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# REPORT

of the

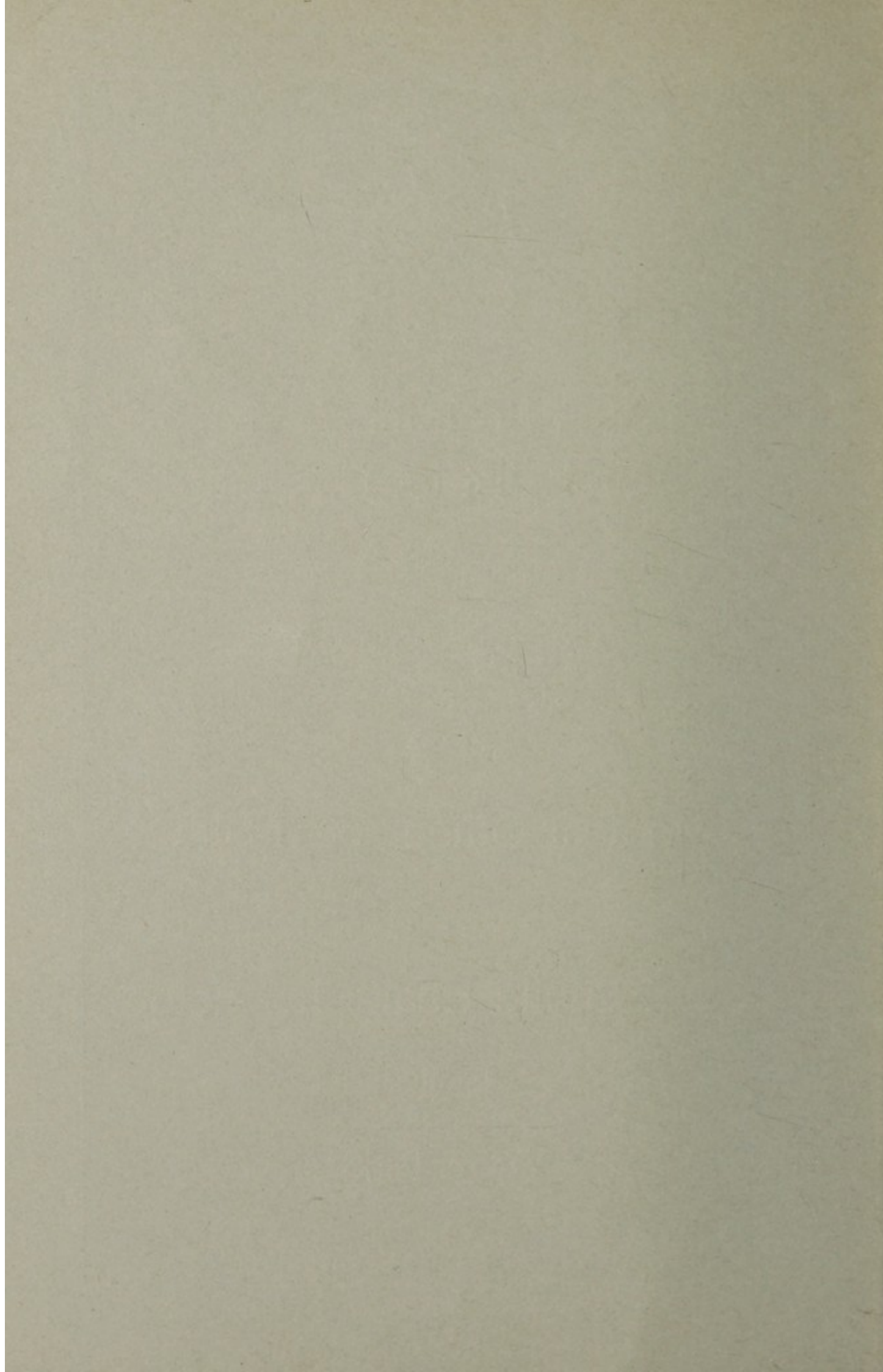
Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the

Year 1956



# SPALDING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Vice-Chairman : Mr. H. G. Witherington.

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Mr. A. E. Clark	Mr. T. A. Warren
Mr. A. G. Stocker	Mr. A. E. Woodhead

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council are ex-officio members.

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## Staff of the Health Department :

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—  
R. Miller, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

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CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR—  
F. Luker, M.S.I.A., R.S.I., Cert. Insp. of Food.

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ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS—  
H. Todd, M.S.I.A., R.S.I., Cert. Insp. of Food.  
W. E. Farley, M.S.I.A., R.S.I., Cert. Insp. of Food.

PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR—B. J. Saunders.  
GENERAL CLERK—D. C. Joseph.

Spalding Rural District Council,  
Council Offices,  
Priory Road,  
Spalding.

**Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1956.**

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Spalding Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report upon the health of the Rural District during the year 1956.

It will be appreciated that this report deals with a period when my predecessor Dr. Miller was still in office.

The Health Department needs, and has been able to rely upon, the co-operation of family doctors as well as the general public. The importance of this was seen during the outbreak of dysentery in the Surfleet area in 1956. It was only with the co-operation of the family doctors, teachers and parents that this department was able to control this outbreak and limit it to the area of origin.

The most important aspect of health legislation during 1956 was the introduction of the Food Hygiene Regulations. For many years we have accustomed ourselves to an amazingly low standard of hygiene in our foodshops, restaurants and slaughterhouses. These Regulations along with the Bye-laws relating to slaughterhouses now give us an opportunity to enforce a more reasonable standard of hygiene in these premises and it will be necessary to deal firmly and patiently with the more recalcitrant traders who glory in the antiquity of their premises and standard of hygiene.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

H. P. BURROWES,

Medical Officer of Health.

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The district forms part of low Fenlands of Lincolnshire and has a good climate with relatively low rainfall. The main industry is agriculture and the only other industries in the area are ancillary to agriculture. As a result the atmosphere is pure and free from industrial pollution.

The area of the district is 87,758 acres with a resident population (1951 census) of 18,723.

The average population given by the Registrar General for the calculation of death rates is 18,880.

The number of inhabited houses according to the rate books is distributed as follows :

Cowbit	...	...	...	...	...	199
Crowland	...	...	...	...	...	969
Deeping St. Nicholas	...	...	...	...	...	599
Donington	...	...	...	...	...	699
Gosberton	...	...	...	...	...	758
Moulton	...	...	...	...	...	882
Pinchbeck	...	...	...	...	...	1216
Quadring	...	...	...	...	...	349
Surfleet	...	...	...	...	...	357
Weston	...	...	...	...	...	466
						<hr/> 6494 <hr/>

The rateable value of the district is £106,043 and the sum represented by a penny rate is £203.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

### BIRTHS

#### LIVE BIRTHS

			M.		F.		Total
Legitimate	...	...	139	...	138	...	277
Illegitimate	...	...	5	...	1	...	6
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
			144		139		283
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population—14.70

#### STILL BIRTHS

			M.		F.		Total
Legitimate	...	...	1	...	—	...	1
Illegitimate	...	...	—	...	1	...	1
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
			1		1		2
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 (live and still) births—7.02

### DEATHS

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES			M.		F.		Total
...	...	...	111	...	78	...	189

Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population—11.01.

#### MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion—Nil.

#### INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths during first year of life.

			M.		F.		Total
Legitimate	...	...	5	...	6	...	11
Illegitimate	...	...	—	...	—	...	—
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
			5		6		11
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

#### NEONATAL MORTALITY

Deaths during first four weeks of life.

			M.		F.		Total
Legitimate	...	...	4	...	6	...	10
Illegitimate	...	...	—	...	—	...	—
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
			4		6		10
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

# CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1956

	M.	F.	Total
1. Respiratory Tuberculosis ... ..	1	0	1
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	0	0	0
3. Syphilitic disease ... ..	1	0	1
4. Diphtheria ... ..	0	0	0
5. Whooping Cough ... ..	0	0	0
6. Meningococcal Infection ... ..	0	0	0
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	0	0	0
8. Measles ... ..	0	0	0
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..	0	0	0
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Lungs Bronchus ... ..	7	0	7
11. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach ... ..	5	0	5
12. Malignant Neoplasm, breast ... ..	0	3	3
13. Malignant Neoplasm, uterus ... ..	0	0	0
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	16	7	23
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ... ..	0	1	1
16. Diabetes ... ..	1	2	3
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	25	11	36
18. Coronary disease, angina ... ..	14	10	24
19. Hypertension with heart disease ... ..	1	0	1
20. Other heart diseases ... ..	13	13	26
21. Other circulatory diseases ... ..	2	2	4
22. Influenza ... ..	0	0	0
23. Pneumonia ... ..	3	7	10
24. Bronchitis ... ..	0	3	3
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..	0	0	0
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	0	0	0
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	1	0	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ... ..	1	2	3
29. Hyperplasia and prostrate ... ..	2	0	2
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion ... ..	0	0	0
31. Congenital malformations ... ..	0	3	3
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	11	9	20
33. Motor vehicle accidents ... ..	3	1	4
34. All other accidents ... ..	2	0	2
35. Suicide ... ..	1	4	5
36. Homicide and operations of war ... ..	0	0	0
All cases	111	78	189

## COMMENTARY ON THE VITAL STATISTICS

The figures for the Live Birth Rate and the Death Rate have been corrected by using the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General. This factor makes a correction for the age and sex composition of the local population and these figures may therefore be compared with those for England and Wales.

	<b>Spalding Rural District</b>	<b>England and Wales</b>
Live Birth Rate	14.70	15.7
Death Rate	11.01	11.7
Infant Mortality Rate	38.87	23.8

Your Birth and Death Rate compare favourably with those for the rest of the country but your Infant Mortality Rate is again surprisingly high. The infant mortality rate reflects, fairly accurately, the social conditions obtaining in your area. While your figures are too scanty to be of any statistical significance I am of the opinion that the comparatively high rate which is recorded in your area from time to time is due in part to the fact that so called Problem Families who have been evicted from houses in the nearby towns and villages move into unoccupied isolated farm houses where they proliferate in squalor. It is important these potential country slums should be borne in mind when dealing with old houses in rural areas.

I must also draw your attention to the increasing number of deaths from lung cancer in your area which is singularly free from atmospheric pollution. A recent report by the Medical Research Council has given support to the claim that there is an adverse relationship between cigarette smoking and lung cancer. I would recommend that every effort should be made to bring this fact to the attention of the public.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

### Number of cases of Infectious Disease :

Excluding cases of Tuberculosis, 78 cases of infectious disease were notified during the year.

Disease				Cases Notified		
				Total	M.	F.
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	12	7	5
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	13	9	4
Measles	...	...	...	18	7	11
Pneumonia	...	...	...	8	3	5
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1	1	0
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	0	0	0
Para Typhoid Fevers	...	...	...	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	1	1	0
Sonne Dysentery	...	...	...	24	8	16
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	1	0	1
				78	36	42

## Analysis of Cases of Infectious Diseases under Age Groups

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Measles	Acute Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Mening- ococcal Infection	Acute Polio- myelitis	Sonne Dysentery
Under 1 year	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 2 years	—	1	3	1	—	—	—	2
3 to 4 „	4	3	7	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 9 „	6	8	6	1	—	—	—	12
10 to 14 „	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
15 to 24 „	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
25 to 44 „	—	—	—	4	—	—	1	3
45 to 64 „	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2
65 and over	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Total	12	13	18	8	1	—	1	24

## Incidence of Infectious Disease in recent years

Disease		Year					
		1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
Scarlet Fever	{ Cases	18	5	19	43	27	12
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	{ Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	{ Cases	195	53	347	5	364	18
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	{ Cases	89	49	65	14	52	13
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio- Myelitis	{ Cases	1	—	1	1	2	1
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—

## Comments.

Poliomyelitis and the various forms of food poisoning are the two main problems in the field of infectious disease today. You will note that a total of 29 cases of food poisoning and sonne dysentery were notified in 1956. While the mortality of these diseases is low they do cause a considerable amount of lost time and therefore represent a serious economic drain on the community. I would urge the Council to give full support to the enforcement of the Food Hygiene Regulations and the Bye-laws relating to Slaughterhouses as this is the only way to reduce the incidence of the various types of food poisoning.

## TUBERCULOSIS

		M.	F.	Total
Cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at 31/12/56.	{ Pulmonary ... ..	32	23	55
	{ Non-pulmonary ...	1	2	3
Cases removed from the Register as cured during 1956	{ Pulmonary ... ..	1	1	2
	{ Non-pulmonary ...	—	—	—
Cases removed from the Register due to diagnosis not being confirmed during 1956	{ Pulmonary ... ..	—	—	—
	{ Non-pulmonary ...	—	—	—
Cases removed from Register due to removal from the District during 1956	{ Pulmonary ... ..	3	—	3
	{ Non-pulmonary ...	—	—	—
Cases removed from the Register due to death during 1956	{ Pulmonary ... ..	1	—	1
	{ Non-pulmonary ...	—	—	—

## Analysis of new cases and deaths during 1956

Age group	New cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-pul.		Pulmonary		Non-pul.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 years	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45 years	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
45—55 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	—

## DETAILS OF CASES ON TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER 1950-1956

Year	Cases at 31st December				Deaths during year			
	Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
1950	...	62	...	29	...	3	...	0
1951	...	51	...	16	...	6	...	0
1952	...	54	...	21	...	0	...	1
1953	...	54	...	14	...	5	...	0
1954	...	48	...	5	...	1	...	0
1955	...	54	...	5	...	3	...	1
1956	...	55	...	3	...	1	...	0

### Comments.

It is satisfying to see that there are not as many new cases this year as there were last year. This disease is being brought under control year by year but there will always be the need to give special consideration to persons suffering from this disease when allocating houses.

## DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

### Immunisations for the year 1956 (Diphtheria).

The following table gives the number of children immunised against diphtheria during 1956.

District		Under		1 and		5-	
		1 year		under 5 years		14 years	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Boston Borough	...	76	19.4	1236	80.8	3221	81.5
Spalding Rural	...	37	11.5	930	78.5	2614	82.8
Boston Rural	...	59	16.2	1071	76.4	2807	80.1
East Elloe Rural	...	40	12.9	1098	72.5	3031	80.2
Spalding Urban	...	49	21.0	715	84.1	1880	85.1

## WATER SUPPLY

The water supplied throughout your district is obtained from artesian wells. Samples are taken regularly and submitted for bacteriological analysis. The results are mainly "Highly Satisfactory" or "Satisfactory."

## SEWERAGE AND PUBLIC CLEANSING

Your council provides an efficient night-soil removal service. I think that it is regrettable that a charge has to be made for this service which is done for the protection of the population and not just for the benefit of the householder.

The new sewerage scheme in Crowland has now been operating for nearly two years. A number of houses which previously discharged their sewage into the Crowland tunnels are now connected to the new system but it will be a long time before these obsolete and inefficient tunnels cease to be used for this purpose. While the various local statutory bodies contend over the ownership of these tunnels they remain a danger to the health of Crowland's inhabitants.

Plans for providing a sewerage system for Donington are being drawn up and it is hoped that before long the night-soil men will be able to pay fewer visits to that parish.

## HOUSING

The restriction of Government subsidies to houses built for slum clearance purposes has encouraged your Council to deal with some of the worn out property in your district. I believe that we shall find that there is far more worn out property to be dealt with than was anticipated as very often what appears from the road to be an attractive bower proves on closer inspection to be a rural slum.

Some of your own property is in urgent need of improvement. At the end of 1956 there were 650 houses without bathrooms and 510 houses without water closets. Your Housing Committee is tackling this problem with zeal and if this effort is maintained all your property should be brought up to date in two or three years.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The introduction of the Food Hygiene Regulations will greatly increase the work of the inspectors but if it also increases the standard of hygiene in food premises nobody will be more pleased than these officers.

There are 12 licensed slaughter-houses in your district most of which are obsolete, unhygienic and a menace to the public health. Regular meat inspection is carried out but it must be remembered that the inspectors can only detect gross disease but cannot see the bacteriological contamination which is bound to occur in such unhygienic premises. It is difficult to understand why butchers who often have such clean shops put up with such unhygienic slaughter-houses.

# SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA AS REPORTED BY THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

## Visits.

The following table shows the number of visits made during the year by the Public Health Inspectors.

Subject of Visits	Initial Visits	Routine or Revisits
Housing defects ... ..	127	199
Water supplies, water samples ... ..	15	60
Drainage nuisances ... ..	44	49
Refuse nuisances ... ..	11	8
Overcrowding ... ..	1	1
Moveable dwellings, camps ... ..	9	4
Fried fish shops ... ..	3	18
Ice cream premises, ice cream samples ...	1	6
Bakehouses ... ..	0	15
Food preparing premises, foodshops ...	12	42
Factories and Workplaces ... ..	3	21
Public Conveniences ... ..	5	75
Scabies and Vermin ... ..	1	3
Infectious diseases and food poisoning ...	67	84
Disinfection after infectious disease ... ..	7	10
Rats and mice ... ..	4	16
Disinfestation ... ..	1	0
Drain tests ... ..	87	279
Sewerage schemes (Housing Sites) ... ..	0	35
Crowland Sewerage Scheme ... ..	34	139
Refuse schemes ... ..	22	8
Night soil and cesspool emptying service ...	34	11
Slaughterhouses ; meat inspection ... ..	1552	0
Housing Act 1949 ... ..	73	246
Miscellaneous ... ..	121	19

As will be seen from the above figures the emphasis during the year has been on housing, (including improvement grants), drainage work and meat inspection. Sewer extensions in connection with Crowland sewerage scheme and the outbreak of Sonne Dysentery towards the end of the year occupied the staff to full capacity and regular overtime had to be worked each week, mainly on meat inspection

## WATER SUPPLY

The following table shows the number of dwelling houses and the appropriate population supplied from the Council's mains in each parish.

Parish	Dwellings in Valuation List			Dwellings Supplied		
Cowbit ... ..	...	...	199	...	...	192
Crowland ... ..	...	...	969	...	...	919
Deeping St. Nicholas ... ..	...	...	599	...	...	496
Donington ... ..	...	...	699	...	...	655
Gosberton ... ..	...	...	758	...	...	662
Moulton ... ..	...	...	882	...	...	666
Pinchbeck ... ..	...	...	1216	...	...	1062
Quadring ... ..	...	...	349	...	...	297
Surfleet ... ..	...	...	357	...	...	309
Weston ... ..	...	...	466	...	...	435
Total			6494	...	...	5703

The percentage of dwellings supplied is 87.8.

## WATER SAMPLES

### Private Supplies.

Three samples of water from private wells and cisterns were submitted for bacteriological analysis, one of the samples was reported as unsatisfactory and appropriate action was taken to ensure that a satisfactory supply was made available.

### Public Supplies.

178 samples of water were taken by the staff of the Water Department and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological analysis with the following results :—

Remarks of Analyst	BORE			
	Deeping St. James	Deeping St. N'las	Don- ington	Pinch- beck
Highly Satisfactory	42	44	—	86
Satisfactory	1	1	—	1
Suspicious	1	—	—	2
Unsatisfactory	—	—	—	—

## DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND REFUSE DISPOSAL

Details of work done during the year are as follows :—

Cesspools	Vault Closets	Cisterns, tanks, etc.
1,962	399	49

On 144 occasions the cesspool machines were used to remove sludge from the settlement and humus tanks at the sewage disposal works on the housing estates. In addition the collection and disposal of pail closet contents has been maintained throughout the year.

The refuse collection scheme has operated during the year without any major alteration. The area of collection has again increased slightly by small alterations of the routes to bring in outlying properties.

Salvage collections have been maintained during the year and the sale of materials realised £1,618/18/8.

## FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

There are no industrial factories in the area which is almost 100% agricultural in character. The premises in the list of factories and workplaces are composed of village blacksmiths, carpenters, bakers and similar premises. They are in the main family businesses and present no serious problem in administration.

## MILK AND DAIRIES

### Milk Distributors.

On October this year the district of the Council was included in "a specified area" as prescribed by The Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) (No. 2) Order 1956 which allowed only the sale of Designated Milk. The three retail distributors of loose milk operating in the area were then licensed to sell designated milk only.

### Designated Milk.

The following annual licences to use special designations in relation to milk sold in the district were issued :—

	Principal Licences	Supplementary
Pasteurised Milk	8	3
Sterilised Milk	16	4
Tuberculin Tested Milk	7	0
T.T. (Pasteurised)	1	3

## MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Class of animal	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed		Exact	figures not known		
Number inspected	2045	33	11	3186	7011
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	2	3	1	4	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	420	—	—	32	1083
Percentage of carcasses affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	20.63%	9.09%	9.09%	1.13%	15.51%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	3	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	236	1	—	—	41
Percentage of carcasses affected with Tuberculosis	11.68%	3.03%	—	—	0.58%

Details of meat and offals condemned are contained in the following list :

Article Condemned				Disease or Condition found
3	Beast carcasses and offals	...	...	Generalised Tuberculosis
1	Beast carcase and offals	...	...	Moribund and Oedematous
1	Beast carcase and offals	...	...	Johnes Disease and Emaciation
2	Cow carcasses and offals	...	...	Unwholesome and Oedematous
1	Cow carcase and offals	...	...	Actinomycosis and Generalised Oedema
1	Calf carcase and offals	...	...	Oedematous and unwholesome
2	Pig carcasses and offals	...	...	Oedematous and unwholesome
2	Pig carcasses and offals	...	...	Gut Oedema
1	Pig carcase and offals	...	...	Septic Pleurisy, Pericarditis and Generalised Oedema
3	Sheep carcasses and offals	...	...	Unwholesome and Generalised Dropsy
1	Sheep carcase and offals	...	...	Emaciated and Oedematous
488 lbs.	of Beef trimmings	...	...	Bruised and Oedematous
116 lbs.	of Beef trimmings	...	...	Tuberculosis
3	Necks of Beef	...	...	Tuberculosis
3	Briskets of Beef	...	...	Tuberculosis
5	Forequarters of Beef	...	...	Tuberculosis
1	Part of Forequarter of Beef	...	...	Tuberculosis
1	Hindquarter of Beef	...	...	Bruised and Oedematous with fractured pelvis
50 lbs.	of Pork trimmings	...	...	Abcesses
165 lbs.	of Pork trimmings	...	...	Oedematous and Unwholesome
Part	Ribs of Pork	...	...	Abcesses
Breast	of Mutton	...	...	Abcesses
6 lbs.	of Corned Beef	...	...	Unwholesome
47 x 2½ lb.	Tins of Peaches	...	...	Blown and damaged tins
4 x 2½ lb.	Tins of Pears	...	...	Blown and damaged tins
1 x 2½ lb.	Tin of Pineapples	...	...	Blown and damaged tin
1	Tin of Spring Salad	...	...	Blown tin

The following offals were condemned for various reasons too numerous to be set out in detail :

263	Beast Livers	40	Pigs Heads
175	Part Beast Livers	733	Pigs Lungs
81	Beasts Head and Tongues	93	Pigs Hearts
125	Beasts Lungs	182	Pigs Livers
10	Beasts Kidneys	23	Part Pigs Livers
6	Beasts Spleens	10	Pigs Feet
3	Beasts Thick Skirts	40	Pigs Kidneys
4	Beasts Hearts	3	Pigs Mesenteric Fats and Associated Glands
6	Beasts Mesenteric Fats	25	Sheep Livers
3	Beasts Tongues	5	Sheep Lungs
3	Beasts Scrotal Fat and lymph glands	1	Sheep Spleen
1	Udder	1	Sheep Pluck

### CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

41 Beast carcasses were found to be affected with cysts of the tapeworm *Taenia Saginata*. These were consigned to "deep freeze."

## CONDEMNED FOOD

All condemned meat has been well stained with green dye, after its surrender by the butcher, to prevent it being used for human consumption and disposed of to a local hide and skin merchant with steam processing plant.

Unsound tinned foods were dumped with bulk refuse and buried on the Council's refuse tip.

## FOOD PREMISES

The number of food premises in the area, by type of business, is given in the attached list :—

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	11
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	18
Grocers and Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	53
Fish and Chip Premises	...	...	...	...	...	17
Catering Premises	...	...	...	...	...	13
Licenced Premises	...	...	...	...	...	61

The number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955

Fish and Chip Premises	...	...	...	17
Butchers Shops (Meat manufacturing premises)	...	...	...	12
Other Meat Manufacturing Premises	...	...	...	3
Ice-cream Premises	...	...	...	33

During the year 97 visits were made to registered food premises, mainly during the first half of the year. The Food Hygiene Regulations of 1955 came into full operations in July of this year and while some work has been done on this subject much still remains to be done under this heading. Generally the conditions in food premises are not unsatisfactory. Butchers' and other meat manufacturing premises, however, fall short of the standard of equipment required by recent legislation and it is in this particular aspect that much of the work is necessary.

## ICE-CREAM PREMISES

Only one ice-cream manufacturer operates in the area. This is a small business using the complete cold mix method. The manufacturer maintains a satisfactory standard of cleanliness and on analysis the ice-cream was reported satisfactory.

In practically all the other premises ice-cream is sold pre-packed as delivered by the large manufacturers.

## RODENT CONTROL

		Type of Property				
		Local Authority	Dwelling-Houses	Agricultural	Other Properties	Total
Total No. of properties in the District		30	6399	1772	747	8948
No. of properties inspected.	Following Complaints	4	102	31	17	154
	Otherwise	26	1878	675	160	2739
No. of properties found to be infested with rats	Major	1	18	11	7	37
	Minor	7	98	36	6	147
No. of properties found to be infested with mice		—	—	—	—	—
No. of infested properties treated		8	116	47	13	184
No. of notices served under Sec. 4 of the Act	Requiring treatment	—	—	—	—	—
	Requiring structural works	—	—	—	—	—
No. of cases in which work was carried out in default		—	—	—	—	—
Legal proceedings		—	—	—	—	—
No. of "Block " control schemes carried out			9			

## HOUSING

### Nuisances.

103 complaints of inadequate water supplies, housing defects, drainage and refuse nuisances were investigated during the year and informal notices were served as necessary.

### Slum Clearance. Housing Act, 1936.

During the year 19 unfit houses were reported to the Council including 6 houses at Blackwell's Row, Quadring and the following statutory procedure was taken :—

16 Notices of " time and place " were served ;

9 Demolition orders were made ;

2 Undertakings were accepted not to re-let

and also 2 undertakings to repair were accepted.

The Quadring Clearance Order No. 1 1956 was made involving 4 of the 6 houses at Blackwell's Row, Quadring.

### Improvement Grants. Housing Acts 1949-54.

Houses inspected in full detail ... ..	55
Formal applications for Improvement Grants ...	29
Improvement Grants approved ... ..	22

This work continues to form a considerable part of the work of the department. The standard of " improved " houses has been maintained and the Council has continued to pay 50% of the " approved " expense in all cases.

### Overcrowding.

One case of overcrowding was reported during the year.

### New Houses.

A total of 50 houses were completed on the Council's estates during the year and a further 61 were commenced 44 of which had reached roof level by the end of the year.

32 dwellings were erected by private developers and a further 29 were commenced.

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Summary

The following is a summary of the work done during the year and of the results obtained.

During the year 1914-1915

During the year 1914-1915 the following work was done:

The following is a list of the work done during the year 1914-1915:

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