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# Spalding Rural District Council



## REPORT

of the  
Medical Officer of Health  
and the  
Chief Public Health Inspector  
for  
1966





## SPALDING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Vice-Chairman: Mr. J.F. Pannell

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The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council are ex-officio Members

### STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

J.M. Morfitt, B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.C.H., D.Obst. R.C.O.G.

Chief Public Health Inspector:

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

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

G. Ridgway, M.A.P.H.I., R.S.H., Cert. Insp. of Food

R.S.H. Cert. Smoke Inspector

G.W. Robinson, M.A.P.H.I., R.S.H. Cert. Insp. of Food

(until 31st December, 1966)

Pupil Public Health Inspector:

G. Cusden

Clerk and Shorthand Typist:

Miss J.M. Mann



SPALDING RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Council Offices,  
Priory Road,  
Spalding.

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health  
for the Year 1966

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

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have much pleasure in presenting you with the Annual Report for the year 1966, which covers various aspects of public health in your District.

The estimate of mid-year home population supplied by the General Register Office was 19,820, 60 up on 1965, so that the District seems to be continuing its slow growth in population. The corresponding figure 10 years ago in 1956 was 18,860.

There were 296 live births registered during the year, 19 of these being illegitimate. This represents a live birth rate of 15.0 per thousand estimated population and continues the trend seen in the last few years of birth rates well below the average for England and Wales.

The infant mortality rate, still birth rate, and perinatal mortality rate, which is a combination of still births and deaths during the first week of life, continued to be slightly higher than the National figures, a fact about which one cannot be complacent. The actual figures, which are to be found in the body of the report, vary considerably from year to year, as these rates are calculated on relatively small numbers, and it would be unwise to draw any serious inference from the statistics of any single year. A fact which I find significant is that over the past seven years the rural districts of Holland County have usually had higher infant mortality rates than the two urban areas, Boston Borough and Spalding Urban District Council.

At present every death of a mother in childbirth (fortunately a rare occurrence) is a subject of a searching enquiry to determine if, or how, that death could have been prevented; and perhaps the time is ripe for similar confidential enquiries to be made as a routine into all stillbirths and deaths of infants in the first month of life. Such enquiries would provide factual information as to why more babies die in the rural districts, and might point the way to preventive measures.

During 1966 there were 192 deaths from all causes, 6 more than in the previous year. This gave a crude death rate of 9.7 per thousand, and a corrected death rate of 10.9 per thousand, which compares very favourably with the figure for England and Wales, which was 11.7.



By far the most important cause of death was heart and circulatory disease in all its forms, accounting for 63 deaths, or 32.8% of the total, followed by vascular lesions of the nervous system, or strokes, causing 35 deaths, or 18.2%. There were 32 deaths from malignant disease, or 17.2% of the total. While there was little difference between the sexes as regards strokes or cancer deaths, 23 men died from coronary artery disease, compared with only 11 women. This striking sex incidence of coronary disease has been seen for many years in this District. 9 residents of your District died in motor vehicle accidents during 1966, 3 more than in 1965.

Infectious diseases caused very little trouble during the year. The 1965 'measles year' spread over into 1966, and 287 cases were notified.

For the ninth successive year no cases of poliomyelitis were notified in the Rural District, this disease having been controlled by mass immunization of the community. There is little doubt that measles will be the next disease to be virtually eradicated by immunization, and there is no medical reason why this should not be done this very year. It is clear that in the foreseeable future the community will have to continue to maintain a high level of immunity against diphtheria, poliomyelitis and probably measles, by artificial immunization. If the general level of immunity is allowed to drop, the 'eradicated' diseases could well return with increased virulence.

Later in the report will be found details of sewerage and sewage disposal, refuse collection and disposal, meat inspection and food hygiene supervision. These are all important public health services that go virtually unnoticed by the general public.

I would like to thank the Members of the Public Health Committee for their courtesy, and the family doctors for their co-operation.

Mr. Luker has continued to be a tower of strength, and I am most grateful to him and the other officers in the Department for their conscientious hard 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 (1964 census) of 19,700.

The estimated population given by the Registrar General for the calculation of death rates is 19,820.

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

Cowbit	...	...	202
Crowland	...	...	1027
Deeping St. Nicholas	...	...	567
Donington	...	...	699
Gosberton	...	...	809
Moulton	...	...	866
Pinchbeck	...	...	1482
Quadring	...	...	348
Surfleet	...	...	355
Weston	...	...	470
			<hr/>
			6825
			<hr/>

The rateable value of the district is £366,637 and the sum represented by a penny rate is £1,430.

The main industry of the district is agriculture, including fruit farming, market gardening and flower growing.

There are no major factories in the district.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

### BIRTHS

#### LIVE BIRTHS:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	143	134	277
Illegitimate	7	12	19
	<u>150</u>	<u>146</u>	<u>296</u>

Live birth rate per 1,000 estimated population: 15.0

Illegitimate live births 6.4% of total live births.

#### STILL BIRTHS:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	3	6
Illegitimate	1	0	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>

TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS: 303

Still births per 1,000 live and still births: 23.1

### DEATHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES	105	87	192

Death rate per 1,000 estimated population: 9.7

#### INFANT DEATHS:

##### a. Deaths during first year of life:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	5	1	6
Illegitimate	1	0	1
	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>7</u>

##### b. Neonatal deaths:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	4	1	5
Illegitimate	1	0	1
	<u>5</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>



# EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

Infant mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	23.6
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 births (legitimate)	...	...	21.7
Infant mortality rate per 1,000 births (illegitimate)	...	...	52.7
Neonatal (first 4 weeks) mortality rate per 1,000 live births			20.3
Early neonatal (first 7 days) mortality rate per 1,000 live births			13.5
Perinatal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births	...	...	36.3
Maternal deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	...	...	1

There were 6 infant deaths in the first four weeks of life - 2 due to prematurity, 2 to congenital abnormalities and the remaining 2 were due to birth injury and multiple haemorrhages respectively. The other infant death was due to acute encephalitis.

## Comparisons with other Districts

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.

	<u>Live Birth</u> <u>Rate</u>	<u>Death</u> <u>Rate</u>	<u>Infant</u> <u>Mortality</u> <u>Rate</u>
Spalding Rural District	14.7	10.9	23.6
Holland County - Rural Districts	14.5	10.9	20.3
- Urban Districts	17.8	11.2	20.9
- All Districts	15.7	11.1	20.6
England and Wales	17.7	11.7	19.0

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. 83 out of the 192 deaths that occurred in the year were of people aged 75 years or over.



# HOME ACCIDENTS

## CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1966

	Male	Female	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	1	-	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	3	2	5
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung/bronchus	2	-	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	4	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	3	3
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	10	8	18
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	1
16. Diabetes	-	1	1
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	19	35
18. Coronary disease, angina	23	11	34
19. Hypertension with heart disease	1	2	3
20. Other heart diseases	13	6	19
21. Other circulatory diseases	5	2	7
22. Influenza	-	3	3
23. Pneumonia	5	5	10
24. Bronchitis	5	2	7
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	1	2	3
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	2	2
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	-	1	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	1	1
31. Congenital malformations	-	1	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	8	14
33. Motor vehicle accidents	7	2	9
34. All other accidents	3	2	5
35. Suicide	2	-	2
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>192</b>



## HOME ACCIDENTS

The Casualty Department at the Johnson Hospital has been keeping a register of all home accident injuries treated there, so that statistics could be compiled. During 1966, 275 people were treated compared with 233 in the previous year. These 275 home accidents are analysed in the table below.

<u>Age</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Below 5 years	56	38	94
5 - 14 years	23	19	42
15 - 34 years	16	51	67
35 - 64 years	13	37	50
65 years and over	4	18	22
	<u>112</u>	<u>163</u>	<u>275</u>

<u>Type of Accident</u>	<u>Below 5 Years</u>	<u>Over 65 Years</u>	<u>All other Age Groups</u>	<u>Total</u>
Scalds	10	2	25	37
Burns	9	3	6	18
Falls	37	12	46	95
Cuts	10	2	45	57
Other	28	3	37	68
	<u>94</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>159</u>	<u>275</u>

This register of home accidents has the occasional entry with an overtone of comedy, such as the adult who was hit on the head by a cup, no doubt thrown by an irate spouse, but apart from this it makes most depressing reading.

Year after year people keep on being scalded from upset cups of hot beverages, and not a year goes by without a number of elderly people falling from kitchen chairs and step ladders. It is a known medical fact that some aged people have attacks of giddiness when they tilt their necks back to look upwards so it is obviously dangerous for them to climb on steps etc., to get at objects on a high shelf or cupboard. Unfortunately the admirable Fenland spirit of independence seems to make old people reluctant to ask their younger neighbours or relatives to help them, for example, during spring cleaning.

Ten young children were seen at the Casualty Department during the year because they had swallowed poisons. The various preparations of aspirin for children were the commonest poisons swallowed, and one baby ate 25 tablets. Mothers find these children's aspirin tablets very useful for a range of complaints such as teething. They are often coloured and flavoured to be readily acceptable to young children; too readily acceptable perhaps, as the cases of poisoning show. Aspirin is a medicine that can kill if taken in sufficient dose, and like all other medicines it should be kept out of children's reach, preferably under lock and key.



Birth Rates, Death Rates and Infant Mortality Rates  
in the Rural District of Spalding, 1952 - 1966

Year	No. of Births	Crude Birth Rate	No. of Deaths	Crude Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rates	Birth Rates	Death Rates	Infant Mortality Rates
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 )	16.7	9.6	32.6
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 )	16.5	9.5	24.8
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 )			
1964	330	16.8	179	9.1	15.2 )	15.5	9.5	26.9
1965	313	15.9	186	9.4	28.8 )			
1966	296	15.0	192	9.7	23.6 )			



# INFECTIOUS DISEASES

## Number of Cases Notified

				Cases Notified
Tuberculosis - pulmonary	...	...	...	1
- other	...	...	...	-
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	9
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	11
Measles	...	...	...	287
Acute Pneumonia	...	...	...	-
Erysipelas...	...	...	...	-
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	-
Ophthalmia neonatorum	...	...	...	-
Sonne Dysentery	...	...	...	-
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	-
Infectious Jaundice	...	...	...	1
Total	...	...	...	<u>309</u>

## Number of Cases Otherwise Ascertained

Dysentery	2
Salmonellosis	1

One contact of dysentery was excluded from work as a food handler, under the Public Health Act, 1961.

# TUBERCULOSIS

	Male	Female	Total
Cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at 31.12.66.			
Pulmonary	34	30	64
Non-Pulmonary	3	5	8
Cases removed from the Register during 1966.			
quiescent	1	-	1
left District	-	-	-
died	-	-	-
Cases added to the Register during 1966			
new notifications	-	1	1
transfer into District	1	-	1



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.

The concern expressed in 1965 due to falling water levels in boreholes was not so much in evidence during 1966 in consequence of the higher rainfall during the period.

### PROTECTION AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASES

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for the following information.

#### Diphtheria Immunisation

Between the 1st January, 1966 and the 31st December, 1966, 242 children under 5 years of age, and 2 children between the ages of 5 and 16 years received the primary immunisation course (3 injections at monthly intervals).

A further 444 children were given a 'booster' or secondary injection.

#### Tetanus Immunisation

During the year 319 children under the age of 16 years completed courses of tetanus immunisation.

241 of these children had a course of 'triple antigen' that protects against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.

#### Poliomyelitis vaccination

During the year 261 children under 5 years of age and 41 children between the ages of 5 and 16 years completed a course of oral poliomyelitis vaccination.

A satisfactory percentage of the pre-school and school age population of this Rural District has been protected against this disease by vaccination.

Period	3rd dis.	6th dis.	10th dis.	12th dis.	Total
Donington	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.
Moulton	2227	287	2100	80	2180
Pinchbeck	2378	387	4885	380	7807
Weston					
Totals					



## 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.

The concern expressed in 1965 due to falling water levels in boreholes was not so much in evidence during 1966 in consequence of the higher rainfall during the period which maintained better water levels.

Adequate supplies were maintained in the rural district from the two main sources of the Board at Bourne and West Pinchbeck supplemented by supplies from the Deeping St. Nicholas source which serves principally the Deeping and Crowland areas.

To obtain improved efficiency at pumping stations and enable them to serve wider areas certain co-ordination of operations has been effected. Further, to improve pressures and supplies over extended areas some inter-connection of mains has been made, thus enabling water to be passed from one local government area to another. This method of operation and control ensures improved supplies and pressures over the Board's area. The accompanying disadvantage, however, is that a completely accurate figure of water consumption in any one particular local government area is difficult to obtain. Throughout the Board's area the calculated figure of water consumption per head of the population for 1966 is 43.59 gallons per head per day. The population of the Spalding Rural District taken from the 1964 Census was 19,700. Assuming the whole of this population is supplied either directly or by stand pipe the calculated figure of water consumption in the rural district for 1966 would be 313,427,000 gallons. This shows an increase for 1966 over the previous year of 2,366,000 gallons or 0.76%.

Close attention is given to maintaining a water supply of high quality and weekly samples of raw and treated water are submitted for bacteriological analyses with satisfactory results, and periodic chemical analyses are also made. During the year 293 bacteriological samples were taken.

During the period under review the yardage of new mains laid within the various parishes of the rural district is indicated in the following table:

Parish	3" dia.	6" dia.	10" dia.	12" dia.	Total
	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.	Yds.
Donington	148				148
Moulton			2585		2585
Pinchbeck	2227	387		300	2914
Weston			2100	60	2160
Totals	2375	387	4685	360	7807



Chemical analyses of water from the three main sources were made on 25.2.65 and the results are given in the following table:-

Chemical Results in Parts per million

	<u>Bourne</u>	<u>Deeping St. Nicholas</u>	<u>Pinchbeck</u>
Appearance	Clear and Bright	Clear and Bright	Clear and Bright
Turbidity (APHA units)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Colour	Nil	Nil	Nil
Odour	Nil	Nil	Nil
pH	7.2	7.8	7.2
Free Carbon Dioxide	30	10	32
Chlorine present as Chloride	21	212	23
Total Hardness	370	80	285
Carbonate	230	80	240
Non-carbonate	140	Nil	45
Oxygen absorbed	0.3	0.3	0.2
Iron	0.03	0.03	0.04
Manganese	Absent	Absent	Absent
Zinc Copper Lead	Absent	Absent	Absent
Fluoride	Less than 0.1	2.4	0.4
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.01	0.73	0.13
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.02	0.01	0.01

The analyst reported that the water from all three bores was pure and wholesome, and suitable for public supply purposes.

The water from the Bourne and Pinchbeck bores is hard, while the water from the Deeping St. Nicholas source is fairly soft, with a high, though not excessive, content of mineral constituents.



### Surveillance of Water Board Employees

During the past year the South Lincolnshire Water Board continued to reply on the District Council Medical Officers of Health for advice on the medical aspects of water supply, on an informal basis.

New entrants to employment with the water undertaking have blood specimens taken for a Widal test to rule out the possibility of their being carriers of typhoid fever, and all water workers have bacteriological examinations of faeces and urine at regular intervals.

### Fluoride content of water

Crowland and Deeping St. Nicholas parishes receive a water supply from the Deeping St. Nicholas borehole, and this contains natural fluoride. The amount, 2.4 parts per million, is in excess of the 1 part per million that is usually regarded as optimal, and this results in slight mottling of the teeth of people who have spent their early childhood in these parishes. The protective effect of fluoride never fails to strike me when I conduct school medicals in these two parishes, as the incidence of dental decay there is much lower than in other parts of South Holland.

The rest of the district receives a water supply that is deficient in natural fluoride, only 0.1 - 0.4 parts per million being present, instead of the optimum 1 part per million, and the teeth of people who grow up in these parishes do not have this natural protection against decay.

Although the Ministry of Health, the British Medical Association and the British Dental Association all endorse artificial fluoridation (i.e. raising the fluoride level of water to 1 p.p.m.) as a safe and effective measure it has been made into a highly controversial 'hot potato' by the propaganda efforts of the antifluoridationist National Pure Water Association.

One can well understand why Members of Local Health Authorities may prefer to let this important public health measure go by default, rather than plunge into a particularly heated controversy, and once again I have to report that no action has been taken by the County Council during the year to submit any scheme to the Water Board for addition of fluoride to water supplies which are deficient in this trace element.



# SANITARY CHARACTERISTICS OF THE AREA AS REPORTED

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

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Dwellings in</u> <u>Valuation List</u>	<u>Dwellings</u> <u>Supplied</u>	<u>Population</u> <u>Supplied</u>
Cowbit	202	194	566
Crowland	1027	1014	2960
Deeping St. Nicholas	567	527	1537
Donington	699	685	2001
Gosherton	809	761	2223
Koolton	866	836	2439
Marchbeck	1482	1390	4026
Quadring	348	327	955
Surfleet	355	347	1012
Wootton	470	467	1362
	<u>6825</u>	<u>6548</u>	<u>19081</u>

The percentage of dwellings supplied is 95.9% including a number of houses which draw their supplies from stand taps.



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 wish to submit my report on the sanitary circumstances of the district for the Year 1966. The pattern of work has again been governed by the demands of day to day duties. The table of visits made by the Public Health Inspectors again clearly shows the heavy call, made by meat inspection, on the time of the Inspectors. During the year there has been a further substantial increase in the number of pigs inspected - i.e. 1964...8,232; 1965...10,465; 1966...22,164. As reported to the Public Health Committee in December, it is now considered necessary to have a specialist Meat Inspector to carry out the daily work at Hargrave's Slaughterhouse and I wish to record my appreciation of the co-operative attitude adopted by the Council in agreeing to make such an appointment. Also in December further staff problems were created by the resignation of the Additional Public Health Inspector, Mr. G. Robinson. Fortunately the vacancy was not of long duration and was filled with the appointment of Mr. R. Wells.

Further inspections have been carried out under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963. In this respect useful co-operation has been received from R.M. Factory Inspectorate. It has been found that this work is not quite as heavy as was at first anticipated and the contraventions found are mainly of a minor nature.

I wish to thank the Members of the Council, and particularly the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee and Dr. Morfitt for the courtesy and assistance which they have given me. Also I wish to record my appreciation of the excellent support which I have received from the staff of the Department.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

F. LUKER,

Chief Public Health Inspector.



# SANITARY SERVICES

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 ...	51	127
Water Supplies; water samples ...	11	-
Overcrowding Complaints ...	1	-
Moveable Dwellings; Camps ...	36	24
Food Samples ...	4	-
Food Hygiene ...	19	10
Factories, Workplaces and Offices, Shops and Railway Premises ...	177	31
Public Conveniences ...	-	86
Infectious Diseases ...	20	11
Disinfection after I.D. ....	-	-
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act ...	11	13
Disinfestation ...	15	4
Drain Tests ...	15	17
Housing Site Sewerage Schemes ...	22	39
Refuse Service ...	17	40
Night Soil and Cesspool Emptying Service ...	38	26
Slaughterhouses ...	-	15
Public Sewerage Schemes ...	118	192
Nuisances - General ...	45	38
Improvement Grants ...	27	29
Miscellaneous ...	70	21
Meat Inspection ...	-	2143
Clean Air Act ...	4	2
Total ...	691	2868



## SANITARY SERVICES

### Cesspool Emptying

Details of the work done during the year by the two cesspool emptying vehicles employed regularly, and the reserve vehicle E.J.L. 625, occasionally used on this work, are as follows:-

<u>Cesspools</u>	<u>Vault Closets</u>	<u>Ciaterns, tanks etc.</u>
3349	167	58

The "Free Service" system has been in operation throughout the year, this system allows each rateable property within the District which is not capable of being connected to a public sewerage scheme to have one cesspool load of approximately 1,100 gallons removed from the property, free of charge within each twelve months. The undermentioned table gives a breakdown of the number of free loads, the number of chargeable loads removed from private property and the number of loads removed from Council Houses.

<u>Free Loads</u>	<u>Chargeable Loads</u>	<u>Council Houses</u>
1178	1202	1571 (including 553 free loads)

On 92 occasions the machines were used to remove the sludge from the settlement and humus tanks at the housing estate sewage works and on 8 occasions the sludge was removed from the temporary sewage works at Fosters' Housing Estate, Pinchbeck, involving a total of 515 loads.

Total number of loads removed during the year for all purposes 4466

The old cesspool emptier E.J.L. 625 is still being retained and although the vehicle is 15 years old it has helped considerably in maintaining the service during the year and also aiding with the pail closet service when the pail closet machine was under repair.

Work in connection with this service has continued to increase i.e. total number of loads in 1965...3247; 1966...4466; at approximately 1,000 gallons per load, this means that nearly 4½ million gallons of cesspool contents were transported and disposed of during the year. The existing arrangements for disposal of this material, by lagooning and tipping on agricultural land, were heavily taxed during the year and it is, in my opinion, most desirable that some other more appropriate method of disposal should be provided which is not so dependant on the weather conditions, and by which the disposal can be effected with a minimum amount of offence. It must, I think, be accepted that this type of work will be with us for the foreseeable future.

### Pail Closet Emptying

This service has been maintained during the year and continues to be by far the most objectionable work regularly carried out under the heading of Sanitary Services.



The manner in which this work, and the cesspool emptying has been carried out again reflects credit on the Department Foreman (Mr. F. Daubney) and particularly the workmen, who carry out these unpleasant, but essential, duties.

It is hoped that the few pail closets still in use within the sewered area of Crowland can be finally cleared up during the coming year, by action, under the Housing Act, 1957, against the unsatisfactory properties where they still exist.

### Refuse Collection

In March of this year the new 50 cubic yard capacity Pakamatic Refuse Freighter came into operation and has proved a most useful addition to the Council's fleet of refuse vehicles. When the second machine, which was ordered later in the year, has been received it will be possible to scrap the last of the 'side loading' vehicles and all refuse will be collected with rear loading modern vehicles.

Following the meeting in August, between representatives of this Council, the Spalding Urban District Council and the East Elloe Rural District Council, the other two Technical Officers concerned and I have made visits to several refuse disposal plants and we expect to have the technical report, on the problem of refuse disposal in the area ready for submission in the coming year.

It is gratifying to see the three Local Authorities co-operating in an effort to improve the method of refuse disposal in the area and it is hoped that the effort will result in the provision of a modern refuse disposal plant for the three Authorities. The abolition of the existing unsightly crude refuse tips is long overdue.

The cash value of materials salvaged from the refuse during the year was £2006, this is £737 more than the figure in 1965 and £1065 above the 1964 total.



## Drainage and Sewerage - Council Houses

During the year 71 blocked drains on the Council estates were cleared by the Public Health Department workmen.

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, 1966, was as follows:-

Houses fully improved with bathrooms, W.C's etc.	368
Houses provided with W.C's but not bathrooms	120
Houses still without W.C's or bathrooms	164

The continuation of this work is desirable from all points of view and it is hoped that nothing will arise out of the nation's financial difficulties to cause any delay in the completion of these improvement works.

One disappointing feature of the improvement schemes is the continued use of septic tanks. In practice these have proved to be ineffective, particularly where several houses are drained to one such system. Considerable inconvenience is caused to the occupiers when the systems fill up with sewage and the cost of the frequent emptying is also a matter to be borne in mind.

It is difficult to understand why the Ministry will allow an existing group of ten or more Council Houses, with all modern sanitary fittings, to be drained in this way, when, for a similar development of new property they always insist on the provision of a small sewage disposal works. The works are obviously equally necessary in each case.

## Public Sewerage

Work of connecting existing properties to the new sewerage schemes at Donington and Gosberton proceeded during the year and in a number of cases property owners took advantage of the Improvement Grant Scheme to obtain cash grants towards the cost of providing bathrooms, hot water systems and W.C's as the convenience of public sewerage became available to them.

Officials of the Council give all possible help to promote this kind of improvement work.

Work on the Pinchbeck Sewerage Scheme continued during the year, often in very adverse weather conditions, and the December progress report of the Consulting Engineers showed that:-

5,755 lin. yards of sewers had been laid and tested.  
219 house connections had been provided,  
and the sewage disposal works were approximately 50% complete.

The need for the public sewerage facilities, in the built up areas of Pinchbeck, is becoming increasingly obvious and numerous drainage nuisances will only be remedied when the scheme is completed.



# MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

Class of animal	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	2521	119	6	6976	22164
Number inspected	2521	119	6	6976	22164
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis</u>		<b>MEAT REJECTED</b>			
Whole carcasses rejected	11	1	1	9	89
Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected	736	18	4	20	1684
Percentage of carcasses affected	29.75%	16.66%	83.33%	0.40%	7.99%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses rejected	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was rejected	5	-	-	-	182
Percentage of carcasses affected	0.19%	-	-	-	0.82%

## Cysticercus Bovis

14 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 0.54% compared with 0.78% last year and 1.48% in 1964. Statistical indications from relatively small figures such as those under consideration can be misleading but it is hoped that the downward trend, over the last three years, is an indication that this very serious condition will soon follow bovine tuberculosis and virtually disappear from the field of meat inspection.



## Tuberculosis

Lesions of tuberculosis were found in only five bovine animals out of a total of 2521 animals inspected including 119 cows and 6 calves. The five cattle found to be affected were isolated by the Veterinary Service of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food during their routine testing of cattle and were despatched for slaughter under licence.

From clinical examinations lesions of tuberculosis were found in 182 pig carcasses, the lesions being mainly of the avian type.

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

An indication of the increase in meat inspection work is shown by the number of pigs killed over the last three years at Hargrave's Slaughterhouse - i.e. 1964...3,032; 1965...6,741; 1966...18,582. It is obvious that, if this rate of "through-put" is maintained, a full-time Meat Inspector must be provided for the work at this slaughterhouse alone.



Details of Meat and Offals rejected as unfit for food are contained in the following lists:-

<u>Article</u>		<u>Disease or Condition found</u>
3 Beast Carcasses and Offals	...	Acute Diffuse and Septic Peritonitis
1 Beast Carcase and Offals	...	Blackleg
2 Beast Carcasses and Offals	...	Septicaemia
1 Beast Carcase and Offals	...	Fever
1 Beast Carcase and Offals	...	Johnes Disease
1 Beast Carcase and Offals	...	Severe and Extensive Bruising
2 Beast Carcasses and Offals	...	Generalised Oedema
1 Cow Carcase and Offals	...	Fever
1 Calf Carcase and Offals	...	Septicaemia
4 Sheep Carcasses and Offals	...	Generalised Oedema
1 Sheep Carcase and Offals	...	Pathological Emaciation
4 Sheep Carcasses and Offals	...	Fever
7 Pig Carcasses and Offals	...	Acute Diffuse and Septic Peritonitis
30 Pig Carcasses and Offals	...	Septicaemia
2 Pig Carcasses and Offals	...	Pathological Emaciation
6 Pig Carcasses and Offals	...	Generalised Oedema
4 Pig Carcasses and Offals	...	Uraemia
11 Pig Carcasses and Offals	...	Fever
11 Pig Carcasses and Offals	...	Acute Septic Pneumonia
7 Pig Carcasses and Offals	...	Multiple Abscesses
6 Pig Carcasses and Offals	...	Acute Diffuse and Septic Pleurisy
3 Pig Carcasses and Offals	...	Pyaemia
2 Pig Carcasses and Offals	...	Illbled and Moribund
25 lb. Beef	...	Bruising
41 lb. Veal	...	Bruising
36 lb. Mutton	...	Bruising
370 lb. Pork	...	Bruising and Abscesses

The following offals were rejected, as unfit for food, the various reasons being too numerous to be set out in detail:-

511 Beast Livers	1 Calf Lungs
194 Part Beast Livers	1 Calf Head
254 Beast Lungs	1 Calf Tongue
41 Beast Spleens	16 Sheep Livers
22 Beast Hearts	2 Sheep Lungs
27 Beast Heads	1431 Pig Livers
25 Beast Tongues	1128 Pig Lungs
10 Beast Skirts	861 Pig Hearts
2 Beast Mesenteric Fats	187 Pig Heads
14 Cows Livers	10 Pig Kidneys
2 Part Cows Livers	1 Pig Mesenteric Fats
6 Cows Lungs	

Details of other food found to be unfit for human consumption:-

1 x 6 lb. tin Corned Beef	Blown and Damaged Can
3 x 15½ oz. tins Raspberries	Blown Cans



### Food Premises

There has been little change in the character of the food shops and food manufacturing premises in the District which, with the exception of four Co-operative Stores, are all of the small 'family business' type. The premises have been found to be generally satisfactory and only minor contraventions of the Regulations have been found. In all cases these were dealt with by informal procedure.

There are no premises in the area where ice-cream is manufactured. Retail sale is restricted to portions pre-packed by the manufacturers with the exception of two retailers who sell 'American Whipped' ice-cream from mobile vans. These retailers' premises are located outside the Spalding Rural District.

### Slaughterhouses

There has been no change in the number of slaughterhouses in the District and with the exception of two premises they are all occupied by family butchers producing meat for their own trade only. Messrs. W. Hargrave & Son's proposals for the replacement of their existing slaughterhouse, with a new modern abattoir type of property, met with serious difficulty over the Council's terms and charges for accepting the drainage into the new sewers. It is unfortunate that, as a result of the failure to reach agreement, this project is now likely to be abandoned.

The existing slaughterhouse has many problems mainly arising out of increased "through-put" and these will have to be met and solved during the coming year. It is hoped that it will be found possible to reach agreement with the occupiers so that the drainage from their existing premises can be received into the new sewerage scheme. This will solve one of the main problems, that of satisfactory disposal of the drainage effluent.

### Milk and Dairies

All milk retailed in the area is 'designated' milk in bottles. There is one milk pasteurising plant in the District and this is licensed and supervised by the County Council.



### DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

The fumigation plant at the West Marsh Road Depot has been maintained by the three authorities in the South of the County i.e. Spalding Urban, East Elloe Rural and Spalding Rural District Councils. The plant has done no work for this Council. The cost of up-keep to each Authority is negligible but the maintenance of the plant is a safe-guard against the spread of serious infectious diseases or parasitic infestations by vehicles such as clothing, bedding or furniture.

### RODENT CONTROL

Mr. F. Emery, the Council's Rodent Operator has again carried out this work efficiently. There has been an increase in the number of calls for his assistance and in order to make up for the time which Mr. Emery spends with other services Mr. Pacey (one of the Health Department labourers) has been allowed to assist him with some of the work. Mr. Pacey shows a keen interest in rodent control and, under Mr. Emery's tuition, has become reasonably proficient in this work.



PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for 12 months ended 31st December, 1966

Type of Property

	Local Author- ity	Non Agricul- tural (including Council Houses)	Agricul- tural	Total
Total No. of properties in the District	42	7763	1899	9704
No. of properties inspected				
(a) Following notification	4	203	24	231
(b) Otherwise	320	376	152	848
No. of Revisits	153	792	282	1227
No. of properties found to be infested by:-				
(a) Rats	36	251	53	340
(b) Mice	-	18	1	19
No. of infested properties treated	36	269	54	359
No. of notices served under Section 4 of the Act				
(a) Requiring treatment	-	-	-	-
(b) Requiring structural works	-	-	-	-
No. of cases in which work was carried out in default	-	-	-	-
Legal proceedings	-	-	-	-



## HOUSING

### NUISANCES

51 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 40 unfit houses were reported to the Council and the following statutory procedure was taken:-

37 Notices of 'Time and Place' were served  
29 Demolition Orders made  
7 Closing Orders made

Houses demolished following statutory procedure by the Council

In Clearance Areas	NIL
Not in Clearance Areas	15

Families re-housed

From Clearance Areas	NIL
From condemned houses not in Clearance Areas	4

During the year 4 houses were demolished by their owners without statutory action by the Council.

This branch of the Health Department's work has again been limited to individual housing action resulting in Demolition or Closing Orders. The re-housing of families from houses condemned in this way presents quite a problem in some parishes, particularly those with a substantial waiting list for Council Houses, but if the procedure under the Act is not to be brought into disrepute, it is essential that re-housing be effected as speedily as possible subject of course to the exigencies of the area concerned.

### HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1957

#### Discretionary Improvement Grants

Houses inspected in full detail	NIL
Applications received for Improvement Grant	NIL
Improvement Grants approved	NIL

#### Standard Grants

Applications received for Standard Grants	34
Standard Grants approved	30
Standard Grants refused	4



## OVERCROWDING

No cases of overcrowding were reported during the year.

## NEW HOUSES

During the year no building was undertaken on the Council's Estates.

99 dwellings were erected by private developers and a further 62 were commenced.

## FACTORIES ACT, 1961

As in previous years the administration of those parts of the Factories Act, that 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).

Premises (1)	Register (2)	Number of:-		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (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 Authority ...	63	32	6	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ...	7	-	-	-
Total ...	70	32	6	-



2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred: To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (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 ...	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	6	7	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work) ...	-	-	-	-	-
Total ...	6	7	-	-	-



Inspections of premises under the provisions of the Act have proceeded satisfactorily during the year. There are no large shops, office establishments or railway stations within the area. Contraventions of the provisions of the Act have been of a minor character.

In all cases informal notices have been served on the occupiers and there has been no difficulty in securing compliance with the requirements.

There have been no reports either formal or informal of accidents occurring during the year in offices and shops.

Administration of the Act was some-what restricted towards the end of the year owing to the resignation of one of the two Additional Public Health Inspectors.



OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Class of Premises	Premises Registered During Year	Total Registered	General Inspections	Persons employed	Exemptions	Prosecutions	Inspectors
Offices	5	38	18	176	-	-	4
Retail Shops	10	53	38	126	-	-	4
Wholesale Shops	1	12	-	65	-	-	4
Catering Establishments	-	8	1	28	-	-	4
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-	-	-	-	4











