

[Report 1947] / Medical Officer of Health, Lincoln City.

Contributors

Lincoln (England). City Council.

Publication/Creation

1947

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City and County Borough of Lincoln



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE YEAR

1 9 4 7

BY

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

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

*Lincolnshire Chronicle Printing House,
Lincoln.*



City Health Department,

Lincoln.

July, 1948.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen, and Councillors,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health of the City during 1947.

This is my eighteenth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health.

The Report is in accordance with the Ministry of Health Circular 170/47 and is in the nature of an interim report only.

I am glad to report that all medical clinics and treatment centres in connection with the Health Services were available during the year, and they were of great assistance in looking after the health of the citizens.

The number of tuberculosis notifications received by the Department for the past few years tended to show a general decline, but the 1947 figure indicates an increase. This increase can be partly attributed to the number of new cases discovered by mass radiography which operated in the City for three months during the year. It is hoped that a mass radiography unit will be available for Lincoln from time to time.

The importance of early diagnosis in the treatment of tuberculous patients, and the examination of contacts of notified cases continued to be emphasised during the year.

At the end of the year, of the child population under 15 years of age, 67.3% had been immunised against Diphtheria, as compared with 59% in the previous year. The number of cases of Diphtheria occurring during 1947 was 19 as compared with 18 in 1946.

The vital statistics are given at the end of the report, and compare favourably with previous years. The infant mortality rate was well below the average for the country, and was the lowest recorded for several years in Lincoln.

As regards the hospital position in the City, the Council is well aware that more-up-to-date hospital accommodation is urgently needed for the care of the sick and also accommodation of a modern type is required for the nursing and other staffs.

More definite arrangements are needed for the hospital treatment of Smallpox cases in an emergency.

Like the rest of the country there were cases of Poliomyelitis in the City during the year. These numbered 13, but there were no deaths.

Acute Rheumatism in persons under the age of 16 years became notifiable in Lincoln from the 1st October, 1947.

There were ten suspected outbreaks of food poisoning in the City during the year. In this connection, I would like to draw the attention of all persons engaged in the handling and preparation of food that personal cleanliness is of the utmost importance.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all Members of the Council for their keen interest in the various problems put before them in connection with the health of the City, and I take this opportunity to express my appreciation of the good work accomplished by all the Staffs engaged in carrying out the work of the Health and the Hospital Services.

I have the honour to remain,

Your obedient Servant,

M. L. BERY,

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

(1) MEDICAL CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

All Medical Clinics and Treatment Centres were available during 1947. They were of great assistance in looking after the health of the Lincoln citizens.

The Clinics were held as follows :—

AT THE CITY HEALTH DEPARTMENT, BEAUMONT FEE, LINCOLN.

Tuberculosis Clinic.

5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays—Adults.

9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Tuesdays—Children.

Venereal Diseases Clinics.

5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesdays—Women.

10 a.m. to 12 noon. Fridays—Women.

5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Mondays—Men.

1.30 p.m. to 3.0 p.m. Fridays—Men.

AT THE MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE, 34, NEWLAND, LINCOLN.

Infant Clinics.

2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Tuesdays and Fridays.

Post-Natal Clinic.

9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. Thursdays.

Birth Control Clinics.

By appointment—Mondays.

Treatment by Ultra-Violet Rays.

Daily—By appointment.

Dental Clinics for Children under 5 years, and Pregnant and Nursing Mothers.

Six Sessions a week—By appointment.

AT THE SCHOOL CLINIC, BEAUMONT FEE, LINCOLN.

Medical Clinics.

2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays.

Eye Clinics.

2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays.

Dental Clinics.

Daily—By appointment.

Orthopaedic Clinics.

Daily—By appointment.

Minor Ailment Clinics.

9 a.m. each morning.

OTHER CLINICS.

Infant Clinics for Children below 5 years.

Monday—2 p.m. to 4 p.m. St. Helen's Hall, Skellingthorpe Road.

Thursday—2 p.m. to 4 p.m. St. Giles Methodist Church.

Minor Ailment Clinics for School Children.

9 a.m. each week-day at St. Giles Junior School.

9 a.m. each week-day at Sincil Bank Boys' School.

9 a.m. each week-day at Skellingthorpe Road School.

(2) NURSING IN THE HOME.

The arrangements with the Lincoln District Nursing Association for the nursing of the patients in their homes were continued during the year. They attend cases of any nature with the exception of certain notifiable diseases.

The total number of visits paid by the Association was :—

	1947	1946
Tuberculosis Cases	582	161
Maternity and Child Welfare Cases	377	285
School Cases	250	128
Public Assistance	3808	6782

No special nurses were employed for the nursing of infectious cases in the home.

(3) LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological and the Area Laboratory for pathological work were available during 1947. These Laboratories also serve the neighbouring County Areas.

(4) AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

During September, 1946, the two ambulances stationed at the City Hospital and Sanatorium were moved to the City Ambulance Station, thus centralising the ambulance services with a view to efficiency and economy. This had the effect of making available four ambulances and one sitting-case car for ambulance duties. There was in addition one reserve ambulance available.

The ambulance service continued to be available to patients in the neighbouring areas as in the previous year.

(5) PUBLIC ASSISTANCE MEDICAL OUT-DOOR RELIEF.

The scheme for the provision of domiciliary medical relief, under which the patient has free choice of doctor, was continued during the year. At the end of the year 5 doctors were available to the patients under the scheme.

HOSPITALS.

1. *Provided by Local Authority.*

1. City Hospital and Sanatorium.

The accommodation provided is as follows :—

For treatment of infectious diseases	..	56 beds
„ „ Tuberculosis	47 „
Total	..	<u>103 beds</u>

All types of notifiable infectious diseases are admitted, including observation and other cases where there is any question of infection.

As regards Tuberculosis cases, only pulmonary cases are admitted.

The total number of infectious diseases cases admitted was 193, this includes 54 cases from outside areas. The total number of Tuberculosis cases admitted was 77 and this includes 1 case from an outside area.

There is an X-ray apparatus at this Hospital in connection with the Tuberculosis Scheme.

The total number of examinations carried out during the year was 1531.

In view of the difficulties of arranging for ear, nose and throat operations amongst children, a special ward was reserved for this work and was in use from 25th February to 11th August, 1947. The number of operations performed during this period was 291.

2. City Maternity Home.

The extended maternity accommodation which provides for 24 maternity beds and 2 observation wards was available during the year.

Other particulars are given on page 13.

3. Joint Smallpox Hospital.

In my report for 1946 it was mentioned that arrangements were made for Lincoln cases to be admitted by the Grimsby Borough Council to their hospital, should the occasion arise, owing to difficulties of staffing the joint Osgodby Smallpox Hospital. During 1947 the arrangements for treating smallpox cases were on similar lines.

I feel that a scheme for the provision of hospital treatment for smallpox in this region should receive further consideration.

There were no cases of smallpox in the City during the year.

4. Burton Road Institution.

The Institution provides accommodation for 155 patients. Chiefly chronic medical and surgical cases are admitted. Other types of case, including acute medical and surgical, are also admitted when suitable accommodation cannot be found elsewhere for them.

During 1947, 513 cases were admitted.

There has been great difficulty in staffing all the Hospitals provided by the Council during the year, but the work has been successfully carried out under difficult circumstances.

The National Campaign for recruitment of Nurses was augmented in Lincoln by an intensive recruitment drive, including press and poster publicity, talks to senior schoolgirls, youth organisations, women's institutes, etc. An attractive Exhibition providing interesting exhibits prepared by staffs of local hospitals and nursing associations, and an information bureau, was held at the Usher Art Gallery from 25th January to 2nd February, 1947. 5,700 persons visited the Exhibition, including senior school children for whom special arrangements were made.

191 enquiries were made at the Exhibition Information Bureau. 15 recruits were placed in hospitals or nursery nurse training schools. 18 indicated their willingness to attend an evening pre-nursing course, and a number of other enquiries were later followed up by the Ministry of Labour and National Service for arrangements to be made suitable to each particular case.

Although the number of immediate recruits obtained was comparatively small, the number of enquiries and the interest shown made the holding of the Exhibition worth while. I am informed by the Ministry of Labour and National Service that enquiries from Lincoln and its environs has increased since the Exhibition was held, many being received from juveniles.

The Ministry of Health, Ministry of Labour and National Service and the Central Office of Information also co-operated in the recruitment drive, the complete success of which cannot be fully judged at this stage.

The Council is fully aware of the urgent need for additional and more up-to-date hospital accommodation, including accommodation of a modern type for the nursing and other staffs.

2. *Hospitals not wholly subsidised by the Local Authority.*

Lincoln County Hospital. (Voluntary General).

This hospital provides accommodation for 215 patients. During 1947, 4007 patients were admitted and 14,358 new patients attended the out-patient and casualty departments. The total attendances at the out-patient and casualty departments was 47,660.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

DIPHTHERIA.

All possible action was taken under the Ministry of Health Circular 194/45 on Diphtheria Immunisation. Health Visitors were made responsible for securing the immunisation of children in their districts. Arrangements for immunising children at the Infant Welfare Clinic, at the City Health Department, at the School Clinic and at Schools to suit the convenience of parents, were continued during the year. Records of immunisation were kept in the revised form suggested in the circular.

The number of children fully immunised during 1947 was 1417, out of these 841 were under 5 years of age and 576 were between 5 and 15 years of age. In addition, in the case of 2790 children, reinforcing doses were given during the year.

At the end of the year, 67.3% of the child population below 15 years of age had been immunised against Diphtheria. The figure for the previous year was 59%.

The number of Diphtheria notifications during the last five years was :—

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
51	19	6	18	19

There was one death of an unimmunised child.

SCARLET FEVER.

There was a decrease in the number of notifications received as compared with the previous year.

Out of the 48 cases notified, 25 were provided with Hospital treatment and 23 were treated at home.

The disease was generally mild in character.

The number of notifications during the last five years was :

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
346	268	162	79	48

There were no deaths.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.

The number of notifications during the last five years was :

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
5	6	3	2	3

There were 2 deaths.

TYPHOID FEVER.

The number of notifications during the last five years was :

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
—	—	1	—	—

There were no deaths.

PARA-TYPHOID FEVER.

The number of notifications during the last five years was :

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
—	—	—	3	1

There were no deaths.

DYSENTERY.

The number of notifications during the last five years was :

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
5	7	26	9	2

There were no deaths.

ACUTE POLIO-MYELITIS AND ACUTE POLIO-ENCEPHALITIS.

There were 13 cases during the year. The first case occurred during August, 1947. The majority were admitted to the City Infectious Diseases Hospital. The services of an Orthopaedic Surgeon was also available at this hospital for the treatment of these cases, and every effort was made to accept cases from outside areas when hospital treatment could not be provided elsewhere. An iron lung was available for cases who required

treatment in a respirator. It was noted in the cases admitted to the Lincoln Infectious Diseases Hospital that the disease was generally mild in children and severe in adults. Arrangements were made in all cases to provide orthopaedic treatment at other hospitals or at an orthopaedic clinic where this was necessary. Every assistance was given to the Ministry of Health in their Hospital Enquiry, and to the Medical Research Council in their Survey.

There were no deaths amongst Lincoln cases.

The number of notifications during the last five years was :

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
3	1	4	4	13

ERYSIPELAS.

The number of notifications during the last five years was :

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
13	9	5	3	5

There were no deaths.

ENCEPHALITIS LETHARGICA.

The number of notifications during the last five years was :

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
—	—	1	—	—

There were no deaths.

MALARIA.

The number of notifications during the last five years was :

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
—	—	9	—	—

There were no deaths.

PNEUMONIA.

The number of notifications during the last five years was :

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
118	64	50	69	45

The deaths attributed to this cause numbered 24.

SMALLPOX

The number of notifications during the last five years was :

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
—	—	—	—	—

There were no deaths.

CHICKENPOX.

The number of notifications during the last five years was :

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
401	280	193	180	87

There were no deaths.

MEASLES.

The number of notifications during the last five years was :

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
703	76	466	83	489

There were no deaths.

WHOOPING COUGH.

The number of notifications during the last five years was :

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
150	85	44	65	167

There were no deaths.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**GERMAN MEASLES.**

8 cases were brought to the notice of the Health Department as against 1 in 1946.

There were no deaths.

MUMPS.

15 cases were reported in 1947, as against 20 in 1946.

There were no deaths.

INFLUENZA.

The deaths directly attributed to Influenza were 6 as compared with 8 in 1946.

ACUTE RHEUMATISM REGULATIONS, 1947.

These Regulations, relating to the notification of acute rheumatism in persons under the age of 16 years resident in the administrative County of Lincoln (parts of Lindsey), and the County Boroughs of Bristol, Grimsby, Lincoln and Sheffield, came into operation on 1st October, 1947.

Two cases, both females, were notified in the City during 1947, and attended the Joint Heart and Rheumatism Clinic.

SCABIES.

Thorngate Clinic which was taken over for the treatment of scabies by the Health Department during 1944, was available during 1947.

In dealing with scabies, efforts were continued to have all the members of the family treated at the same time.

In connection with school children, the percentage of children suffering from scabies from 1933 to 1939 varied from 0.6% to 0.2%

This percentage rose to 1% during 1940, to 2.3% during 1941, to 4% during 1942 and 5.8% during 1943. During 1944 it was 4.5%, during 1945 3.2%, during 1946, 2.5%, and during 1947, 1.5%.

No cases were sent to Burton Road Institution for in-patient treatment during the year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The importance of early diagnosis in the treatment of tuberculous patients and the examination of contacts of notified cases continued to be emphasised.

The number of primary notifications received during the year was 119 ; of these, 106 were pulmonary and 13 non-pulmonary, as compared with 59 and 13 respectively in the previous year.

The number of tuberculosis notifications received by the Department over the past few years have tended to show a general decline, but the 1947 figure indicates an increase. This increase is partly attributed to the number of new cases discovered by the Mass Radiography Unit which operated in the City for three months towards the end of the year.

Adequate housing, adequate ventilation, adequate nourishment and the avoidance of financial or other worries is of great importance in the well-being of tuberculosis patients.

Every effort is being made by the Department to assist tuberculous patients.

The scheme outlined in the Ministry of Health's Memo. 266/T. for the payment of maintenance and other allowances to pulmonary tuberculosis patients was put into operation on 1st July, 1943. This has been greatly appreciated by the patients. During the year, 61 patients were assisted under the Scheme as compared with 52 in the previous year.

The number of primary notifications received during the last five years was :—

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	
78	85	64	59	106	Pulmonary
36	30	23	13	13	Non-pulmonary
<hr/> 114	<hr/> 115	<hr/> 87	<hr/> 72	<hr/> 119	

The total number of deaths from Tuberculosis during the last five years was :—

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	
47	35	31	39	45	Pulmonary
9	9	9	3	5	Non-pulmonary
<hr/> 56	<hr/> 44	<hr/> 40	<hr/> 42	<hr/> 50	

During the year 77 cases were admitted to the Lincoln Sanatorium and 13 cases were sent to Hospitals elsewhere.

At the end of the year 38 patients were undergoing treatment at the Lincoln Sanatorium and 8 were receiving treatment in Outside Institutions.

5 new cases were referred for treatment to the Light Clinic during the year.

In connection with the work of the Tuberculosis Dispensary, 189 sessions were held and the patients made 2040 attendances, 127 visits were paid by the Medical Staff and 3,030 by the Tuberculosis Nurses to the homes of the patients, and 1,320 X-ray examinations were carried out at the City Hospital and Sanatorium.

The number of patients on the Dispensary Register on the 31st December, 1947, was 349 as compared with 298 in 1946.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

Mass Radiography facilities were made available to Lincoln residents by arrangement with the Nottingham City Council, and their mass radiography unit staff and apparatus operated in the City during the months of October, November and December, 1947.

The facilities of the unit were offered to Lincoln managements and employees of factories and workshops, hospitals, railway undertakings, shops and offices, to school-teachers and to housewives.

Attendances at the unit totalled 12,551 (males 8,508, females, 4,043) ; 105 persons were referred to their doctors for non-tuberculous conditions, and 117 persons suspected to be suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis were investigated at the Tuberculosis Dispensary.

Of the cases dealt with at the Dispensary, 22 (16 males and 6 females) were diagnosed as cases of active pulmonary tuberculosis. This represents a finding of 0.17% as compared with the national figure which varies between 0.3% and 0.4%.

The facilities were greatly appreciated by the Lincoln residents, the large number of persons passing through the unit being made possible by the co-operation given by representatives of both employers and employees.

It is hoped that a mass radiography unit will be available for Lincoln from time to time.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

The number of new Lincoln patients who attended the clinics for the first time during 1947 was 207, out of these 90 proved to be suffering from Venereal Diseases and 117 were not Venereal.

The number of new cases of definite venereal diseases amongst patients domiciled in the City who came under treatment for the first time during the period of 5 years is given below :—

	<i>Syphilis.</i>	<i>Soft Chancre.</i>	<i>Gonorrhoea.</i>	<i>Total</i>
1943	21	—	55	76
1944	25	—	40	65
1945	23	—	42	65
1946	67	—	66	133
1947	33	—	57	90

It will be noticed that there was a decline in the number of new cases of Syphilis and Gonorrhoea as compared with last year. Every effort is still being continued by the Department to trace the sources of infection and take all action that may be possible.

It is of the utmost importance that patients should seek treatment as early as possible and should continue treatment until declared free of infection by the Medical Officer in Charge of the Clinics.

The Venereal Diseases Clinics continued to be conducted on confidential lines and the general arrangements were on the same lines as described in my report for 1946.

The Social Welfare Worker attended 119 clinic sessions and paid 116 visits for tracing of contacts, follow-up of defaulters and work under Regulation 33B.

The bacteriological and pathological investigations in connection with Venereal Diseases continued to be carried out at the Grimsby Venereal Diseases Clinics.

Defence (General) Regulations—Regulation 33B.

During the year, 15 Forms 1 were received by the Medical Officer of Health. These concerned 12 patients, as in the case of 3 patients there were two Forms 1. In addition, 1 patient was transferred to Lincoln under Regulation 33B.

Of the 3 patients in whose case more than one Form 1 was received, 2 were first reported in a previous year. It was found possible to induce all 3 patients to obtain treatment.

Of the remaining 10 patients, 8 attended for treatment, and in the other 2 cases particulars were not adequate for effective action.

Defence Regulation 33B ceased to be in force from 31st December, 1947.

CANCER.

There were 122 deaths from Cancer as compared with 109 in 1946.

The Radiotherapy Treatment Centre at the Scunthorpe War Memorial Hospital, established on 15th July, 1942, by the Joint Committee of the three County Councils and the two County Boroughs of Lincolnshire was available during the year.

The Lincoln County Hospital was approved by the Joint Committee from 1st June, 1943, for the treatment of Cancer cases other than by radiotherapy, and the Joint Committee accepted the responsibility for the cost of treatment at this Hospital.

At the Scunthorpe War Memorial Hospital, 27 Lincoln residents received in-patient treatment, and 26 out-patient treatment, as compared with 51 and 30 respectively in the previous year.

At the Lincoln County Hospital 116 Lincoln residents received in-patient treatment, and 10 out-patient treatment, as compared with 92 and 8 respectively in the previous year.

CARE OF MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

The arrangements were on similar lines as in previous years.

On 31st December, 1947, there were 197 mental defectives under the care of the Council, of which 80 were in Institutions, 10 were on Licence, 21 under Guardianship, 38 under Statutory Supervision, 47 under Voluntary Supervision, and 1 detained in a "place of safety."

The Public Health Medical Staff examined 10 cases for the purpose of Certification and 4 cases were either re-examined or were examined for special reports.

At the end of the year there were 28 Mental Defectives attending the Occupation Centre as against 27 at the commencement of the year.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

Arrangements for the Prevention of Blindness were on similar lines as described in my Report for 1938.

Number of Blind Persons on Register on 1-1-47	..	120
Number of cases certified during the year	..	8
Number of cases from other areas during the year	..	2
Number of cases who died during the year	..	14
Number of cases de-certified during the year	..	—
Number of cases transferred to other areas	..	4
Number remaining on Register on 31-12-47	..	112

There were 17 cases under observation at the beginning of the year ; 1 new case came under observation and 2 cases were removed from observation during the year. At the end of the year there were 16 cases still under observation.

WATER.

The chlorination of the water supply was continued during the year. Bacteriological examinations were carried out weekly and chemical analyses from time to time. The results were satisfactory.

There was no action necessary on account of contamination by lead.

The great majority of the houses are supplied direct from public water mains, but in the case of the remainder there is only a tap in the yard for the common use of one or more houses.

The water supply was constant and remained satisfactory in quality and quantity.

HOUSING.

Total number of houses erected in the City during 1947 :—

(a) By the Local Authority under Housing Acts ..	121
(b) By private enterprise	52

FOOD POISONING.

There were ten suspected outbreaks of food poisoning which were investigated by the Department.

In only three of the suspected outbreaks was an organism identified and in each case the organism was *Salmonella Typhi Murium*.

In the remaining seven suspected outbreaks the faeces of patients were examined, but all with negative results. In only three of these cases were samples of the suspected food available, and on examination all three proved negative.

It is now fully realised that the majority of cases of food poisoning are due to lack of personal cleanliness and efforts are at present being made for a National Campaign to impress upon personnel engaged in the handling and preparation of food as to the importance of personal hygiene.

FLOODING.

In the Spring of the year a large number of houses in the low-lying areas of the City were seriously flooded, consequent upon the rapid thaw of snow which had accumulated during the severe winter. To alleviate distress in the flooded areas, Rest Centres were opened to house families more seriously affected by flooding, and mobile canteens were arranged for the feeding of others. The Rest Centres were kept under constant medical supervision. All the services of the Council were engaged in alleviating distress and in dealing with the sick in the areas affected. The Mayor opened a flood relief fund.

As the floods subsided Royal Air Force mobile heaters, loaned by the Air Ministry, were used for the drying of houses most seriously affected by the floods and walls and upholstered furniture were treated with Shirlan to prevent the growth of fungus.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

This service, known as the City of Lincoln and Women's Voluntary Service Home Help Service, was inaugurated in March, 1947, to provide domestic assistance for maternity, sick and infirm cases in their home.

44 cases were assisted in 1947.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

During 1947 all measures in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare were continued on the same lines as in previous years.

CHILD WELFARE.

During the year 2,976 children were seen at the Infant Welfare Clinics, and out of these 1,027 were under 1 year of age. The Health Visitors paid 8,759 visits in respect of children under 5 years, out of these 4,037 visits were to children under 1 year of age.

CHILD LIFE PROTECTION.

The number of persons who were receiving children for reward at the end of the year was 2 and the number of children under their care was 2.

CARE OF PREMATURE INFANTS AND ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

The Health Visitors and the Social Welfare Worker continued to give special attention to premature infants and illegitimate children. The arrangements for a heated basket and a trained nurse from the City Maternity Home to go with the ambulance when an infant required institutional care were continued during the year.

All discharges from the City Maternity Home are notified to the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre, so that the Health Visitors can follow up the cases.

MUNICIPAL DISTRICT MIDWIFERY SERVICE.

The Municipal Midwives attended 447 domiciliary cases as Midwives and 107 as Maternity Nurses. Medical Aid was summoned in 189 cases.

The number of cases attended under the Municipal Midwifery Service during the last 5 years was as follows :—

	<i>As Midwives.</i>	<i>As Maternity Nurses.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
1947	447	107	554
1946	445	137	582
1945	442	151	593
1944	477	195	672
1943	439	149	588

At the ante and post-natal clinics, 934 ante-natal examinations and 234 post-natal examinations were carried out during the year.

MATERNITY HOME.

The City Maternity Home provides accommodation for 24 maternity beds and 2 observation wards.

On 10th January, 1947, the Home was approved by the Central Midwives Board as a Part II Training School for pupil-midwives. Up to eight pupil-midwives may be accepted for training for any one course, four in the Home and four on the district. The Home was also approved, on 11th April, 1947, as a training centre for the purpose of providing instruction in the administration of gas/air analgesia.

There were 538 women admitted to the Home during the year, and medical aid was summoned in 328 cases.

The number of women admitted to the Home during the last five years was as follows :—

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
291	275	284	457	538

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

4 cases were notified during the year as against 6 during 1946.
The vision was unimpaired in all cases.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

The number of cases of Puerperal Pyrexia notified during the last five years was :—

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
7	11	9	9	21

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were 2 maternal deaths and this gives a Mortality rate of 1.44 as compared with the rate of 0.00 for the previous year, and 1.17 for England and Wales.

DAY NURSERIES.

The St. Giles Day Nursery was transferred to the Education Committee on 1st April, 1947, for use as a Nursery School.

The Newland Day Nursery, approved for 40 children, continued to be available, and at the end of the year there were 45 children on the register, and 30 on the waiting list for admission. One room at this nursery was considered to be unsafe, and an application for approval to provide additional accommodation was before the Ministry of Health at the end of the year.

LIGHT CLINIC.

The treatment by Ultra-violet Light at this Clinic was continued during the year. All patients coming under the care of the Health Services are dealt with at this Clinic.

	1947	1946
No. of new cases	.. 228	181
No. of attendances	.. 5,779	3,745

DENTAL CLINIC.

During the year 110 mothers made 521 attendances, and 90 babies made 198 attendances at the Dental Clinic which is held at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre.

A considerable number of patients coming under other sections of the Health Services are also treated at this Clinic.

BIRTH CONTROL.

At this Clinic advice is given to married women in whose case a future pregnancy would be injurious to their health and the Clinic was continued during the year.

During 1947 the number of Lincoln patients who received advice on birth control was 17, and they made 42 attendances, as compared with 12 patients who made 29 attendances during 1946.

CIRCULAR 2831—MINISTRY OF HEALTH.

The Health Visitors made special efforts to assist the mothers in improving the general standard of cleanliness and habits during their visits to the homes and when they came in contact with the mothers at the Clinics.

Special visits were paid to the homes to see the children when this was necessary.

The Midwives and the other Nursing Staff also took opportunities to stress the importance of general cleanliness.

Supplies of 384—"Special"—and of special combs were kept at the Welfare Centres to assist the mothers in suitable cases.

The standard of cleanliness remains generally satisfactory, but efforts are being continued as in previous years.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The work of the Sanitary Staff continued on the same lines as in 1946.

The total number of preliminary inspections was 4,898 and the total number of re-inspections was 4,570.

The above figures include the inspection of dwelling-houses and other premises.

Difficulty was experienced by owners of dwelling-houses in carrying out works required by notices issued under the Public Health and Housing Acts.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	3069	1128	3356	12023	4968
Number inspected	3069	1128	3356	12023	4968
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis :</i>					
Whole carcases condemned ..	17	20	30	80	18
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	588	486	57	62	141
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	19.71	44.85	2.59	1.18	3.20
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i>					
Whole carcases condemned ..	16	30	6	—	17
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	521	502	4	—	392
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	17.49	47.16	0.29	—	8.23

Amount of Food Condemned.

	Tons	Cwts.	St.	Lbs.
Meat & Offal	56	17	2	12
Fish		13	1	8
Fruit, vegetables & other food	12	15	4	5
	70	6	—	11

All condemned foodstuffs are utilised for purposes other than for the food of man.

Inspection of Horseflesh.

Six shops retail horseflesh for human food in the City.

The slaughterhouses supplying this horseflesh are situated in the area of the North Kesteven Rural District Council. By arrangement with the North Kesteven Rural District Council, the Chief Sanitary Inspector was appointed an Inspector to that Council in July, 1941, and since that date he has inspected all horses slaughtered for human consumption. Particulars for 1947 are as follows:—

Occupier.	No. of visits.	No. of carcasses.
Christopher's Slaughterhouse, Waddington Low Fields	141	314
Hughes' Slaughterhouse, Skellingthorpe Ferry	223	433
TOTALS	364	747

Approximate total weight of horseflesh and offal condemned as unfit for food and so disposed of as to prevent the same being used for human consumption:—

	Tons	Cwts.	St.	Lbs.
Horseflesh	3	1	6	—
Offal		7	3	—
	3	9	1	—

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) REGULATIONS.

During the year, 200 samples were taken under the above regulations for Methylene Blue, Phosphatase test, and biological examination for Tubercle Bacilli.

Results on the whole were satisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Details of the samples procured are given below:—

Nature of Sample.	Adulterated.	Genuine.	Informal.	Formal.	Total
Milk	18	145	138	25	163
Golden Raising Powder ..	2	2	3	1	4
Dried Parsley	—	1	1	—	1
Pure Coffee	—	8	8	—	8
Dried Onions	—	2	2	—	2
Gelatine	—	3	3	—	3
Celery Salt	—	1	1	—	1
Ground Nutmeg	—	2	2	—	2
Baking Powder	4	7	8	3	11
Cocoa	—	3	3	—	3
Cochineal	—	2	2	—	2
Arrowroot	—	1	1	—	1
Tea	—	4	4	—	4
Table Jelly	—	3	3	—	3
Cream of Tartar	—	1	1	—	1
Saccharin Tablets	—	3	3	—	3
Raisin Wine	—	1	1	—	1
Self Raising Flour	—	5	5	—	5
Sweetened Lemonade Powder	—	1	1	—	1
Soya Flour	—	1	1	—	1
Fish Paste	—	1	1	—	1
Oatmeal	—	3	3	—	3
Flat Fillets of Anchovies ..	—	1	1	—	1
Can of Hake	—	1	1	—	1
Beef Sausage Meat	2	3	—	5	5
Beef Sausages	1	—	—	1	1
Mushroom Ketchup	—	1	1	—	1
Pasteurised Processed Cheese	—	2	2	—	2
Red Cabbage—Pickled	—	1	1	—	1
Ground Ginger	—	2	2	—	2
Barley Flakes	—	1	1	—	1
White Pepper	—	2	2	—	2
Malt Vinegar	—	3	3	—	3
Barley Flour	—	1	1	—	1
Sweetening Tablets	—	1	1	—	1
Curry Powder	—	2	2	—	2
Mustard	—	1	1	—	1
Campden Tablets	1	—	1	—	1
Malted Milk Tablets	—	1	1	—	1
Ground Cinnamon	—	1	1	—	1
Tincture of Iodine	—	3	3	—	3
Boracic Acid Powder	—	2	2	—	2
Aspirin Tablets	—	2	2	—	2
Epsom Salts	—	2	2	—	2
Camphorated Oil	—	1	1	—	1
Seidlitz Powder	—	2	2	—	2
Gripe Water	—	1	1	—	1
Sweet Spirit of Nitre	—	1	1	—	1
Borax	—	1	1	—	1
Pure Cod Liver Oil	1	1	1	1	2
Sal Volatile	1	—	1	—	1
Spirit of Sal Volatile	—	1	—	1	1
TOTALS	30	241	234	37	271

Action taken in the case of adulterated samples :—

Legal proceedings were taken in respect of four adulterated samples of milk, two adulterated samples of sausage meat and one sample of sausage. Fines amounting to £79 15s. 6d. including costs were imposed.

In the case of adulterated samples of Baking Powder and Golden Raising Powder letters of warning were sent to the vendors.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

The number of houses found to be infested during the year was 42, including 9 Council houses. All the houses were successfully disinfested, a liquid insecticide being employed.

The Sanitary Inspectors take the opportunity as occasion may arise to advise tenants as to methods to be adopted to prevent re-infestation after cleansing.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

During the year 35 inspections were made of Factories within the District, and on the whole they were found to be in a satisfactory condition. No legal proceedings had to be instituted. Further details are as follows :

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	67	6	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local authority.	1	—	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) . .	270	29	—	—
TOTAL . .	338	35	—	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

PARTICULARS	Number of cases in which defects were found.				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied.	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp-ector.	By H.M. Insp-ector.	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ..	5	2	—	5	—
Overcrowding (S.2) ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—	—
<i>Sanitary Conveniences.</i>					
Insufficient	1	—	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ..	1	—	—	1	—
Not separate for sexes ..	1	—	—	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	2	2	1	—	—
TOTAL	10	4	1	7	—

OUTWORK (Sections 110-111).

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists.	No. of instances of work in unwholesome Premises	Notices served.	Prosecutions.
Wearing apparel Making, etc.	8	—	—	—	—	—

VITAL STATISTICS

	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
Population (mid-year estimates)	65,220	63,760	62,960	65,280	65,770
Net Births	1,090	1,302	1,212	1,349	1,345
Net Deaths	884	830	830	801	851
Marriages Solemnised ..	502	600	726	715	707
Live Birth Rate	16.71	20.04	19.25	20.66	20.45
Still Birth Rate	0.57	0.59	0.62	0.60	0.67
Death Rate	13.4	13.01	13.34	12.27	12.94
Maternal Mortality Rate	1.77	1.49	1.60	0.00	1.44
Infant Mortality Rate ..	63	36	57	43	33
Tuberculosis Mortality ..	.85	.69	.64	.64	.76

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY, 1947.

	Birth rate per 1,000 population		Annual Death Rate per 1,000 population								Rate per 1,000 live births	
	Live Births	Still-Births	All Causes	Enteric Fever	Small-pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years	Total Deaths under 1 year
England and Wales ..	20.5	0.50	12.0	.00	.00	.01	.00	.02	.01	.09	5.8	41
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns including London ..	23.3	0.62	13.0	.00	.00	.02	.00	.03	.01	.09	8.0	47
148 Smaller Towns (Estimated Resident Populations 25,000—50,000 at Census, 1931)	22.2	0.54	11.9	.00	.00	.02	.00	.02	.01	.08	3.7	36
London ..	22.7	0.49	12.8	.00	—	.01	.00	.02	.01	.08	4.8	37
LINCOLN ..	20.45	0.67	12.94	—	—	—	—	—	.01	.09	2.2	33



