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Contributors

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SLEAFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
for
1947.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

RECEIVED

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STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health.

John W. Scholey M.B; Ch.B.

Sanitary Inspector.

Wilfred Henry Howard M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk.

Miss E. Turbett.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1947

To the Chairman and Members of the
Sleaford Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in submitting
my Report for the Year, 1947.

A. Statistics and Social Conditions.

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Area, in acres..... | 4,549 |
| Population..... | 7,160 |
| Number of Inhabited Houses..... | 2,024 |
| Rateable Value (31st March, 1947)..... | £48,811 |
| Sum represented by a 1d rate (31st March, 1947)..... | £192.14s.6d |

VITAL STATISTICS (NOT CORRECTED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL)

B I R T H S

| | Legitimate | | Illegitimate | | Total |
|----------------|------------|-----|--------------|---|-------|
| | M | F | M | F | |
| January..... | 15 | 12 | - | - | 27 |
| February..... | 11 | 11 | 1 | - | 23 |
| March..... | 10 | 6 | - | 1 | 17 |
| April..... | 10 | 15 | - | - | 25 |
| May..... | 15 | 12 | - | 1 | 28 |
| June..... | 13 | 10 | - | - | 23 |
| July..... | 14 | 12 | - | - | 26 |
| August..... | 17 | 11 | - | 1 | 29 |
| September..... | 16 | 8 | - | - | 24 |
| October..... | 12 | 8 | - | - | 20 |
| November..... | 7 | 10 | - | - | 17 |
| December..... | 11 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 22 |
| Total..... | 151 | 123 | 3 | 4 | 281 |

D E A T H S

| | Resident | | Non-Resident | | Non-Civilian | |
|--------------------------|----------|----|--------------|---|--------------|-----|
| | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| Congenital Defects..... | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Cerebral Thrombosis..... | 1 | 6 | 1 | - | - | - |
| Bronchitis..... | - | 2 | - | - | - | - |
| Cancer..... | 3 | 3 | - | - | - | - |
| Pneumonia..... | 5 | 3 | - | 1 | - | - |
| Heart..... | 13 | 14 | - | 1 | - | - |
| Anaemia..... | 1 | - | - | 1 | - | - |
| Other Causes..... | 3 | 6 | - | 1 | 1 | - |
| Total..... | 27 | 34 | 1 | 4 | 1 | Nil |

| | Total | M | F |
|----------------|-------|----|----|
| January..... | 6 | 3 | 3 |
| February..... | 10 | 2 | 8 |
| March..... | 7 | 1 | 6 |
| April..... | 5 | 3 | 2 |
| May..... | 9 | 3 | 6 |
| June..... | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| July..... | 4 | 3 | 1 |
| August..... | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| September..... | 5 | 4 | 1 |
| October..... | 5 | 2 | 3 |
| November..... | 2 | 2 | - |
| December..... | 7 | 3 | 4 |
| Total..... | 67 | 29 | 38 |

B. Health Services of the Area.

There have been no changes in the health services within the area during the year.

C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

WATER SUPPLIES - No extension of water mains took place during the year. A sufficient and satisfactory town water supply has been provided throughout the year. There were no analyses made on behalf of the Local Authority during the year.

A piped supply is available to almost all the premises within the district, a few houses only in the outlying parts of the area relying on shallow wells or borings.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE - No extensions to the Sewerage scheme for the area have been carried out during the year. The town's water carriage system is disposed of at a sewage farm to the East of the town. No troubles have arisen from this method of disposal.

Following the severe weather and heavy snow falls during the first three months of the year, some flooding took place in the West Banks area adjoining the River Slea and the Nine Foot River when the thaw began in March and which continued until early April.

All premises flooded were inspected and the tenants of affected houses assisted as far as possible and following the subsidence of the flooding, work was carried out to put the damaged houses in order.

In addition, a storm water overflow was provided to the Thomas Street surface water sewer and also to the foul sewer to relieve the flooding in this area which has occurred in the past during time of storm and which by this work has been much relieved.

SCAVENGING - A weekly collection of refuse is made from houses throughout the area, disposal being by incineration.

Collection and disposal throughout the year has been satisfactory.

SALVAGE - Salvage has been regularly collected. The amount of waste paper collected throughout the year has consistently averaged above the target of one ton per one thousand of the population per month.

SWIMMING BATH - A Public Swimming Bath is provided in the Urban District and is equipped with modern purification and a chlorination plant and during the hot summer months was well used. In spite of its excessive use, a satisfactory Swimming Bath Water was provided at all times.

D. Inspection and Supervision of Food.

MILK SUPPLY - Supervision has been maintained over production and distribution of milk supplies and where possible, improvements have been carried out. Proposals are in hand to replace one unsatisfactory cowshed by a new cowshed complying with the Milk and Dairies Order.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS - All meat for the Urban District and for the East Kesteven Rural District is slaughtered in Government Slaughterhouses within the Urban District, and all carcasses slaughtered have been examined.

Various collections of other foods have also been inspected and condemned where necessary.

E. Prevalence and Control of Infectious and Other Diseases.

| | |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Scarlet Fever..... | 6 |
| Whooping Cough..... | 36 |
| Diphtheria..... | Nil |
| Measles..... | 325 |
| Pneumonia..... | 4 |
| Puerperal pyrexia..... | 1 |
| Chicken Pox..... | 6 |
| Cerebro-Spinal Fever... | 1 |
| Erysipelas..... | 2 |
| Malaria..... | 1 |
| Total..... | 382 |

It will be noted that there is a very marked increase in the Number of Infectious Diseases in this Council's area during the past year. Firstly, there was a very heavy measles epidemic during the year and secondly, what I consider to be a more important reason, local practitioners have responded very conscientiously to repeated requests for these notifications, whereas during the War Years owing to pressure of other work etc. they were rather neglected.

HOUSING 1947.

The erection of sixty-eight houses on the Woodside Estate has been proceeding during the year and at the 31st December, fourteen houses were completed and occupied.

A further fifty Airey type houses ^{to be} are erected on the adjoining Hillside Estate and the tender for the roads and sewers was accepted during the year.

Repairs to dwellings have been carried out during the year in spite of shortages of material and labour.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:-
- (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts..... 157
 Number of inspections made for the purpose..... 258
- (b) Number of dwelling houses (included under subhead (a) above which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925..... Nil
- (c) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation..... Nil
- (d) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding subhead) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation..... Nil
2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.
- Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers..... Nil
3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.
- (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act, 1936, Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs..... Nil
 Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
 (i) By Owners..... Nil
 (ii) By local authority in default of Owners Nil
- (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-
 (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied..... 59
 (ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
 (i) By Owners..... 6
 (ii) By local authority in default of Owners Nil
- (c) Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.
 (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made..... Nil
 (ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders..... Nil
- (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:-
 (i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made..... Nil
 (ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit..... Nil

I am, Mr. Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,
 Your obedient servant,

John W. Schoby

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