

[Report 1963] / Medical Officer of Health, Spalding R.D.C.

Contributors

Spalding (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1963

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/efkdcxen>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

I

Library



ACKD. BY

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. H. H."

Spalding
Rural District Council

REPORT

of the

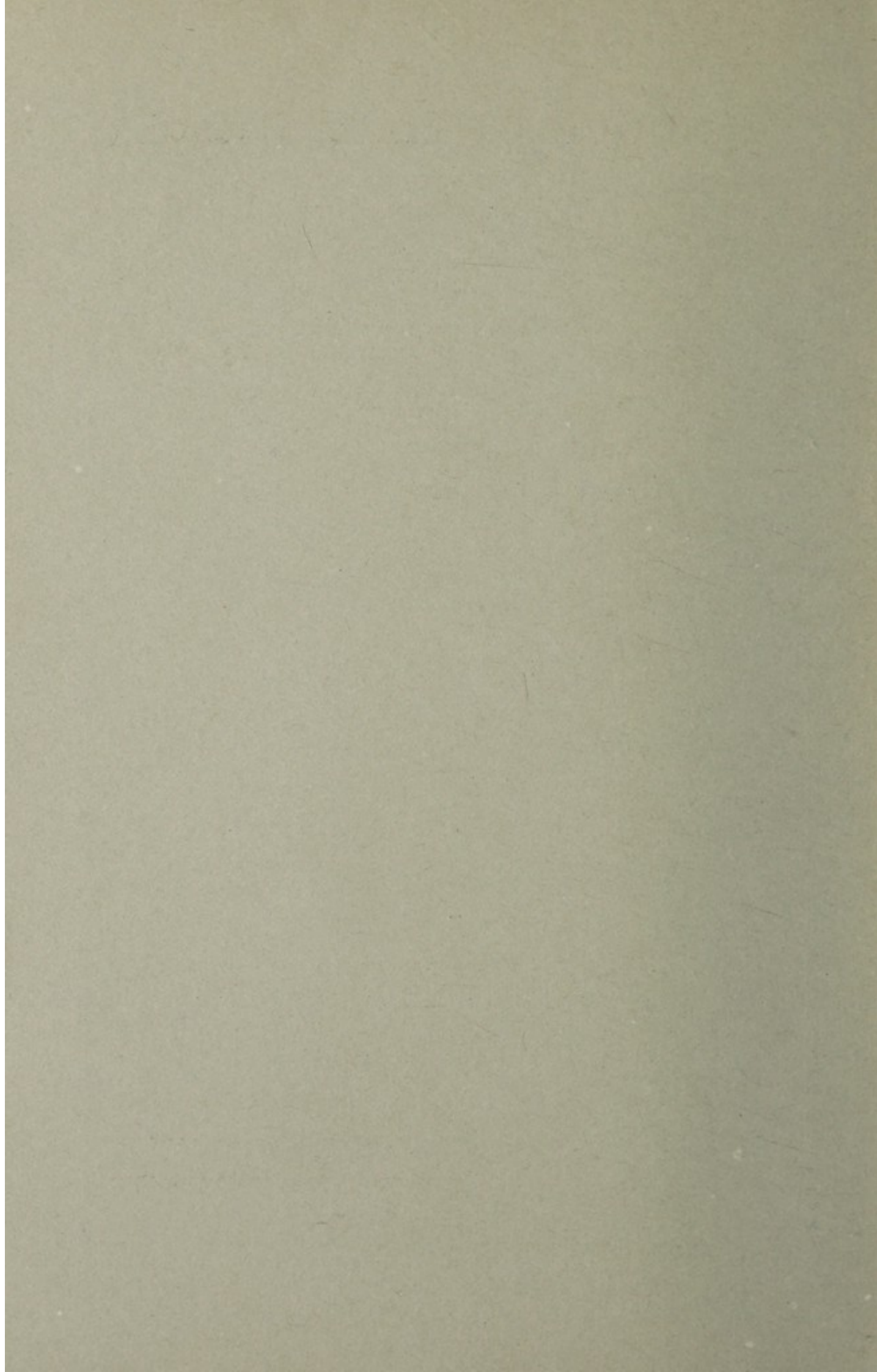
Medical Officer of Health

and the

Chief Public Health Inspector

for the

Year 1963



Spalding Rural District Council

Chairman : Mr. G. W. Machin, J.P.
Vice-Chairman : Mr. A. G. Stocker
Clerk of the Council : Mr. M. W. Claye

Members of the Council :

Mr. H. K. Braybrooks	Mr. D. J. Riddington, B.A.
Mrs. J. Brittain.	Mr. F. W. Robinson.
Miss E. L. Casswell.	Mr. H. E. Sneath.
Mr. F. E. Casson.	Mr. S. Sperring.
Mr. A. E. Chappell, M.B.E., J.P.	Rev. H. S. Swabey, M.A.
until March, 1963.	Mr. A. L. Tansley, J.P.
Mr. T. H. Chatterton.	Mr. B. Thorpe.
Mr. A. E. Clark.	Mrs. L. Turner.
Mr. W. E. Clark.	Mr. G. F. Walker.
Mr. C. F. Ford.	Mr. A. R. Ward, J.P.
Mr. S. A. Goodyear.	Mr. A. J. Witherington.
Mrs. L. H. Hardy.	Mr. H. G. Witherington.
Mr. H. J. M. Hilton	Mr. G. H. Wray.
Mr. J. F. Pannell.	

Members of the Public Health Committee :

Chairman : Mr. J. F. Pannell.
Vice-Chairman : Mr. F. W. Robinson.

Mrs. J. Brittain.	Mr. A. G. Stocker.
Miss E. L. Casswell.	Mr. A. L. Tansley.
Mr. A. E. Clark.	Mrs. L. Turner.
Mr. S. A. Goodyear.	Mr. G. F. Walker.
Mrs. L. H. Hardy.	Mr. A. Ward.
Mr. H. J. M. Hilton.	Mr. A. J. Witherington.

Mr. H. G. Witherington.

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

Staff of the Public Health Department :

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH—

Dr. J. M. Morfitt, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.C.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR—

Mr. F. Luker, M.A.P.H.I., R.S.H., Cert., Inst. of Food.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS—

Mr. W. E. Farley, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Inst. of Food., Testamur of Institute of Cleansing, until December, 1963.

Mr. C. Boulton, M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Inst. of Food., Smoke Inspector's Certificate, until August, 1963.

Mr. G. Ridgway, M.A.P.H.I., Cert., Inst. of Food., Smoke Inspector's Certificate, from November, 1963.

PUPIL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR—

Mr. G. Cusden, from September, 1963.

GENERAL CLERK—

Miss J. M. Mann.

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

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1963

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

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Report on the health of
your district for the year 1963.

The health statistics for the year continued to be satisfactory, and there were no deaths from infectious diseases. The District has for a long time been free from diphtheria (the last case was in 1947) and this can largely be attributed to immunization of a high proportion of the population at risk. The percentages of the various age groups who have been immunized against diphtheria, and vaccinated against polio, given later in the Report are above the national average. The price of freedom from these diseases is of course, continued immunization, and there is no room for complacency. Unfortunately there has been some decline in recent years in the percentage of children aged 1-5 years, who have been immunized against diphtheria. In 1962 and 1963 only just over half the children of this age group were immunized — a few years ago the percentage was much higher. I suspect that there is a tendency for some mothers not to bother having their babies immunized. Fortunately the County School Health Service manages to ensure that most of such children receive immunization when they reach school age, but in the meanwhile they are unprotected. I would urge all parents of children under school age to make sure that they receive immunization — it is still necessary.

During the year laboratory examinations were made of the water of the River Glen at Surfleet Reservoir, a popular place of recreation. These tests revealed that the water was heavily contaminated with bowel organisms, which was not really surprising as there are many bungalows on the river bank using the septic tank and soakaway method of sewage disposal and the effluent from East Pinchbeck sewage treatment plants eventually drains into the Glen. In my opinion, swimming in such contaminated water carries a by no means negligible risk

of infection. Typhoid fever in particular can be spread in this way, and the dose of germs needed to pass on the infection is very small indeed. If a typhoid carrier were to take up residence in one of the sewered houses in Pinchbeck, or by the side of the River Glen, a person swimming at Surfleet Reservoir and getting the almost inevitable mouthful of water might well contract the disease. While the risk is small, it may be pertinent to mention that it was an equally small risk taken by the South American corned beef packing stations, that resulted in the Aberdeen typhoid epidemic. Untreated river water had been used to cool the cans of corned beef after they had been heat sterilized, with results that are now common knowledge.

During the year the Council put up noticeboards at Surfleet Reservoir, advising the public not to bathe there, and I hope that members of the public will accept this advice.

An important duty of the Public Health Department is the time consuming work of meat inspection. On 1st October, 1963, the new Meat Inspection Regulations came into effect, introducing the concept of Local Authorities levying charges for compulsory inspection of meat. In this District meat inspection takes up a great deal of the Public Health Inspector's time, very nearly equivalent to one Inspector whole time, and so the charges per animal inspected do not meet the Council's expenses in providing the service. In the last few years the numbers of animals slaughtered has shown a considerable increase. It is of course an excellent thing that people can now afford to buy more meat, a first-class protein food, but the increased kill means more hours must be spent on meat inspection. Unfortunately, the new Regulations did not give Local Authorities any power to regulate the hour of day of slaughter and at present your Public Health Inspectors have to undertake a considerable amount of evening and week-end meat inspection.

During 1963, both the Additional Public Health Inspectors resigned, and owing to the nation-wide shortage of Inspectors, considerable delay was experienced in making replacing appointments. For 10 out of the 12 months ending August 1st, 1964, the Public Health Department was seriously understaffed, with only one Additional Inspector instead of the normal complement of two. This happened at a time when the Department had considerable commitments with the main sewerage schemes for Donington and Gosberton and Mr. Luker and Mr. Ridgway had the extremely difficult task doing the work of 3 Inspectors.

Every year new legislation reaches the statute book, increasing the number of Acts and Regulations that the Public Health Department has to enforce and administer. The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises

Act, that comes into force in three stages, between the 1st February and 1st August, 1964, is the latest example, and the thorough inspection and measurement of office premises that is prescribed in the Act will take a considerable amount of staff time. In view of this increasing work of Public Health Departments, it is not surprising that the demand for qualified officers exceeds the supply. It is gratifying to be able to report that this Council is playing its part in combating this shortage by providing facilities for training a pupil Public Health Inspector.

I would like to thank Mr. Luker for his help and co-operation, and the other members of the staff of the Department for their conscientious work.

I am,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

J. MATHER MORFITT,

Medical Officer of Health.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

The area of the district is 87,758 acres with a resident population (1961 census) of 19,096.

The estimated population given by the Registrar General for the calculation of death rates is 19,590.

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

Cowbit	.....	199
Crowland	.....	1051
Deeping St. Nicholas	.....	582
Donington	.....	692
Gosberton	.....	790
Moulton	.....	854
Pinchbeck	.....	1349
Quadring	.....	347
Surfleet	.....	351
Weston	.....	462
		<hr/>
		6677
		<hr/>

The rateable value of the district is £330,029 and the sum represented by a penny rate is £1,275.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS :	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	136	137	273
Illegitimate	8	5	13
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	144	142	286
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated population—14.6.

Illegitimate live births 4.5% of total live births.

STILL BIRTHS :	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	3	3	6
Illegitimate	—	2	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3	5	8
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Still births per 1,000 live and still births—27.2.

TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS—294.

DEATHS

	Male	Female	Total
DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES	82	80	162
Death rate per 1,000 estimated population—8.3.			

INFANT DEATHS :

a. Deaths during first year of life :

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	5	1	6
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5	1	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

b. Neonatal deaths :

Legitimate	3	—	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	3	—	3
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births 21.0

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 births (legitimate) 22.0

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 births (illegitimate) 0.

Neonatal (first 4 weeks) mortality rate per 1,000 live births 10.5

Early neonatal (first 7 days) mortality rate per 1,000 live births 10.5

Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births 37.4

Maternal deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion NIL

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1963

	M.	F.	Total
1. Respiratory Tuberculosis	—	—	—
2. Other forms of Tuberculosis	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic disease	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal Infections	—	—	—
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	—	—	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	2	5	7
11. Malignant Neoplasm, lung/bronchus	3	1	4
12. Malignant Neoplasm, breast	—	4	4
13. Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	—	3	3
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	8	8	16
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
16. Diabetes	—	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	7	20	27
18. Coronary disease, angina	18	7	25
19. Hypertension with heart disease	—	2	2
20. Other heart diseases	4	9	13
21. Other circulatory diseases.....	4	1	5
22. Influenza	—	—	—
23. Pneumonia	6	5	11
24. Bronchitis	4	1	5
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	1	4
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	—	1
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	1	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	—	—	—
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	—	1
30. Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion	—	—	—
31. Congenital malformations	2	2	4
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	10	7	17
33. Motor vehicle accidents	3	—	3
34. All other accidents.....	3	1	4
35. Suicide	1	—	1
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—
Total	82	80	162

**Birth Rates, Death Rates and Infant Mortality Rates,
in the Rural District of Spalding, 1949-1963.**

Year	No. of Births	Crude Birth Rate	No. of Deaths	Crude Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rates	Birth Rates	Death Rates	Infant Mortality Rates
1949	361	19.7	187	10.2	33.2	17.8	10.6	32.8
1950	297	16.0	215	11.6	53.9			
1951	330	17.7	219	11.8	21.2			
1952	321	17.1	199	10.6	37.4			
1953	334	17.8	177	9.4	21.0			
1954	321	17.0	152	8.1	40.5	16.6	9.4	33.9
1955	312	16.5	181	9.6	25.6			
1956	283	15.0	189	10.0	38.9			
1957	323	17.1	178	9.4	37.2			
1958	325	17.1	189	10.0	27.7			
1959	315	16.5	194	10.1	22.2	15.7	9.4	25.1
1960	320	16.6	160	8.3	9.4			
1961	293	15.2	182	9.4	27.3			
1962	303	15.6	207	10.6	46.2			
1963	286	14.6	162	8.3	21.0			

There were 6 infant deaths, 3 of them in the first week of life. 2 deaths were due to prematurity, 2 to congenital abnormalities, and 1 each to gastro-enteritis and pneumonia.

COMMENTARY ON THE VITAL STATISTICS

The figures for the Live Birth Rates and Death Rates given below have been corrected using the comparability factors supplied by the Registrar General.

These factors allow for the differing age and sex composition of the various populations, and enable valid comparisons to be drawn.

	Live Birth rate	Death rate	Infant Mortality rate
Spalding Rural District	14.3	9.5	21.0
Holland County—Rural districts	15.3	11.0	19.2
Urban districts	17.6	12.2	18.7
All Districts	16.1	11.4	19.0
England and Wales	18.2	12.2	20.9

While the Infant Mortality Rate has fluctuated widely, due to the small size of the figures on which it is based, it is clear that over the past 15 years, there has been a considerable reduction in infant mortality. It is also evident from the tables that since 1958, the Birth Rate has been

falling fairly steadily in this District, and the 1963 birth rate was the lowest for many years. This is in contrast to the rising birth rates found in the country as a whole.

The death rate continues to be lower than the average for England and Wales, and many people in the District live to a great age. 71 out of the 162 deaths that occurred in the year were of people aged 75 years or over.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Number of Cases Notified

	Cases Notified		
	Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis—pulmonary	1	0	1
—other	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever	3	2	5
Whooping Cough	1	1	2
Measles	104	100	204
Acute Pneumonia	1	3	4
Erysipelas	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infection	0	0	0
Ophthalmia neonatorum	0	0	0
Sonne Dysentery	4	3	7
Food Poisoning	0	0	0
Total	114	109	232

Incidence of Infectious Diseases in recent years

Disease		Year								
		1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963
Scarlet Fever	Cases	27	12	10	9	12	29	9	5	5
Diphtheria	Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	Cases	364	18	562	36	190	8	741	9	204
Whooping Cough	Cases	52	13	19	113	4	4	30	2	2
Polio-Myelitis	Cases	2	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	—

COMMENTS ON INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Dysentery

The outbreak of Sonne Dysentery, that occurred in November and December 1962 ended early in January 1963, and 7 cases were confirmed in the new year.

Measles

In this District measles outbreaks have occurred quite predictably every second year, and 1963 was a 'measles year'.

During the year a National Enquiry was carried out by the Public Health Laboratory Service in collaboration with the Society of Medical Officers of Health* into the incidence of serious complications of measles e.g. pneumonia. This study, which was carried out in several county boroughs all over the country, enabled the following estimate to be made of the toll of measles in England and Wales in an average epidemic year :—

- 500,000 cases
- 35,000 serious complications
 - (20,000 lung complications)
 - (13,000 ear complications)
 - (2,000 brain complications).
- 6,000 admitted to hospital
- 100 deaths, many in young children already ill with another disease.

Unfortunately neither of the vaccines at present being assessed seems to be the answer for the prevention of measles.

The killed virus vaccine is safe, but does not confer permanent immunity, and unless frequent booster doses are given, may only postpone the onset of measles to a later date.

The other vaccine, a live attenuated virus gives satisfactory immunity, but the children vaccinated have a mild attack of measles, with some risk of complications. While this vaccine may be suitable for use in the developing countries, where measles often has a high death rate, the risks involved would contra-indicate its use in this country.

For these reasons there does not seem to be any immediate prospect of cutting the toll of measles by immunization, despite the success this has had in the prevention of other diseases.

* Dr. D. L. Miller—British Medical Journal 1964. Vol. 2, p.75.

TUBERCULOSIS

		M.	F.	Total
Cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at 31/12/63	{ Pulmonary	39	28	67
	{ Non-pulmonary	2	5	7
Cases removed from the Register during 1963				
— cured		—	—	—
— diagnosis not confirmed		—	—	—
— left District		—	—	—
— died		—	—	—
Cases added to the Register during 1962				
— new notifications		1	0	1
— transfer into District		2	1	3

Details of cases on Tuberculosis Register 1947-63

Years	Cases at 31st December			Deaths during year	
	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary	New cases	Pulmonary	Non-pulmonary
1947	52	34	15	4	4
1948	60	31	18	5	2
1949	61	32	10	3	0
1950	62	29	9	3	0
1951	51	16	14	6	0
1952	54	21	20	0	1
1953	54	14	14	5	0
1954	48	5	5	1	0
1955	54	5	15	3	1
1956	55	3	5	1	0
1957	57	3	9	2	0
1958	58	3	4	1	0
1959	58	4	3	0	0
1960	58	4	3	0	0
1961	59	6	6	1	0
1962	63	7	8	1	0
1963	67	7	4	0	0

While modern treatment has nearly finished tuberculosis as a killing disease there are still many cases on the register. These patients need advice about the precautions they should take against spread of the infection, and sometimes they need re-housing in premises that will allow them to have a separate bedroom.

B.C.G. VACCINATION — SOUTH HOLLAND

YEAR ENDED 31.12.63

School	No. Eligible	Acceptance		Skin Tested	Negative	Positive	B.C.G. Vaccinated
		No.	%				
Spalding Grammar	167	108	64.6	102	77	23	77
Spalding High	100	62	62.0	58	46	12	46
Gleed Boys	114	57	50.0	45	35	8	35
Gleed Girls	174	99	56.9	87	70	13	69
George Farmer	120	80	66.6	79	57	15	57
Peele Sec.	160	136	85.0	126	102	24	93
Crowland Sen.	40	25	62.5	25	18	7	14
Donington Cowley's	80	38	47.5	33	31	2	31

Holland County Council operates a scheme whereby school children aged 13 yrs. or over can be tested to determine their natural resistance to tuberculosis. Where the test is negative, showing that there is no naturally acquired immunity, protection is given by B.C.G. vaccination.

This is an important matter, both for the individual, and for the community, as B.C.G. vaccination is a major means of stamping out tuberculosis. In view of this, the percentage of children whose parents agree to their benefiting from this scheme is all too low.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Between the 1st January, 1963 and the 31st December, 1963, 289 children under 5 years of age, and 15 children between the ages of 5 and 14 years received the primary immunisation course (3 injections at monthly intervals).

A further 481 children were given a 'booster' or secondary injection.

The following table provided by the County Medical Officer shows the numbers and percentages of the child population on 31/12/63 that had been immunised at any time during the period 1949-1963 inclusive.

District	Under 1 year		1 and under 5 years		5— 14 years	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Boston Borough	162	34.9	818	52.5	3541	94.4
Spalding Urban	92	38.8	470	50.3	1969	93.3
Boston Rural	168	54.1	746	56.3	3053	92.3
East Elloe Rural	136	40.3	648	52.9	3039	87.3
Spalding Rural	104	39.5	580	50.3	2799	91.5
Totals	662	41.1	3262	52.6	14401	91.7

POLIOMYELITIS VACCINATION

The following table provided by the County Medical Officer shows the percentages of the population of this Rural District that had received protection against poliomyelitis by 31.12.63, classified by date of birth.

	Born in	Percentage Vaccinated	
Pre-school ages	{ 1963	11.5% by 31.12.63-24.1% by 31.3.64.	
	{ 1962	66.3	
	{ 1961	78.8	
	{ 1960	82.5	
	{ 1959	92.6	
School ages		1962 figures	
	{ 1958	89.5	87.3
	{ 1957	87.6	84.8
	{ 1956	87.6	87.2
	{ 1955	85.5	84.6
	{ 1954	88.7	86.6
	{ 1953	85.9	83.8
	{ 1952	81.9	81.3
	{ 1951	83.3	81.2
	{ 1950	86.8	86.1
	{ 1949	84.2	83.3
	{ 1948	84.4	81.7
	{ 1947	81.9	80.8
Adults	{ 1946	78.7	78.4
	{ 1945	75.2	75.0
	{ 1944	77.5	72.8
	{ 1943	72.0	71.3
	{ 1942	61.5	57.6
	{ 1941	51.9	51.2
	{ 1940	51.6	48.3
	{ 1939	45.7	42.9
	{ 1938	40.8	38.4
	{ 1937	44.9	43.6
	{ 1936	46.9	45.1
	{ 1935	44.3	42.0
	{ 1934	52.8	50.0
	{ 1933	46.1	44.5
	{ 1932	54.7	42.2
	{ 1931	39.0	37.1
	{ 1930	42.1	40.1
	{ 1929	45.0	41.9
	{ 1928	38.5	35.9
	{ 1927	39.3	36.6

WATER SUPPLY

I am indebted to R. J. Cameron Stobie, Esq., the Engineer and Manager of the South Lincolnshire Water Board, for most of the information in this section of the Report.

For the year covered by this report the quantity of water supplied to the Spalding rural district was 324,328,000 gallons as compared with 294,493,000 gallons for the corresponding period of 1962. This increase of 29,835,000 gallons for the period under review is indicative of the continually growing demand for water supply over the whole of the area of the South Lincolnshire Water Board who, from October 1962, have administered this service in the Spalding rural district.

By reason of boundary link ups between the neighbouring Councils' districts the main sources are utilised to better advantage and the supply to the Spalding rural district is partly served from the Bourne source in addition to the sources at Pinchbeck and Deeping St. Nicholas.

In addition, part of the south eastern area of this rural Council's district is served from the Weston Station. This ensures not only a wider degree of reliability but also enables each district to enjoy the improved quality of the mixed waters.

Continuous weekly sampling is carried out for bacteriological analyses and these have given satisfactory results.

Recent chemical analyses of water from the separate sources at Bourne and Pinchbeck have been made and the reports gave the following results in parts per million :—

	Bourne	Pinchbeck
Appearance	Bright with very few particles	Bright with very few particles
Turbidity	less than 3	less than 3 .
Colour	Nil	Nil
Odour	Nil	Slight Hydrogen Sulphide
pH	7.2	7.3
Free Carbon Dioxide	28	24
Chlorine present as Chloride	25	21
Total Hardness	400	310
Carbonate	230	240
Non-carbonate	170	70
Oxygen absorbed	0.3	0.3
Iron	absent	0.08
Manganese	0.04	0.04
Zinc, Copper, Lead	absent	absent
Fluoride	less than 0.1	0.4

A considerable quantity of mainlaying has been carried out during the period as follows :—

1½" dia.	62 lin yds
2" "	872 " "
3" "	2,473 " "

These mains extensions were principally concerned with new housing developments together with extensions to existing properties and relaying occasioned by road alterations.

Surveillance of Water Board employees.

Water supply is one of the most important of the various environmental health factors that are the concern of the District Sanitary Authorities. Prior to the setting up of the Water Board the managers of the various District Council Water Undertakings looked to their District M.O.H. for advice on the medical and bacteriological aspects of their work. The newly constituted Water Board covers 9 District Council areas served by 5 M.Os.H. so that the Engineer and Manager has a super-abundance of medical advice.

Fortunately all the Medical Officers concerned are in general agreement about the measures that must be taken to avoid the remote possibility of water-borne diseases, such as typhoid. During the year all the employees of the Board, who are engaged on such work that they could conceivably cause contamination of the water supplies, had bacteriological tests of 3 consecutive weekly samples of urine and faeces, and this will be repeated every 6 months. All these tests were satisfactory.

In addition, blood samples were taken from all of the 48 workers who live in the south of Holland County, for a further laboratory test (Widal) to rule out the possibility of their being typhoid carriers.

Fluoride content of water

Fluoride is present to some degree in almost all drinking waters and in most foods and it is a normal constituent of teeth and bones. For more than thirty years it has been known that the amount of fluoride in drinking water affects dental health, and children born and brought up in areas where the water supply contains the optimal quantity of fluoride (1 part per million) have much less dental decay than children brought up in areas where the water is relatively deficient in fluoride.

Water from the Deeping St. Nicholas and Deeping St. James boreholes contains naturally occurring fluoride, about 3 parts per million being found on chemical analysis. While this is rather higher than the recommended optimum level and can result in mottling of the teeth, the amount of dental decay among children in the Crowland area supplied from these boreholes is particularly low.

This observation has been put on a firm statistical footing by a detailed survey carried out by Mr. H. A. Bolton, Holland County Principal School Dental Officer, comparing dental health in both primary and secondary schools in this high fluoride area, with that found in similar schools in a low fluoride part of the County. This survey, which was published in the County's Annual Report on the School Health Services, 1963, showed that in the primary schools, the percentage of 5 year olds who had naturally sound teeth was twice as high in the high fluoride area. The beneficial effect of fluoride was not confined to the temporary teeth, and was seen right through school life.

In December, 1962 the Minister of Health announced that he was ready to approve schemes submitted by Local Health Authorities for making arrangements with water undertakers to add fluoride to water supplies which are deficient in it naturally. While Holland County Health Committee twice considered this matter (January and March, 1963) and agreed to authorise the County Medical Officer to approach the South Lincolnshire Water Board, the full Council decided to take no action on the matter and negatived the Health Committee minute.

I hope that the County Council will give further consideration to this controversial question at a later date, as it would be a very real advantage for children in all parts of the County to have teeth as healthy as those found in Crowland.

The following table shows the number of dwellinghouses and the approximate population supplied from the Council's mains in each parish :—

Parish	Dwellings in Valuation List	Dwellings Supplied	Population Supplied
Cowbit	199	189	558
Crowland	1051	981	2894
Deeping St. Nicholas	582	522	1540
Donington	692	674	2041
Gosberton	790	741	2186
Moulton	854	771	2274
Pinchbeck	1349	1234	3630
Quadring	347	311	917
Surfleet	351	331	976
Weston	462	455	1342
	<hr/> 6677 <hr/>	<hr/> 6209 <hr/>	<hr/> 18358 <hr/>

The percentage of dwellings supplied is 92.99%, including a number of houses which drew their supplies from stand taps.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

A. County Council Services

i. Domiciliary Midwives

In this county, approximately one third of babies are delivered at home by domiciliary midwives.

ii. Health Visiting

The main function of a health visitor is to bring health teaching into the home. She is particularly concerned with advising mothers of young children, and as a routine, visits every home where a birth has been notified to the County Medical Officer of Health. Three Health visitors cover the Spalding Rural Area.

iii. Clinic Centres

Vaccination against smallpox and poliomyelitis and immunization against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus is available at these clinics which are well attended. 58.1% of the 286 babies born in 1963 were enrolled during the year at one or other of the 6 clinics in this District.

ATTENDANCES AT INFANT WELFARE CENTRES

	No. of Sessions	No. of new cases		No. of old cases	Average attendance per session
		Total	Under 1yr		
Spalding	103	196	182	2913	30
Crowland	53	53	52	1660	32
Donington	51	64	51	1090	22
Gosberton	12	13	13	206	18
Deeping St. Nicholas	12	8	7	149	35
Pinchbeck	11	40	34	344	35
Moulton	12	9	9	146	13

iv. School Health Services

All pupils are medically inspected three times in their school life — at entry, at 11 years old and before leaving school. Any child found to have defective vision is referred to a consultant eye doctor, who attends at Spalding Clinic. Speech therapy is also provided by appointment at Spalding Clinic and referrals to other consultants are made, if required.

An important part of the work of the School Health Services is the supervision and school placement of handicapped pupils.

v. **Home Help**

The aged account for over half the work done by County Home Helps, who carry out ordinary household work for patients who cannot manage to do this without help, e.g. during illness. This service is not free, but in many cases a reduced charge is made, depending on income.

vi. **Home Nursing**

Over half the patients attended by Home Nurses are 65 years old or over. Home Nursing, with the aid of Home Help, enables patients to be nursed at home often saving the cost to the nation of a long stay in hospital.

vii. **Chiropody**

Elderly people with stiff joints often have difficulty in looking after their feet. The County Chiropody Service, which started in 1960, is available to three types of person — the aged, pregnant mothers, and the physically disabled. Treatments are undertaken at surgeries and clinics in Spalding and Donington. Where absolutely necessary, transport is provided, and in exceptional cases treatment may be arranged at home.

viii. **Ambulance Service**

This district is served by ambulance stations at Spalding and Crowland. The Spalding station is staffed by 7 wholetime driver/attendants, and has an establishment of 2 ambulances, one car and 2 utility ambulances. All the ambulances are of modern design and are equipped with oxygen apparatus. A Minuteman portable mechanical resuscitator is kept at the Spalding station and equipment for mouth-to-mouth resuscitation is carried in all ambulances.

The Crowland station has one ambulance, which is operated by volunteer ambulance workers.

B. Hospitals

There are two general practitioner hospitals in Spalding, the Pinchbeck Road Hospital for the aged and chronic sick, and the Johnson Hospital.

The Johnson Hospital has beds for acute medical, surgical and maternity cases, and provides out-patients, casualty and X ray facilities. A number of visiting consultants attend to conduct specialist out-patient clinics. Under the Hospital Plan for England and Wales, a

radical change of use is proposed for this hospital. When the proposed new 500 bed District General Hospital has been built at Boston, the acute medical and surgical beds at the Johnson Hospital will be closed, and the Hospital will then be used for aged and chronic patients. It is proposed that the maternity unit, out-patients, casualty and X-ray facilities would be retained.

When these changes become operative (by 1970 at the earliest) all medical and surgical patients from Spalding and District who need admission to hospital will have to be sent to Boston.

In February, 1963, representatives of Spalding R.D.C. and U.D.C. and of the local doctors met to discuss the Hospital Plan, and representations were made to the Sheffield Regional Hospital Board protesting against the proposed changes. In July the Board received a joint deputation from the R.D.C. and U.D.C. at a meeting at Rauceby Hospital. Unfortunately it was made clear that no hope could be held out of the acute beds being retained at the Johnson Hospital, as it would be impracticable to provide a District General Hospital of sufficient size to justify the provision of an adequate range of supporting facilities if existing cottage hospital beds were to be retained.

In November a letter was sent to the Ministry of Health asking whether the Minister would be prepared to receive a deputation. A reply received in January, 1964, stated that the Minister was in agreement with the basis of the Regional Hospital Board's planning, but that as a final decision on the change of use of the Johnson Hospital would not be taken for some years, it was doubtful whether it would be helpful if he were to meet a deputation at this stage.

Despite this assurance that a final decision has not yet been taken, it seems very probable that eventually Spalding will lose the acute medical and surgical beds at the Johnson Hospital. The government policy was clearly laid down in the statement made by the Secretary of State for Scotland in the House of Commons on 4.6.63. "We cannot have both a first class service in the (new) District Hospitals and at the same time a second class service in small and out of date hospitals."

This expression of policy seems to ignore the difficulties that would ensue if all the acute beds serving a large sparsely populated rural area such as Holland County were centralized in one town, Boston.

In this sort of area the two types of hospital are complementary and in my opinion the aim should be for both the large central, and the smaller outlying hospitals to provide a first class service, each in their own sphere of usefulness.

C. Laboratory Facilities

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory at Lincoln and samples of foods, water and specimens for bacteriological examination have been despatched there. These facilities are invaluable for the investigation and control of outbreaks of infectious diseases and during the year the assistance and co-operation extended to us has been on a most generous scale.

MISCELLANEOUS

Medical examination of Council Staff

During the year 5 people were examined to assess their fitness for Superannuable employment. 6 people were examined for admission into the Sickness Pay Scheme and 1 person was re-examined in connection with the Scheme.

Workmen of the various departments of the Council are kept under medical supervision, and are examined at yearly intervals.

Persons in need of care and attention

Provision is made under Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, for people who are in need of care and attention, and who are unable to look after themselves. It sometimes happens that an old person is living alone under terribly insanitary conditions, or is gravely ill, and yet refuses to go into a welfare home or hospital. In his own interests it is sometimes necessary to use the National Assistance Act compulsory powers to make such a person go into a place where he can be looked after properly.

Needless to say, this step is only taken as a last resort. The decision is made by a magistrate and both the family doctor and the District Medical Officer of Health have to agree that removal is urgently needed.

During the year visits were made to a number of old persons who were living alone and starting to run into difficulties. By calling on the County Home Help and Home Nursing services, it was possible to avert the need for compulsory removal and no Magistrates' Orders had to be obtained.

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

To the Chairman and Members of the
Spalding Rural District Council.
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I respectfully submit on the sanitary circumstances of the Area for the year 1963 and in these opening remarks wish to draw your attention to the changes taking place in the field of public health work. The table of visits, made by the Public Health Inspectors, again shows that the majority of the Officers' time has been taken up with four subjects i.e. meat inspection, public sewerage schemes, improvement grants and drain testing in that order of priority. With the completion of the Council's schemes, for Donington and Gosberton in 1964, followed by Pinchbeck and Moulton in the immediate future, the work of drain testing will be more than doubled for the next eight or ten years.

The passing of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963 will place numerous additional duties on the public Health Inspectors and it is expected that this will be followed by proposed legislation to accelerate the improvement grant work.

The duties of the Public Health Department have increased considerably during the last ten years and I am sure the Council will agree with me that there still remains, in the field of housing alone, enough work to occupy the staff for many years to come. The tendency, evident over the past few years, to meet new demands by reducing the amount of time spent on housing work or postponing routine duties in food hygiene, must be reversed. In my opinion this can only be effected by the appointment of suitable additional staff.

Once again I wish to express my thanks for the consideration and help which I have received from Members of the Council and particularly the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and the Medical Officer of Health, for this, and the excellent support which I have received from the staff — I am extremely grateful.

I remain, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Yours faithfully,

F. LUKER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

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

Subject of Visit	Initial Visits	Routine or Re-visits
Housing Act, 1957	64	169
Water Supplies; water samples	9	4
Overcrowding Complaints	1	—
Moveable Dwellings; Camps	32	28
Food Samples	—	—
Food Hygiene	36	58
Factories and Workplaces	13	16
Public Conveniences	8	85
Infectious Diseases	31	27
Disinfection after I.D.	1	—
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act....	6	16
Disinfestation	3	5
Drain Tests	137	129
Housing Site Sewerage Schemes	21	46
Refuse Service.....	26	39
Night Soil and Cesspool Emptying Service	21	17
Slaughterhouses	8	11
Public Sewerage Schemes	618	645
Improvement Grants	99	285
Nuisances—General	72	80
Miscellaneous	103	29
Meat Inspection	48	1324
Total :	1357	3013

SANITARY SERVICES

Cesspool Emptying

Details of the work done by the two vehicles employed regularly on cesspool emptying are as follows :—

Cesspools	Vault Closets	Cisterns, tanks etc.
3,067	245	26

On 98 occasions the machines were used to remove the sludge from the settlement and humus tanks at the sewage disposal works for the Council's housing estates and on 6 occasions the sludge was removed from the temporary sewage works at Foster Housing Estate, Pinchbeck.

In March of this year the second diesel cesspool emptier was purchased and when the third similar machine is delivered in the Spring of 1964 all the machines of this type, in regular service, will be diesel

operated. The use of diesel for this type of work shows a considerable saving over the conventional petrol engine. These machines are indispensable in maintaining the sanitary services for the outlying properties and will still be necessary when the main sewerage schemes have been completed.

Pail Closet Emptying

This essential but most objectionable work was maintained during the year and the continued absence of complaints again reflects credit on the men engaged on it. Every one who has an elementary knowledge of public health knows that pail closets should be abolished. The continued use of such insanitary conveniences, often in the same households as television sets, washing machines and refrigerators, is an anomaly that future generations will find hard to understand.

Refuse Collection

There has been no change in this service during the year. A weekly kerbside collection has been maintained to all but a few outlying properties where a fortnightly collection has been made. In the Parish of Pinchbeck the collection falls on Monday and some complaints have been received from residents when the collection is missed owing to Bank Holidays. It is difficult to see how this occasional inconvenience can be avoided with the present system of kerbside collection.

The cash value of materials salvaged from the refuse during the year was £1,199 and is £195 more than the figure for 1962. This increase, although welcome, is rather disappointing as it is still approximately £600 less than that for 1961.

25% of the annual income was paid out to the workmen as Salvage Bonus.

Drainage and Sewerage—Council Houses

During the year Health Department workmen cleared 99 blocked drains on Council Estates.

The Housing Committee has again continued the scheme for improving the older Council Houses and the position, as supplied by the Housing Manager, at 31st December, 1963, was as follows :—

Houses fully improved with bathrooms, W.C's etc.	279
Houses provided with W.C's but not bathrooms	144
Houses still without W.C's or bathrooms	229
	<hr/>
	652
	<hr/>

This work, in the larger villages, naturally follows the public sewerage schemes and in Donington the improvements have been delayed by the continued absence of public sewerage.

Public Sewerage

The Donington public sewerage scheme, although nearing completion, was still not in operation at the end of the year. It is hoped that this very protracted scheme will be completed in the early part of 1964.

The major scheme of improvements to the Crowland sewage disposal works was finally completed, towards the end of the year, with the installation of larger capacity pumps at the main pumping station in Thorney Road.

Work was commenced on the sewerage scheme for the village of Gosberton on the 18th March, and by the end of the year very satisfactory progress had been made in spite of difficult sub-soil conditions found in the area.

With the progress made on the above schemes the Council has passed the half way stage in their scheme for providing public sewerage for the five main villages in the area. It is hoped that the second half of the scheme will be free from the many difficulties which have beset the earlier schemes for Crowland and Donington.

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Class of animal	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	3512	77	9	6403	6771
Number inspected	3512	77	9	6403	6771
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</u>		MEAT	REJECTED		
Whole carcasses rejected	1	2	2	5	16
Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected.	767	23	—	70	635
Percentage of carcasses affected	21.87%	32.46%	22.22%	1.17%	9.61%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses rejected	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected	—	—	—	—	97
Percentage of carcasses affected	—	—	—	—	1.43%

Cysticercus Bovis

16 Beasts Carcasses and Offals were found to be affected with Cysts of the tapeworm *Taenia Saginata*. The infections were all localised and the carcasses and offals were consigned to 'deep freeze' treatment. The percentage of carcasses found to be affected with *Cysticercus Bovis* was 0.43%.

Tuberculosis

No lesions of tuberculosis were found in the bovine animals inspected during the year and the only evidence of the disease found was in pigs. From clinical appearance most of the infections were of the avian type.

A 100% meat inspection has again been carried out during the year and I wish to record that much of this work (which is mainly carried out by the Additional Public Health Inspectors) is done outside ordinary working hours in the evenings and at the week-ends. Meat Inspection has continued to be the heaviest single duty of the Public Health Inspectors.

Details of Meat and Offals rejected are contained in the following lists :—

Article	Disease or Condition found
1 Cow Carcase and Offal	Emaciation and Oedema.
6 Beasts Carcasses and Offals	Generalised Oedema.
1 Calf Carcase and Offal	Moribund and Unwholesome.
1 Calf Carcase and Offal	Severe and Extensive Bruising.
2,033 lb. Beef Trimmings	Bruising and Oedema.
104 lb. Beef Trimmings	Abscesses.
35 lb. Beef Flank	Peritonitis.
2 Sow Carcasses and Offals	Uraemia.
1 Sow Carcase and Offals	Severe and Extensive Bruising.
1 Pig Carcase and Offal	Generalised Oedema.
3 Pig Carcasses and Offals	Septicaemia.
2 Pig Carcasses and Offals	Fever.
1 Pig Carcase and Offal	Moribund and Unwholesome.
2 Pig Carcasses and Offals	Acute Swine Erysipelas.
2 Pig Carcasses and Offals	Multiple Tumours.
1 Pig Carcase and Offal	Leukaemia.
1 Pig Flank	Melanosis.
3 Pigs Legs	Abscesses.
1 Shoulder of Pork	Abscesses.
2 Shoulders of Pork	Extensive Bruising.
211 lb Pork Trimmings	Bruising.
51 lb. Pork Trimmings	Abscesses.
1 Sheep Carcase and Offal	Emaciation and Fever.
1 Sheep Carcase and Offal	Multiple Tumours and Acute Peritonitis.
2 Sheep Carcasses and Offals	Fevered and Moribund.
1 Sheep Carcase and Offal	Generalised Oedema.
1 Sheeps Loin	Severe Bruising.
1 Sheeps Leg and Flank	Extensive Bruising.

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

53 Beasts Heads.	1 Cows Spleen.
372 Beasts Livers.	96 Pigs Heads.
288 Part Beast Livers.	213 Pigs Livers.
28 Beasts Lungs.	366 Pigs Lungs.
19 Beasts Hearts.	139 Pigs Hearts.
7 Beasts Skirts.	10 Pigs Kidneys.
9 Beasts Kidneys.	12 Pigs Mesenteries.
56 Beasts Tongues.	2 Pigs Spleen.
8 Beasts Spleens.	10 Pigs Hocks.
1 Beasts Hock.	1 Pigs Udder.
3 Cows Heads.	34 Sheeps Livers.
1 Part Cows Liver	28 Sheeps Lungs.
11 Cows Livers.	2 Sheeps Feet.
2 Cows Lungs.	2 Sheeps Hearts.
3 Cows Tongues.	

Details of other foods found to be unfit :—

1 x 14 lb. Tin of Ham ....	.....	Tainted and Unwholesome.
1 x 9 lb. Tin of Ham ....	.....	Fish Taint.
4 x 10 lb. 12 oz. Tins of Ham	.....	Decomposition.
1 x 11 lb. 14 oz. Tin of Ham ....	.....	Decomposition.

Food Premises

There has been no change in the character of the food shops and manufacturing premises in the District which are of the small 'family business' type. They were found to be generally satisfactory and such minor items as needed attention were dealt with by informal procedure.

There are no premises in the area where ice-cream is manufactured and retail sale has again been restricted to pre-packed portions.

Slaughterhouses

There has been no change in the number and character of the slaughterhouses in the District. Eight private slaughterhouses and one knacker's yard were licensed during the year. General cleanliness of the premises is satisfactory and every effort has been made to raise the standard of hygiene with the co-operation of the occupiers and employees.

Milk and Dairies

All milk retailed in the area is 'Designated' milk in bottles. There is one milk pasteurising plant in the District which is controlled and supervised by the County Council.

COUNTY FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING

Mr. R. Fidling, the County Health Inspector, is also the Food and Drugs Sampling Officer, and I am indebted to him for this report, which refers to work carried out over the whole of the County of Holland.

FOOD

During the year 320 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst and an additional 102 samples of milk were examined by County Health Department Staff.

The number of samples reported as showing some irregularity was 7.8% of the total samples, compared with only 2% unsatisfactory samples found in the previous year.

The apparent increase in unsatisfactory samples is to a large extent accounted for by the inclusion of a series of duplicated samples of the same unsatisfactory commodities and also of some labelling irregularities.

The 190 formal and 130 informal samples submitted to the Public Analyst covered a very wide range, including raw fruit, sweets, beer, mineral water and spirits, as well as most common foods, and household medicines.

Unsatisfactory Samples

1. **Orange Drink** — The wording on the cap claimed the presence of 3 mgms Vitamin C per fluid ounce. The Analyst reported the sample as being deficient in this vitamin. There appears to be some divergence of opinion as to the rate of deterioration of Vitamin C in opened samples of this commodity. The firm was contacted and any reference to Vitamin C was omitted in further supplies offered for sale.

2. **Rose Hip Syrup and Orange** — Reported deficient in Vitamin C. Correspondence with the manufacturers showed this commodity had ceased to be manufactured $7\frac{1}{2}$ years ago, and that all known stocks had been withdrawn from sale. The firm arranged to pick up any more old stock still held by the vendor.

3. **Potted Meat** — Contained 3.5% Starch content, and should therefore be called Meat Paste. When revisited it was found the designation had in fact been changed.

4. **Can of Danish Cream** — This can had the proper proportion of fat, but it was found to be soured and discoloured. The Local Authority was notified so that they could examine any other stocks held by the vendor.

5. **Minced Beef with Onions and Gravy** — Had a meat content of 36% The Analyst considers 45% meat would be reasonable.

6. **Casserole Steak and Gravy** — Meat content 62.5% The Analyst considers 75% should be the minimum amount.

7. **Chopped Ham and Pork** — Six samples of these products canned in the Countries of Holland and Denmark were reported to show deficiencies ranging from 4.2% to 12.5% The Analysts opinion is based on the recommendations of the Food Standards Committee report on Canned Meat. These recommendations have not as yet become law and therefore remain as simply recommendations. Firms contacted indicated that while prepared to comply with Statutory Regulations they did not consider Recommendations as having legal standing. The matter was reported to the Ministry of Food and emphasis was placed on the necessity for having proper Regulations to control these products. In the meantime the Sampling Officer was advised that only in instances of gross deficiency would it be reasonable to take prosecutions in these cases.

8. **Whole Uncooked Pheasant** — Taken in connection with the Lead in Food Regulations. A peculiar anomaly seems bound to arise in the enforcement of the Regulations because of the following factors :—

(a) Shot Whole Game :—Owing to technical difficulties of sampling making it impracticable to take Formal Samples of shot game carcasses, it is improbable that such samples will be taken, with the result that carcasses containing large amounts of lead will continue to be sold in spite of the regulations.

(b) On the other hand, products manufactured from the minced up flesh of the carcasses, can be easily sampled, and the actual amount of lead which will be present in the finished product is so uncertain, that manufacturers are being forced to cease manufacture, for fear of prosecution.

The spread of minute particles of lead derived from lead shot are sometimes very widely dispersed in a carcase and in the pheasant under investigation the lead content of different portions varied from nil to 42 parts per million, with an average of 3 parts per million. The Analyst reported this as excessive lead content in relation to the Lead in Food Regulations.

9. **Butter** — Small excess of water, i.e. 0.6%. Firm warned.

Complaint Samples

1. **Orange Drink with Odour of Paraffin** — Vendor apparently thawed several bottled of this drink near a paraffin heater, after they had frozen during the very severe frost. The caps of the bottles had been loosened to prevent bursting and some caps had fallen off the bottles. Vendor was given a warning and undertook to use an electric fire instead of the paraffin burner in the food store.

2. **Plain Flour** — Complainant said the flour bubbled and was difficult to mix with water. Complaint not justified.

3. **Slug in bottle of Sterilized Milk** — There was a possible doubt as to whether the slug was present in the bottle when it was delivered to the customer, since the customer admitted the bottle had been left opened for some time before the slug was discovered.

4. **Object in Irish Stew** — Complainant considered an object in the stew was a portion of a mouse. Examination proved the object to be Beef Gristle.

5. **Ground Almonds** — Complaint of excessive saltiness, analysis showed the complaint to be not justified.

6. **Milk Bottle** — Minute black specks fused in the glass of the bottle interior. The analyst was of opinion the specks were derived from firework combustion. The bottle had apparently been washed prior to filling with milk as no debris was found in the milk. The vendor was warned.

Prosecutions for Food and Drugs Offences

1. **Fly in Sausage** — Case dismissed on the grounds that it had not been established beyond all reasonable doubt that the fly was in the sausage at the time of sale to the customer.

2. **Whisky** — Adulterated, 16% deficient in Proof Spirit. Fined £20 and £3 5s. 0d. costs.

3. **Curried Chicken and Mushroom** — Deficient in Meat content 68%. Fined £15 and £3 5s. 0d. costs.

4. **Curried Chicken and Mushroom** — Deficient in Meat content 56.5%. Fined £15 and £3 5s. 0d. costs.

Merchandise Marks Act Offences

Failure to indicate to the customer that the goods were imported products.

(1)	Canary Tomatoes	—	Fined £1
(2)	Dutch Tomatoes	—	Fined £1
(3)	Tasmanian Apples	—	Fined £1

Labelling irregularities

Ready Mix Ice Cream Powder, Pernivit Tablets, Tyrocane Lozenges, Cod Liver Oil capsules.

Exception was taken in respect of the presentation or omission of information given on the package labels. The firms were contacted and will bear the matter in mind when new labels are obtained.

MILK

Composition

The general standard of compositional quality of milk retailed in this area remains good. 98 samples of ordinary milk, and 25 samples of "Channel Island" milk were found to conform to the legal standards of Milk Fat and non-fatty solids percentages.

Only two samples of milk were reported by the analyst as being unsatisfactory. Both cases were capable of being rectified by the application of suitable methods to ensure proper mixing of the milk prior to bottling.

1. 2.5% Milk Fat deficient. The producer retailers premises were visited and 'Appeal to Cow' Samples taken. These tests showed that while a few cows produced low milk fats, others produced high milk fat so that with proper bulking of the whole supply prior to bottling, the whole milk as supplied to the public could be up to the approved standard. The producer was advised on this matter and subsequent samples were satisfactory.

2. 9% deficient in milk fat. Another sample taken at the same time was perfectly satisfactory and investigation suggested the deficiency was due to inadequate agitation of the milk while in the bulk tank awaiting bottling. Advice was given and further samples were satisfactory.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960

Two milk pasteurising premises and 144 Milk Dealers are licensed by the County Council. Visits are made to milk premises by the County Health Inspector and samples of milk submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Lincoln for tests as to the adequacy of Heat Treatment and the Keeping Quality of the milk are made. Inspections of the Processing Plants, Heat recorders and thermometers are made and checks carried out on the cleanliness of bottles and churns. Milk sample failures are investigated and re-sampling carried out.

The following are the numbers and types of milk samples taken together with samples that failed the appropriate test.

Type of Sample	No. of Samples	Failed Keeping Quality Test	Failed Heat Treatment Test
Pasteurised	284	4	1
Pasteurised T.T.	182	1	—
Sterilised	35	—	—
Raw T.T.	34	—	—
Totals	535	5	1

Biological Milk Samples

17 samples of Raw Milk being retailed were submitted for tests for Tubercle Bacilli and Brucella Abortus. All were negative.

Disinfection and Disinfestation

The maintenance of the fumigation plant at the Council Depot has again been by way of insurance against trouble, and during the year only one parcel of bedding was disinfested from property in this area. This plant was originally provided and has been maintained jointly by the three authorities in the South of the County i.e. Spalding Urban, East Elloe Rural and Spalding Rural District Councils. The cost to each individual authority is negligible but the maintenance of the apparatus is a safe-guard against the spread of serious infectious diseases or parasitic infestations by vehicles such as clothes, bedding or furniture.

RODENT CONTROL

		Type of Property				
		Local Authority	Dwelling-Houses	Agricultural	Other Properties	Total
Total No. of properties in the District		38	6641	1899	903	9481
No. of properties inspected.	Following Complaints	12	364	116	51	543
	Otherwise	41	728	322	61	1152
No. of properties found to be infested with rats	Major	3	10	12	—	25
	Minor	26	55	30	9	120
No. of properties found to be infested with mice		—	3	—	2	5
No. of infested properties treated		29	68	14	11	122
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		12				

In spite of the work carried out year after year, by the Council's Rodent Operator (Mr. F. Emery), infestation in many parts of the District has again been heavy and it is an obvious and regrettable fact that the apathetic attitude of a small minority prevents any real improvement in the district as a whole. The operator has again been in demand to give advice and in some cases to carry out work at business premises.

The service to dwellinghouses is very much appreciated in the District.

HOUSING

NUISANCES

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

None of the cases has required statutory action.

SLUM CLEARANCE-HOUSING ACT, 1957.

During the year 37 unfit houses reported to the Council and the following statutory procedure was taken :—

26 Notices of "Time and Place" were served

28 Demolition Orders made

8 Closing Orders were made

Houses demolished following statutory procedure by the Council

In Clearance Areas 5

Not in Clearance Areas 11

Families re-housed

From Clearance Areas 11

From condemned houses not in Clearance Areas 4

During the year a total of 14 houses were demolished by their owners without statutory action by the Council.

Work under the Housing Act, 1957 was reduced during the last four months of the year owing to shortage of staff. At the end of the year the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. Farley, one of the Additional Public Health Inspectors, had not been filled. It will not be possible to maintain the day-to-day work of the Department unless this vacancy is promptly filled.

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1957

Discretionary Improvement Grants

Houses inspected in full detail	19
Applications received for Improvement Grant	5
Improvement Grants approved	4

Standard Grants

Application received for Standard Grant	46
Standard Grants approved	42

OVERCROWDING

No cases of overcrowding were reported during the year.

NEW HOUSES

During the year 18 dwellings were completed on the Council's Estate.

103 dwellings were erected by private developers and a further 61 were commenced.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

As in previous years the administration of those parts of the Factories Act, as are the responsibility of this Authority, has raised no serious problems. No new industry has been started in the district and the premises are mainly small family businesses.

There are no outworkers in the area.

PART 1 OF THE ACT

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

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Written notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted</i> (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	Nil	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	63	27	5	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	7	2	1	—
Total	70	29	6	—

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

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



Printed by WARNERS
(Midlands) Ltd.
Stamford and Bourne