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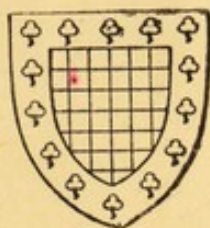


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BOROUGH OF

GRANTHAM



ANNUAL REPORT

of the Health of the Borough
for the Year

1958

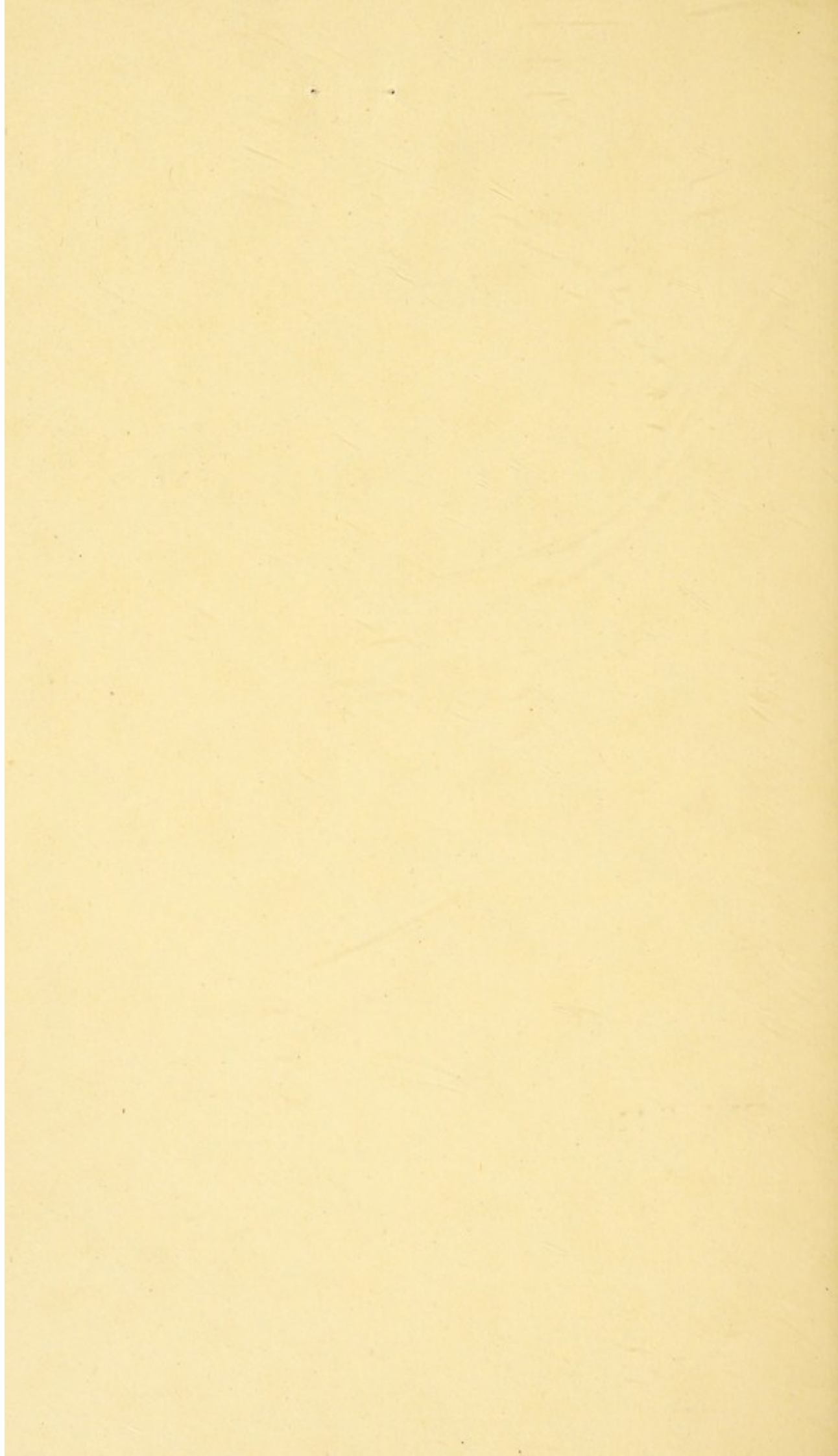
BY THE

Medical Officer of Health

TO WHICH IS APPENDED THE
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

Chief Public Health Inspector





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GRANTHAM

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BOROUGH OF GRANTHAM

HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Councillor E. Smith (Chairman).
Councillor H. Cant (Vice-Chairman)
Alderman B. H. Sindall.
Alderman J. Hardaker.
Councillor R. C. Moore.
Councillor A. L. Ramsden.
Councillor J. R. Cook.
Councillor W. A. Ogden.
Councillor W. O. Heath.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS.

Medical Officer of Health:
C. W. SHEARER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector:
C. TAYLOR, (a), (b), (c), (d).

Additional Public Health Inspector:
N. A. BUCKLEY, (a), (b), (c).

- (a) Holds Certificate of Royal Society of Health or of Examination Joint Board as Public Health Inspector.
- (b) Holds Certificate of Royal Society of Health as Inspector of Meat and Other Foods.
- (c) Holds Certificate of Royal Society of Health as Smoke Inspector.
- (d) Holds Certificate of Royal Society of Health for Sanitary Science.

BOROUGH OF GRANTHAM.

STATISTICS.

Population (Census 1951)	23,405
Population (Mid-year estimate)	24,400
Area of Borough	3868 acres
Rateable Valuation (1st April, 1957)	£265,843
Sum represented by penny rate (year ending 31st March, 1958)	£1,065

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS.	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	163	166	329
Illegitimate	14	5	19
Live Birth rate per thousand estimated population			14.3
Average for England and Wales			16.4
STILL BIRTHS.	M.	F.	Total
Legitimate	5	3	8
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Still Birth rate per 1,000 live and still births			22.2
TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS			356
INFANT MORTALITY.	M.	F.	Total
Deaths of Infants under 1 year	4	3	7
Legitimate	4	3	7
Illegitimate	—	—	—
Deaths of Infants under four weeks	4	2	6
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births			20.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births—legitimate			21.3
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births—illegitimate			—
NEO NATAL MORTALITY RATE PER 1,000 LIVE BIRTHS			17.2
ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS PER CENT OF TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS			5.8
DEATHS.	M.	F.	Total
Number of Deaths	160	133	293
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population			12.0
Corrected (for age and sex) death rate per 1,000 population			10.8
Average for England and Wales per 1,000 population			11.7
MATERNAL DEATHS.	M.	F.	Total
Deaths from Maternal Causes			0
Maternal mortality per 1,000 total births			0
Average for England and Wales			0.43

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

16 St. Peter's Hill,
Grantham.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Grantham.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the health, vital statistics and sanitary conditions of the Borough for the year 1958.

The number of infant deaths (7) was higher than last year (5) but lower than in any previous year, and the corresponding Infant Mortality Rate of 20.1 is less than the national average of 22.5 per thousand births. As in most previous years the deaths were mainly due to prematurity and congenital malformations.

The table of notifications of infectious disease shows that there was a very high incidence of measles, but few cases of whooping-cough, while Scarlet Fever was more prevalent than for some years past. Most cases of these diseases were mild and none required admission to hospital.

Fortunately we had no case of Poliomyelitis, but the incidence of this disease has fluctuated very much from year to year in the past, and there is no room for complacency. Progress was made during the year in immunizing children and expectant mothers, and in July the scheme was extended to include persons aged fifteen to twenty-five. The response from this latter group was, however, very poor up to the end of the year. I cannot emphasize too strongly that poliomyelitis attacks adults as well as children and that at least half the deaths from this cause are of persons over fifteen. We have now a powerful weapon in the Salk Vaccine, which not only confers protection on the immunized individual, but may, by reducing the number of "carriers," limit the spread of this dreaded disease in the community. I urge all those eligible to register for immunization, and I hope that the Government will before long be able to extend the scheme to all under forty.

1957 was the first year in which no death from Tuberculosis was recorded, and I noted that this disease was yielding slowly, but it is still a formidable enemy, which caused four deaths in 1958, and must be combated with all the means at our disposal. The Mass Radiography Unit visited Grantham again early in 1958, and, probably due to this, more new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis were notified than in 1957, though the total was not alarming when compared with the figures for previous years.

The number of deaths from Cancer was the highest since 1952; this was mainly due to a large increase in deaths from cancer of the stomach. I cannot offer any explanation for this phenomenon.

It was found necessary to take action under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, for the compulsory removal to an institution of an aged and infirm person living in insanitary conditions. The order was renewed twice. After being detained for nine months, the aged person recovered sufficiently to be able to return home.

A comprehensive account of the Department's work in the field of housing, food hygiene and other environmental matters, follows in the report of the Chief Public Health Inspector. Two points of special importance will be noted. Steps were taken towards establishing the first smoke control areas in the borough, and negotiations are in progress on the provision of a new abattoir, which is urgently needed. It will also be noted that compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations is generally quite good and it was not found necessary to take legal proceedings under these Regulations.

I have to thank all members of the Council, colleagues in other departments, and all in the Public Health Department, for their continued interest, courtesy, and unfailing help throughout the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

CHARLES W. SHEARER.

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS

Notifications received during the year.

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Scarlet Fever	30	—	—
Pneumonia	9	—	5
Measles	465	—	—
Encephalitis	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	8	—	—
Diphtheria	—	—	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
Erysipelas	1	1	—
Dysentery	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	14	14	—
Paratyphoid Fever	—	—	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—
Meningococcal Meningitis	1	1	—
Total	528	16	5

Age Distribution of the Notified Infectious Diseases.

	Not known	Under 1	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65 and over	Total
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	3	2	4	20	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	30
Pneumonia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	2	1	1	3	..	..	9
Measles	4	12	40	51	50	55	99	151	2	..	1	..	..	..	..	465
Encephalitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Whooping Cough	..	..	1	2	1	1	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8
Diphtheria	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Erysipelas	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Dysentery	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	5	5	..	..	..	14
Paratyphoid Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Food Poisoning	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	—
Meningococcal Meningitis	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Total	4	14	41	56	53	60	119	154	4	6	8	6	3	—	—	528

CAUSES OF DEATH, 1958	Male	Female
All causes	160	133
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	2	1
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	—
Syphilitic Disease	1	—
Diphtheria	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—
Meningococcal infections	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—
Measles	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	10	3
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	11	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast	—	6
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	—	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	15	14
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	—	—
Diabetes	4	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system	19	23
Coronary disease, angina	18	7
Hypertension with heart disease	1	—
Other heart disease	26	35
Other circulatory disease	11	7
Influenza	—	—
Pneumonia	4	1
Bronchitis	14	5
Other diseases of respiratory system	—	2
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	3	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	—	—
Congenital malformations	2	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	13	23
Motor vehicle accidents	1	—
All other accidents	2	2
Suicide	—	—
Homicide and operations of war	—	—

TUBERCULOSIS.

	Deaths during 1958				New Cases during 1958			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non Pulmonary	
Age Groups	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0—1 year ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
5—15 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—25 years ...	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
25—35 years ...	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	1
35—45 years ...	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—
45—55 years ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 years ...	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
65 and over ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Not known ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	2	1	1	—	9	4	—	1

INFANT DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES.

CAUSE OF DEATHS	Under 1 Day	1—7 Days	1—4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	1—3 Months	3—12 Months	Total under 1 Year
Premature Birth	2	—	—	2	—	—	2
Malformation	1	1	—	2	—	—	2
Birth Injuries	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	1	—	1	2	—	—	2
Total	4	1	1	6	1	—	7

DEATHS FROM CANCER.

	Cancer of:						
	Stomach	Lung, Bronchus	Breast	Uterus	All other sites	Total	Rate per 1,000 population
Male	10	11	—	—	15	36	
Female	3	—	6	1	14	24	
Total	13	11	6	1	29	60	2.9

FACTORIES ACT, 1937—ANNUAL REPORT OF M.O.H.

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

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written Notices	Occupiers Pros- ecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	21	12	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	141	101	8	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers) ...	—	—	—	—
Total ...	162	113	8	—

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness ...	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding ...	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floor	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient ...	2	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	7	3	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including those relating to Outwork)					
Section 9 ...	2	—	2	—	—
Total ...	10	3	2	—	—

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

Home nursing and domiciliary midwifery is still carried out by the District Nurses stationed at the District Nurses' Home, Castlegate.

HOME HELPS.

Help for cases of illness and maternity cases is provided through the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, 40 Westgate.

GENERAL HOSPITALS.

The Grantham General Hospital and the Hillview Hospital, Dysart Road, cater for the needs of the area.

MATERNITY HOSPITALS.

Maternity accomodation is provided at the above two hospitals.

ISOLATION HOSPITALS.

There being no Isolation Hospital in the immediate neighbourhood, accommodation when required has to be sought in neighbouring areas.

TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITALS.

Sanatorium treatment for cases requiring it is arranged by the Regional Hospital Board, who are now responsible for the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS.

(a) PROVIDED BY THE KESTEVEN COUNTY COUNCIL:

Child Welfare:

Six clinics weekly held at the Clinic, 40 Westgate—Dr. in attendance once weekly. Weekly clinic at the Methodist Church Hall, Harrowby Lane, Dr. in attendance thrice a month.

Diphtheria Immunisation:

At the Child Welfare Clinic on Tuesday afternoons. Free immunisation can also be arranged with general practitioners.

School Clinics:

Beaconfield. Minor ailments daily 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon. Dr. in attendance Tuesday, 9.30 a.m. Specialist services by appointment.

Day Nursery:

The Day Nursery, St. Catherine's Road, provides for children of working parents.

(b) PROVIDED BY THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL
AUTHORITY:

Tuberculosis:

A weekly session is held by the Chest Physician in the 'Grantham Hospital Out-Patients' Department, on Monday morning.

Venereal Diseases:

A weekly session is held in the Out-Patients' Department of Grantham Hospital on Wednesdays, at 10 a.m. and on Fridays (Males only) from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

LABORATORY FACILITIES:

Bacteriological investigations are amply provided for by the Public Health Laboratory, St. Anne's Road, Lincoln. All necessary chemical analyses are done by Mr. W. W. Taylor, Public Analyst, Nottingham.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Grantham.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my annual report on the sanitary circumstances of the district and work of the department for the year 1958. During the first three months of the year I was again without any technical assistance; frequent changes in the personnel hinders smooth running and sound administration of the department.

Once again new legislation came into operation which affects public health work, certain provisions of the Clean Air Act came into force on the 1st June, The Slaughterhouses Act 1958, was passed and The Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations 1958 and The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations 1958 were made. One item of particular interest is that a meeting took place between several authorities in Kesteven to discuss future problems of providing slaughtering facilities at which quite a measure of agreement was reached. Arising out of this meeting a further discussion was held with the representatives of the West Kesteven Rural District Council when it was decided that the responsible officers should consult together to produce the cheapest practicable scheme for provision of an abattoir to cater for a population of 30,000.

This was the third year of the five year slum clearance programme and four Clearance Areas involving 51 houses were declared and in addition several individual unfit houses were dealt with; details of inspections made and action taken are given later in this report; the rate of re-housing families from unfit dwellings was, however, retarded to some extent due to slowing down of the house building programme.

Other comments and statistics on the various branches of the work done in the department are given below under appropriate headings.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water throughout the Borough is supplied by the Grantham Waterworks Co. Eighteen samples were taken from various sections of the town mains and in all cases the Public Health Laboratory report indicated a satisfactory bacteriological standard.

The Public Analyst's report upon two samples of water submitted to him in November, 1958, was as follows:

SAMPLE NO.	1	2
SUPPLIED FROM:	Shallow Well	Towns Main
ANALYSIS—Per million parts:—		
Chemical		
Total Solids dried at 180°C	640.00	460.00
Suspended Matter	Absent	Absent
Chlorides as chlorine	39.05	28.40
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrate	10.00	6.25
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrite	Absent	0.001
Free and saline Ammonia	0.024	0.024
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.004	0.008
Temporary Hardness	190.00	190.00
Permanent Hardness	250.00	122.00
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 80°F from N/80 KMnO ₄	0.00	0.00
pH value	7.10	7.50
Appearance	Clear and Bright	Clear and Bright
Odour	None	None
Taste and Colour	Normal	Normal
Heavy Metals	Absent	Absent
Free Chlorine	Absent	0.20
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21°C in 72 hours	357	3
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C in 24 hours	5	1
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37°C in 48 hours	28	3
Coli-aerogenes count per 100 mls. at 37°C in 48 hours	50	0
Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at 44°C in 48 hours	0	0
Bacillus Coli (Presumptive)	Present in 5 mls.	Absent in 100 mls.

OPINION—SAMPLE NO. 1.

(1) At the time of sampling, this water did not satisfy the standard of bacterial quality required by the Ministry of Health and was unsuitable for human consumption and domestic use.

(2) The values for chlorides as chlorine and for nitrate and nitrogen are high and indicate organic pollution; I think it possible that surface water can get directly into this well and that the water would show more deterioration after fairly heavy rainfall.

(3) This water is excessively hard and would rapidly form scale in boilers, hot water installations, etc.

OPINION—SAMPLE NO. 2.

At the time of sampling this satisfied the standard of bacterial quality required by the Ministry of Health; this water was also of suitable chemical quality for human consumption, domestic use and dairy premises.

The number of houses provided with an internal water supply as a result of notices served upon the owner was twenty-four.

There are still a few shallow wells supplying dwellings which are remote from the water mains, and although the quality of water from them is known to be unsatisfactory no action can yet be taken other than advising the occupants to boil all water before use. Two shallow wells were closed during the year, one as a result of the cottage being demolished under the Housing Act, 1957.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The number of houses with pail closets is seven and these houses are due for demolition in the near future.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Reconstruction and improvement of the whole of the Grange Sewer proceeded throughout the year and at the same time complete reconstruction and enlargement of the culvert carrying the stream known as the Mowbeck through the town was in progress. In spite of this being a major engineering scheme the Contractors have so far carried out their work without hardly any complaints being received of nuisances caused from the public health aspect.

New foul and surface water sewers were constructed at Gonerby Hill Foot to serve a small proposed Council housing site, and extension to the foul sewer was made in Granta Crescent.

As is usual all alterations or relaying of drains at existing premises were supervised by your Public Health Inspectors.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE.

The number of employees engaged on refuse collection was one foreman, four drivers and seventeen fillers, and one driver was engaged on collection of salvage from shops, etc. One new S. & D. Fore and Aft Tipper was brought into service to replace an old 7 cubic yard side loading vehicle. The total fleet in operation was three S. & D. Fore and Aft Tippers and one S. & D. 7 cubic yard side loader and one Karrier Bantam for salvage collections. Gradual replacement of the smaller capacity vehicles follows the policy laid down by the Council having in mind the long haulage of refuse to be made when disposal takes place at Sudbrook, some eight miles distant. Refuse collection was carried out on the relay system, the men working virtually in two separate gangs and in spite of inclement weather conditions and continual increase in the number of premises to be serviced a weekly collection was generally well maintained, and for this I am pleased to record appreciation for the co-operation and efforts of your employees.

Controlled tipping continued to be carried out very satisfactorily at Londonthorpe Mill, but this site was being filled in more rapidly than was originally anticipated due to large quantities of spoil being received from the Grange sewer and Mowbeck scheme. Efforts to find a suitable tipping site nearer the town than the one at Sudbrook have so far proved abortive.

Collection and recovery of salvage was again an important and lucrative part of our organisation, although prices realised for various recovered materials continued to decline. Salvage sold during the year was as follows:—

	T. C. Qr. lbs.	£	s.	d.
Mixed Waste Paper and Cardboard	302 3 1 —	2,280	8	6
Rags, Woollens and Sacking ...	4 19 2 —	110	7	2
Scrap Iron Non Ferrous Metals				
and Tins	12 2 3 24	163	15	7
Accumulators		5	12	10
	319 5 2 24	£2,560	4	1

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

As mentioned in previous reports there are no licenced sites for the stationing of caravans within the Borough; whenever caravans were found on waste land the occupiers were interviewed and invariably they vacated the site in a few days; twenty-seven visits were made for this purpose and no statutory action was found necessary.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

A full-time Rodent Officer was engaged in carrying out work under this Act; many complaints were received and householders were found to co-operate very readily and take advantage of the free service given to domestic premises. Notification by members of the public plays an important part in keeping rat infestation in the town down to a reasonable level, and although the Rodent Officer does a considerable amount of survey work. I am convinced that early notification of any infestations no matter how small assists greatly in dealing with this problem.

The sewers were again treated at six monthly intervals and for the first time warfarin bait was used in the sewers with reasonably good results.

A summary of the work carried out during the year is tabulated below:—

	Council property	Dwelling property	Business property	Agri-cultural property	Total
No. of properties surveyed	15	245	40	4	304
No. found to be infested with rats or mice ..	9	108	21	4	142
No. treated for rats or mice	9	108	21	4	142
No. of visits made for the purpose of treating properties	182	1092	220	4	1498

Two maintenance treatments of the town sewers were undertaken with the following results:—

From 14.4.58 to 19.4.58 21.4.58 to 26.4.58		From 22.9.58 to 29.9.58	
No. of manholes pre-baited ..	312	No. of manholes pre-baited ..	189
No. found to be rat infested ..	104	No. found to be rat infested ..	46
No. of pre-baits laid	624	No. of pre-baits laid	378
No. of manholes poison baited	102	No. of manholes poison baited	69

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The Clean Air Act came fully into operation on the 1st June, 1958, and a comprehensive report upon its provisions for dealing with pollution caused by both industrial premises and domestic premises was submitted to the Health Committee. In this report I suggested that some definite policy and directive was needed from the Council, particularly with regard to the powers given in the Act to establish smoke control areas. Attention was drawn to the fact that practically all Council houses erected since the war have been equipped for burning smokeless fuels and consequently a large area at the north-east of the town could readily be made into one or more smoke control areas with little or no cost to the Council, and that consideration could also be given to requiring all future new housing estates, private or otherwise, to be made smoke control areas. A special Sub-Committee carefully considered my report and eventually the Council resolved that smoke control orders be made declaring the proposed new Earlesfield Council Estate and the proposed new private estate on the north side of Beacon Lane to be made smoke control areas.

It was felt that a start made on these lines might induce occupiers of existing houses to voluntarily follow suit and burn only smokeless fuels.

A great deal of propaganda through the press, radio and television, etc., has certainly brought to the notice of the public the detrimental effects which breathing a smoke-laden atmosphere can have upon the health of a community, and several weeks of fog at the end of the year served to emphasise the need for clean air campaigns to be continuously and vigorously pursued. Unquestionably the price of smokeless fuels has a tremendous bearing upon the problem; the housewife is generally concerned more with the cost per ton rather than with the heat value derived from a particular kind of fuel, and it is not always realised that smokeless fuels burnt on the right type of grate will give more heat from less fuel, means cleaner homes and a cleaner atmosphere outside.

The Dark Smoke (Permitted Periods) Regulations, 1958, came into operation and lay down permitted periods beyond which black or dark smoke must not be emitted from industrial plant, and no serious infringement of these Regulations were noted.

It is pleasing to record that British Railways are gradually introducing Diesel Engines in place of Steam Locomotives and thus are making a useful contribution towards cleaner air.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Inspections made and defects found are tabulated on pages 10 and 11.

Several inspections were made with regard to means of escapes in case of fire and ten certificates were issued under Section 34. Most of the factories in the town to which Section 34 applies have now been inspected and the appropriate certificates issued.

RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951.

The undermentioned materials submitted for analysis were all found to comply with the Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Regulations, 1951:—

- 1 Sample of Nuppak Felt Padding.
- 1 Sample of Coir Fibre.
- 1 Sample of Red Wool.
- 1 Sample of Washed Flock.

SHOPS ACT, 1950.

Occasional visits were made to shops to note compliance or otherwise with Section 38, and in some instances it was found necessary to draw attention to the need for a reasonable temperature to be maintained particularly during spells of cold weather.

RENT ACT, 1957.

Thirty-eight visits were made to houses in connection with this Act.

Number of applications for Certificates of Disrepair	...	25
Number of applications refused		1
Number of Certificates of Disrepair issued		5
Number of Landlord's Undertaking (Form K)	...	19
Number of applications by Landlords for Cancellation of Certificate of Disrepair		6
Number of Certificates of Disrepair Cancelled	...	6

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

NUMBER AND NATURE OF INSPECTIONS MADE DURING 1958.

Complaints reported to the Public Health Department ...	314
Inspections of Dwellings where nuisances were found ...	251
Inspection of other premises where nuisances were found ...	27
Inspection of premises upon complaint where no nuisances were found	139
Re-visits to properties under notice or work in progress ...	1460
Inspection of houses (Housing Act, 1957)	45
Re-inspection of houses (Housing Act, 1957)	113
Visits in connection with overcrowding	4
Houses measured up for 'Permitted Numbers'	—
Visits in connection with Improvement Grants	23
Visits in connection with House Survey	29
Visits in connection with Drainage of Premises	197
New Drains Tested	37
Old Drains Tested	21
Visits to Bakehouses	44
„ „ dairies and milk shops	56
„ „ ice-cream premises	83
„ „ miscellaneous foodstores and food preparing rooms	142
„ „ factories (with mechanical power)	101
„ „ factories (with no mechanical power)	12
„ „ factories (re means of fire escape)	34
„ „ outworkers' premises	—
„ „ fried fish shops	26
„ „ markets, shops and stalls	88
„ „ offensive trade premises	10
„ „ dwelling vans	27
„ „ verminous premises	5
„ „ rat infested lands and premises	20
„ „ cafes and cafe kitchens	49
„ „ cinemas and places of public entertainment ...	1
Visits in connection with Rent Act, 1957	38
Visits to shops (Shops Act, 1950, Section 38)	19
„ „ slaughterhouses	473
„ „ meat purveyors and cooked food or 'making-up' premises	133
Visits in connection with smoke abatement	54
„ „ „ „ refuse collection and disposal ...	206
„ „ „ „ infectious disease and suspected food poisoning	31
Inspection of licensed premises	83
Number of interviews with builders or owners	378
„ „ samples of water taken for analysis	18
„ „ informal notices served	168
„ „ statutory notices served	9

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

MILK SUPPLY.

(a) THE MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.

Milk Distributors:—

Number on Register at 1st January, 1958	...	...	20
Number on Register at 31st December, 1958	...	...	35

Dairy Premises:—

Number on Register at 1st January, 1958	...	...	2
Number on Register at 31st December, 1958	...	...	2

Eleven samples of ungraded milk were taken from bulk supplies on arrival at the Local Pasteurisation Establishment from farms outside the Borough. Details of unsatisfactory samples were forwarded to the County Milk Regulations Officer for investigation.

No. of samples not decolourising methylene blue in 4½ hours	No. of samples decolourising methylene blue in 4 hours or less	No. of samples decolourising methylene blue in 2 hours or less	No. of samples decolourising methylene blue in less than 1 hour
4	3	4	—

It was announced towards the end of the year that the Ministry intended making an order specifying an area including Grantham within which the use of special designations in relation to milk sold by retail becomes obligatory .

As long ago as 1952 I reported that all milk supplies retailed in the town were either produced from tuberculin tested herds or had been pasteurised, and all milk purveyors already hold licences to use the special designations in relation to milk they retail.

(b) THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED MILK) REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of Dealers' Licences issued authorising the use of the Designation 'Sterilised' in relation to milk sold from shops	...	...	...	...	...	32
Number of Dealers' Licences issued authorising the use of the Designation 'Pasteurised' in relation to milk sold from shops	...	...	...	...	...	9
Number of Supplementary Licences issued authorising the use of the Designation 'Sterilised' in relation to milk retailed in the town by an outside firm	...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of samples of Pasteurised Milk taken	...	...	...	...	...	25
No. found to be satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	25
No. of samples of Sterilised Milk taken	...	...	...	...	...	2
No. found to be satisfactory	...	...	...	...	...	2

The number of shops selling 'Sterilised' milk is increasing. From a public health angle there seems little value in issuing of Dealer's licences annually, it causes a lot of work and records to be kept, in my opinion unnecessarily. I have never known a case when it has been necessary to refuse a licence or recommend the revocation of one. I see no reason why a Dealer's licence once issued could not remain in force until it is revoked for some contravention of the Regulations.

(c) THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (RAW MILK) REGULATIONS, 1959.

Use of the Special Designation 'Tuberculin Tested.'

No. of Dealers' Licences issued ...	...	...	4
No. of Supplementary Licences issued ...	...	...	1
No. of samples of Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	...	...	7
No. found to be satisfactory ...	...	...	1

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

(a) SAMPLES OF FOOD.

I am indebted to Mr. E. T. Hawley, Chief Weights and Measures Inspector to the County Council for supplying the following information:—

"Of the 411 samples obtained in the whole of the Administrative County during the year, 74 were taken in the Borough of Grantham, while a further 48 samples of Milk were taken at Messrs. Brown Brothers' Dairy, Manthorpe, en route, as one might say, to Borough consumers.

The samples actually taken within the Borough were:—

Almonds (ground) ...	2	Ice Cream ...	5
Beef (minced) ...	1	Iced Lollipop ...	1
Butter Sweets ...	1	Margarine ...	2
Butter Walnut Sandwich	1	Marzipan ...	1
Celery Salt ...	1	Milk ...	17
Coffee and Chicory ...	1	Mustard ...	1
Cream ...	6	Potted Meats ...	3
Custard Tarts ...	1	Preserves ...	4
Desiccated Coconut ...	1	Rice (creamed) ...	1
Fish Paste ...	2	Salmon Spread ...	1
Groundnut Oil ...	1	Sausages ...	7
Honey ...	1	Soft Drinks ...	8
Food Colouring ...	1	Stewed Steak, etc. ...	3

With the exception of some of the samples of milk and cream, which were tested in the Department's Laboratory and found to be genuine, all the above were submitted to the Public Analyst for Kesteven, W. W. Taylor, Esq., B.Sc., F.R.I.C., Nottingham. For the first time for some years, he was able to certify all samples as genuine and free from prohibited preservatives, indeed, in many cases the samples were well above average."

(b) MANUFACTURE AND SALE OF ICE CREAM.

There is only one Ice Cream manufacturer within the borough; regular visits were made to inspect the plant and samples taken were satisfactory.

Year by year the number of premises registered for the sale of ice cream increases, almost every small mixed business now retails prepacked ice cream; with the installation of refrigerators for frozen foods, ice cream is introduced and is now being sold from various trade premises which never formerly dealt in ice cream; I received enquiries for registration from a fishmonger and also a meat purveyor. There is no question that the distribution of ice cream during recent years has improved considerably from a hygienic viewpoint and the Regulations controlling the sale and manufacture of ice cream have been largely responsible for the improvement.

		Manu- facture and Sale of Ice Cream	Sale of Loose Ice Cream	Sale of Pre-Packed Ice Cream
Premises registered 1st January 1958	...	1	26	57
Premises registered during the year		—	—	2
Registrations cancelled due to cessation of business		—	—	—
Premises registered 31st December, 1958	...	1	26	59

Result of Bacteriological Samples (Methylene Blue Test):

Number classified in Grade 1	...	57
Number classified in Grade 2	...	14
Number classified in Grade 3	...	1
		—
Total number of samples taken	...	72
		—

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES.

For a small borough, Grantham would seem to have above the average number of various types of food premises for its population. This is probably due to the fact that there is a considerable population in villages which fringe the town, and also the town is a convenient and much used stopping place for coach parties in the summer. A high proportion of your additional Public Health Inspector's time is, therefore, taken up with the inspection of food premises, and contraventions of the Regulations noted during the past year are listed below. No legal proceedings were taken.

There has been an all-round improvement in the manner in which food is displayed from open stalls in the market place, and compliance with the Regulations is generally quite good, although in my opinion this is only due to the regular weekly visits which are made by your Inspectors. Washing facilities are still not available to market stall holders, but it is anticipated that the proposed new public conveniences with washing facilities will be erected near the market place before my next report.

After some experience with the Food Hygiene Regulations one feels that legal requirements do not deal adequately with delivery vans and mobile shops particularly with regard to securing the provision of washing facilities and hot water supply. Surely in the interests of hygiene these facilities are most desirable whether food is for immediate consumption or otherwise.

Improvement and modernisation of licensed premises has been noticeable, and a number of the older and more unsatisfactory licensed premises have been closed by the Brewery Company. It is pleasing to record the progress made in this direction as the standard of hygiene is being raised apart from any trade consideration which naturally is the main concern prompting modernisation or closure of such premises.

Some statistics of interest are recorded hereunder:—

Contraventions found included the following:—

Number of food premises without hand basin or hot water supply	9
Number of food premises with defective table tops	2
Number of food premises without clothing cupboard or locker accommodation	2
Number of premises requiring cleansing of walls and ceilings	31
Number of premises found with defective wall and ceiling plaster	3
Number of premises found without soap, nail brushes and clean towels	3
Number of premises found with defective floors	2

The number of various types of food premises are given below :

The number of butchers' shops and premises registered for the preparation of sausage and meat products ...					35
Number of fish frying premises	...	...	...	...	15
Number of bakehouses	...	...	...	...	22
Number of wet fish premises	...	...	...	...	5
Number of cafes and snack bars	...	...	...	...	12
Number of factory canteens and other catering premises	...	...	...	...	13
Number of grocery and miscellaneous stores	...	...	...	...	94
Number of licensed premises	...	...	...	...	52

Improvements effected during 1958 are tabulated below:—

Improvements Effected	Meat Purveyors and Cooked Meat Premises	Bakehouses	Fish Frying Premises	Cafes, Factory Canteens and Hotels	Other Food Shops and Stores	Licensed Premises	Total
Cleansed and Redecorated	1	—	1	—	3	—	5
Sink and / or Hand Basin and / or Hot Water supply provided	2	—	1	—	3	2	8
Provision of Locker Accommodation ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Provision of First Aid Kit	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Otherwise Hygienically Improved	5	4	—	3	4	5	21

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION.

All slaughtering for the local butchers was carried out at the Public Abattoir, which are premises leased by the Council from the Co-operative Society. The Council maintains the building, provides all equipment and has an attendant available, and the butchers provide their own labour for slaughtering and dressing of carcasses. The only other private slaughterhouse was discontinued at the end of 1957 due to proposed redevelopment in the area and cessation of the temporary Town Planning permission which had been given in 1954.

In November, 1957, I made a report upon the slaughtering facilities in the Borough indicating in particular how your existing abattoir would fall short of proposed legislation. It was decided not to incur considerable expenditure in improving the existing abattoir and in January, 1958, a meeting took place at Sleaford of the various authorities in Kesteven to discuss slaughtering policy. Correspondence took place with the local Butchers' Association, local Auctioneers and The Fatstock Marketing Corporation in an endeavour to determine future slaughtering requirements; finally in July at a meeting with the West Kesteven Rural District Council representatives it was agreed that officers of the two authorities should consult together to produce the cheapest practicable scheme to cater for a population of 30,000, for submission to the Ministry.

Details of meat inspected at the abattoir are given hereunder:—

	Cattle (ex. Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	607	28	16	2,905	3,021
Number inspected	607	28	16	2,905	3,021

ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS

Whole Carcases condemned ..	—	2	—	6	3
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	122	4	—	32	148
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis ..	20.09	21.43	—	1.31	5.00

TUBERCULOSIS ONLY

Whole Carcases condemned ..	—	—	—	—	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ..	28	—	—	—	73
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ..	4.61	—	—	—	2.45

CYSTICERCOSIS

Carcases of which some part or organ was affected ..	11	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ..	5	—	—	—	—
Generalized and totally condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of C. Bovis ..	1.81	—	—	—	—

The entire carcasses and organs of the following animals were condemned for the reasons stated:—

1 Pig	...	...	...	Natural Death.
1 Pig	...	...	...	Generalised Tuberculosis.
1 Pig	...	...	...	Multiple Abscesses.
1 Pig	...	...	...	Injury and Pneumonia.
1 Cow	...	...	...	Acute Peritonitis.
1 Cow	...	...	...	Pyæmia.
1 Sheep	...	...	...	Emaciation and Oedema.
1 Sheep	...	...	...	Injury and Oedema.
1 Lamb	...	...	...	Oedema.
1 Sheep	...	...	...	Pyæmia.
2 Sheep	...	...	...	Moribund.

The total weight of meat and offals condemned as unfit for human consumption was:— 2 tons 12 cwts 23½ lbs. of which 15 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lbs. was affected with Tuberculosis.

Other miscellaneous food commodities inspected and condemned as being unfit for human consumption included:—

Canned Food and Jars	...	...	...	...	1,095
Miscellaneous Meat Products	...	...	...	49 lbs. 7½ ozs.	
Bacon	...	...	...	...	39 lbs. 8 ozs.
Fish	...	...	...	...	5½ stones.
Sausage	...	...	...	...	34 lbs. 4 ozs.
Packets Cheese	...	...	...	...	85
Cheese	...	...	...	...	4 lbs.
Cereals	...	...	...	...	33 packets.
Biscuits	...	...	...	...	3 lbs.
Crisps	...	...	...	...	29 packets.
Suet	...	...	...	...	8 packets.
Dried Fruit	...	...	...	...	22 packets.
Butter	...	...	...	...	½ lb.
Cocoa	...	...	...	...	1 packet.
Fruit Cake	...	...	...	...	2 lbs.
Cream Crackers	...	...	...	...	1 packet.
Beef Steak Pie	...	...	...	...	1
Chocolate	...	...	...	...	1 box.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958.

The number of licensed slaughtermen on the Register at 31st December, 1958, was eight.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

As mentioned earlier in this report the slum clearance programme slowed down so far as rehousing of persons from unfit houses was concerned, only 16 families being rehoused during the year. Your Health Officers continued, however, to report upon unfit houses in accordance with the five year programme which was commenced in November. 1955.

Properties in Clearance Areas and individual unfit houses dealt with in the past year are as follows:—

HOUSING ACT, 1957—SECTION 42.

Clearance Area Number	Addresses	Date of Council Resolution
37	8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 13 Charles Street 1, 2, & 3 Manners Street.	5th February, 1958.
38	1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 Houghton Place 9 & 10 Malt Hill	5th February, 1958.
39	11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 & 25 Manners Street 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8 Cambridge Place 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 8 Charles Place	2nd April, 1958.
40	29, 30 & 31 Manners Street.	2nd April, 1958.

As the above areas are suitable for redevelopment it was decided to negotiate for acquisition of the houses, but up to the end of the year agreement had been reached on only eight houses, and no Compulsory Purchase Orders had been submitted to the Ministry.

In addition to the above houses a potential clearance area, viz:—Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 Greenwood's Row was acquired by the Council and the houses are subject to a certificate of unfitness.

HOUSING ACT, 1957—SECTION 16.

Date of Demolition Order	Date of Undertaking	Addresses
	1.1.58 (Closing Order)	45 Welby Street.
9.5.58		The Hut, Gonerby Hill Foot.
11.8.58		Mere's Farm Cottage, Harlaxton Road.
	1.10.58 (Closing Order)	21 Union Street.

Other housing statistics of interest are as follows:

Number of houses demolished during the year	...	108
Number of new houses built by the Council	...	55
Number of new houses built by private enterprise	...	48
Number of houses visited upon complaint of over-crowding		4
Number of houses found to be over-crowded	...	1
Number of cases of overcrowding relieved by the Council during the year		1

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. TAYLOR.

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