :-

	Under 1	1 -	2 -	3 -	4 -	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 24	25 +	Total
Males	-	8	11	8	14	48	14	2	3	108
Females	1	7	8	3	11	46	12	-	1	89

(3) Dysentery - 51 cases of Sonne dysentery were notified during the first five months of the year, the peak of the outbreak being in February. It is interesting to note that the first case of dysentery which was notified in the Area occurred in 1952. Since then, although the disease prevailed in several parts of the County, there has been only one notable outbreak in 1956. The outbreak during the year under review began in January when two "carriers" of the disease who lived in the District but worked in Norwich were notified by the Norwich Corporation Health Authority. Soon after, sporadic cases began to occur, the places mainly affected being the children of the R.A.F. families at West Raynham (27 cases) and the families living in the Green Lane Estate hutments at Pudding Norton (12). With the exception of eight adults and twelve infants, all those affected were children of school age. This fact points to the greater opportunities for the spread of the disease in schools and, as most of the children were of primary school age, to the need of improvement in the sanitary facilities of many of these schools. There is also a need of better understanding of the facility with which this disease can be spread. Special warnings on this subject were issued to the families living in the Green Lane Estate hutments.

There is reason to believe that many more cases occurred than those which were notified. Fortunately the disease was generally mild in character but it may well be serious in infants and old people. The age and sex distribution of the cases which occurred was as follows :-

	Under 1	1 -	2 -	3 -	4 -	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 24	25 +	Totals
Males	1	2	-	1	3	9	3	1	6	26
Females	-	1	3	1	-	12	2	2	4	25

(4) Whooping Cough - Only 16 cases were notified. Most of these had not been immunised. The age and sex distribution was as follows :-

	Under 1	1 -	2 -	3 -	4 -	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 24	25 +	Totals
Males	1	-	-	-	1	5	-	1	-	8
Females	-	-	-	1	1	4	1	-	1	8

The cases in the age groups above 5 years had not been immunised as whooping cough vaccination had not become widespread five years ago. It now forms part of the "Triple" vaccine which is being given as a routine measure in infancy during the 3rd, 4th and 5th months, in increasing numbers. Thus :-

Vaccine used	Under 1 year		1 - 4		5 - 14		Totals	
	Area	Dist.	Area	Dist.	Area	Dist.	Area	Dist.
"Triple"	395	184	233	115	55	32	683	331
Dip/Tetanus/Pert.	(110)	(47)	(372)	(139)	(11)	(3)	(493)	(189)
"Combined"	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Dip/Pertussis	(-)	(-)	(9)	(3)	(-)	(-)	(9)	(8)
Totals	396	185	233	115	55	32	684	332
	(110)	(47)	(381)	(147)	(11)	(3)	(502)	(197)

(Figures in brackets relate to preceding year)

It is satisfactory to note that the greatest increase in the number of children immunised has been carried out during the first year of life when the disease is particularly dangerous. The general public are becoming more conscious of the value of these immunisations. Further health education is necessary to ensure that none delay this important measure of protection beyond the 3rd month of life.

(5) Diphtheria - During the year this dread disease which, in pre-immunisation days, caused such tragic havoc in the lives of so many children, assumed a more serious aspect in that it reappeared, again with fatal consequences, in London and in Derby. The cause of this recrudescence is undoubtedly the general apathy resulting from the proved efficacy of diphtheria immunisation. It has succeeded so well that the disease and its dangers have been forgotten. Protection is sought by parents for their infants but parents are apt to forget that the protection so conferred in infancy must be boosted at intervals to ensure full protection. In fairness it must also be remembered that during the last few years the poliomyelitis vaccination programme has been given precedence.

The County Health Services provide these measures of protection both at Infant Welfare Clinics and later at Schools and, as will be seen from the tabulated statement below, a great deal of work has been done in the Area during the year to bring diphtheria immunisation up-to-date. Thus:-

Antigens used	Under 1	1 - 4	5 - 14	15 +	Totals
"Triple"	395	233	55	-	683
Dip/Pert/Tet.	(110)	(372)	(11)	(-)	(493)
"Combined"	1	-	-	-	1
Dip/Pertussis	(-)	(9)	(-)	(-)	(9)
Dip/Tetanus	2	6	29	-	37
	(-)	(5)	(-)	(-)	(5)
Dip - Primary	-	-	44	-	44
	(-)	(1)	(2)	(-)	(3)
Dip - Booster	-	13	1815	-	1828
	(-)	(-)	(305)	(-)	(305)
Totals	398	252	1943	-	2593
	(110)	(387)	(318)	(-)	(815)

(Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year)

The number of diphtheria "boosters" given in the District was 324 as against 197 in the preceding year.

(6) Tetanus - There were no cases of tetanus in the Area. Demands for tetanus immunisation by those who were not protected in early infancy increased during the year and the number so protected was doubled. The following statement shows the number protected at different age groups against tetanus, singly or in combination with other antigens :-

Antigen used	Under 1		1 - 4		5 - 14		15 +		Totals	
	Area	Dist.	Area	Dist.	Area	Dist.	Area	Dist.	Area	Dist.
Tetanus Toxoid	2 (3)	1 (2)	65 (85)	44 (50)	411 (109)	225 (48)	513 (197)	304 (138)	991 (394)	574 (238)
"Triple" Dip/Pert/Tet.	395 (110)	184 (47)	233 (372)	115 (139)	55 (11)	32 (3)	- -	- -	683 (493)	331 (189)
Dip/Tet.	2 (-)	2 (-)	6 (5)	4 (4)	29 (-)	3 (-)	- (-)	- (-)	37 (5)	9 (4)
Totals	399 (113)	187 (49)	304 (462)	163 (193)	495 (120)	260 (51)	513 (197)	304 (138)	1711 (892)	914 (431)

(Figures in brackets relate to the preceding year)

It will be noted that the main increases of cases immunised with tetanus toxoid alone have been among children of schoolage and in the over 15 year age group. The triple immunisation programme in infancy will steadily build up an increasing large proportion of the community protected against tetanus but, here again, it is essential that the high level of immunity required should be maintained by regular "booster" doses at 5 year intervals.

(7) Polionyelitis - The Area was completely free of polionyelitis throughout the year.

The polionyelitis vaccination programme has been continued steadily by the County Health Services, General Medical Practitioners and R.A.F. Medical Services and, with ample availability of the vaccine, protection has become a routine matter in the County Infant Welfare Clinics (6th, 7th & 14th months), in Schools and elsewhere.

In the early part of the year (Feb) the Ministry of Health extended polio' vaccination to all persons up to 40 years of age and also to certain specified categories namely :-

- (i) Persons visiting or going to reside in any country outside Europe other than Canada and the U.S.A;
- (ii) Practising Dental Surgeons;
- (iii) Practising Nurses and their families;
- (iv) Public Health Staff and their families.

By the end of the year 3108 more persons had been fully protected with three doses, bringing the total in the Area to 10,929 persons of all categories. The main increase was among children of schoolage whose parents had hesitated to consent to their protection but who had become reassured as to the value and safety of the measure. This initial reluctance necessitated a further approach to parents and a very great deal of work and travel in this scattered rural Area. The following table shows the number and category of all those immunised in the Area by the end of the year :-

	Immunised with 3 doses.		Immunised with 2 doses.	
G.P.s and families	8	(8)	10	(10)
Hospital Staff	-	(3)	4	(1)
Ambulance Staff	10	(10)	-	(-)
Expectant Mothers	559	(310)	93	(216)
Adolescents (16 - 25)	1656	(1224)	161	(940)
Schoolchildren	6901	(4845)	407	(1435)
Preschool children	1604	(1423)	385	(554)
Adults (26 - 40)	167	(-)	309	(-)
Adults (40 +)	19	(-)	13	(-)
Totals	10929 (7821)		1379 (3159)	

Firemen and Public Health Staff were included among the adults.

(8) Smallpox & Chickenpox - 61 cases of chickenpox were reported by School Authorities in different parts of the Area throughout the year. A recommendation that chickenpox should be made notifiable was not accepted. Meanwhile every effort is being made through Infant Welfare Clinics to make the greater risks of the importation of smallpox through fast air travel better known to the people. Despite the efforts of all concerned, the number of primary smallpox vaccinations carried out during the year shows a decrease on the Area total but a slight increase in the District total. Thus :-

		Under 1	1 -	2 - 4	5 - 14	15 +	Totals	
Primary	Area	262 (301)	32 (40)	31 (27)	32 (15)	51 (34)	408	(417)
	Dist.	94 (102)	16 (21)	20 (14)	20 (8)	28 (7)	178	(152)
Re-vacc.	Area	- (-)	- (1)	8 (10)	10 (17)	77 (63)	95	(91)
	Dist.	- (-)	- (-)	3 (2)	6 (6)	16 (21)	25	(29)
(Figures in brackets relate to preceding year)							Totals - Area	503 (506)
							Dist.	203 (181)

Until such time as a case of smallpox descends upon us literally from the skies, it does not seem likely that any considerable number of people will seek smallpox vaccination, and then it may be too late.

(9) Food Poisoning - 4 cases were notified. Of these 3 were infected with Salmonella typhimurium and the other with Salmonella thompson.

The first two cases occurred in Stibbard in March in a mother and her child. The suspected source was ice-cream but this could not be confirmed.

The third case resided in Pudding Norton. It was notified in June. Here the suspected source was pheasant's eggs. As the case was a food handler, the provisions of the Public Health Infectious Diseases Regulations had to be invoked until the patient was free from infection 11 days later.

The fourth case was notified in August. The patient, a man of 50, had attended the Royal Agricultural Show at Cambridge and both he and his companion at luncheon suffered from identical symptoms associated with food poisoning. He was found to be infected with Salmonella thompson but a sample taken from his companion whose illness had not been notified, proved to be negative. The Cambridge Health Authorities were notified and investigations were instituted but as these necessarily took place several days after the close of the Royal Show, no common source was discovered and no further cases were notified.

In September intimation was received from Norwich Health Authorities that a woman patient who was a 'carrier' of Salmonella typhimurium had insisted on being discharged from Hospital. With the active cooperation of her husband's employers, strict personal and domestic hygiene measures were imposed and no further cases arose. The husband was a milkman and had to be given other employment until the infection had been cleared.

Two further 'carriers' were discharged from the West Norwich Hospital in September but, under supervision, they gave rise to no further cases and the infection soon cleared up.

(10) Tuberculosis - It is gratifying to note that this is the first year that no new case of pulmonary tuberculosis has been notified in the District. There was one death however, in a man of 85 at Kelling and a 'new', actually reactivated, case of non-pulmonary (spinal) tuberculosis was notified in a woman of 36.

Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
Males	Females	Males	Females
25 (29)	24 (26)	1 (1)	6 (6)
Total		Total	
49 (55)		7 (7)	

Very little change, but what change there is, is for the better. However tuberculosis is not completely conquered yet and the value of B.C.G. vaccination of children in their 14th year is by no means diminished. Indeed the figures for the Area for the year under review show that there is a greater appreciation and under-

standing of its value. The figures of B.C.G. vaccinations carried out in the whole Area in 1960 are as follows :-

School	No.due	Accepted	Tested	Read	Pos.	Neg.	Tbn.Index %
Burnham Market	32	31	29	29	6	23	20.6
Hunstanton S.M.	180	133	119	113	17	96	15.0
Melton Const.S.M.	88	60	55	53	15	38	28.3
Fakenham S.M.	187	145	137	133	22	111	16.5
Fakenham Grammar	131	98	94	89	11	78	12.3
Dersingham S.M.	78	53	52	49	12	37	24.5
Wells S.M.	116	91	78	77	12	66	15.5
Totals	812	611	564	543	95	449	17.5

It will be noted that the overall acceptance rate was 76.4% which may be considered fairly satisfactory but still capable of considerable improvement. The Tuberculin Index which gives an indication of the degree of infectivity in the Area was 17.5%. According to latest reports on the Medical Research Council trial, B.C.G. gave an 83% protection which was still effective after five years.

(11) Anthrax - Under the authority of the Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Amendment Regulations, the Minister of Health made anthrax compulsorily notifiable as from 1st December 1960. This measure is in addition to the provisions under the Factories Act 1937 which require the notification to the Chief Inspector of Factories of cases contracted in a factory.

- ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE -

1. Housing -

I am again indebted to Mr. Riches, the Housing Manager, for his report which is reproduced below.

It will be noted that there are several welcome features in Mr. Riches' report, particularly with regard to the "urgent cases" on the waiting list, the numbers of which have fallen appreciably both in character and in number.

It is also gratifying that although there are still 82 families living in converted hutments at Pudding Norton, provision is being made for 30 dwellings to be constructed to enable the rehousing of 30 families living in the very inadequate "black" hutments.

It is to be hoped that it will be possible for all families living in hutments to be rehoused and for these old camps to be demolished but, it will be noted, that the demand for housing in the Fakenham Area is still high and is not likely to be satisfied even by the proposed three stage programme, for 127 dwellings.

The success of the Grouped Houses for Old Persons is undoubted in that they have given comfort, security and happiness to aged people in a community which they all evidently enjoy. It will be seen that there are as many applicants on the waiting list as there are tenants and I share with Mr. Riches the hope that the Council will see their way to an expansion of the scheme to meet this growing need.

Mr. Riches' report is as follows:-

The Housing situation in the District at the end of the year was as follows:-

a) Estimated number of unfit houses	33
b) Demolition orders made during the year.....	6
c) Unfit houses demolished	37
d) Houses rendered fit during the year	1
e) Improvement grants awarded under Housing Act 1949	60
f) Houses completed during the year.	
1. By Council	20
2. Privately	
g) Houses under construction at end of year.	
1. By Council	40
2. Privately.....	
h) Number of applicants on the Waiting List	310

Analysis of Waiting ListUrgent Cases

Families living in Class 5 houses, overcrowded,	
"Medical cases"	47 (97)
Families living in hutments	82 (100)
Families sharing accommodation	36 (66)
Engaged couples	4 (16)
	<u>169</u> (279)

Other Cases

Families living in Class 3 houses	}	
Families requiring smaller accommodation		
Families requiring accommodation nearer to work		
Families having to move from tied houses		141 (169)
		<u>310</u> (448)

Number of applications received during 1960 124 (138)

Families living in hutments

Little Snoring - Owned by Council	20 (25)
(Converted under Para. 6 Ministry Circular 20/46)	
Langham - Owned by Council	1 (1)
(Converted under Para. 6 Ministry Circular 20/46)	
Married Quarters taken on 21 year lease	13 (13)
Pudding Norton - Owned by Council	61 (61)
(Converted under Para. 4 Ministry Circular 20/46)	

Summary of Dwellings let during year

New Dwellings	20
Allotted to:-	
Tenants living in existing Council houses	5
Applicants from condemned houses ..	1
Tenants living in converted hutments	12
Applicants on Waiting List	2
	<u>20</u>
Relets during years	44
Applicants on Waiting List	31
Families living in hutments	11
Families in condemned houses	2
	<u>44</u>
Hutments relet on sites retained by Council	35
Exchange effected	14

Families living in hutments at Little Snoring and Pudding Norton

During the year the Council have rehoused the remaining families living in hutments on the Drift Site at Little Snoring, and the site has been de-requisitioned and handed back to the owner. The Council also purchased the Bell Close, site and have rehoused six families into permanent accommodation, but certain hutments will be retained for housing purposes for the present time.

The Council have now released all sites held under requisition and complied with the Ministry's instructions.

28 families living in converted hutments at Little Snoring and Pudding Norton have been rehoused in permanent accommodation during the year, but the hutments at Pudding Norton have been relet, and accommodation has been found for 35 families in hutments on sites owned by the Council.

There are still 82 families living in converted hutments, but 30 dwellings are now under construction to rehouse 30 families, and when these families are rehoused, 30 black hutments at Pudding Norton can be demolished.

Housing Programme 1960Lee Warner Avenue, Fakenham

During the year the Council has completed a further 20 dwellings on this Estate, and families living in hutments and condemned houses have been accommodated in these dwellings.

A further 27 dwellings and one shop have been commenced, and this will complete this estate, making a total of 82 dwellings. Families living in converted hutments at Pudding Norton will be rehoused in these dwellings when completed.

Stibbard (3) Wighton (6)

The 9 bungalows now under construction in the above parishes were nearly completed at the end of the year, and these dwellings have already been allotted to families living in condemned houses in these parishes.

Future Building Programme

The main housing problem of the District is centred in and around Fakenham, although a small number of houses are required in some parishes to rehouse families living in condemned houses, but in the main, parishes other than Fakenham, can be dealt with by "re-lets". There were very few "re-lets" in Fakenham during the year, and it has been impossible to deal with the majority of urgent cases on the Waiting List, as it has been the Council's policy not to build for "general needs", and until this policy is altered, it will not be possible to find accommodation for the majority of these urgent cases.

The Council have now formulated a three stage programme to build 127 dwellings, and 43 dwellings are scheduled to be built in the first stage in the following parishes

Fakenham	30
Blakeney	8
Briningham	3
Brinton	2

and it is anticipated these 43 will be put out to tender during 1961.

The 30 dwellings to be erected at Fakenham will be by "infilling" in Greenway Close (10) and development of the Sculthorpe Road site (20) and these dwellings will be occupied by 10 families from hutments at Pudding Norton and 20 families from the pre-fabricated bungalows, and when the first 20 families have been rehoused from the pre-fabricated bungalows, these bungalows can be removed and the site re-developed to provide accommodation for the remaining 20 families living in the pre-fabricated bungalows and converted hutments at Little Snoring and Pudding Norton.

The proposed three stage programme of 127 dwellings will not increase the total accommodation available by a single dwelling, as these dwellings will be required for replacement of temporary accommodation which is to be removed, and under these circumstances there is no likelihood of being able to deal with many of the urgent cases on the Council's Waiting List.

General

The Council's overall requirements are summarised below

1. Applicants on the Waiting List in urgent need of rehousing....	87
2. Families living in converted hutments (82 less 30 under construction)	52
3. Families living in condemned houses	17
4. Families living in 40 pre-fabricated bungalows at Lancaster Avenue, Fakenham	40
Total	<u>196</u>

and it will be seen from the above figures it will take many years to deal with this problem unless the rate of building is greatly increased.

Grouped Homes for Old Persons - Lee Warner Avenue, Fakenham.

The above Scheme has now been in existence for 15 months and is running very smoothly, and the credit for this must be given to the Warden and her husband, Mr. & Mrs. Appleton, and the Council is extremely fortunate in having such a capable Warden.

The Communal facilities provided are widely used, and the "Evergreen" Club formed by the tenants is very active, and many outings, film shows and parties have been arranged during the year, besides the weekly meetings.

There have been 5 changes of tenancies during the year. There is a Waiting List of approximately 35 requiring this type of accommodation and the Council should give serious consideration to the provision of another similar scheme as it will be impossible to deal with these applicants in a reasonable time by "relets".

2. The Report of the Surveyor & Chief Public Health Inspector.

Mr. Eagle's report in Part II of this Report details the many activities with which the Public Health Department was concerned to maintain the essential public services.

It was a particularly strenuous year in many fields and especially in the establishment or initiation of important sewerage disposal schemes, the extension of water supply services, the preparations for the implementation of the Caravan Act and the Slaughter Houses Act and slum clearance.

Mr. Eagle has reviewed the improvement in environmental hygiene since his appointment 15 years ago. I could only add my own testimony to the very appreciable progress which has been made during my five year tenure of this office as Medical Officer of Health. I would also endorse Mr. Eagle's hopes that the Public Health Report for the District 15 years hence will show an equally satisfactory record of progress but I would hope that the drab dwellings to which Mr. Eagle refers, particularly hutments (ex R.A.F. or P.O.W.) will cease to exist as such in the very much nearer future.

Improvement Grants - The figures given on the award of discretionary and standard improvement grants are worthy of attention as these have proved to be a most effective means of improving the standard of living in many houses used for human habitation to the benefit of owner and tenant.

Refuse Disposal - I also very much endorse Mr. Eagle's remarks on the difficulty in finding suitable places into which to tip refuse and in the expense of their control but there seems to be no satisfactory alternative method available at present for the circumstances of this essentially rural area.

Food & Meat Inspection - The high standard of food and meat inspections has been very well maintained and on the whole very satisfactory. The percentage of cattle infected with tuberculosis has decreased appreciably compared with the preceding year but there is a higher proportion of pigs affected by the disease.

The incidence of *cysticercosis* persists obstinately despite searching investigations and the application of all recognised preventive measures in consultation with the Food, Agriculture & Fisheries Authorities. It is at least comforting to know that *cysticercosis* in beef does not cause *cysticercosis* in man but it does, if eaten in inadequately cooked meat, cause tapeworm which is unpleasant but not so dangerous. Reliance on prevention must be placed on the vigilance of meat inspection.

APPENDIX A.

- CLIMATIC DATA -

	Mean Daily Maximum Temp.	Mean Daily Minimum Temp.	Mean Daily Temp.	Total Rainfall (inches)	Mean Relative Humidity
January	41.8 (38.0)	34.6 (29.8)	38.2 (33.9)	3.93 (3.33)	92.22 (91.25)
February	43.0 (43.9)	34.0 (34.3)	38.5 (39.1)	1.60 (0.26)	88.0 (89.5)
March	46.4 (50.6)	37.6 (38.4)	42.0 (44.5)	1.01 (1.22)	87.5 (85.75)
April	53.4 (55.7)	41.2 (42.1)	47.3 (48.9)	0.88 (1.64)	80.2 (78.5)
May	62.0 (59.8)	46.3 (44.7)	54.1 (52.3)	0.53 (0.93)	77.0 (77.0)
June	68.9 (68.2)	50.2 (49.5)	59.5 (58.9)	1.00 (1.01)	76.25 (70.75)
July	66.7 (72.6)	51.6 (53.9)	59.1 (63.3)	2.82 (3.16)	86.75 (74.75)
August	67.0 (71.5)	50.9 (55.3)	58.9 (63.4)	2.84 (1.39)	80.5 (77.25)
September	61.9 (68.2)	49.5 (49.7)	55.7 (58.9)	3.45 (0.09)	85.00 (76.75)
October	55.9 (63.1)	45.5 (46.0)	50.7 (54.5)	4.09 (2.33)	90.0 (83.5)
November	49.2 (48.5)	40.4 (38.6)	44.8 (43.5)	3.83 (1.79)	91.0 (90.5)
December	42.4 (45.4)	35.6 (38.6)	39.0 (42.0)	4.26 (4.25)	91.0 (92.5)

APPENDIX B.

CAUSES OF DEATHS.

Causes of Death	Males	Females	Totals
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (-)
2. " other	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
3. Meningococcal infection	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
4. Other infective & parasitic diseases	- (-)	1 (-)	1 (-)
5. Acute poliomyelitis	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
6. Cancer, Stomach	5 (4)	- (1)	5 (5)
7. " Lung	4 (3)	- (-)	4 (3)
8. " Breast	- (-)	3 (4)	3 (4)
9. " Other forms	9 (10)	10 (7)	19 (17)
10. Leukaemia	2 (-)	- (-)	2 (2)
11. Diabetes	- (-)	- (2)	- (-)
12. Vascular lesions, nervous system	12 (7)	15 (19)	27 (26)
13. Coronary disease, angina	17 (20)	14 (10)	31 (30)
14. Hypertension with heart disease	1 (1)	4 (-)	5 (-)
15. Other heart disease	15 (22)	21 (18)	36 (40)
16. Other diseases of circulation	1 (4)	3 (2)	4 (6)
17. Influenza	1 (2)	- (2)	1 (4)
18. Pneumonia	5 (5)	2 (7)	7 (12)
19. Bronchitis	1 (7)	2 (2)	3 (9)
20. Other diseases, respiratory system	- (-)	1 (-)	1 (-)
21. Ulcers, stomach & duodenum	2 (2)	2 (2)	4 (4)
22. Gastritis & Diarrhoea	- (-)	1 (1)	1 (1)
23. Nephritis & Nephrosis	1 (1)	- (1)	1 (1)
24. Prostatic enlargement	1 (-)	- (-)	1 (-)
25. Congenital malformation	2 (-)	1 (1)	3 (1)
26. Other diseases	15 (6)	11 (12)	26 (18)
27. Road accidents	2 (6)	- (1)	2 (7)
28. All other accidents	10 (4)	1 (1)	11 (5)
29. Suicide	1 (3)	- (-)	1 (3)
Totals	108 (120)	92 (94)	200 (214)

- APPENDIX C -

Sources of Samples and Dates.	(1) Houghton St. Giles Public Supply - 25.10.60	(2) Little Snoring Public Supply - 1.11.60
Appearance	clear	Opalescent
Nature of Deposit	Nil	Iron compounds
Colour	Nil	Slightly yellow
Reaction	Neutral. pH 7.1	Neutral. pH 7.0
Taste	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.02	0.03
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.02	0.02
Nitrate Nitrogen	6.5	Nil
Nitrite Nitrogen	Nil	Nil
Chlorine as Chlorides	20	22
Oxygen absorbed	0.025	0.20
Total hardness	335	280
Temp. hardness	240	255
Metals in Solution	Nil	absent trace
Fluorine	Nil	0.1
Opinion	Fit	Fit

- APPENDIX C Contd. -

(3) North Creake Public Supply - 25.10.60.	(4) Bore Fakenham Public Supply - 1.11.60	(5) Hindolvestone Council House Supply - 1.11.60.	(6) Co-Op Stores, Melton Constable Brit.Rlys Supply 1.11.60.
Clear	Clear	Opalescent	Clear
Iron compounds	Nil	Iron compounds	Nil
Nil	Nil	Slightly yellow	Nil
Neutral. pH 6.9	Neutral. pH 7.1	Neutral. pH 7.0	faintly alkaline. pH 7.4
Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Satisfactory
0.02	0.02	0.22	0.02
0.02	0.02	0.03	0.02
0.5	6.5	Nil	Nil
faint trace	Nil	0.01	Nil
20	20	30	24
0.20	0.02	0.85	0.20
300	315	230	240
275	240	210	200
zinc 0.5	Nil	Nil	zinc trace
0.1	0.1	0.2	0.15
Fit	Fit	Fit	Fit

APPENDIX D.

- Water Supply - Bacteriological Examination -

Reports on Bacteriological examination of samples of water taken during year.				
Parish	Public Supply		Private Sources (wells)	
	<u>Satis- factory.</u>	<u>Unsatis- factory.</u>	<u>Satis- factory.</u>	<u>Unsatis- factory.</u>
Bale	-	-	-	1
Barney	1	-	-	-
Binhan	1	-	-	1
Briningham	-	-	1	-
Fakenham	12	1	-	-
Fulmodestone	3	1	-	-
Helhoughton	1	1	-	-
Hempton	-	-	1	-
Holkham	-	-	-	4
Kettlestone	1	1	-	-
Melton Constable	1	-	-	-
Raynham	-	5	-	-
Ryburgh, Gt.	5	5	-	1
Ryburgh, Lt.	2	8	-	1
Saxlingham	-	-	1	-
Stibbard	3	-	1	-
Tatterford	-	1	-	-
Thursford	2	-	-	1
Walsingham	1	-	-	-
Warham	1	3	-	-
Wiveton	1	-	3	3
Wood Norton	-	-	-	3
Totals	35	26	7	15

APPENDIX E.Factories Acts 1937 - 59.

Annual Report for 1960 under Section 128 (3) of the Factories Act, 1937.

Part I

1 - Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which § .1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	5	8	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which § .7 is enforced by the Local Authority	85	15	1	-
(iii) Other Premises in which § .7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding out-workers' premises)	N/A	-	-	-
Total	100	23	1	-

2 - Cases in which Defects were found:-

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act	-	-	1	-	-
Total	-	-	1	1	-

Part VIII of the Act.

Outworkers - Nil

PART II

THE REPORT OF
ENGINEER & SURVEYOR
AND
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(A.H. Eagle, M.I.S.E., M.R.S.H., Cert. S.I.B.)

WALSINGHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The details of work which follow cannot reveal the many technical activities encompassed nor included is the work of the full-time Clerk of Works employed on the supervision of three Sewerage and Water Contracts valued at over £150,000 at one time during the year. Under the heading of "Plans passed" for instance, is hidden the hundreds of interviews and telephone conversations with members of the public who, understandably, find the intricacies of byelaw and town planning requirements confusing and often annoying. Nor is included the "morning rush" of telephone requests for immediate emptying of cesspools from those who have left it a little late and find the back yard awash, nor the requests for immediate decisions on engineering contracts situated perhaps fifteen miles from the office.

This is the background against which the work covered by this report is done and, as more money is spent on water, sewerage and buildings, it is likely to remain so, and the causes are welcomed. My only fear is that some of the more routine public health duties should be neglected as works by contractors or the thirty-five outside employees requiring supervision increase.

Dr. Crichton has allowed me to add a note of comparison of the sanitary conditions in the area when I commenced my duties in 1945 with those in the year under review.

This sharp change and betterment in conditions was brought home to me recently as we made a survey of empty houses and remaining slum clearance houses in the District. In 1945 only Fakenham and Hempton had a public water supply while Melton had a private supply to part of the village. At the end of 1960 only Wood Norton was without public mains. At the time of the Hobhouse Survey (about 1949) several villages and certainly many individual cottages had oil lighting, whereas in our survey of empty houses the reason for those 176 which were empty appeared to be often mainly their lack of electricity and they were the few without that amenity. Expenditure on sewerage which in 1945 was in Fakenham only, has been £122,000 (in Fakenham, Great and Little Walsingham and part of Hempton together with reconnections) and the Blakeney, Morston and Wiveton with Hempton and Fakenham outskirts Contract is going on now. Water contracts have cost the Council about £330,000 since 1945.

In my report on Slum Clearance at the end of the year it was said there was virtually no slum clearance problem in the area. Comparing with the conditions of 1948 there has been, undoubtedly, a great improvement in the general level of housing in the area. Improvement grant schemes (not yet properly exploited) private schemes, notably the Melton Constable Estate improvements, and the removal of condemned houses by Council house construction has largely altered the picture since 1945 though there are still too many border-line cottages where rehabilitation schemes are the only answer to the drab conditions which exist - "Drab" as opposed to actively dangerous to health.

The number of garage building applications (added to those hurriedly put together at weekends.), the ubiquitous T.V. aerial, the increased decoration and repair, in and out of properties must be pointers, perhaps only superficial, to an increased prosperity and better standard of living in the area when compared with 1945 and one can look forward to a report in 1976 which registers the sewerage of every village, every cottage with its bathroom and hot water and kitchen sink and a warm dry house for all.

I think it is possible for this or any enlarged district to bring those conditions about in that time.

RECORD OF INSPECTIONS.Public Health Acts

Initial Inspections	189
Revisits	56
Means of Escape from Fire.	6
Smoke observations	-

Housing Acts

House Inspections	155
Revisits in connection with above	28
Visits in connection with application for grants under Housing Act 1949	159
Visits re Slum Clearance	414

Food and Drugs Act

Premises Inspected	137
Visits re manufacture and sale of IceCream	24
Visits to Dairies and inspections of milk retailers' vehicles	8
Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection Visits	380
Visits re Shellfish	-

Sewerage

Inspection of sewerage systems, disposal works and sewer ditches	310
Contract (Sewerage) Visits	71
Closet Conversion Visits (Section 47)	4

District Scavenging

Visiting workmen on rounds, investigating complaints, etc .	471
Refuse Tips	138

Factories Act

Inspection of factories with power	14
Inspection of factories without power	8

Building Byelaw Inspections

Inspections during course of construction	940
Town and Country Planning Act visits	6

Infectious Diseases

Cases investigated	109
Rooms Disinfected	2

<u>Rooms Disinfected</u>	7
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Petroleum Acts

Installations inspected and tested	27
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Small Dwellings Acquisition Act

Valuations and visits	16
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<u>Prevention of Damage by Pests Act</u>	66
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Knackers' Yards

Inspections	7
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<u>Street Naming and Numbering Visits</u>	67
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<u>Water Supply - Existing Mains</u>	47
<u>Water Supply - New Contracts</u>	232
<u>Merchant Shipping Act Visits</u>	3
<u>Other Inspections</u> - Not classified under the headings above but made in connection therewith	238
Total Visits Made	4339

NOTICES SERVEDInformal Notices

Public Health and Housing Acts	61	(90)
Food and Drugs Act	11	(23)
Factories Act	1	(2)
Building Byelaws	130	(105)
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949	12	(20)
Milk and Dairies	1	(-)
Total Notices Served	216	

Formal NoticesPests Act

Permission to serve	1
Served	1

Food and Drugs Act

Permission to serve	1	(1)
Served	1	(1)

Public Health Acts

Permission to serve	1	(19)
Served	1	(19)

Total Notices Served **3**

HOUSING(a) Slum Clearance

The following table sets out progress made under this heading:-

Houses <u>demolished</u> as a result of formal or informal procedure	37	(40)
Number of unfit or defective houses rendered fit during the period as a result of <u>informal</u> action by Council	11	(11)
Number of houses <u>made fit</u> by owners as a result of formal action	1	(1)
Number of houses made fit after the service of <u>formal notices</u> by Council in default of owners	NIL	(NIL)
<u>Undertakings</u> given by owners not to re-let	NIL	(NIL)
<u>Undertakings</u> given by owners that houses will cease to be used for human habitation	NIL	(7)
Number of <u>demolition</u> orders made during the year	6	(4)
Number of <u>closing orders</u> made during the year	NIL	(NIL)
Estimated number of unfit houses still to be dealt with following review in December 1960	33	

(Figures in brackets relate to preceding year)

The following Report was given to the Council in January 1961 but refers to condition at the end of 1960:-

"While making a survey of empty houses on behalf of the Housing Committee the opportunity has been taken for your inspectors to take yet another quick view of the parishes to see what houses may have been missed from the Sub-Committee's visits or have so deteriorated since the earlier inspections as to warrant further inspection now.

Resulting from that further survey in which I accompanied the inspector responsible for each particular parish I believe it is possible to say:-

- (i) No real slum clearance problem remains in this area.
- (ii) Slum Clearance is not a function which ceases; it is a continuing duty for the Council to have its district inspected from time to time. Already houses are seen which, through remoteness or lack of services and amenities, are unoccupied and which will so deteriorate as to be unfit within a few months by accumulated disrepair and dampness.
- (iii) The 27 condemned houses which are still occupied for various reasons should be reviewed. In some cases elderly tenants have been allowed to continue to live in these dwellings but in certain cases it might prove more humane to persuade them to move to Council bungalows so they may enjoy a few comforts for the remaining part of their lives.
- (iv) It appears from our survey of 176 empty houses that an increasing selectiveness is being exercised by farmworkers who will no longer live in isolated cottages lacking electricity and piped water. Coupled with farm mechanisation and the vigorous Council house building policy pursued since the War this has resulted in these redundant houses. I doubt if modernisation of the more remote ones would attract tenants to them.

Sixty-five empty dwellings were found to be in isolated positions, 41 being without electricity and 30 without a surfaced road nearby. Sixty-three of the empty houses did not have a piped supply of water.

Since they are not occupied these in poor repair (of which there are 52) only concern this Committee if and when they are occupied again. The survey has therefore been of use from the health view point since these empty houses will be kept under review.

- (v) 47 condemned houses which are unoccupied do not appear on the Housing Manager's summary. Most of these stand because they give support to other occupied houses (condemned or otherwise)."

(b) New Dwellings

The following figures include conversions of non-domestic buildings to habitations.

By private persons - 35 completed and 24 under construction at end of year.
By Local Authority - 20 completed and 40 under construction at end of year.

(c) Improvement Grants - Discretionary.

The analysis of the effect of these grants since their inception is as follows:-

Total amount notified to rank for grant	For occupation by Owner Tenant		Grant essential to preserve house and provide amenities.	Grant to Improve amenities only.
<u>Up to December 1959</u> £59,367. 13. Od. (£52,466. 13. Od.)	82 (74)	139 (124)	47 (40)	174 (153)
<u>January - December 1960</u> £11,071. 0. Od. (£ 5,901. 0. Od.)	13 (8)	17 (15)	10 (7)	20 (16)

Figures in brackets relate to preceding year.

Improvement Grants - Standard

This type of grant has proved popular especially in areas where mains water has been introduced recently.

The analysis of the effect of these grants since their inception in July 1959 is as follows:-

Total Amount notified to rank for grant.	For Occupation by Owner Tenant	
<u>Up to December 1959</u> £4,265. 0. Od.	12	17
<u>January - December 1960</u> £8,863. 10. Od.	26	34

Plans brought before the Plans Committee.

The following table sets out the number of plans considered by the Plans Committee during the year. A total of 370 plans were considered compared with 310 last year.

<u>New dwellings</u>	<u>Alterations to dwellings</u>	<u>Factories</u>	<u>Domestic Garages</u>	<u>Miscellaneous</u>
50	121	12	63	80
<u>Outline applications</u>				
31	-	2	-	11

District Scavenging.

Supervision of this service continues under Mr. Page and, with the exception of heavy repairs on the large compressor vehicle, the service has run fairly smoothly.

A proposal to use buildings at Little Snoring as a depot was investigated but it was decided to retain Hall Staiths and to incorporate the former Pumping Station as additional repair work-space with double doors, inspection pit, etc.

Tips continue to be difficult to find and those in being expensive to control. Investigations involving my visiting Worthing R.D.C.'s pulveriser disposal plant in Sussex and enquiries of firms manufacturing mechanical disposal plant revealed the high capital outlay involved and were not proceeded with after a comprehensive report. An effort to reduce street litter in Fakenham without charge to the rates was frustrated by the failure of an Appeal by the Council against refusal of Planning permission to erect 20 litter bins with advertising matter upon them.

SEWERAGE

The Council accepted my Report on Sewerage and the proposed priorities contained therein. By these recommendations after the completion of the Fakenham and Hempton Contract and the Morston, Blakeney and Wiveton Contract in 1961/62 contracts for Binham and Langham, Briston and Melton Constable, Little Snoring and Wighton would follow, these latter two villages receiving priority because sewage disposal works and some sewers are already installed.

The new works at Fakenham gave good effluent analyses throughout the year and appears to have settled down to efficient treatment. Some complaints of smell early in the warm dry spring and summer died off during a singularly dull wet summer and autumn while difficulties in sludge disposal from poor drying conditions increased correspondingly. Melton Constable works continues to give a poor effluent to the Burgh Beck. Walsingham works has given a consistently good effluent.

A sewerage gang of a foreman, driver and two labourers has taken over the maintenance of these works together with sewer and sewer ditch maintenance and is furnished with a 30 cwt van, petrol engine pump and other necessary gear. Sewer ditches at Field Dalling were piped in 12" pipes with 3 manholes at a cost of £160. At the Little Snoring works wartime brickwork has been pulled down and renewed. The former R.A.F. works at Langham was purchased and will form part of the proposed Langham and Binham sewerage scheme to be commenced in 1961.

Street Flooding from surcharging sewers in Fakenham did not occur this year mainly through lack of storms of sufficient magnitude. Two ways of alleviating surcharging into premises were tried out, firstly by connecting the disused 7" rising main to one of the affected manholes at Nelson Road and secondly an anti flooding trap at Holt Road.

An agreement was reached with a poultry packing firm regarding their trade waste discharge to the public sewer.

Eight properties at Greenway, Fakenham were connected to the sewer constructed to drain the Lee-Warner Estate while at Walsingham 15 occupied premises were still not connected to the sewer at the end of the year. The Council decided to extend the nightsoil collection service until 31st March, 1961.

The Fakenham and Hempton contract valued at £51,867 and the Blakeney, Morston and Wiveton Contract for £90,266 were both commenced in the Autumn and despite at times appalling weather conditions had made good progress by the end of the year.

At Briston a bottleneck in street drainage causing flooding was put right on the basis of the Council paying two thirds and the Highway Authority one third of the cost and no flooding has been reported since.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

The survey and treatment for rat infestation of all properties in the District continued throughout the year, with emphasis on the treatment of farm land during the Autumn and Winter months. In Summer the growth of crops and hedgerows makes effective treatment of farm land impossible, and two of the four men employed as rat catchers are employed on other duties. Farm treatments were further curtailed by the restrictions imposed following outbreaks of Foot and Mouth Disease. 6,505 inspections of properties were made, 1,300 domestic, 55 farmland and 190 other premises were treated, and attention was given to refuse tips, sewerage systems and other premises occupied by the Council.

Charges made for treatments given to agricultural and other business properties amounted to £211. 18. 0d.

FOOD(a) Food preparing premises

Statutory action was taken against the occupier of one bakehouse and improvements in conditions were obtained as a result without further legal action having to be taken.

Market food-stalls continued to be satisfactory.

Bakehouses	9	Fish Shops	11
Butcher's Shops	19	Market Stalls	11
Catering Establishments	20	Provision Stores	83

Ninety-one premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream. With the exception of one, the ice-cream sold is of the three well-known proprietary brands and is wrapped. Nineteen samples of ice-cream were taken, all being classified as Grade I.

(b) Milk

There has been no change in the number of designation of the registered distributors of milk in the District.

Fifty-four samples were taken by the County Council Officers. Two failed the phosphatase test for efficiency or heat treatment and five the methylene blue or cleanliness test.

(c) Meat Inspection

Carcases Inspected and Condemned - for the year ended 1960

	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep and Lambs</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
Number Slaughtered	424 (356)	33 (27)	668 (735)	485 (535)
Number Inspected	410 (347)	33 (27)	655 (715)	474 (519)
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis</u>				
Whole Carcases condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	42 (64)	3 (1)	8 (13)	13 (29)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	10.2%	9.1%	1.2%	2.7%
<u>Tuberculosis only -</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1 (11)	- (-)	- (-)	20 (8)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.2%	-	-	4.2%
<u>Cysticercosis -</u>				
Carcase of which some part of organ was condemned	8 (8)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Carcase submitted to treatment by refrigeration	8 (8)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)
Generalised and totally condemned	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

The statutory consultations with all interested bodies, the deposited Report to the Minister were completed in the year and agreement on necessary alterations by the four Slaughterhouse owners wishing to continue the use of the premises were agreed. Most of the preparation of reports and inspections were carried out by Mr. Doughty who was congratulated by the Committee upon the clarity of his report.

FACTORIES

(a) <u>No. on Register</u>	<u>No. Inspected</u>	<u>No. in which defects were found.</u>	<u>No. in which defects were remedied by</u>	
			<u>Informal Notice</u>	<u>Formal Notice</u>
100	23	1	Nil	Nil

(b) Means of Escape from Fire

Five certificates on adequacy of means of escape from fire were issued in respect of premises in the District.

WATER SUPPLIES

Pumping and consumption statistics show a marked increase as may be seen from the comparative totals of 1959 and the year under review. See Appendix 1 (page 32)

Some of this increase may be accounted for by the South Western Parishes scheme completed last year and towards the end of the year the Central Parishes scheme valued at £30,121 and completed in April 1960 was making its demands felt. High consumption in May and June were reported upon as follows:-

"Increases over 1959 are - Daily average - Houghton to Gunthorpe:-

May	82,677 gallons
June	71,033 gallons

Daily average consumption in Fakenham and S.W. Area taken from Gunthorpe and Fakenham Well -

May	37,322 gallons	(6,354 to South-West)
June	31,534 gallons	(10,000 to South-West)

These figures are not remarkable until daily consumption from Houghton of 486,000 (twice) 442,000 and 435,000 g.p.d. are seen in the daily totals. Design capacity for Houghton is about 600,000 g.p.d. and the North Western and Wells area is not yet connected nor are the Central parishes fully developed yet.

An embargo on gardening water is inevitable next year if dry conditions are repeated. Consumption high points in the Fakenham and South-Western areas of 244,243 and 236 thousand gallons daily cannot be ignored for a consumer total of about 4,500 people in the area.

It is emphasised that these conditions are national in character. Consumption has increased beyond design capacity everywhere and the Committee may agree that embargoes on water use are at best mere palliatives, to be avoided when possible. They may wish to investigate increased yields at source."

A contract for the North-Western Area (to augment a supply to Wells U.D.C.) was completed in the year extending a 5" supply from Binham, the Warhams, Wells and Holkham. The value of the contract was £23,585.

After a request by British Fields Products Limited it was agreed to instal a submersible pump at North Creak pumping station, this being made possible upon the arrival of an electricity supply.

636 domestic premises with 63 metered and 21 un-metered non-domestic premises have been connected to the supply in the current year.

A 7" water meter was installed at Gunthorpe reservoir cutting into the existing main serving the Central Parishes.

A.H. EAGLE,

Engineer & Surveyor,

Public Health Inspector.

APPENDIX I.

<u>Month</u>	<u>Houghton Pumping Station to Gunthorpe Reservoir.</u>		<u>Average Daily Consumption</u>	
	<u>Total gallons 1959</u>	<u>Total Gallons 1960</u>	<u>Gallons 1959</u>	<u>Gallons 1960</u>
January	8,555,000	10,117,000	275,967	326,354
February	7,799,000	9,477,000	276,535	326,793
March	8,278,000	10,027,000	267,032	323,451
April	8,220,000	9,875,000	274,000	329,166
May	8,909,000	11,472,000	287,387	370,064
June	10,104,000	12,235,000	336,800	407,833
July	10,800,000	12,109,000	354,839	390,612
August	10,053,000	11,421,000	324,290	368,419
September	9,924,000	10,863,000	330,800	362,100
October	8,736,000	11,010,000	281,806	355,161
November	9,102,000	10,352,000	303,400	345,066
December	9,625,000	10,400,000	311,354	335,483
Total	110,105,000	129,358,000		
<u>Gunthorpe Reservoir to Fakenham Tower</u>				
January	3,800,000	4,000,000	122,580	129,032
February	3,442,000	3,741,936	122,928	129,032
March	3,714,000	4,178,000	119,806	134,774
April	3,798,000	4,100,000	126,600	136,666
May	4,008,000	5,165,000 x	129,290	166,612
June	5,012,000	5,958,000	167,066	198,600
July	5,128,000	5,518,000 xx	165,419	178,000
August	4,429,000	4,393,000	142,870	141,709
September	4,389,000	3,970,000	146,300	132,333
October	4,276,000	3,949,000	137,935	127,387
November	3,646,000	3,901,000	121,533	130,033
December	3,872,000	4,000,000	124,903	129,032
Total	49,514,000	52,873,936		

x 182,000 from Fakenham Well

xx 299,000 from Fakenham Well.



