

[Report 1957] / Medical Officer of Health, Spalding R.D.C.

Contributors

Spalding (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1957

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Spalding
Rural District Council

REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the

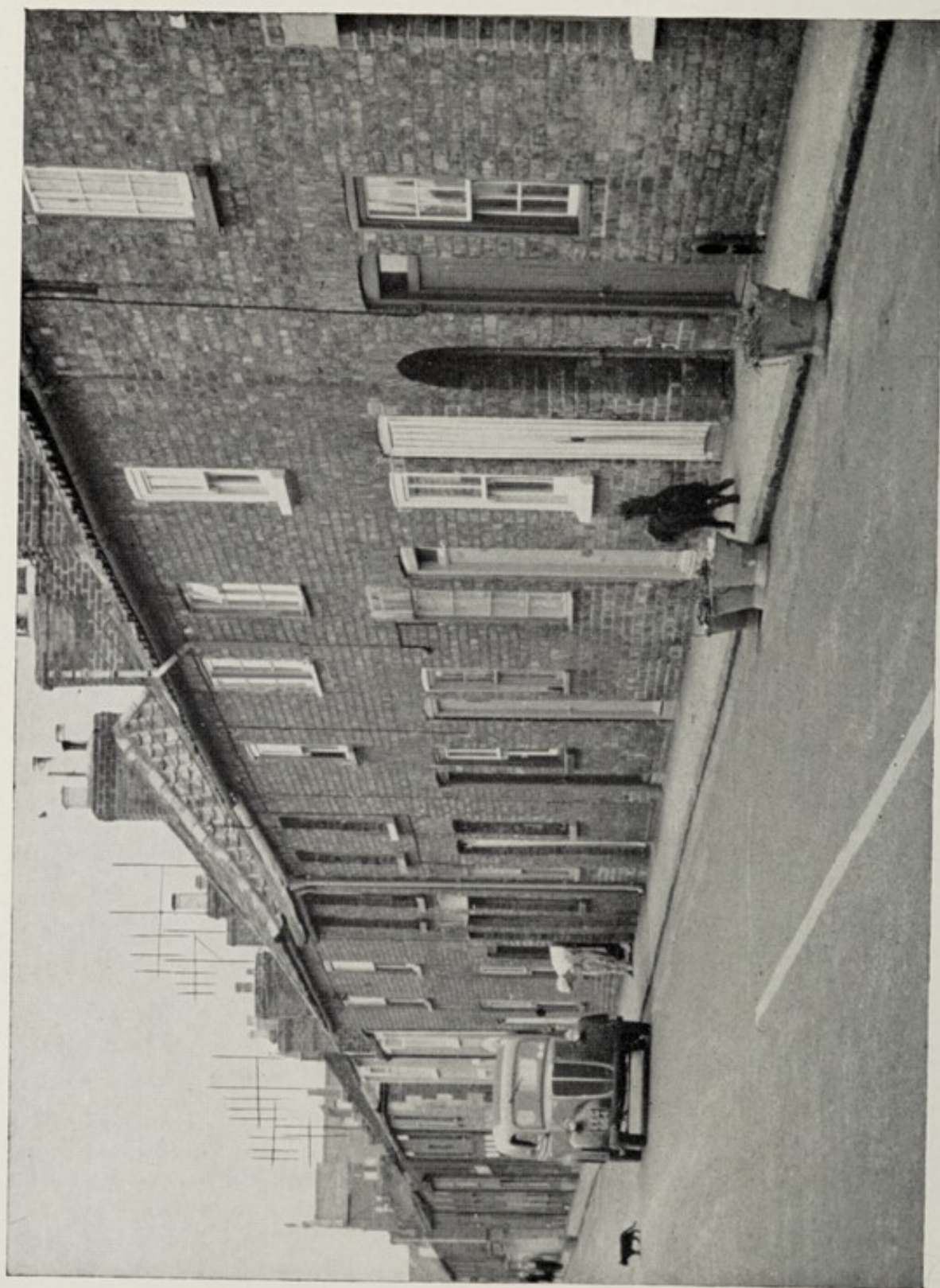
Year 1957





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PAILS FROM CLOSETS AWAITING COLLECTION IN CROWLAND

SPALDING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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

Members of the Council :

Mrs. D. M. Doggett	Mr. S. A. Goodyear
Mr. T. Atkinson	Mr. G. W. Machin
Mr. H. K. Braybrooks	Mr. J. W. Marriott
Mr. F. E. Casson	Mr. C. A. Merrill
Mr. A. C. Casswell, J.P.	Mr. J. F. Pannell
Mr. J. H. Casswell, J.P.	Mr. J. Pearson
Mr. F. B. Chapman, Jnr.	Mr. H. E. Sneath
Mr. A. E. Chappell, J.P.	Mr. A. G. Stocker
Mr. T. H. Chatterton	Mr. B. Thorpe
Mr. A. E. Clark	Mr. A. R. Ward, J.P.
Mr. W. E. Clark	Mr. T. A. Warren
Mr. J. E. Clifton, J.P.	Mr. A. E. Woodhead
Mr. W. Dring	

Members of the Public Health Committee :

Chairman : Mr. J. Pearson	
Vice-Chairman : Mr. T. A. Warren	
Mr. J. H. Casswell, J.P.	Mr. S. A. Goodyear
Mr. F. B. Chapman, Jnr.	Mr. J. W. Marriott
Mr. A. E. Chappell, J.P.	Mr. J. F. Pannell
Mr. T. H. Chatterton	Mr. A. G. Stocker
Mr. A. E. Clark	Mr. A. E. Woodhead
Mr. A. Dawes	Mr. H. G. Witherington
Mr. W. Dring	

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

Staff of the Health Department :

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—

Dr. R. Miller, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H. until 31st January, 1957.
Dr. H. P. Burrowes, M.B., B.S., D.P.H. from 18th May, 1957.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR—

Mr. F. Luker, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Insp. of Food.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS—

Mr. W. E. Farley, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Insp. of Food, Testamur of Institute of Public Cleansing.
Mr. H. Todd, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Insp. of Food, until 23rd Feb., 1957.
Mr. C. Boulton, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Insp. of Food, Smoke Inspector's Certificate, from June, 1957.

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

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

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1957.

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 on the health of your District for the year 1957.

Your Council continues to improve the environmental conditions in the various parishes and this is bound to have a beneficial effect on the health and happiness of the people. It is most unfortunate, however, that just as conditions in these villages are being improved the public transport bodies are finding it necessary to sequestrate them and so produce medico-social problems which are more intractable than the environmental problems with which villagers struggled in the past.

There are still a number of houses in Crowland that are not connected to the main sewer. The people of Crowland will have to make a big effort if the scenes depicted on the frontispiece are to come to an end and the "nightsoilmen" follow the "knockers-up" into social history.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Clerk, Mr. Ashworth, and all the chief officers for their co-operation throughout the year. In particular I would like to thank the Chief Public Health Inspector, Mr. Luker, for the help and advice I have received from him during the year.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

H. P. BURROWES,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

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 18,890.

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

Cowbit	...	...	...	200
Crowland	...	...	...	981
Deeping St. Nicholas	...	...	...	567
Donington	...	...	...	689
Gosberton	...	...	...	755
Moulton	...	...	...	875
Pinchbeck	...	...	...	1244
Quadring	...	...	...	351
Surfleet	...	...	...	350
Weston	...	...	...	455
Total				<hr/> 6467 <hr/>

The rateable value of the district is £102,470 and the sum represented by a penny rate is £370.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS

			M.		F.		Total
Legitimate	...	...	176	...	136	...	312
Illegitimate	...	...	7	...	4	...	11
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
			183		140		323
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated population—16.76

STILL BIRTHS

			M.		F.		Total
Legitimate	...	...	1	...	3	...	4
Illegitimate	...	...	—	...	—	...	—
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
			1		3		4
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

Still birth rate per 1,000 (live and still) births—12.23

DEATHS

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES			M.		F.		Total
	...	...	98	...	80	...	178
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population—9.42							

MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion—Nil

INFANTILE MORTALITY

Deaths during first year of life

			M.		F.		Total
Legitimate	...	...	7	...	4	...	11
Illegitimate	...	...	1	...	—	...	1
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
			8		4		12
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000—37.15

NEONATAL MORTALITY

Deaths during first four weeks of life

			M.		F.		Total
Legitimate	...	...	5	...	2	...	7
Illegitimate	...	...	1	...	—	...	1
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>
			6		2		8
			<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1957

	M.	F.	Total
1. Respiratory Tuberculosis	1	0	1
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis	0	0	0
3. Syphilitic disease	0	0	0
4. Diphtheria	0	0	0
5. Whooping Cough	0	0	0
6. Meningococcal Infections	0	0	0
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
8. Measles	0	0	0
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	1	1
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	2	3	5
11. Malignant Neoplasm, lung bronchus	5	0	5
12. Malignant Neoplasm, breast	0	2	2
13. Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	0	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	12	7	19
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	0	0	0
16. Diabetes	0	2	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	12	28
18. Coronary disease, angina	17	7	24
19. Hypertension with heart disease	2	1	3
20. Other heart disease	19	20	39
21. Other circulatory diseases	3	3	6
22. Influenza	0	1	1
23. Pneumonia	4	4	8
24. Bronchitis	4	1	5
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	0	0	0
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0	0	0
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	1	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	0	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	0	0	0
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0	0
31. Congenital malformations	2	0	2
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	11	20
33. Motor vehicle accidents	1	0	1
34. All other accidents	1	1	2
35. Suicide	0	1	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
Total	98	80	178

CAUSES OF DEATH AMONG INFANTS—1957

CAUSES OF DEATH		Age First Year											
		First Four Weeks				First Three Months			The Four Quarters				Total
		0-1	-2	-3	-4	*0-1	-2	-3	*1	2	3	4	*0-1
a	{ Congenital Malformations	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
	{ Prematurity	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
	{ Atelectasis and Dis. of Early Infancy	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	2	-	-	-	2
	{ Marasmus, Debility and Icterus	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
b	{ Diarrhoea & Diseases of Digestive System	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	{ Urinary Diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	{ Diseases of Circulation	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
c	{ Pneumonia	-	1	-	1	2	-	-	2	2	-	1	5
	{ Bronchitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
d	{ Convulsions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	{ Inflammation of Brain and Membranes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	{ Epidemic Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
e	{ Measles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	{ Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	{ Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	{ Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	{ Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
f	{ Tuberculosis of :—	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	{ (a) Brain	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	{ (b) Abdomen	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	{ (c) Lungs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	{ (d) Other Forms	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
g	Syphilis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
h	Accidents due to Difficult Labour	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
i	Other Causes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
ALL CAUSES		7	1	-	1	9	-	-	9	2	-	1	12

* This column includes all deaths in preceding columns.

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.

	Spalding Rural District	England and Wales
Live Birth Rate	17.10	16.1
Death Rate	9.42	11.5
Infantile Mortality Rate	37.15	23.0

Once again a relatively high infantile mortality rate is recorded in your district. This stresses the need for a continued attack on the housing problem and also the need to take the medico-social requirements of the whole area into consideration when re-housing families and not confine attention to parochial needs.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Number of cases of Infectious Disease :

Disease	Cases Notified		
	Total	M.	F.
Scarlet Fever	10	6	4
Whooping Cough	19	13	6
Measles	562	281	281
Pneumonia	2	1	1
Erysipelas	1	—	1
Meningococcal Infection ...	1	—	1
Paratyphoid Fevers	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	2	—	2
Sonne Dysentery	3	3	—
Food Poisoning	—	—	—
Total	600	305	295

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	7	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 2 years	—	7	83	1	—	1	—	—
3 to 4 „	1	3	110	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 9 „	5	8	328	1	—	—	2	1
10 to 14 „	3	—	28	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 24 „	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 44 „	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
45 to 64 „	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Age unknown	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Total	10	19	562	2	1	1	2	3

Incidence of Infectious Disease in recent years

Disease		Year					
		1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957
Scarlet Fever	{ Cases	6	19	43	27	12	10
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—
Diphtheria	{ Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	{ Cases	53	347	5	364	18	562
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	{ Cases	49	65	14	52	13	19
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—
Polio- Myelitis	{ Cases	—	1	1	2	1	2
	{ Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—

Comments

As will be seen there was a large number of cases of measles last year. There is still no cure for this disease which, in general, runs a benign course. The department on receipt of measles notifications takes steps to prevent the spread of the disease to the pre-school community as very young children are more likely to develop unpleasant complications than are the older children.

Towards the end of the year there was a large outbreak of influenza, so called "Asian Flu," which spread into your district from the north and from the east. Unfortunately there is little one can do to prevent the spread of an infection of this type and as the disease is not notifiable it is not possible to report the number of cases that occurred.

TUBERCULOSIS				M.	F.	Total
Cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at 31/12/57.	{	Pulmonary	33	24	57	
		Non-pulmonary	1	2	3	
Cases removed from the Register as cured during 1957	{	Pulmonary	—	—	—	
		Non-pulmonary	1	1	2	
Cases removed from the Register due to diagnosis not being confirmed during 1957	{	Pulmonary	—	—	—	
		Non-pulmonary	—	—	—	
Cases removed from Register due to removal from the District during 1957	{	Pulmonary	1	2	3	
		Non-pulmonary	—	1	1	
Cases removed from the Register due to death during 1957	{	Pulmonary	2	—	2	
		Non-pulmonary	—	—	—	

Analysis of new cases and deaths during 1957

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	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25 years	—	2	—	—	1	—	—	—
25—35 years	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
35—45 years	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55 years	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65 years	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	7	2	—	—	2	—	—	—

DETAILS OF CASES ON TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER 1951-1957

Year	Cases at 31st December				Deaths during year			
	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary
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	...	...
1957	57	3	...	...	2	0	...	...

Comments

Nine cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year. Bad housing may be an important factor in the spread of this disease and for sometime to come it will be necessary to give special consideration to persons suffering from this disease.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Immunisations for the year 1957 (Diphtheria)

Between the 1st of January, 1957 and 31st December, 1957, 186 children under five years of age, and 12 children between the ages of 5 and 14 years received the primary immunisation course (3 injections at monthly intervals).

A further 328 children were given a "booster" or secondary injection.

The following table compiled from figures supplied by the County Medical Officer shows the numbers and percentage of the child population immunised during the years 1943—1957 inclusive.

District	Under 1 year		1 and under 5 years		5-14 years	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Boston Borough	93	24.0	1246	81.9	3337	84.5
Spalding Urban	39	17.3	720	85.1	1933	87.5
Boston Rural	64	18.4	1052	75.5	2879	82.1
East Elloe Rural	70	22.2	1034	68.7	3129	82.8
Spalding Rural	54	17.2	881	74.9	2680	84.9
Totals	320	20.5	4933	76.4	13958	84.1

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."

The high fluorine content of the water supplied to Crowland and Deeping St. Nicholas (3.5 p.p.m.) is causing excessive mottling of the children's teeth. While there does not appear to be any harmful effect on the general health of the children, mottling of this severity can be very disfiguring and may cause the children some embarrassment in later life. I feel that some effort should be made to mix the supply and so lower the fluorine concentration to a more reasonable level.

SEWERAGE AND PUBLIC CLEANSING

Your council provides a comprehensive service for the removal of household refuse, night-soil and cesspool fluid. Everything should be done to encourage householders to abandon pail closets and vaults and provide cesspools instead.

HOUSING

A small slum clearance programme was started in West Pinchbeck but had to be postponed because of the credit squeeze. I hope that this programme may be completed during the coming year.

A number of your houses are still lacking in basic amenities. A house without a proper bathroom and water closet cannot provide a suitable setting for the development of good positive health.

The housing requirements of the aged require special consideration. There is need for bold experiments in this field and the proscription of one bedroom bungalows may, in the long run, decrease the number of houses available to old people.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

There has been a great improvement in the conditions in the slaughterhouses in your district and many butchers are still making improvements.

Regular visits are paid to food establishments throughout the district and the standard of food hygiene is being gradually raised.

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	...	...	...	...	133	299
Water supplies, water samples	...	...	...	...	10	16
Drainage nuisances	...	...	...	...	60	88
Refuse nuisances	...	...	...	...	8	9
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	1	—
Moveable dwellings, camps	...	...	...	...	18	23
Fried fish shops	...	...	...	...	16	21
Ice cream premises, ice cream samples	...	...	...	...	6	7
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	14	21
Food preparing premises, food shops	...	...	...	...	40	15
Factories and Workplaces	...	...	...	...	1	12
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	20	31
Scabies and Vermin	...	...	...	...	3	1
Infectious diseases and food poisoning	...	...	...	...	37	90
Disinfection after infectious disease	...	...	...	...	8	—
Rats and mice	...	...	...	...	12	9
Disinfestation	...	...	...	...	—	—
Drain tests	...	...	...	...	112	160
Sewerage schemes (Housing sites)	...	...	...	...	27	86
Public Sewerage Schemes	...	...	...	...	36	119
Refuse schemes	...	...	...	...	12	19
Night soil and cesspool emptying service	...	...	...	...	15	6
Slaughterhouses ; meat inspection	...	...	...	...	—	1768
Housing Act, 1949	...	...	...	...	50	167
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	104	19
Totals					743	2986

WATER SUPPLY

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

Parish	Dwellings in Valuation List				Dwellings Supplied	
Cowbit	200	...	191
Crowland	981	...	932
Deeping St. Nicholas	567	...	493
Donington	689	...	622
Gosberton	755	...	656
Moulton	875	...	729
Pinchbeck	1244	...	1115
Quadring	351	...	300
Surfleet	350	...	302
Weston	455	...	421
Total				6467		5761

The percentage of dwellings supplied is 89.08%.

WATER SAMPLES

Private Supplies.

The water from one private well was sampled and found satisfactory.

Public Supplies.

140 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	48	41	1	44
Satisfactory	—	3	—	1
Suspicious	—	—	—	—
Unsatisfactory	—	1	—	1

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND REFUSE DISPOSAL

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

Cesspools	Vault Closets	Cisterns, tanks, etc.
2,419	452	32

On 97 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 £1,604/9/7d.

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.

All milk retailed in the area is designated bottled milk.

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	7	4
Sterilised Milk	15	3
Tuberculin Tested Milk	6	1
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	2630	47	11	4399	7593
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	23	3	2	—	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	641	—	1	31	1097
Percentage of carcasses affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	25.25%	6.38%	27.27%	.705%	14.51%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	9	2	—	—	4
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	212	4	—	—	89
Percentage of carcasses affected with Tuberculosis	8.40%	12.77%	—	—	1.22%

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

Article Rejected		Disease or Condition found
9	Beast carcasses and offals	Generalised Tuberculosis
1	Beast carcase and offals	Moribund
2	Cow carcasses and offals	Oedema
2	Cow carcasses and offals	Generalised Tuberculosis
1	Cow carcase and offals	Septic Mastitis
2	Calf carcasses and offals	Oedematous
4	Pig carcasses and offals	Generalised Tuberculosis
1	Pig carcase and offals	Swine Erysipelas
1	Pig carcase and offals	Gut Oedema
1	Pig carcase and offals	Moribund
2	Pig carcasses and offals	Pyæmia and Oedematous
1	Pig carcase and offals	Septic infection of the Blood Stream
136 lbs.	Beef trimmings	Bone Taint
15 lbs.	Beef trimmings	Bruising
28 lbs.	Beef trimmings	Tuberculosis
83½ lbs.	Pork trimmings	Bruising
42 lbs.	Pork trimmings	Pleurisy and Pericarditis
20 lbs.	Pork loin	Injury and Bruising
1	Pork loin	Atrophy
1 x 15½ oz.	Tin of Stewed Steak	Blown tin
14¼ lbs.	of Cheese	Excessive Mould
5 x 14 lb.	Tins of Ham	Blown

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

346	Beast livers	2	Cow udders
105	Beast lungs	362	Pig livers
179	Part Beast livers	674	Pig lungs
116	Beast heads and tongues	124	Pig hearts
11	Beast kidneys	62	Pig heads
4	Beast mesenteric fats	20	Pig kidneys
3	Beast thin skirts	3	Pig udders
4	Beast spleens	27	Sheep livers
6	Beast tongues	1	Sheep lungs
4	Beast hearts	1	Sheep heart
1	Beast large and small intestines	1	Fore leg of mutton
1	Cow head		

CYSTICERCUS BOVIS

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

All diseased meat and offals has been stained green after condemnation to ensure that it cannot be used for human consumption at any stage of the disposal process.

FOOD PREMISES

The work of bringing the retail food premises in the area up to the standard now required by the Food Hygiene Regulations proceeded during the year. As a result of visits made 34 informal notices were served on occupiers.

Generally the conditions in food shops were not unsatisfactory and in the main, defects found were the absence of facilities required by the Regulations, such as separate wash-hand basins with hot and cold water. The provision of these facilities is reasonably satisfactory and it is hoped that recourse to statutory proceedings will be necessary in only a few cases.

ICE-CREAM

As in previous years, only one ice-cream manufacturer operates in the area. This is a small business using the complete cold mix method. The premises are well kept and clean. On analysis the ice-cream was reported satisfactory.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES

After protracted negotiations with the trade the Council re-issued licences to keep 12 private slaughter-houses in the area. These premises are scattered over an area approximately 10 miles North and South of Spalding.

Undertakings given by the butchers, when completed, will effect a considerable improvement in the character of the slaughter-houses and make it possible to maintain more hygienic standards.

At the close of the year much work still remained to be done in this field and the undertakings given were far from completed.

RODENT CONTROL

		Type of Property				
		Local Authority	Dwelling-Houses	Agricultural	Other Properties	Total
Total No. of properties in the District		30	6467	1772	758	9027
No. of properties inspected.	Following Complaints	2	83	22	19	126
	Otherwise	29	1202	508	86	1825
No. of properties found to be infested with rats	Major	1	6	17	5	29
	Minor	4	52	37	6	99
No. of properties found to be infested with mice		—	—	1	1	2
No. of infested properties treated		5	58	55	12	130
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		4				

The amount of work carried out in this field reflects credit on the Council's Rodent Officer, Mr. F. Emery, who has established and maintained good relationship with the public.

HOUSING

Nuisances.

139 cases 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, 1957.

During the year 39 unfit houses were reported to the Council including 9 houses at Knight Street, Pinchbeck and the following statutory procedure was taken :—

32 Notices of “ time and place ” were served ;

21 Demolition Orders were made ;

5 Undertakings not to re-let were accepted and

6 Closing Orders made.

The Pinchbeck Clearance Orders Nos. 1, 2 and 3 were made involving 9 houses, one of which was deleted from the Order by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

Four of the Demolition Orders were made following Closing Orders.

Improvement Grants.

Houses inspected in full detail ...	...	...	...	15
Formal applications for Improvement Grants	...	...	...	8
Improvement Grants approved	...	...	...	8

Overcrowding.

No cases of overcrowding were reported during the year.

New Houses.

A total of 90 houses were completed on the Council's estates during the year and a further 6 were commenced of which 4 had reached roof level at the end of the year.

49 dwellings were erected by private developers and a further 25 were commenced.

Printed by WARNERS
(Midlands) Ltd.
West Street, Bourne, Lincs.



