

**[Report 1937] / Medical Officer of Health, Wells-next-the-Sea U.D.C.**

**Contributors**

Wells-next-the-Sea (England). Urban District Council.

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1937

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WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA (NORFOLK) URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

YEAR TO 31st DECEMBER 1937.

AREA	The area of this District comprises 2670 acres. The soil is light and the subsoil is chalk.
POPULATION	The estimated population is 2461. The census 1931 returned 2505.
INHABITED HOUSES	The inhabited houses total 823. The number of inhabitants per house is 2.99.
OCCUPATIONS	Agricultural labourers, fishermen, railway employees, stevedores and casual labourers. Unemployment still remains low.
BIRTHS	During the year there were registered thirty seven live births of which eighteen were male and nineteen female. The birth rate was 16.21 an increase of two per thousand. There were three illegitimate births and three still births.
DEATHS	There were forty two deaths. Males 21, Females 21. Among causes of death were Cancer 9, Tuberculosis 2.
DEATH RATE	This was 17.15 per thousand population, an increase on last year's figures.
INFANTILE MORTALITY	There were three deaths during the year.
INFECTIOUS DISEASE	Very little. One case of Typhoid was notified but afterwards found not to be.
GENERAL HEALTH	This has been up to the average.
PUBLIC OFFICERS	Medical Officer of Health. (Part time). Sanitary Inspector. (whole time).
NURSING	<u>General</u> . The Wells Town Nursing Association supplies a nurse for general and maternity nursing. A Health Visitor employed by the County Council also visits the town. There is no special arrangement for nursing infectious cases, but in special cases the local Authority supplies a nurse.
LABORATORY	All requisite pathological examinations are carried out by the County Laboratory at Norwich.
HOSPITALS	The Wells and District Cottage Hospital undertakes Surgical and Medical cases. In 1937 over 200 cases were treated. The Norfolk and Norwich Hospital and the Jenny Lind admit cases of special difficulty while cases of Tuberculosis are frequently admitted to Holt and Kelling Sanatoria.
AMBULANCE	The Fakenham Red Cross Ambulance renders its previous prompt and efficient service and in the opinion of the Medical Officer there is no need at present for any addition to this service.
MATERNITY HOMES	There are no maternity homes in this district.
MATERNAL MORTALITY	There were no deaths during the year.
CLINICS	The County Council holds a clinic weekly at the School in charge of a nurse and an assistant Medical Officer attends once a month. A child welfare clinic is also held monthly by the same authority but this is in charge of a Local Practitioner. An X-Ray clinic for the detection of Tuberculosis is held monthly by the Tuberculosis Officer.
WATER	The Water Supply is now in full working order and 600 houses are connected to the main. The supply has given full satisfaction, and there is a steady demand still for connections.



SEWERAGE

This has not yet been proceeded with, though a scheme is very necessary, and must be considered in the near future.

MILK SUPPLY

There are 6 registered dairies and Cowsheds in the District . They all conform to the regulations.

HOUSING

SHOPS ACT 1934

WORKSHOPS

BAKEHOUSES

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

FOOD INSPECTION

See Sanitary Inspector's Report.

(Signed) E. W. HICKS.

Medical Officer of Health.

This has not yet been processed with the  
agency in very necessary, and will be considered  
in the next issue.  
There are several other matters and questions in  
the District, they all concern the regulation

See Railway Inspector's Report.

GENERAL  
MILK SUPPLY  
MILKING  
SHEEP AND GOATS  
WORKERS  
MILKING  
MILKING  
MILKING  
MILKING

(Signed) E. W. HIGGS  
Medical Officer of Health.

WELLS-NEXT-THE-SEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Council Offices,  
WELLS,  
Norfolk.  
June 1938.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Wells-next-the-Sea Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to hand you the following report for the year  
ended the 31st December 1937:-

SEWERAGE No alterations were carried out to sewers during the year.

NIGHTSOIL There are 460 pail closets and 250 Earth Closets in the District. Nightsoil is disposed of to farmers for manural purposes.

SCAVENGING Day refuse is collected by means of a horse drawn low loading cart of 2½ cubic yards capacity. The refuse being deposited at the dump off Warham Road. The refuse is covered with soil and road sweepings.

CAMPING The provision by the Council of an organised Camping Site with sanitary accommodation and water supply has resulted in several of the smaller camping sites being closed, these latter had poor sanitary provision.

DAIRIES & COWSHEDS There are 6 registered Cowkeepers and 3 Dairymen supplying milk in the District. There are 2 Licenced Producers of Accredited Milk. 1 Producer is licenced to bottle and retail Accredited Milk.

BAKEHOUSES There are 6 bakehouses in the District.

RATS AND MICE To encourage the destruction of Rats a competition was held in the Spring and this resulted in 4337 rat tails being delivered to the Office.

DESTRUCTION ACT 1919.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES: There are 4 Slaughterhouses in the District and 8 retail meat shops.

The following carcasses were examined at the various slaughterhouses:

Cattle.	14
Sheep.	16
Pigs.	<u>38</u>
Total.	<u>68</u>

It was found necessary to condemn half a pig as being unfit for human consumption. There are three shops provided with refrigeration plant for the storage of meat.

HOUSING As the result of an Inquiry By the Ministry of Health the following Clearance Orders were confirmed:-

No.1.	Bolts Close.	7 houses.
No.2.	Church Street.	2 do.
No.3.	Burnt Street.	3 do.
No.4.	Masseys Yard.	4 do.

As part of the Scheme for rehousing the occupiers of these houses and other individual houses condemned, 20 houses were commenced on the Northfield Lane Site.

14 houses for Slum Clearance at Westfield Avenue were completed and occupied during the year.

64 houses were measured under the Housing (Over-crowding) Sections and 134 Certificates as to permitted number of occupiers were issued to owners.

General Offices,  
WELLS,  
Hartford,  
June 1938.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Wells-Health-Insurance-Department.

Gentlemen,

I had to hand you the following report for the year  
ended 31st December 1937:-

My attention was called out to several during the  
year.

There are 400 paid classes and 1500 health classes in the  
District. The total is 1900. The total is 1900.

The following classes were cancelled at the various  
districts:-

14	14	14
15	15	15
16	16	16

Total

It is found necessary to continue half a year as  
being still for many companies. There are 1000  
provided with registration plans for the storage of  
cash.

As the result of an inquiry by the Ministry of Health  
the following classes were cancelled:-

No. 1.	Wells Class.	7 houses.
No. 2.	Wells Class.	2 do.
No. 3.	Wells Class.	2 do.
No. 4.	Wells Class.	2 do.

As part of the scheme for reducing the number  
of these houses and other individual houses contained  
50 houses were cancelled on the 1st January 1938.

## INSPECTIONS

The following inspections were carried out during the year:-

Housing (overcrowding )	64
Housing (other than overcrowding)	103
Cowsheds.	21
Drainage.	19
New Housing.	19
Nuisances.	25
Workshops.	6
Bakehouses.	6
Shops.	<u>4</u>
Total.	<u>267</u>

25 complaints were received regarding nuisances.

5 houses were disinfected for vermin.

1 house was disinfected.

The following samples were submitted for examination:

Milk	16
Fresh Water.	2
Salt Water.	
(from Harbour)	4
Winkles.	<u>2</u>
Total.	<u>24</u>

14 lbs lish were condemned as unfit for food.

Yours obediently,

F. RODWELL.

Sanitary Inspector.

INSPECTIONS

The following inspections were carried out during the year:-

24	Housing (overcrowding)
108	Housing (other than overcrowding)
21	Overcrowding
19	Hot Water
19	Hot Water
23	Sanitation
2	Sanitation
2	Sanitation
4	Sanitation
<u>267</u>	Total

88 complaints were received regarding nuisances. 3 houses were disinfected for vermin. 1 house was disinfected. The following samples were submitted for examination:

10	Milk
2	Fresh Water
2	Sea Water
4	(from Harbour)
<u>18</u>	Total

14 fish were condemned as unfit for food.

Yours obediently,

F. EDWARDS.

Sanitary Inspector.