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Mr. Harris

CITY OF



LINCOLN

URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY

ANNUAL REPORT

— OF —

THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

For the Year 1923.

CITY OF



LINCOLN

URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY



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CITY OF LINCOLN.

ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT FOR 1923,

BY

M. L. BERY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., Acting Medical
Officer of Health,

for Dr. C. J. COLEMAN, M.D., M.A., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE.

COUN. J. HAGUE (MAYOR) (Chairman).

ALD. E. HARRISON	COUN. C. E. SNOOK
„ H. A. COTTINGHAM	„ W. H. MARTIN
„ W. H. KILMISTER	„ J. B. ANDERSON
COUN. M. E. NEVILE	„ J. J. LEAMY
„ A. HOWITT	

MEMBERS OF THE MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

COUN. J. HAGUE (MAYOR).

ALD. T. C. HALKES	COUN. J. K. FOX
COUN. M. E. NEVILE (Chairman).	MRS. J. HARRIS
„ A. HOWITT	„ E. SANDARS
„ C. E. SNOOK	„ E. WESTWOOD
„ W. H. MARTIN	„ J. L. ADAMSON
„ G. DEER	

SANITARY STAFF (Officials).

December, 1923.

Medical Officer of Health:

C. J. COLEMAN, M.D., M.A., D.P.H.

Acting Medical Officer of Health:

M. L. BERY, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant and Clinical Medical Officer, Infant Welfare and Maternity Home:

C. R. CRYSTAL, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Clinical Specialist, Venereal Diseases:

W. C. P. WHITE, M.B., Ch.B.

Public Analyst:

E. M. CHAPLIN, Ph.D., F.I.C.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

J. K. CRAWSHAW, M.B.E., Cert. S.I.A.

Special Inspector for Food and Slaughter-Houses, etc.:

C. STREET, C.R.S.I., C.M.I.

Assistant Sanitary Inspectors:

A. GARNER, C.R.S.I.

H. HOE, C.R.S.I.

Superintendent of Health Visitors:

**Miss E. M. DAVIES (Diploma in Hygiene,
Sanitary Institute), C.R.S.I.**

Phthisis Nurses:

Nurse A. WOOD.

Nurse M. SENDALL.

Matron of the City Hospital and Sanatorium:

Miss E. O'KANE.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
CORPORATION OFFICES,
LINCOLN.

July, 1924.

MR. MAYOR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you this report on the health and sanitary conditions of Lincoln during 1923.

In the regrettable absence of Dr. C. J. Coleman, owing to ill-health, I would like, on his behalf and my own, to thank the entire staff for their valuable assistance and also the voluntary workers for their help.

The incidence of Infectious Diseases, as a whole, has been low, and there has been no case of Enteric Fever during the year.

The Smallpox Hospital had to be opened for sporadic cases of Smallpox from Lincoln and outside areas in Lincolnshire, but the City has been fortunate in escaping anything in the nature of an epidemic of Smallpox, and there were no deaths.

The Death-rate (11.2 per 1,000 population) and the Infant Mortality (63.8 per 1,000 Births) compares favourably with the previous years.

The Drainage and Sewerage of the City continues to be improved, and there are fewer privy vaults and box closets when compared to last year. This matter is still receiving attention.

The statistics are given further on in the report.

In addition, I should like to thank the Members of the Health Committee and the City Council for their never-failing courtesy and help at all times.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

M. L. BERY
(for Dr. C. J. Coleman).

CITY OF LINCOLN.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FOR 1923.

Population at Census, 1921 (adjusted by Registrar General)	66,600
Population, 1923	66,910
Area of Municipal Borough... ..(acres)	6,166
Average number of persons per acre	10.8
Rateable Value	£325,226
Sum represented by a penny rate	£1,255
Number of inhabited houses, Mar. 31, 1924 ...	16,139
Birth-rate per 1,000 population, 1923	17.5
Death-rate per 1,000 population, 1923	11.2
Infantile Mortality, per 1,000 Births	63.8
Zymotic Death-rate per 1,000 ... ..	.47
Phthisis Death-rate per 1,000 ... ..	.66
Other Tuberculous Diseases Death-rate per 1,000	.25
Respiratory Diseases Death-rate per 1,000 ...	2.02
Malignant Diseases Death-rate per 1,000	1.01

NATURAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

THE AREA OF THE MUNICIPAL BOROUGH is now 6,166 acres, and is divided into North and South Districts by the River Witham. The district to the south of the river is flat, the soil consisting of river alluvium, gravel and sand.

It may be noted that nearly all the additional Districts now included in the City are on low-lying ground in the river basin. To the north the land rises to a considerable eminence, on which the Cathedral stands; this is the northern escarpment of the Lincoln Gap. To the south, the Canwick Hill forms the southern escarpment, and the valley through which the river flows towards the Wash is the Gap formed by the prehistoric Trent. The geological formation of the hills to the north and the south is oolitic limestone. The slope of the northern hill as it descends to the river is mostly covered with clay.

POPULATION.

Census of	1881	...	...	...	37,312
do.	1891	...	...	...	41,491
do.	1901	...	...	...	48,784
do.	1911	...	...	...	57,285
do.	1921	(adjusted)	...	...	66,600
do.	1922	„	...	...	66,930
do.	1923	„	...	...	66,910

Employment.

The Trade in the City shows slight signs of improvement, but the question of unemployment still remains serious.

I am informed by the Relieving Officers that £28,223 13s. 10d. was expended in Poor Law Out-Relief during the financial year, March, 1923—March, 1924.

During the same period £28,066 13s. 3d. was expended in Unemployment Relief.

The number of Unemployed in the City during December, 1923, was 3,891.

These figures show better than anything else the serious state in the City of industrial conditions during 1923.

In the Annual Report of 1921 were set forth the chief local channels in operation for the relief of unemployment.

NURSING ARRANGEMENTS AND HOSPITALS AND OTHER INSTITUTIONS FOR TREATING THE SICK.

1. Professional Nursing in the Homes. The Bromhead Institute for Nurses supplies trained nurses on application, for work in the City and District; in connection with this there is also a Lincoln District Nursing scheme which is managed by a Voluntary Association, and provides nursing visits for the sick poor.
2. The County Hospital. This Institution is of old standing and has beds for medical and surgical cases, and also wards for the treatment of children. It serves a very large area of the County as well as the City of Lincoln.
3. The Infirmary at the Burton Road Institution provides beds for the sick poor.
4. The City Hospital and Sanatorium provides beds for Infectious Diseases and cases of Tuberculosis.
5. The Smallpox Hospital is managed in connection with the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases.
6. The City Maternity Home has fourteen beds for lying-in women, and is connected with the Clinic for Maternity and Child Welfare, and also the Municipal District Midwifery Service.
7. Mental Institutions. The Bracebridge Mental Hospital is available for Lincoln mental cases, as is also the Lawn Asylum, which is a private Institution.
8. Dispensaries. The Lincoln General Dispensary is established for the treatment of the sick poor, and employs a resident House Physician.

There are Municipal Dispensaries for Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases. In addition there are Eye, Skin and Dental Clinics for the treatment of school children.

Vital Statistics.

DEATHS.

During the year 830 deaths were registered: these divided into sexes for each quarter are:—

		M.	F.	TOTAL.
1st quarter	...	132	118	250
2nd „	...	111	95	206
3rd „	...	90	69	159
4th „	...	109	106	215
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		442	388	830
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The total compares with previous years as follows:—

1907	...	...	807	1915	...	...	929
1908	...	...	767	1916	...	...	868
1909	...	...	775	1917	...	...	878
1910	...	...	782	1918	...	...	1,149
1911	...	...	874	1919	...	...	856
1912	...	...	797	1920	...	...	800
1913	...	...	772	1921	...	...	818
1914	...	...	804	1922	...	...	885
				1923	...	...	830

Sixty-nine persons died in the Burton Road Institution, 106 in the County Hospital, 26 in the City Hospital, 5 in the Lawn Asylum, 13 in the Red House Nursing Home, 6 in Private Nursing Home, 1 in H.M. Prison, 8 in the Maternity Home (2 Adults and 6 Infants), and 2 in the New Barracks.

The Registrar-General now sends particulars of deaths of Lincoln residents who die elsewhere, but whose deaths must be added to the total of deaths registered locally; he also gives the number of people who have died in Lincoln during the year, but who are not residents in the locality, and this number must be subtracted from the total number of local deaths. I have, therefore, added 37 deaths to the total of 830, and subtracted 113 deaths. This leaves 754 deaths of Lincoln residents for the year 1923, which forms the basis for my future analysis.

As the deaths of Lincoln residents in 1923 were 754 and the population at the middle of the year as regards death-rate is estimated at 66,910, the death-rate per 1,000 of the population is 11.2.

As regards the usual Zymotic diseases, the death-rate was .47 per 1,000 of the population.

		Death Rate per 1,000.				
		1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.
Zymotic Diseases	...	.38	1.05	.62	.62	.47
Respiratory	...	2.40	1.9	1.8	3.3	2.02
Phthisis	...	.94	.72	.77	.67	.66
Other Tuberculous						
Diseases	...	.24	.21	.24	.20	.25
Malignant Diseases	...	.94	.97	1.24	1.2	1.01

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT, DEATH DURING THE
YEAR 1923.

CAUSES OF DEATH		Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the district.								
		All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 y'rs.	2 and under 5 y'rs.	5 and under 15 y'rs.	15 and under 25 y'rs.	25 and under 45 y'rs.	45 and under 65 y'rs.	65 and Up- wards
All Causes	{ Certified	746	72	19	18	13	24	81	183	336
	{ Uncertified	8	3	..	..	..	..	..	2	3
1	Enteric Fever .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
2	Small Pox .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
3	Measles	8	1	3	3	1	..	..	..	..
4	Scarlet Fever	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..
5	Whooping Cough	4	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
6	Diphtheria and Croup	3	..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..
7	Influenza	15	1	..	..	..	1	4	4	5
8	Erysipelas .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
9	Phthisis (P.T.B.)	44	1	..	..	2	10	15	13	3
10	Tuberculous Meningitis	8	1	3	2	1	1	..	..	..
11	Other Tuberculous Diseases	9	..	..	1	1	2	4	1	..
12	Cancer, Malignant Disease	68	..	..	..	..	..	7	26	35
13	Rheumatic Fever	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	..
14	Meningitis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
15	Organic Heart Disease	11	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	6
16	Bronchitis	84	10	8	4	..	..	2	12	48
17	Pneumonia (all forms)	51	8	2	1	1	2	11	16	10
18	Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
19	Diarrhoea and Enteritis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
20	Appendicitis and Typhlitis .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21	Cirrhosis of Liver .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
21 ^a	Alcoholism .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
22	Nephritis and Bright's Disease	15	1	..	..	..	..	3	3	8
23	Puerperal Fever	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
24	Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition	4	1	..	..	..	..	2	1	..
25	Congenital Debility and Mal- formation, including Pre- mature Births	33	33	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
26	Violent Deaths, excluding Suicides	14	1	1	2	1	1	2	5	1
27	Suicides	14	..	..	..	..	4	1	8	1
28	Other Defined Diseases	277	15	2	3	2	2	27	91	135
29	Diseases, Ill-defined and un- known .. ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
30	Senility	87	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	87
TOTALS		754	75	19	18	13	24	81	185	339

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

Seventy-five deaths occurred in Infants under one year of age, giving a mortality of 63.8 per 1,000 births. Thirty-three deaths occurred within a month of birth.

Premature Birth, Atrophy, Malformation and Debility were responsible for 29 deaths, and form the largest individual factor in the mortality.

Pneumonia and Bronchitis were responsible for 19 deaths.

As regards Zymotic Diseases, two deaths were due to Whooping Cough.

INFANT MORTALITY TABLE.

1923. Net Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 year of age.

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under 1 year
All causes	{ Certified	25	4	1	1	31	14	9	13	5	72
	{ Uncertified	1	..	1	..	2	1	..	..	..	3
Smallpox .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Scarlet Fever .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2
Diphtheria and Croup .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Tubercular Meningitis .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
{ Abdominal Tuberculosis .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Other Tuberculous Diseases .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Meningitis (not Tuberculous) .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Convulsions		2	..	..	..	2	..	3	1	..	6
Laryngitis .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis .. ..		..	1	..	..	1	6	..	1	2	10
Pneumonia (all forms) .. ..		..	..	1	..	1	2	1	3	2	9
{ Diarrhoea .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Enteritis .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gastritis .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Syphilis .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Rickets .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suffocation, overlying .. ..		..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Injury at birth		1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Atelectasis		1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
{ Congenital Malformations		1	1	..	..	2	2	1	1	..	6
{ Premature birth		17	1	1	..	19	1	..	..	..	20
{ Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus		3	..	..	..	3	3	3	..	..	9
Other Causes		1	1	..	1	3	..	1	2	..	6
TOTALS		26	4	2	1	33	15	9	13	5	75

BIRTHS.

During the year 1923, 1,227 births were registered, of which 74 were illegitimate. These, divided into sexes for each quarter of the year were as follows:—

	Males	Females	Total
1st Quarter	169	165	334
2nd Quarter	143	150	293
3rd Quarter	158	144	302
4th Quarter	161	137	298
Totals	631	596	1,227

The percentage of Illegitimate Births to total Birth Rate is given below for the last eight years.

1916—5.1 per cent.	1920—6.28 per cent.
1917—6.4 „	1921—6.29 „
1918—7.7 „	1922—5.25 „
1919—7.4 „	1923—6.03 „

Information supplied by Registrar-General showed that there were 63 outward transfers and 10 inward, leaving a balance of 53 births to be subtracted. The nett number of births belonging to the City of Lincoln is therefore 1,174. The birth-rate for the year was 17.5 for 1,000 of the population, calculated on a basis of 66,910, the figure given by the Registrar-General.

Comparative Table of Birth-rate, Death-rate and Infantile Mortality as far as ascertainable in 1923:—

	Death-rate per 1,000	Birth-rate per 1,000	Infantile Mortality per 1,000 Births
England and Wales ..	11.6	19.7	69.
105 Greater Towns, including London ..	11.6	20.4	72.
157 Smaller Towns ..	10.6	19.8	69.
London	11.2	20.2	60.
Lincoln	11.2	17.5	63.8

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1923 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Uncor-rected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	Of Non-resi-dents regis-tered in the District.	Of residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 year.		At all Ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	Number.	Rate.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1916	55,078	1,272	1,271	21.2	868	15.2	142	26	96	75.5	752	13.6
1917	65,341	1,110	1,113	17.0	878	14.9	149	48	95	85.3	777	13.2
1918	BR 67,348 DR 60,707	1,204	1,206	17.9	1,149	18.9	266	36	87	72.0	919	15.3
1919	BR 63,107 DR 60,581	1,160	1,158	18.2	856	14.1	151	21	92	79.0	726	11.98
1920	63,655	1,479	1,455	22.7	800	12.5	107	39	117	79.0	732	11.5
1921	66,600	1,526	1,478	22.2	818	12.3	110	45	128	86.6	753	11.3
1922	66,930	1,237	1,232	18.4	885	13.0	106	31	99	80.2	810	12.1
1923	66,910	1,227	1,174	17.5	830	12.4	113	37	75	63.8	754	11.2

DRAINAGE and SEWERAGE.

Mr. MacBair, in his report for the year ending 31st March, 1923, states that the "Extensions to the Sewage Pumping Station have been put in hand during the year, and a new Engine Room has been erected and new pumping machinery is now being installed. The new pumps will deal with volume equivalent to six times a dry weather flow of three million gallons daily, the first three volumes, or nine gallons, being raised to the Sewage Farm by the regular steam pumps. The second three volumes will be lifted by automatic electrical pumps, which discharge the storm water into three stand-by tanks for settlement purposes."

The Sewage Farm, which contains 82½ acres, has dealt efficiently with the sewage and no complaints have been received by this Department with respect to the effluent.

In Hykeham Road all sewer connections have been made under the road, but the drainage of twelve of the houses has not yet been done.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are now 61 privy vaults, 190 box closets and 16,337 water closets in the City.

PUBLIC SANITARY CONVENIENCES.

Mr. MacBrair reports that there are sixteen men's urinals and two W.C.'s (one for females) in the City.

The position of each is shown in the table below:—

MEN'S URINALS.

1. High Street, East side, by Inland Revenue Offices (late), on G.C. Railway property, constructed in 1895.
2. High Street, East side, by High Level Railway Bridge, on Railway property, constructed in 1886.
3. Canwick Road, West side, by High Level Railway Bridge, on Railway property, constructed in 1893.
4. Butter Market Passage, re-constructed 1894.
5. Waterside North, opposite S. Swithin's Parish Hall.
6. Waterside North, Baggeholme Road, constructed 1898.
7. Monks Road, North side, in the Cattle Market, re-constructed 1906.
8. The Park, South end, re-constructed 1895.
9. Castle Hill, behind the closed "Black Boy" Public-house.
10. Castle Hill, by the Castle Gates, re-modelled and maintained by the Corporation since 1905; belongs to the Lindsey County Council.
11. Newport, near the Arch, re-built and enlarged 1910.
12. Sincil-street, at the rear of the New Market Hotel, constructed by the Corn Exchange Co. in 1902; it is provided with water and cleansed by the Corporation.
13. Newland Gas Works, East side, built 1907.
14. Canwick Road, Durham Ox Crossing, built 1910.
15. Union Road, junction with Westgate, built 1911.
16. Monks Road, N.E. corner of Mainwaring Recreation Ground, built 1911.

WATER CLOSETS.

1. Men's Lavatory, High Bridge, built 1907, in lieu of the urinal on the bridge, re-constructed in 1896.
2. Ladies' Lavatory, under the Stonebow, East side, constructed in 1908.

WATER.

The water main has been extended in Hykeham Road, and Lincoln water is now available for all the houses that have been built.

In Doddington Road 14 yards of 6in. pipe was added to the main in September, 1923, and 236 yards of 4in. pipe in March, 1924, and the main now extends as far as "Southcote." There are twelve houses beyond the end of the main.

Fourteen wells have been abolished in Hykeham Road, two in Doddington Road and one in Boultham Park Road, and the houses have been connected up to the Lincoln water main.

Sanitary Inspection of District.

SUMMARY OF THE WORK OF THE SANITARY STAFF.

Notices :

Statutory notices served	17
" " complied with	17
Informal notices served	485
" " outstanding on 31st December, 1923 ...	34
Circular letters <i>re</i> notices	95
Re-visits <i>re</i> notices	737

Work Done :

Privy vaults abolished	18
Privy boxes abolished	41
New water-closets provided	76
" " " cisterns provided	15
W.C. pans provided	28
" " connected to traps	43
" " cleansed	8
" cisterns repaired	63
" overflow pipes repaired	28
" flush pipes repaired	35
" supply pipes repaired	24
" seats repaired	11
Choked W.C.'s. cleansed	109
Drains tested with smoke, etc.	244
" found defective and repaired	62
" re-laid	26
" found choked and cleansed	244

New Inspection chambers built ...	...	...	...	...	104
Manhole covers provided ...	...	...	...	...	14
Drain ventilating pipes tested ...	...	...	...	...	232
" " " choked	...	...	...	...	19
" " " repaired	...	...	...	...	18
" " " fixed new	...	...	...	...	4
" " " lengthened	...	...	...	...	5
Sink waste pipes trapped	...	...	...	...	8
" " " repaired	...	...	...	...	9
Eaves spouts and down spouts repaired	...	...	...	...	84
Yards and passages ashphalted ...	...	...	...	...	144
Defective roofs repaired ...	...	...	...	...	81
Foul sinks removed	...	...	...	...	15
Windows of houses made to open	...	...	...	...	32
Ashpits abolished ...	...	...	...	...	26
Covered metal ashes bins provided	...	...	...	...	454

Inspections :

Houses inspected	...	...	...	...	348
" found to be dirty	...	...	...	...	36
" cleansed	...	...	...	...	36
Living Vans inspected at Fair-time	...	...	...	...	80
Visits to Common Lodging Houses	...	...	...	...	115
Pig-styes inspected	...	...	...	...	91
" found in insanitary condition	...	...	...	...	13
Visits to Canal Boats	...	...	...	...	24
" Factories and Workshops	...	...	...	...	447
" Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	163
Inspection of work in progress	...	...	...	...	629
No. of complaints received and investigated	...	...	...	...	229
Re-visits <i>re</i> complaints	...	...	...	...	364
Interviews with owners, agents and builders <i>re</i> work	...	...	...	...	596
Visits to all houses of a rateable value of £30 and under	...	...	...	...	15,222
<i>re</i> overcrowding	...	...	...	...	170
No. of houses overcrowded	...	...	...	...	10
Dangerous places reported	...	...	...	...

Infectious Diseases :

Cases of notifiable Diseases investigated	...	...	...	...	90
" " " re-visited	...	...	...	...	50
" Smallpox Contacts visited	...	...	...	...	11
" Infectious Diseases removed to Hospital	...	...	...	...	83
Notices to Education <i>re</i> Infectious Cases in school children	...	...	...	...	110
Children excluded from school	...	...	...	...	140

Disinfections :

Premises disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	191
Rooms disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	495
Bundles of wearing apparel disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Beds disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	177
Bedding disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	239
Mattresses disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	174
Carpets and rugs disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Bundles of wearing apparel destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Beds destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Bedding destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Mattresses destroyed	...	...	...	...	...	...	16

INSPECTIONS MADE *re* FOOD, Etc.

Visits to Cowsheds	...	...	...	...	...	...	185
„ Dairies and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	...	115
„ Abattoir	...	...	...	...	...	...	324
„ Private Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	273
„ Cattle Market	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
„ Central Market	...	...	...	...	...	...	131
„ Fruit Market	...	...	...	...	...	...	164
„ Fish Market	...	...	...	...	...	...	153
„ Meat Market	...	...	...	...	...	...	183
„ Making-up Rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	361
„ Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
„ Ice Cream Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	93
„ Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	474
„ Dining and Refreshment Rooms	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
„ Hotel Kitchens	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
„ Fruiterers and Green Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	113
„ Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	141
„ Grocers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	217
„ Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	315
„ Tripe Boilers	...	...	...	...	...	...	48
„ Hide and Skin Yards	...	...	...	...	...	...	57
„ Knackers' Yards	...	...	...	...	...	...	52

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES GENERALLY.

The incidence of Infectious Diseases generally has been low.

The number of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria cases notified was small. There was one death from Scarlet Fever and three from Diphtheria during the year.

Influenza was again prevalent in a sporadic manner, and was the cause of 15 deaths.

There were one case of Encephalitis Lethargica.

There was no case of Typhoid Fever.

The following Table gives the number of cases of each Infectious Disease notified during the year:—

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.							
	At all ages.	At all Ages—Years.						
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and upwards.
Smallpox	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Cholera (C) Plague (P).....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	38	...	8	25	4	1	...	...
Erysipelas	9	...	...	1	...	5	3	...
Scarlet Fever	64	1	15	32	15	1	...	...
Typhus Fever.. ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric Fever.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing Fever (R) Continued Fever (C) .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis.. ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.....	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	82	...	1	11	22	31	15	2
Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...	25	...	2	8	4	9	2	...
Malaria .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Pneumonia (All Forms)	12	...	1	3	3	3	2	...
TOTALS	237	6	27	81	48	51	22	2

SCARLET FEVER.

During the year 64 cases were notified and 45 of these were admitted to the City Hospital.

The number of cases notified in each of the last ten years is given below :—

1914—170	1919—133
1915—119	1920— 90
1916—119	1921— 37
1917—148	1922— 41
1918—133	1923— 64

There was one death from Scarlet Fever during the year.

DIPHTHERIA.

For the earliest detection of this disease, the Public Health Laboratory was at the service of Medical Practitioners of the City for the examination of Throat Swabs, contacts of actual cases were swabbed, specially in the case of children, to detect any carriers of the Disease.

Diphtheria antitoxin is kept at the Health Offices and the City Hospital, so that the Medical Practitioners can obtain it at any time for early treatment.

Cases requiring hospital treatment were at once removed to the City Hospital.

There were 38 cases notified during the year, and 31 were removed to the City Hospital.

The list of notifications for the last ten years is given below :—

1914—95	1919— 61
1915—56	1920—128
1916—78	1921— 99
1917—52	1922— 52
1918—61	1923— 38

SMALL POX.

The City has been fortunate in escaping anything in the nature of an epidemic of Small-Pox, as there have been numerous cases in the adjoining Counties.

There were six cases admitted into the Small-Pox Hospital; of these three belonged to Lincoln and three to outside areas.

Two cases from Lincoln and one from outside were sent into Hospital for observation and further diagnosis; and these were not definite cases of Small-Pox.

In all doubtful cases of Small-Pox, the Medical Practitioners' consult with the Medical Officer of Health and in this way the earliest information is available for him to take prompt action.

Tuberculosis.

TUBERCULOSIS DISPENSARY.

All cases notified as suffering from Tuberculosis are kept under the supervision of the Dispensary by attendance at the Clinic, and home visits by the Tuberculosis Nurses.

There are 366 patients at present on the books of the Dispensary.

Two Clinics are held each week, on Mondays and Thursdays at 5 p.m., when the patients are seen by the Medical Officer.

The total attendances made at the Clinics were 998. The Tuberculosis Nursing Staff paid 103 primary visits and 3,550 re-visits to patients in their own homes.

One hundred and eight cases were sent to the Sanatorium for treatment.

There are at present four open-air shelters lent out from the Dispensary to patients in suitable cases.

The services of the District Nursing Association were required in 32 cases for proper home nursing.

There were still a large number of deaths from Tuberculosis during the year, but the death-rate shows a slight drop as compared with previous years.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Under the Tuberculosis Regulations, 1912, 82 cases of Phthisis were notified.

The total number of deaths from Phthisis in 1923 was 44, and equivalent to a death-rate of .65 per 1,000.

<i>Year.</i>	<i>Est. Pop.</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>D.R.</i> <i>per 1000</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Est. Pop.</i>	<i>Deaths</i>	<i>D.R.</i> <i>per 1000</i>
1907	53,341	68	1.38	1916	55,079	55	.99
1908	54,017	68	1.30	1917	58,617	65	1.10
1909	54,765	63	1.18	1918	60,707	64	.95
1910	55,474	45	.85	1919	60,581	57	.94
1911	57,285	60	1.40	1920	63,655	47	.72
1912	58,358	56	.96	1921	66,600	51	.77
1913	59,322	57	.96	1922	66,930	45	.67
1914	60,172	44	.73	1923	66,910	44	.65
1915	55,226	55	.99				

Tuberculosis (other Forms).

There were 25 cases notified under the above head, giving the following classification :—

Tuberculosis of Glands in Neck	...	...	7
„ „ Joints	...	...	5
„ „ Throat	...	...	1
„ „ Peritoneum and Mesentery			
„ „ Glands	...	...	3
„ „ Abdomen	...	...	3
„ „ Spinal Cord	...	...	3
„ „ Skin	...	...	1
„ „ Eyes	...	...	1
„ „ Sacro Iliac Region	...	...	1
			—
Total	...	...	25
			—

City Hospital and Dawber Sanatorium.

I wish again to thank Miss O'Kane, the Matron for her continuous endeavours to maintain a high standard of efficiency in every Department of the Hospital and Sanatorium.

There is accommodation for 100 Patients in the above Hospital. 36 beds are available for Fevers and 64 for Tuberculosis.

Cases of Fevers and Tuberculosis are also admitted from other parts of the County of Lincolnshire.

STATISTICS.

Diphtheria.

Cases admitted ...	...	41	
Lincoln Cases ...	...	31	
Outside Cases ...	...	10	(Lindsey cases 4, Sleaford cases 5, 1 private case from Billingham)

Scarlet Fever.

Cases admitted ...	...	60	
Lincoln Cases ...	...	41	
Outside Cases ...	...	15	(Lindsey cases 9, Welton R.D.C. 6)
Military Cases ...	...	4	

Typhoid.

Cases admitted ...	...	1	
Lincoln Cases ...	...	0	
Outside Cases ...	...	1	(Market Rasen U.D.C.)

Measles

Cases admitted ...	...	1	
Lincoln Cases ...	...	1	
Outside Cases ...	...	0	

Small-Pox.

Cases admitted ...	...	6	
Lincoln Cases ...	...	3	
Outside Cases ...	...	3	(Lindsey cases 2, Epworth R.D.C. 1)

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

Cases admitted ...	...	3	
Lincoln Cases ...	...	3	
Outside Cases ...	...	0	

Encephalitis Lethargica.

Cases admitted ...	...	1	
Lincoln Cases ...	...	0	
Outside Case ...	...	1	(Lindsey case, 1).

Tuberculosis.

From 31st March, 1923, to 1st April, 1924.

Cases admitted ...	149
Lincoln Cases ...	108
Outside „ (Lindsey Cases) ...	41

CLASSIFICATION OF CASES ADMITTED.				
	MALE	FEMALE	CHILDREN under 16 years.	TOTAL
Observation ...	1	1	4	6
Early ...	16	7	8	31
Intermediate... ..	49	13	4	66
Advanced	15	11	3	29
Glandular and Peritoneum...	1	0	8	9
Bones and Joints	5	1	2	8
TOTAL	87	33	29	149

On the 31st December, 1923, there were 53 Patients undergoing treatment in the above Hospital.

Bacteriological Laboratory.

The following table shows the number of specimens examined at the Health Laboratory during the year 1923 :—

EXAMINED.	Positive.	Negative.	Total
Diphtheria (Swabs)	89	461	550
Tuberculosis (Sputum)	224	576	800
Enteric (Widal Test)	0	4	4
Ringworms (Hair)	74	95	169
Other examinations	8	33	41
Totals	395	1,169	1,564

Venereal Disease.

I give below the statistics for 1923:—

Number of patients who attended the Clinic from 1st January, 1923, to 31st December, 1923, are:—

Males	...	...	...	96
Females	...	...	...	52
Children	...	...	...	22
Total				170

Total number of attendances at the Clinic... 2,886.

Pathological specimens examined at the Clinic 57

„ „ sent to the Nottingham

Laboratory:—

Gonococcus, Spiro Chætes and other organisms	...	...	4
Wasserman Tests	...	...	223
			227

Specimens Total... 284

Injections of Salvarsan Substitutes ... 1,058

Maternity and Child Welfare Department.

There has been very good work carried out at the above centre during the year.

I wish to thank Dr. Crystal and Miss Davies for their endeavours to maintain a high grade of efficiency in the Department.

Notification of Births' Acts, 1907 and 1915.

Births registered	...	...	...	1227
Notices sent out re notification of births...	...	...	...	102
Births notified	...	...	...	1183

Birth enquiry visits.	Revisits under					Revisits to Illegitimate Childr n.	Special Visits	Lost Visits.	Total.
	1 year.	2 years.	3 years.	4 years.	5 years.				
1120	1609	1453	823	326	303	138	535	267	6574

Of the notified births visited 921 were breast fed.

Of the notified births visited 199 were bottle fed.

The following unsatisfactory Housing Conditions were found at the visits :—

Houses overcrowded and dirty	...	...	65
„ damp	...	...	94
„ with unsuitable food storage accommodation	...	...	419
„ with no through ventilation	...	...	160
„ infested with vermin	...	...	12
		—	750

Assistance (Nursing and Food).

The following cases have been assisted :—

Expectant Mothers.	Nursing Mothers.	Children under 5 years of age.	Home Helps and Home Nursing.	Medical and Midwifery Service.	Total No. of cases.	Total No. of attendances.
38	237	773	31	70	1,149	16,755

Summary of Expenditure.

Milk and Food.	Home Helps and Home Nursing.	Medical and Midwifery Service.	Total amount expended.
£1,449 7 0	£74 7 7	£119 17 0	£1,643 11 7

Of the £74 7s. 7d. spent on Home Helps and Home Nursing, £38 11s. 1d. has been refunded.

Midwifery Service.

Ante-natal Clinics—

Two are held weekly. Mondays and Thursdays.

	Number of cases attended at Clinic.			Total number of attendances made.	
Maternity Home	...	190	...	...	369
District	...	119	...	...	189
		309			558

	Number of cases visited at their home.			Total Number of visits made.	
Maternity Home	...	137	...	...	255
District	...	378	...	...	643
		515			898

The 309 cases on the register seen at the Clinic have been classified according to physical conditions:—

Normal—General advice given	...	...	190
Treated at the Clinic	...	...	72
Treated at their own Home	...	...	4
Transferred to Maternity Home	...	...	39
Transferred to County Hospital	...	...	1
Referred to Private Doctor	...	...	3
			— 309

Lying-in Cases—

				Cases attended.	Cases booked for future attendance
Maternity Home	...	...	...	232	70
District	...	...	...	408	107
				— 640	— 177

Complicated cases in which a Dr. was called in.			Death of Mother.			Infant.			Still Born.	Transferred from District. to M. H.			M. H. to District.
M. Home	...	49	...	2	...	6	...	12	...	11	...	11	
District	...	16	...	0	...	5	...	13					
—			—			—			—				
65			2			11			25				
—			—			—			—				

Maternity Home—

Patients still in the Home on 31st December...	8
Doctors who attended privately ...	13
General visitors to the Home ...	685
Visitors to Patients ...	4268

District Midwifery—

Babies born before the arrival of the midwife...	30
Cases where Private Practitioner called in midwife ...	4
Doctors' cases—midwife in attendance...	18

Ailing Babies—

Number of cases admitted	...	...	...	8
In Home since 25th December, 1922...	...	...	...	1
				—
				9
				—

Reasons for admission :—

Normal infant admitted with mother who required Post-natal treatment	...	...	...	1
Normal infant detained on account of death of mother	...	...	...	1
Malnutrition	...	...	...	2
Gastro-Intestinal disturbances — referred to Home by Medical Practitioner	...	...	...	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	1
Circumcision	...	...	...	1
				—
				9
				—

Number of cases discharged :—

(a) In good health	...	...	...	...	2
(b) Improved	...	...	...	...	6
(c) Unimproved	...	...	...	...	1
					—
					9
					—
Number of Deaths	...	...	...	...	0

Pupil Midwives—

Twenty-three Pupils have completed their training during the year and entered for the Central Midwives' Board Examination.

Twenty-two Pupils were successful.

Sanitary Defects notified by Health Visitors—

No ashes bins	...	...	...	...	113
Defective ashes bins	...	...	...	...	50
Defective water closets	...	...	...	...	22
Defective drains	...	...	...	...	21
Houses in bad repair	...	...	...	...	117
Various defects	...	...	...	...	116

Infantile Death Enquiries—

Number notified 77.

Number of deaths investigated ...	42	
Died in Institutions (not investigated) ...	3	
Died shortly after birth	30	
Breast fed	14	
Artificially fed	24	
Mixed feeding	4	
Inquests held	2	
—	77	

Of the artificially and mixed fed infants:—

Fed on Dried Milk and Breast	1	
„ Proprietary Foods and Breast... ..	3	
„ Dried Milk	10	
„ Cows' Milk, water or barley water	9	
„ Proprietary preparations	5	
—	28	

Conditions not favourable to infant hygiene found at above enquiries:—

Houses with unsuitable food storage accommodation	36	
Houses with no through ventilation	7	
„ dirty and ill-kept	3	
„ with two families or more occupying separate rooms	7	
„ where parents were in lodgings	2	
„ overcrowded	6	
„ overcrowded and dirty	3	
„ damp and dark	3	
—	67	

Infant Clinic.*Infant Consultations.*

Number of children on the Register 2458

	New Cases.	Old Cases.	Total Number of Cases.	Attendances.
At the Clinic	991 ...	1,467 ...	2,458 ...	14,225
Medical „	848 ...	475 ...	1,253 ...	2,674

No. of Babies first visits.					No. of visits by babies who have previously attended.					Attendances of Kept-on Babies	Total.
Under 1 yr.	Under 2 yrs.	Under 3 yrs.	Under 4 yrs.	Under 5 yrs.	Under 1 yr.	Under 2 yrs.	Under 3 yrs.	Under 4 yrs.	Under 5 yrs.		
814	58	57	37	25	6895	4013	1376	534	195	221	14225

The infants attending during the year have been classified according to physical conditions :—

Children normal. General advice given.	Suffering as a result of incorrect feeding. Advised and visited by H.V.'s.	Suffering from some defect or disease, and seen by Doctor.
1005	200	1,253

The number of infants incorrectly fed is so large that it is impossible for the Doctor to examine them all. The worst cases only are seen by the Medical Officer, the remainder by the Health Visitors.

The following list shows the diseases from which the children seen by the Doctor were suffering :—

Diseases.	Cases attended.	No. of Attendances made.
Respiratory Defects or Diseases...	339	709
Circulatory Defects or Diseases ...	18	32
Gastro - intestinal Disorders or Defects	237	529
Skin Diseases	125	297
Chronic Diseases	46	122
Ophthalmia Neonatorum ...	3	4
Minor Ailments	347	724
Normal Children	138	257
	<hr/> 1253	<hr/> 2674

Of the 1,253 cases seen by the Doctor :—

Treated at the Clinic	1168
Referred to County Hospital	65
„ „ District Nursing Association ...	12
„ „ Private Doctor	4
„ „ Dispensary	4
	<hr/> 1253

School for Mothers.

The School for Mothers was entirely conducted by Voluntary Workers.

No. of Mothers
in attendance.
50

Total No. of
attendances made.
741

Sewing demonstrations, lectures on hygiene and cooking were given.

Voluntary Workers assisting
at the Centre.
17

Attendances
made.
289

Callers at office other than
mothers and babies.
2,306

Midwives' Act, 1902.

Notices of intention to practice received ... 6

In accordance with the rules of the Central Midwives' Board, the following records have been received:—

29 records of sending for medical help.

7 records of substituting artificial feeding for
breast feeding.

18 still births were notified.

Twenty-four routine visits of inspection to midwives were made re their house, bag and appliances.

Notification of Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 1916

Cases notified ... 8

By Private Practitioners ... 2

By Midwives ... 6

—
8
—

1 Case aged 8 days in City Hospital, 31-12-22. Result—Satisfactory.

2 Cases „ 6 „ removed to City Hospital. } Result—Satisfactory.

„ 4 „

1 Case „ 3 „ attended by Private Practitioner.

Result—Satisfactory.

2 Cases „ 6 „ attended Special Clinic ... } Result—Satisfactory.

„ 10 „

1 Case „ 5 „ attended Infant Clinic . Result—Satisfactory.

1 Case „ 10 „ attended by Private Practitioner.

Result—Satisfactory.

1 Case „ 12 „ „ „ „

„ Still under Treatment

Milk.**Samples submitted for the Count of BACTERIA.**

"Certified," Grade "A" and "Pasteurised" Milk is available in the City. The ordinary milk shows an improved bacterial count and efforts are still being made to improve further the milk supply of the City.

Sample No.	Nature of Sample.	Number of Micro-Organisms per 1 c.c. in dilution of 1/10 of 1/1000		B. Coli present in
1.	Milk	Too numerous to count	1,320,000	1/1000 of a c.c.
2.	"	Too numerous to count	60,000	1/100 of a c.c.
3.	" (Certified)	1,040	1,000	Absent
4.	"	Too numerous to count	19,000	1 c.c.
5.	"	Too numerous to count	15,000	Absent.
6.	"	Too numerous to count	22,000	1 c.c.
7.	"	27,000	48,000	Absent.
8.	"	14,000	32,000	Absent.
9.	"	23,000	58,000	1 c.c.
10.	" (Grade "A")	1,600	9,000	Absent.
11.	"	Too numerous to count	Too numerous to count	1/1000 of a c.c.
12.	" (Certified)	800	1,000	Absent
13.	"	Too numerous to count	388,000	2 c.c.
14.	" (Grade "A")	Too numerous to count	10,000	5 c.c.
15.	"	Too numerous to count	336,000	1 c.c.
16.	"	Too numerous to count	400,000	2 c.c.
17.	" (Grade "A")	12,000	13,000	Absent.
18.	"	Too numerous to count	224,000	1/10 of a c.c.
19.	"	Too numerous to count	256,000	1/10 of a c.c.
20.	" (Pasteurised)	Too numerous to count	30,000	Absent.
21.	" (Pasteurised)	9,200	10,300	Absent.
22.	"	Too numerous to count	880,000	1 c.c.
23.	"	Too numerous to count	Too numerous to count	1/1000 of a c.c.
24.	"	Too numerous to count	240,000	1/10 of a c.c.
25.	" (Pasteurised)	Too numerous to count	Too numerous to count (over 2,000,000)	1/1000 of a c.c.
26.	" (Pasteurised)	Too numerous to count	Too numerous to count (over 1,000,000)	1/1000 of a c.c.
27.	" (Pasteurised)	Too numerous to count	Too numerous to count (over 2,000,000)	1/100 of a c.c.
28.	" (Pasteurised)	Too numerous to count	Too numerous to count	1/1000 of a c.c.
29.	"	Too numerous to count	Too numerous to count	1/1000 of a c.c.
30.	"	Too numerous to count	1,184,000 approximate	1/1000 of a c.c.
31.	" (Pasteurised)	16,000	15,000	1/100 of a c.c.
32.	" (Pasteurised)	Too numerous to count	Too numerous to count (over 2,000,000)	1/1000 of a c.c.
33.	" (Pasteurised)	10,500	9,000	1/10 of a c.c.
34.	" (Pasteurised)	14,000	9,000	1/100 of a c.c.
35.	" (Pasteurised)	Too numerous to count	Too numerous to count (over 2,000,000)	1/1000 of a c.c.
36.	"	35,000	33,000	1/100 of a c.c.
37.	"	4,200	6,000	1 c.c.
38.	" (Pasteurised)	Too numerous to count	864,000	1/1000 of a c.c.
39.	" (Pasteurised)	44,000	37,000	1/100 of a c.c.
40.	"	29,000	30,000	Absent.
41.	"	45,200	45,000	1/1000 of a c.c.
42.	"	Too numerous to count	730,000	1/10 of a c.c.
43.	" (Pasteurised)	21,360	19,000	1/1000 of a c.

Food.PUBLIC HEALTH (MILK & CREAM) REGULATIONS, 1912 & 1917.
REPORT for Year ended 31st December, 1923.

	Number of Samples examined for the presence of a Preservative.	Number in which Preservative was reported to be present.
Milk	65	0
Cream	1	0
Preserved Cream... ..	2	2 (all Boric Acid)
Instances where the requirements as to labelling have not been observed	0	0
Thickening substances found ...	0	0

Cream sold as Preserved Cream.

Percentage of preservative found in each Sample.	Percentage stated on Statutory label.
0.4 per cent.	Not more than 0.4 per cent.
0.34 " " " "	" " " "

Determinations made of milk fat in cream sold as
preserved cream :—

Above 35 per cent.	2
Below 35 per cent.	0
Total	2

All the samples of milk and cream were taken under the
Sale of Food and Drugs Act, and are reported upon by the
Analyst in his Quarterly Report.

Food and Drugs' Acts.

SAMPLES SUBMITTED FOR ANALYSIS during 1923.

Milk	45	Official
Butter	2	"
Cream	1	"
Preserved Cream	2	"
Pasteurised Milk	2	"
Sponge Cake	7	"
Camphorated Oil	1	"

SAMPLES SUBMITTED, &c.—*continued.*

Milk	...	...	...	...	20	Informal
Butter	...	...	...	...	1	"
Sponge Cake	...	...	...	...	3	"
Coffee	...	...	...	...	1	"
Cocoa	...	...	...	...	2	"
Ground Rice	...	...	...	...	12	"
Ground Ginger	...	...	...	...	11	"
White Pepper	...	...	...	...	13	"
Mustard	...	...	...	...	1	"
Liquid Eggs	...	...	...	...	2	"
Chicken, Ham and Tongue Paste	...	...	...	...	1	"
Prescriptions	...	...	...	...	6	"

Total... 133

PARTICULARS OF SAMPLES WHICH WERE
BELOW THE STANDARD FIXED.

No. in Record.	Date 1923	Adulteration	Article	Action taken
22	Apl. 3	8 oz. supplied instead of 12 oz.	Prescription	These were informal samples and the matter was referred to the Local Pharmaceutical Committee, who dealt with the matter.
25	Apl. 3	Incorrectly dispensed; not one of the three active constituents being within 10% of the prescribed quantity.	Prescription.	
31	May 7	Boric Acid 0.11	Sponge Bun.	Informal sample. Further sample taken. See No. 72.
68	July 11	Non-Fatty Solids ... 8.35 Fat ... 3.3 Water ... 88.35 <hr/> 100.00	Milk.	Other samples to be taken.
72	July 11	0.087 Boric Acid equal to 6 grains per lb.	Sponge Bun.	Vendor warned.
32	Dec. 6	Moisture ... 16.2 Organic matter and Ash 83.8 Boric Acid per lb. ... 6.93	Sponge Bun.	The Vendor explained that liquid eggs had been used against his instructions and that steps have been taken for shelled eggs to be used in the future.

Meat Inspection.

An inspection of the following table conveys the necessity for the constant supervision of this important branch of the work of the Health Department.

UNSOUND MEAT and FOOD DESTROYED DURING 1923 :—

			STS.	LBS.	
Beef	11 carcasses with offals	...	507	9	tuberculous
"	9 " " "	...	324	9	non-tuberculous
"	parts of 26 carcasses	..	161	6	tuberculous
"	" 13 " "	...	60	0	non-tuberculous
Mutton	17 carcasses with offals	...	88	4	unsound
"	parts of 1 carcass	...	10	1	"
Pork	24 carcasses with offals	...	454	4	tuberculous
"	20 " " "	...	244	1	non-tuberculous
"	parts of 38 carcasses	...	113	4½	tuberculous
"	" 5 " "	...	19	12	non-tuberculous
Veal	6 carcasses with offals	...	31	0	unsound
"	parts of 2 carcasses	...	21	2	"
Horseflesh	3 carcasses	...	116	0	"
Offals, Miscellaneous	...	...	654	8	"
Frozen Meat	...	...	159	0	"
Bacon	...	...	41	3½	"
Cured Ham	...	...	1	3½	"
Rabbits	...	...	18	6	"
Fish	...	...	4	7½	"
Fresh Fruit	...	...	5	1	"
Tinned Fish	...	...	11	11½	"
Tinned Meat	...	...	8	12	"
Tinned Fruit	...	...	18	1½	"
Tinned Milk	...	...	21	5	"
Other Food	...	...	18	5½	"
Total			3,114	7½	

1,236	9½	tuberculous
648	8	non-tuberculous
1,229	4	unsound

Total 3,114 7½

Number of Animals Slaughtered at Public Abattoirs,
January to December, 1923 :—

Beast.	Sheep.	Pigs.	Calves.	Horses.
1,983	5,921	3,513	81	501

LIST OF SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

One Abattoir belonging to the Corporation	Monks Road ...	Licensed.
Herrick, J. W.	Craven Street ...	"
Nissler, J. A., & Sons	High Street ...	"
Leachman, George G.	St. Paul's Lane ...	"
Industrial Co-operative Society	Brayford Wharf ...	"
Priestley, Z.	The Old Brickyard, Cross o'Cliff Hill	"
Hobbins, George	154, Newark Road	"
Leachman, J. H.	Chestnut House, Bracebridge Low Fields	"
Sowerby, George	7, Sincil Street ...	Registered.
Curtis, A. W., & G. Barrand ...	Rear 171, High Street	"
Maddison, J. B.	St. Paul's Lane ...	"
Hill, Mrs. R., & Taylor Bros....	Alfred Street ...	"
Horton, E.	Peel Street ...	"
Dalton, S. S.	Boundary Street ...	"
Appplewhite, Chas. Wm. ...	Occupation Road ...	"
Varty, J.	Grantham Street ...	"
Pateman, F. J.	43, Newport ...	"
Hughes, Aubrey	Boultham ...	Licensed Knackery
Christopher, John	"	"

Offensive Trades

The trades scheduled as Offensive Trades are :—

Blood boiler.	Leather dresser.
Bone boiler.	Fat melter.
Fellmonger.	Fat extractor.
Soap boiler.	Glue maker.
Tallow melter.	Size maker.
Tripe boiler.	Gut Scraper.
Blood dryer.	Rag and Bone dealer.
Hide and Skin dealer.	Fish fryer.
Tanner.	

Bye-laws have been adopted for the control of these trades, and these came into force on November 6th, 1923.

FRIED FISH SHOPS.

One fried fish shop was opened during 1923, making a total of forty-five in the City.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Order, 1919.

The following work has been done under the Rats and Mice Destruction Act, during 1923 :—

Visits paid to Rat infested premises	...	...	601
Number of Rats killed with dogs and ferrets	...	588	
" " caught in traps	...	106	
" " caught on Rat Lime	...	90	
" poisoned Baits laid	...	970	
" " " taken	...	649	
Methods adopted—Dogs and ferrets, gas rockets, traps and Rat Lime.			
Poisons used—Barium preparations and Red Squill.			

The week ending 10th November, 1923, was National Rat Week, during which all Authorities were asked to make special efforts to reduce the rats throughout the Country.

Advertisements were put in all the Local papers; and 360 circulars were sent out, showing that the responsibility of clearing premises of rats was upon the occupier and offering every possible assistance if people would work with the Officials of the Department.

The response to the advertisements and circulars was satisfactory and many people came to the Office for advice, for poisons and to arrange for the use of ferrets and dogs.

465 rats were killed by the dogs, 26 were caught with traps and 14 dead rats that had been killed by poisons were found by our men.

92 circulars have been returned, showing 480 rats estimated to have been killed by occupiers of premises, and, together with 505 dead rats collected and 1,000 estimated to have been killed by our poisons, it is fair to assume that we accounted for 2,000 rats during the week.

The extra cost of this work was £23; made up as follows :—

	£	s.	d.
Poisons, etc. ...	9	6	8
Advertisements ...	5	13	0
Circulars ...	2	4	8
Wages ...	4	13	2
Miscellaneous ...	1	2	6
Total ...	£23	0	0

Two extra men were employed during the week, one with dogs and ferrets and the other as general assistant and for the laying of poisons.

Housing Acts, 1890 to 1919.

UNHEALTHY AREAS

Official Representation was made to the City Council, pursuant to Part 1 of the Housing of the Working Classes Act, 1890, on the 11th January, 1923, that certain areas known as the Drapery Area and the Bridge Street Area were dangerous or injurious to the health of the inhabitants in the said areas or of the neighbouring buildings, and that the most satisfactory method of dealing with the evils connected with such houses, courts or alleys, and the sanitary defects in such areas was by an improvement scheme.

Such an improvement scheme was prepared dealing with 140 dwellings. A public enquiry was held by Mr. W. H. Collins on 3rd July, 1923, and on the 16th October, 1923, approval of the scheme was received from the Ministry with respect to the whole of both areas, with the exception of five houses. The five houses excluded were Nos. 34 $\frac{1}{2}$, 35, Hungate, and 16, 17 and 18, Garmston Street.

The effect of the sanction, by the Ministry, of this scheme on the housing conditions of the City is that 135 dwellings will be acquired by the Corporation, and in due course will be demolished.

The instructions read :—

“ After obtaining possession of the lands included in the area, the Council shall, except so far as the Minister may otherwise direct, demolish all the buildings in the area; Provided that they shall not demolish any occupied house in the area until accommodation for a number of persons equivalent to the number of occupants of such house is available in new dwellings to be erected by the Council in pursuance of this scheme, unless the Council are satisfied that suitable alternative accommodation for the occupants is available elsewhere.”

HOUSING CENSUS

In July, 1923, every house in the City of a Rateable Value of £30 and under was visited, and the following

particulars are taken from a special report dated the 3rd August, 1923 :—

(a) Actual number of houses visited	...	...	15,222
(b) Number of cases of two families or more	...	...	1,356
(c) Number desiring houses	...	...	826
(d) Cases of overcrowding	...	...	170

The standard for overcrowding was more than three adults per bedroom—two children under 14 being equal to one adult.

There were 85 empty houses and the following particulars will be useful in considering these empty houses :—

1. To let (24 being at Swanpool)	...	...	33
2. Not to let	...	...	7
3. Business premises	...	...	3
4. Being converted to house and shop	...	...	3
5. Empty houses in conjunction with shop	...	...	3
6. Empty but re-let at time of visit	...	...	24
7. Held for sale	...	...	12
			—
Total	...	...	85
			—

There are 16,139 houses in the City, and an estimated population of 66,910, which gives us an average of 4.1 persons per house.

Twenty-four houses were built during the year :—

(a) Houses built under the Housing Scheme for the Corporation	...	0
(b) Houses built by private enterprise	...	24

There is still a great shortage of houses in the City with consequent overcrowding.

Appendices.

HOUSING CONDITIONS. STATISTICS.

Number of new houses erected during the year :—

(a) Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
(b) As part of a Municipal Housing Scheme	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

1. UNFIT DWELLING-HOUSES.

(1) Inspection.—Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	3412
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of Districts) Regulations, 1910	221
(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous and injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	0
(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	898

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	948
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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	17
(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit :—	
(a) By owners	17
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close	0

B. **Proceedings under Public Health Acts.**

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	898
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied :—	
(a) By Owners	948
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners,	0

C. **Proceedings under Sections 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909.**

(1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	0
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made... ..	0
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit	0
(4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made... ..	0
(5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0

Rainfall.

1923	Total Depth in inches	Greatest Daily Fall		No. of Rainy Days
		Depth	Date	
January	1.71	.60	5th	12
February	3.74	.83	18th	20
March	1.49	.33	12th	12
April .. .. .	.93	.23	11th	15
May	2.89	.92	5th	13
June	1.19	.43	12th	18
July	3.97	1.28	28th	17
August	2.79	1.05	14th	13
September	2.37	1.00	14th	15
October	1.49	.36	8th	22
November	1.98	.46	13th	18
December	2.44	.41	27th	15
Total, 1923.. ..	26.99			190
Total, 1922.. ..	24.83			

RAINFALL, 1895 TO 1923.

Year	Inches	Year	Inches	Year	Inches	Year	Inches
1895	24.27	1902	21.43	1909	27.24	1916	26.69
1896	26.50	1903	29.53	1910	24.83	1917	20.80
1897	26.29	1904	19.72	1911	18.88	1918	21.12
1898	20.59	1905	18.22	1912	27.76	1919	24.98
1899	26.57	1906	23.53	1913	19.80	1920	21.74
1900	27.01	1907	24.47	1914	20.42	1921	14.70
1901	23.01	1908	20.75	1915	27.52	1922	21.83
						1923	26.49

