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ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE
HEALTH OF THE
BOROUGH OF GRANTHAM


BY THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
C. H. D. ROBBS, M.B.

TO WHICH IS APPENDED THE REPORT
OF THE
SANITARY INSPECTOR.

1925.

Grantham :

PALMER AND SON, PRINTERS, 2, VINE STREET.



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BOROUGH OF GRANTHAM.

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

ALDERMAN ROWLE, J.P., *Chairman.*

ALDERMAN BEEDEN.

COUNCILLOR BRITTAIN.

„ INGLEDEW.

„ LEE.

„ READ.

„ SHARPE, J.P.

„ TROTTER.

Medical Officer of Health :

C. H. D. ROBBS, M.B.

Sanitary Inspector :

S. FRANCIS NOTT, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

Health Visitor :

MRS. ADA COOPER, C.M.B.

BOROUGH OF GRANTHAM.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY
for 1925.



Population (Census 1921)	-	-	-	18,902
Population (Estimated 1925)	-	-	-	19,170
Area of Borough	-	-	-	1,723 acres
Average Number of Persons per Acre	-	-	-	11·09
Rateable Value	-	-	-	£108,080
Sum represented by a penny rate	-	-	-	£390
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	-	-	-	17·4
Death Rate	-	-	-	10·7
Infantile Mortality	-	-	-	83·5

Isolation Hospital, Gorse Lane—A Corrugated Iron Building.

Water Supply—Grantham Waterworks Company.

Refuse Collection and Disposal – By Council's Workmen and
Heenan & Froude Refuse Destructor.

Disposal of Sewage—On Council's Farm, Marston.

Disposal of Excreta – By Water Carriage System.

BOROUGH OF GRANTHAM.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
OF THE
GRANTHAM URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY,
For the Year, 1925.

*Vine House,
Grantham,*

May, 1926.

TO THE MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE BOROUGH OF GRANTHAM.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report upon the health and sanitary administration of the Borough, for the year 1925, and by the instructions of the Ministry of Health, this report will be of the nature of a survey, embodying measures of progress made in the area during the preceding five years, and the extent and character of the changes made during that period in the Public Health services of the area. It will be appreciated that my knowledge on some of these points will not be complete, as my tenure of the office of Medical Officer of Health is of less than a year's duration, but I hope that the more important points will not be omitted.

The subjects dealt with in the Report fall under the following seven heads, viz. :—

- (1) Natural and Social conditions of the area.
- (2) General Provision of Health Services in the area.
- (3) Sanitary Circumstances.
- (4) Housing.
- (5) Inspection and Supervision of Food.
- (6) Prevalence of, and control over, Infectious Disease.
- (7) Maternity and Child Welfare.

(A)—NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

A statistical summary is shown for convenience of reference at the beginning of the report. It will be seen that the area of the Borough is 1,723 acres.

The population census, 1921, was 18,902, and the estimated population for 1925 is 19,170, an increase of 20 on that estimated for the previous year.

The physical features and general character of the area are mostly those which are to be expected in a market town, whilst there are also good facilities for the various engineering works which are carried on in the district, the town being well served by railway, and being an important centre on the main North Road.

There is in consequence much motor traffic, for which, it must be acknowledged, the general lie of the streets is not too well adapted, and the Borough has recognised the necessity of regulating the traffic at various points. The enterprise of the various tradesmen of the town has provided good hotel accommodation, and garage and shopping facilities for the many visitors who pass through it.

The town lies in a valley, and it is to be regretted that a haze of smoke is observable to anyone approaching the town. It is to be hoped that this will be lessened under the new smoke abatement regulations. It would appear that there are no gross offenders, but that a large number of premises emit more smoke than is desirable.

Social Conditions.

The chief industry in the Borough is engineering, and the depression in this industry over the whole country has naturally been reflected in this area.

The manager of the Employment Exchange has been good enough to furnish figures which give an idea of the amount of unemployment in the Borough.

Live Register.

<i>Week ending.</i>	<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
28/12/25	622	97	719
29/12/24	596	88	684
31/12/23	936	60	996

In the whole country the percentage of unemployed workpeople insured against unemployment was 11% at the end of last December, the ratio of males to females being rather more than 5 to 1. The figures for Grantham show a higher proportion of uninsurance amongst males than females, and when compared with the whole of the country the percentage of unemployment in Grantham during the year was 12.7 as compared with 11, being therefore rather above the average.

Taking a comparison between Grantham and Gainsborough, the latter town, with a somewhat similar population and industry, was more fortunate with regard to employment, the percentage of unemployment being about 8.

Progress made in the area.

The Borough Surveyor has been good enough to furnish the following list of works carried out during the last five years in the Urban District.

- a. Layout of two Recreation Grounds—Wyndham Park and Houghton Road—the former as a Memorial to the Grantham men who fell in the Great War.
- b. Installation of Central Heating Apparatus at the Guildhall.
- c. Reconstruction of two Bridges over River Witham in Reinforced-concrete.
- d. Widening of Steel Girder Bridge over River Witham, Bridge End Road.
- e. Installation of new Refuse Destructor and Clinker Utilization Plant.
- f. Widening and Diversion of River Witham.
- g. Construction of Reinforced-concrete Storm-water Relief Culvert.
- h. Laying down of two Hard Tennis Courts.
- i. Erection of new Public Library and Museum.
- j. Reconstruction and Diversion of Main Roads—several.
- k. Storm-water Sewers—a considerable length to complete the separation of the drainage system.
- l. Erection of two "Weir" type Steel houses.
- m. Erection of 90 Houses—Dysart Road. Preparation of scheme for a further 30.
- n. Removal of Public Convenience, Watergate.
- o. Installation of Automatic Lighting for Street Lamps.

It will be seen that this is a list of great interest, and that several of the items are connected with the efficient maintenance of the Public Health. There has been a considerable amount of recent legislation, particularly affecting housing, and new regulations concerning milk supplies and slaughter-houses, whilst the control over patients affected with tuberculosis has been, under certain conditions, considerably strengthened. A patient suffering from tuberculosis in communicable form can be prevented from carrying on certain occupations whereby he might spread the disease, and more particularly in the handling of milk, which is recognised as the most likely agent to infect young children with tuberculosis.

Vital Statistics.

The number of births registered during the year was 335, representing a birth-rate of 17·4 per 1,000 per annum. This is slightly less than the average birth-rate for England and Wales, which is officially given as 18·3, and it is to be noted that this figure is the lowest which has been recorded for the country except during one period during the Great War.

The number of illegitimate births was 27, more than 8% of the whole. When it is borne in mind that the proportion of illegitimate births in the whole of the country during 1924, was only 4%, this must be considered a high figure, and one to be regretted, the career of an illegitimate child being generally a very sad one.

The number of deaths was 224, representing a death-rate of 10·7 per 1,000. This compares favourably with the average death-rate for the county, 12·2 per 1,000.

The table of causes of death is appended. There are no particularly striking features in it.

The infantile death-rate is 83·5 per 1,000 births, there being 28 deaths during the year of children under the age of one year. This is slightly higher than the average for England and Wales, which is 75.

However, when it is found that 11 of these children died from congenital debility or premature birth, the figure may be considered satisfactory. It is of interest in connection with the question of infantile mortality rates to quote a paragraph from the Annual Report for the year 1901, where it is stated:—

“The deaths of children under one year were 127·23 per 1,000 of registered births, being 25·57 less than the average of the preceding ten years.”

Infantile mortality has thus been reduced by at least one-half, and the striking reduction has occurred almost entirely since the beginning of the Great War; this being the case all over the country. It is not easy to tabulate all the causes of this, the brightest feature of modern civilisation. Improvements in housing conditions, milk supply, and sanitary conditions, each contribute towards the result, but it is probable that the chief factor is a psychic one, which has realized, amid the holocaust of war, the value of the human being. One interesting fact which follows from the reduction of infantile mortality is that the average expectation of life is probably ten years more now than was the case at the beginning of the century.

(B)—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

An Isolation Hospital is maintained by the Authority, wherein cases of infectious fever and small-pox can be nursed. This hospital is not opened for every case occurring in the district, but can be ready at very short notice to receive patients. In the year 1925, it was utilized for nursing four cases of small-pox.

The hospital is big enough to supply the needs of the locality, and would accommodate forty children.

The Grantham Hospital, with thirty-six beds, supplies the ordinary needs of the neighbourhood with regard to surgical and medical cases. It has a children's ward which is of considerable value.

There is no provision for maternity cases in the neighbourhood. Arrangements have been made by the County Council whereby cases requiring major surgical operations can be admitted to a Home at Lincoln.

The Grantham Infirmary admits unmarried mothers and also, under certain circumstances, illegitimate infants and homeless children.

Ambulance Facilities.

A motor ambulance is maintained jointly by the Urban and Rural Authorities. This has now been in use for five years, and has been of the greatest value, particularly in conveying cases to the Grantham Hospital. A charge is made for the use of it, excepting cases of extreme poverty, and for the last year it has been nearly self-supporting. This ambulance is only used for non-infectious cases. A horse ambulance is available for infectious cases.

Clinics.

A Maternity and Child Welfare centre is of great assistance to the Borough. The report for the year will be included later on in this report. There are no day nurseries, and the need for them has not been felt.

A School Clinic, a Tuberculosis Dispensary, and a treatment centre for Venereal Disease are also established in the town, being provided by the County Council.

The Public Health Officers of the Authority are :—

1. The Medical Officer of Health—part time.
2. The Sanitary Inspector—full time.
3. The Nurse in charge of the Welfare Centre—full time.

Professional Nursing.

There is a Victoria Nursing Association branch in the town, two nurses being employed. This branch is maintained by voluntary contributions. The nurses do not nurse infectious cases except measles and, when necessary, enteric fever, and in the event of these diseases being attended, payment is made to the Association by the Authority.

Midwives.

Two midwives are in regular practice in the town. They receive no subsidy from any Local Authority.

Chemical Work.

A list of analyses made by the Public Analyst, with results, is appended to the report.

Legislation in Force.

A list of the Adoptive Acts and Bye-laws in force in the Borough is also appended.

(C)—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The water supply to the Borough is provided by the Grantham Waterworks Company. This is a constant supply, of excellent quality, and the whole of the town, with very few exceptions, is supplied by it. An analysis was given in the Report for 1924, showing that the water was of good quality. It is a rather hard water, and it may be remarked incidentally that the Poor Law Institution has installed recently a softening plant, the value of which in laundry work has been very great. Water of this type is not liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

Water Supply.

Samples of water taken for analysis from the following sources and reported upon and such action taken as was indicated, viz.:—

REPORT OF PUBLIC ANALYST UPON A SAMPLE OF—

1. Water "E," taken from a shallow well, used for drinking purposes.

"I am of opinion that this water is fit for drinking, although the rather large quantity of chlorides and nitrates render it distinctly suspicious. The water is obviously collected from a subsoil charged with old sewage pollution, but 'present' pollution is absent."

The well was closed and the Grantham Waterworks Company's water laid on to the premises.

2. Water taken from the River Witham.

"This water is of very good quality and quite suitable for use in a swimming bath."

3. Water "F," from a shallow well, used for drinking.

"I am of opinion that this water is fit for drinking."

4. Water taken from a well situate near farm buildings and used for drinking.

"This water is polluted and unfit for drinking."

When opened, this well was found to be receiving a drain from a "crew" yard. The well has been closed and the Grantham Waterworks Company's water laid on to premises.

Five other samples of water have been tested for approximate results in the Public Health Department.

Rivers and Streams.

The River Witham runs through the Borough. There is very little pollution of the stream between its source, twelve miles south of the Borough, and your area. In the area itself it receives storm water during excessive rains, but again is free from pollution.

Some six miles lower down it receives the effluent of the Sewage Farm, at Marston, after treatment by irrigation of land. It may fairly be said that this river receives good treatment from the Borough of Grantham.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The system throughout the Town is good. Water-closets are, almost without exception, installed, and drains and sewers are well looked after, regular cleansing and periodic flushing being employed.

During the year, a reinforced-concrete storm-water Relief Culvert was completed and it is hoped that this, combined with recent widening and straightening of the River Witham and reconstruction of two bridges, will prevent the possibility of future flooding of parts of the town, such as has occurred in the past.

Scavenging.

This is effectively carried out under the supervision of the Sanitary Inspector, house refuse being conveyed to the Destructor, where it is converted to clinker. Movable ashbins are insisted upon, in order that the work of the authority may be assisted.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The report of the Sanitary Inspector is included, with a classified statement of the number of premises visited, defects or nuisances discovered, and action taken with regard to these.

Schools.

The question of an increase in the number of elementary schools in the Borough is now under consideration, and no comment need be made at the present time except that, as infectious disease has not been prevalent, school closure has not often been necessary, as is shown by the list here inserted.

SCHOOLS CLOSED IN GRANTHAM FOR EPIDEMICS DURING 1925.

<i>School.</i>	<i>Period—</i>		<i>Reason.</i>
	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	
St. Anne's Infants ...	January 15—	February 9...	Mumps
Brownlow Infants ...	„ 15—	„ 2...	Mumps
Welby Street ...	„ 26—	„ 20...	Mumps
Spittlegate Infants...	„ 26—	„ 6...	Mumps
Brownlow Infants ...	February 9—	„ 20...	Mumps and Influenza
Little Gonerby ...	„ 9—	„ 20...	Mumps and Influenza
Spittlegate Boys ...	„ 16—	„ 27...	Mumps
„ Girls ...	„ 16—	„ 28...	Mumps
„ Infants ...	„ 16—	„ 28...	Mumps
St. Mary's ...	„ 17—	March 6...	Mumps
St. Anne's Mixed ...	„ 17—	February 27 ...	Mumps
Boys' Central ...	„ 17—	„ 27...	Mumps and Influenza
St. Anne's Infants ...	May 20—	June 8...	Measles
Brownlow Infants ...	„ 25—	„ 12...	Measles
St. Anne's Infants ...	October 26—	Novemb'r 26...	Whooping Cough

(D)—HOUSING.

The Housing conditions of your area are similar to those found throughout the country, inasmuch as building has not kept up with the demand for new houses. It is unnecessary to go into the reasons for this, but the result is that there is a definite shortage of houses, and that, in more instances than one would wish, there is overcrowding, owing either to a family not being able to go into a larger house, or to rooms being sub-let by tenants to those who otherwise find it impossible to get a home. For these reasons, action regarding unfit houses under the Public Health Act and the Housing Acts has not been energetically undertaken.

The area is at the present time being re-surveyed in regard to these matters, and a report will in due time be placed before the Committee.

During the last five years, ninety houses were built by the Authority, in Dysart Road, and a scheme has been prepared for the building of thirty additional houses. It should be added that the population has not appreciably altered during the period under review, and at the present time there appears to be no reason to expect any perceptible change in the near future.

Generally speaking, the houses in the area are well looked after as regards water supply, closet accommodation and refuse disposal. Unhealthy areas undoubtedly exist, but there has been a steady improvement since the 1909 Act came into force, and it is hoped that further amelioration will ensue.

The housing statistics for the year 1925 are included in the Report.

It will be noted that 348 notices were served upon owners requiring defects to be remedied, and that the result was satisfactory in 277 cases.

(E)—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply.

As there are only six cowkeepers or milk producers in the Borough, it necessarily follows that the bulk of the milk consumed in the district is imported from the surrounding rural areas. A comparatively small quantity comes by rail. A few producers retail their own produce and the remainder is distributed by retail purveyors.

One dealer is licensed to use the designation and sell "Certified Milk" in respect of a shop and not being the establishment at which the milk is produced.

No applications for registration have been refused and no licenses revoked.

A sample of "Certified" Milk was obtained for the purposes of analysis and bacteriological examination, in March, the result being as follows, viz. :—

Fat	...	...	...	4.10
Solids not Fat	...	...	...	8.72
No. of organisations growing at				
37° Centigrade in 48 hours				2773 per c.c.
Bacillus Coli present in 1 c.c. but absent in .1 c.c.				

Meat.

The nineteen slaughter-houses which are used for the slaughter of food animals have been inspected frequently. Five of these buildings have been materially improved during the year as regards lairage accommodation, lighting, ventilation and drainage. On the whole, the occupiers are anxious to comply with the bye-laws and other regulations, but the position and construction of some of the slaughter-houses is such that no effort on the part of the occupants can render them suitable or satisfactory for their purpose.

The provisions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924, are being observed as far as possible. The requisite notices of times of slaughter are given from time to time, and although it is obviously impossible for the Inspector to examine the whole of the carcasses at the time of slaughter and after, a fair percentage is generally seen.

All condemned meat is destroyed at the refuse destructor.

Your Authority is not one authorised by the Ministry of Health to mark meat under the provisions of Part III. of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924.

A weekly open market is held on Saturday, when some half-dozen stalls are used for exposing meat for sale. They are protected as far as practicable from dust, etc., by means of suitable screens and coverings.

NUMBER OF PRIVATE SLAUGHTER-HOUSES IN USE.

	1920.	January, 1925.	December, 1925.
Registered ...	14	12	12
Licensed ...	8	8*	8*

* Includes one Licensed Knackery.

The amount of unsound food condemned during the year will be found in the Appendix.

One seizure of diseased meat exposed for sale was made during the year, but the legal proceedings which ensued were unsuccessful. The meat in question was a pig's head and three pigs' spleens affected with tuberculosis.

Two-and-a-half carcasses of beef affected with tuberculosis were surrendered after inspection and destroyed.

Other Foods.

Special attention has been given to the inspection of food in shops and premises where it is manufactured, prepared or stored. In a few instances alterations have been made to these places with a view to the work being carried on under more hygienic conditions. There still remain some buildings, however, which might with advantage be improved for the purpose for which they are used.

Legislation for dealing with certain premises where food is prepared for sale appear to be inadequate. This applies particularly to the manufacture of ice-cream during the season.

Bakehouses have been inspected periodically and, on the whole, found to be kept in a cleanly condition.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

Sixty-four samples of Food and Drugs were submitted to the Public Analyst. Of these 36 were formally taken, the remainder being informal or unofficial. The quality of milk was of a good standard, as, out of 33 formal samples the Analyst certified 31 to be genuine, and only two samples to be deficient in fat to the extent of 1 and 2 per cent. respectively.

In no instance was dirt reported to be present in milk. This is a marked improvement on the previous year when ten samples were found to contain dirt ranging from 2 to 7 grains per gallon, whilst in 1923, nine samples were so reported.

A dozen unofficial samples of milk submitted for examination by producers and retailers have been subjected to the Gerber test for approximate results.

Milk and Cream Regulations 1912 and 1917.

Under these regulations 43 samples of milk were examined for the presence of preservative, but in no instance was it reported to be present by the Public Analyst.

(F)—INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

The prevalence of notifiable infectious disease in the area during the five years 1920-1924 inclusive has been below the average. Taking the important diseases Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, the total number of notifications during the five years was :—

Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	53 cases
Diphtheria	-	-	-	39 „

There were 69 notifications of pneumonia during the same period. No notifications were received of Malaria, Dysentery or Trench Fever.

During the year 1925 the following notifications were received :—

Small Pox	-	-	-	4 cases
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	0 „
Enteric Fever	-	-	-	2 „
Diphtheria	-	-	-	3 „
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-	-	13 „
Tuberculosis (other forms)	-	-	-	6 „
Pneumonia	-	-	-	15 „
Erysipelas	-	-	-	6 „
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-	1 „
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	1 „
Chicken Pox	-	-	-	62 „

The age incidence of these diseases is noted in the Table included in the report.

The result for the year must be considered very satisfactory. The entire absence of Scarlet Fever and three cases only of Diphtheria are very exceptional.

Four cases of small-pox occurred in the early part of the year. These were of a mild type and immediate steps were taken to convey

the patients to the Isolation Hospital. The public were advised to undergo vaccination and the response was fairly satisfactory. No other cases occurred during the year and the area must be considered very fortunate to have so far escaped, since small-pox has been rife in many parts of the country.

Of the two cases of Enteric Fever notified, one was an imported case of a non-resident which proved fatal, and the second, of the para-typhoid type, was contracted outside the area, and made a good recovery.

The case of Puerperal Fever recovered satisfactorily.

It will be noticed that Chicken-Pox was very prevalent, no less than 62 cases being notified.

Arrangements are made, and freely taken advantage of, for the examination of pathological and bacteriological specimens, at the expense of the Authority.

No action has been necessary during the year with regard to contacts, and in the absence of Scarlet Fever and low incidence of Diphtheria, there has been no reason to apply the Schick and Dick test.

Isolation is, when occasion demands it, obtained by the use of the Isolation Hospital, which, as stated above, was used for the cases of Small-Pox. The other cases were nursed in their own homes.

Disinfection is carried out by fumigation of premises, and treatment of bedding etc., by superheated steam, at the Borough Destructor Works, where an up-to-date apparatus is installed for this purpose.

Non-notifiable acute infectious diseases accounted for three deaths from Measles and six from Whooping-Cough. There were no fatal cases of Influenza.

Tuberculosis.

Your Medical Officer has made an examination of all the cases of Tuberculosis notified in the Borough during the twelve years from 1913-1924 inclusive. The data so obtained are of some value, but are necessarily incomplete for various reasons. Some cases

have escaped notification, others have been lost sight of, or have left the locality, and for one reason or other no information could be obtained about one quarter of the cases notified. The actual number of notifications received during this period was 367, 186 being males, 181 females. Of these, 249 were suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 118 from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis. It was found that, at the end of 1924, of these patients, 159 were dead, 83 males, and 76 females, and 31 had left the locality, 17 males, and 14 females. No information was obtained about 92 cases. Of the remaining 85 cases a very large proportion were cured or had the disease arrested, but 29 were known to be under treatment at the present time.

It would probable give a fair indication of the prevalence of this disease if the last named figure were doubled. This would allow for the existence of cases undiagnosed, uncertified and lost sight of. The following deductions are therefore fairly correct for your area. Males and females are equally liable to be affected with Tuberculosis, and the pulmonary form is twice as common as that affecting other organs. Of cases notified, half the number may be expected to be dead in twelve years, one-sixth will probably be cured and one-sixth under treatment. This last paragraph is admittedly, at first sight disheartening. It is to be borne in mind however that the incidence of Tuberculosis throughout the country shows a steady diminution, as judged by the death-rate from phthisis over a very long period. Thus the death rate per million in 1847 was over 3000, and it has steadily declined, with slight exacerbatum, however, during the Great War, until in 1924 it was under 1,000 per million. This is a very great decrease, and there can be little doubt that further improvement will ensue.

The final result of this research is an estimate that in this area there are approximately three persons per thousand suffering from tuberculosis, of whom two are suffering from pulmonary and one from non-pulmonary disease. The actual number of notifications of tuberculosis during the year was 19, pulmonary 13, and non-pulmonary 6, whilst deaths were 12 pulmonary and 7 non-pulmonary.

No action has been taken under the 1925 regulations with regard to tuberculous employees in the milk trade. The Sanitary

Inspector has given very detailed attention to the inspection of meat, and any tuberculous carcasses have been surrendered to the authority and destroyed. The butchers have given every facility in the matter.

TUBERCULOSIS SCHEMES for the area are controlled by the County Council. The County Medical Officer has a tuberculosis visiting station, and arrangements for the treatment of patients in Sanatoria have been ample. During the year 1925, 17 patients from the Borough have been in various Sanatoria, six of whom have been cured and two improved, and five were still under treatment at the end of the year.

(G)—MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

A Centre is in active work for the purpose of aiding infantile health. Expectant mothers receive advice from the nurse in charge and a general recommendation is given, the value of which is universally acknowledged, that certain examinations are eminently desirable before the birth of a first child. Two sessions are held weekly, with an average attendance of 32, where mothers with their babies are welcomed, and advice given which is recognised as being of great value.

The statistics of the department for the year are included, and they show how useful the Centre has been to the town.

Visits paid by Health Visitor during the year:—

1. To expectant mothers	...	...	56
2. To infants under one year—first visits			320
		total visits	1444
3. To children 1—5 years	...	...	1600

In concluding this report the Medical Officer of Health hopes that he has omitted nothing of importance. The health of the Borough at the time of writing is good, and it is hoped that the chief want of the area, viz., an increase in the number of houses, may in due course be made good.

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES H. D. ROBBS,

Medical Officer of Health.

Causes of Death in the Borough of Grantham, 1925.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	MALE.	FEMALE.
All Causes	127	97
Enteric Fever	—	—
Small-pox	—	—
Measles	1	2
Scarlet Fever	—	—
Whooping Cough	1	5
Diphtheria	—	—
Influenza	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	—	—
Meningococcal Meningitis	—	—
Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	8	4
Other Tuberculous Diseases	4	3
Cancer, Malignant Disease	13	11
Rheumatic Fever	—	—
Diabetes	2	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.	7	8
Heart Disease	17	17
Arterio-sclerosis	10	6
Bronchitis	11	9
Pneumonia (all forms)	2	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	4	1
Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	1	—
Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)	—	—
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	—	—
Cirrhosis of Liver	—	1
Acute and Chronic Nephritis	1	1
Puerperal Sepsis	—	—
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	—	—
Congenital Debility and Malformation, Premature Birth	7	4
Suicide	—	1
Other Deaths from Violence	6	1
Other Defined Diseases... ..	29	21
Causes Ill-defined or Unknown	3	—
Special Causes (included above)—		
Poliomyelitis	—	—
Polioencephalitis	—	—
Deaths of Infants under 1 year—		
Total	18	10
Illegitimate	3	2
Total Births	175	160
Legitimate	158	150
Illegitimate	17	10
Population, 19,170.		

Notifiable Diseases.

Disease.	Admitted to Hospital	Under 1	Under 2	Under 3	Under 4	Under 5	Under 10	Under 15	Under 30	Under 45	Under 65 and over	Total
Small-pox ...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	1	...	4
Scarlet Fever
Enteric Fever	1	1	...	2
Diphtheria	1	...	1	1	...	...	...	3
Cerebro Spinal Fever
Pneumonia	1	...	...	1	1	1	5	4	2	15
Erysipelas	1	5	6
Chicken-pox	At various ages	...	...	...	62
Ophthalmia Neonatorum

Tuberculosis.

Age Periods.	NEW CASES.				DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.. 5 ...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
.. 10 ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
.. 15 ...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
.. 20 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.. 25 ...	2	1	...	2	...	...	...	...
.. 35 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.. 45 ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
.. 55 ...	2	1	...	1	...	...	...	...
.. 65 & over ...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	10	3	3	3	8	4	4	3

Adoptive Acts in Force in the Borough of Grantham.

The Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890	...	...	adopted 3rd June, 1896
The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890:—			
Parts II., III. and V.	...	...	.. 10th November, 1890
Part IV.	...	...	.. 4th June, 1919
The Small Dwellings Acquisition Act, 1899	...	...	.. 9th November, 1899
The Private Street Works Act, 1892	...	...	.. 1st May, 1901
The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907:—			
Sects. 81 and 86 of Part VII. and Parts VIII.			
and IX.	...	...	.. 5th October, 1910
Parts II., IV., V. and VI. ; Sects 34, 35, 36, 37,			
38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49			
and 50 of Part III. and Sects. 92 and 95 of			
Part X.	...	...	.. 4th November, 1910
The Public Health Act, 1925. Whole Act adopted			

Bye-Laws Adopted.

New Streets and Buildings	...	...	adopted 11th April, 1917
Drainage of Existing Buildings	...	...	.. 5th June, 1916
Slaughter Houses	...	...	.. 21st March, 1882
Common Lodging Houses	...	...	.. 21st March, 1882
Tents, Vans, Sheds, etc.	...	...	.. 10th November, 1919
Good Rule and Government and the Prevention of			
Nuisances	...	...	.. 1st October, 1913
Prevention of Nuisances arising from Snow, Filth,			
Dust, Ashes and Rubbish, and Keeping of			
Animals so as to be Injurious to Health	...	...	.. 21st March, 1882
Hackney Carriages	...	...	.. 11th April, 1919
Regulations under the Dairies, Cowsheds, and			
Milkshops Order, 1885	...	...	.. 5th February, 1908

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written Notices (3)	Occupiers prosecuted (4)
FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	9	1	nil
WORKSHOPS... .. (Including Workshop Laundries)	57		
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' premises)	8		
TOTAL	74	1	nil

2. Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect to which Pros- ecutions were instituted. (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>				
Want of cleanliness				
Want of ventilation				
Overcrowding				
Want of drainage of floors				
Other nuisances				
Sanitary accommodation {	insufficient	2	2	
	unsuitable or defective			
	not separate for sexes	2	2	
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)				
Other offences				
<small>(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921.)</small>				
TOTAL	4	4		

REPORT

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTOR

For the Year 1925.

Sanitary Inspection of District.

			No. of houses involved.
Damp walls rendered impervious ...	6	...	6
Defective walls repaired ...	4	...	4
Floors renewed or repaired ...	29	...	17
Ceilings	30	...	26
Stairs	3	...	3
Windows renewed, repaired or made to open ...	15	...	12
.. (additional) provided ...	2	...	2
Doors renewed or repaired ...	3	...	3
Roofs renewed ...	7	...	9
.. repaired ...	30	...	36
Spouting renewed or repaired ...	24	...	16
.. cleansed ...	2	...	2
Water laid on from G.W.W. Co.'s mains ...	1	...	4
Wells closed or filled in ...	1	...	1
Filthy houses cleansed ...	6	...	6
Verminous houses disinfected ...	1	...	1
Drains cleansed ...	14	...	30
.. repaired or trapped ...	7	...	18
.. relaid or intercepted ...	28	...	46
.. ventilated ...	18	...	25
.. additional provided ...	3	...	5
Soil pipes renewed or repaired ...	2	...	2
Sinks provided ...	11	...	11
Sink waste pipes renewed ...	5	...	5
Downspouts disconnected ...	35	...	42
W.C.'s cleansed ...	15	...	19
.. repaired or rebuilt ...	60	...	71
.. provided with flushing cisterns ...	5	...	8
.. provided with water ...	10	...	12
.. additional provided ...	14	...	17
Washhouse roofs repaired ...	10	...	10
.. spouting renewed or repaired ...	13	...	13
.. rebuilt ...	1	...	1

Yards paved or repaired	...	...	26	...	35
„ cleansed	...	...	3	...	8
Fowls removed	...	...	9	...	9
Pigeons „	2	...	2
Pigs „	2	...	2
Accumulations of manure removed	2	...	2
Cowsheds cleansed	3		
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Visits to slaughter-houses	821
„ workshops	74
„ cowsheds	22
„ dairies and milkshops	98
„ markets	...	...		...	49
„ infected houses	...	...		...	57
„ offensive trade premises	...	...		...	8
„ vans	...	...		...	86
No. of complaints received and investigated				...	122
„ samples of food and drugs obtained for analysis				...	64
„ samples of water	...	...		...	11
„ rooms disinfected	...	...		...	52
„ drains tested	...	...		...	73
„ statutory notices served	...	...		...	80
„ informal notices served	...	...		...	173
„ re-inspections after service of notices				...	527
„ inspection of work in progress		...		...	491
„ interviews with owners, &c.		...		...	123
„ slaughter-houses on register		...		...	*20
„ cow-keepers	...	...		...	6
„ wholesale traders of milk	...	...		...	42
„ retail purveyors of milk	...	...		...	48

* Of these, 12 are registered, and 8 licensed, including one knacker's slaughter-house

Unsound Food.

Beef (tubercular)	...	...	...	120 stones
Beef	...	...	...	39 „
Beef (chilled)	...	...	...	4 „
Veal	...	...	...	1 carcase
Mutton	...	...	...	1 „
Pork	...	...	...	9 stones
Ox heads, lungs, liver, kidneys, &c.		...	...	11
Pigs' plucks	...	...	...	6
Sheeps' livers	...	...	..	1
Pigs' stomachs	...	...	...	1 cwt.
Cheeses (15)	...	...	...	136 lbs.
Lobster (canned)	...	...	...	11 „
Veal and ham pies	...	...	...	10 „

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

Nature of Article Analysed.	No. of Samples	No. Genuine	Deficient in Fat, &c.	Containing Dirt	Of Poor Quality	No. of Convictions	Dismissed or Withdrawn	Results.	
								Fines	Costs
Milk ...	33	31	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Butter ...	3	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	36	34	2	...	...	...	...	...	...
Milk ...	11	10	1	} Informal Samples contained 30 per million lead					
Ice Cream ...	3	3	...						
Demerara Sugar ...	1	1	...						
Tincture of Rhubarb ...	2	2	...						
Sweet Spirit of Nitre ...	2	2	...						
Seidlitz Powders ...	5	4	1						
Cream of Tartar ...	3	3	...						
Carb. Magnesia ...	1	1	...						
Total ...	28	26	2						

No. of Sample.	Article.	Report of Public Analyst.	Action taken.
No. 81	Milk ...	Deficient in Fat 2% ...	Vendor warned
No. 99	Milk ...	Deficient in Fat 1% ...	No action taken
No. 100 (Informal)	Milk ...	Deficient in Fat 11% ...	Further sample procured
No. 121 (Informal)	Seidlitz Powder	No. 2 powder contained 30 per million lead (B.P. limit is 20)	Further sample found to be genuine

Legal Proceedings.

It was found necessary to take the following cases before the magistrates during the year :—

Situation of Premises.	Nature of Complaint.	Act under which Proceedings were Instituted.	Result.
Stall in Market Place.	Exposing diseased meat for sale.	Public Health Act, 1875.	Case dismissed
8, Wilkin's Place, Westgate.	Filthy state of dwelling house.	do.	Order made for Abatement of nuisance.
6, Bourne Cottages, Inner Street.	Overcrowded house.	do.	do.
Burrow's Farm, Barrowby Road.	Polluted well.	do.	Case adjourned 'sine die'

Housing.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts, 1919 or 1923 or 1924	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
(i.) By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
(ii.) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

1. Unfit Dwelling Houses.

Inspection—(1) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910	...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	... ..	Nil

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	...	Nil
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HOUSING—*continued.***3. Action under Statutory Powers.**

A.—Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, etc., Act, 1919.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit :—				
(a) By owners, after service of formal notices	...	...	...	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	...	...	...	Nil

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	...	...	...	348
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—				
(a) By owners	...	...	...	274
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	...	Nil

C.—Proceedings under sections 11, 14, 15 of the Housing Act, 1925

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	...	...	...	Nil
(2) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling houses having been rendered fit	...	...	...	Nil
(4) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	Nil
(5) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	Nil

