

[Report 1964] / Medical Officer of Health, Spalding U.D.C.

Contributors

Spalding (England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1964

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The Health of Spalding

1964

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Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health

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

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector:

L.A.Gornall, F.I.A.S., M.R.S.H.

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

R.H.Grainger, A.R.S.H.

J.B.Jackson, M.A.P.H.I.

SPALDING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,
Spalding.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1964

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my report on some aspects of the health of Spalding for the year 1964.

The health statistics for the year give some cause for satisfaction. The birth rate per thousand population is still slightly below the national average, but has increased steadily from 14.4 per thousand in 1961 to 17.7 per thousand in 1964. The death rate, which is always inflated by the presence of a long-stay geriatric hospital in the town, was 11.9 per thousand population, the lowest since 1952.

The infant mortality rate per thousand live births tends to fluctuate considerably from year to year, as the numbers of infant deaths from which it is calculated are small. For the last four years however, the infant mortality rate has been well below the national average, and the rate for 1964, 11.9 deaths per thousand live births was little more than half the overall rate for England and Wales.

The perinatal mortality rate (number of stillbirths and deaths of babies in the first week of life) was 29.4 per thousand births. This rate is a very useful measurement of the efficiency of the various maternity services, and the fact that the rate has been relatively low in the last few years reflects great credit on the family doctors, the hospital and district midwives, and the ante-natal clinics. There is no doubt that the town has been well served in this respect.

Some of the other health statistics are not so favourable. The incidence of lung cancer in South Holland has increased during the past 15 years. (See article on Ps. 9 & 10).

Through the kindness of the Matron and Casualty Sister at the Johnson Hospital, for which I am very grateful, records have been kept of all the home accident injuries requiring hospital treatment. In eight months of 1964, 140 people from Spalding and district had home accidents and were treated at the hospital. (See article on P. 11).

The percentage of live births that were illegitimate was 7.1%, compared with 4.8% in 1963. It is too early to say whether this rise has any significance, as the illegitimacy rate has fluctuated in the past. A similar rise occurred in the neighbouring districts,

In April 1964 the new modern abattoir at Fulney came into use, and now all the slaughterhouses in the town conform with the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations. One hundred per cent meat inspection was maintained to the rigorous standards indicated by those sections of the Meat Inspection Regulations that were in force during 1964, and as in previous years this service absorbed a very considerable amount of the public health inspectors time. The number of meat animals killed in the town has risen considerably over the years, as shown in the table on P. 34.

The main provisions of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 came into effect on 1st August, 1964. Very little progress had been made by the end of the year with the initial survey of offices and shops because the public health inspectors time was already heavily committed with meat inspection and other duties. This position is unlikely to improve until the establishment of inspectors has been increased.

An important development during the year was the opening of a family planning clinic (see P.21).

This was made possible by co-operation between the Family Planning Association (a voluntary body) and the County and District Councils. To succeed, it depends on the co-operation of the public, and it is to be hoped that many more married people will avail themselves of the advice the clinic provides.

I would like to thank Mr. Gornall for his help and co-operation and the two Additional Public Health Inspectors and the clerical assistant for their conscientious work.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

J. MATHER MORFITT,

Medical Officer of Health.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Spalding is a busy market town and centre of a most flourishing agricultural and horticultural area and many of its population are engaged in employment connected with these industries.

Crops include potatoes, sugar beet, beans, cauliflowers and cabbage, tomatoes, flowers and bulbs.

Industries include many associated with these products, such as the beet sugar factory, a large fruit and vegetable cannery, factories engaged in box and tray making, vegetable brining etc. Pre-packing of fruit and vegetables after cleaning and trimming is also a developing industry.

Through a large bulb and produce auction and by other means a ready market is found for the products of the area in the industrial areas of the West Riding and the East Midlands.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

The Area of the District is	7,837 acres
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The Resident Population (1961 Census)	14,821
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The Registrar-General's estimated mid-year Home Population figure (used in the calculation of Birth and Death Rates)	15,180
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Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1964	£621,957
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Sum represented by 1d. rate	£2,606
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The number of inhabited houses and flats etc.	5,304
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EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

1. Live Births:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	145	103	248
Illegitimate	6	13	19
Total Live Births	<u>151</u>	<u>116</u>	<u>267</u>

2. Live birth rate per 1,000 population: 17.6

3. Still Births:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	0	5	5
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Total Still Births	<u>0</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5</u>

4. Still Birth rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births: 18.4

5. Total Live and Still Births: 272.

6. Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births: 7.1%

DEATHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
7. Deaths from all causes	89	91	180

8. Death rate per 1,000 population: 11.9

9. Infant Deaths:

(a) Deaths of Infants during first year of life:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Total	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>

(b) Neo-natal deaths:

Legitimate	2	1	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Total	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>3</u>

Total Infant Deaths ... 3

10.	Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 Live Births	(Total)	11.2
11.	Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 Live Births	(Legitimate)	12.1
12.	Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 Live Births	(Illegitimate)	Nil
13.	Neo-natal Mortality rate per 1,000 Live Births	...	11.2
14.	Early Neo-natal Mortality rate	11.2
15.	Peri-natal Mortality rate	29.4
16.	Maternal Deaths	Nil

The three infant deaths all occurred in the first week of life, and were due to prematurity.

The five stillbirths were due to the following causes:

1. Maternal diabetes.
2. Maternal toxæmia of pregnancy.
3. Prolonged labour.
4. Inhalation of meconium during labour.
5. Intra-uterine death, of no apparent cause.

Comments on Vital Statistics

The birth rate and death rate figures given below have been corrected by using the comparability factors supplied by the Registrar-General. These factors allow for the differences in the age and sex composition of the various populations, and make valid comparisons possible.

Whilst this district has a lower birth rate than the average for England and Wales, the death rate and infant mortality rates continue to compare favourably with the average. Over half the deaths registered during the year were of people aged 75 years or over. (95 out of the total 180 deaths).

	<u>Live Birth</u> <u>Rate</u> (Corrected)	<u>Death</u> <u>Rate</u> (Corrected)	<u>Infant</u> <u>Mortality</u> <u>Rate</u>
Spalding Urban District	17.6	9.1	11.2
Holland County - Urban Districts	18.5	11.1	20.4
Holland County - Rural Districts	15.4	11.1	19.2
Holland County - All Districts	16.5	11.1	19.7
England and Wales.	18.4	11.3	20.0

Birth Rates, Death Rates and Infant Mortality Rates
in Spalding Urban District, 1950 - 1964

Year	No. of Births	Crude Birth Rate	No. of Deaths	Crude Death Rate	Infant Deaths	Infant Mortality Rate	Birth Rates	Death Rates	Infant Mortality Rates
1950	223	15.3	203	13.9	8	35.9	15.1	14.2	33.1
1951	198	13.7	192	13.3	11	55.5			
1952	220	15.4	152	10.6	3	13.6			
1953	226	15.7	244	16.9	11	48.7			
1954	223	15.4	231	15.9	3	12.9			
1955	197	13.6	222	15.3	6	30.5	14.7	15.2	25.2
1956	230	15.8	230	15.8	3	13.0			
1957	220	15.1	225	15.5	1	4.5			
1958	217	14.9	195	13.4	9	41.5			
1959	206	14.1	232	15.9	8	38.8			
1960	251	17.1	184	12.5	6	23.9	16.3	13.4	17.3
1961	214	14.4	205	13.8	6	14.0			
1962	234	15.7	200	13.4	2	8.5			
1963	250	16.6	230	15.3	4	16.0			
1964	267	17.7	180	11.9	3	11.2			

NUMBERS OF DEATHS FROM PARTICULAR CAUSES
IN SPALDING URBAN DISTRICT IN 1964

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	0	0
Tuberculosis, other forms	0	0	0
Syphilitic disease	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infections	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	3	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	7	0	7
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	4	4
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	11	16
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	0	0	0
Diabetes	0	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	13	15	28
Coronary disease, angina	19	9	28
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
Other heart disease	6	7	13
Other circulatory disease	13	19	32
Influenza	0	0	0
Pneumonia	8	4	12
Bronchitis	2	3	5
Other diseases of respiratory system	2	2	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	1	2
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	0	0
Nephritis and nephrosis	0	0	0
Hyperlasia of prostate	2	0	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0	0
Congenital malformation	0	0	0
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	9	14
Motor vehicle accidents	1	0	1
All other accidents	2	0	2
Suicide	1	0	1
Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
Total	<u>89</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>180</u>

LUNG CANCER

Lung cancer deaths in South Holland (Spalding U.D.C. and R.D.C. and East Elloe R.D.C.)

Years

1950	}	25
1951		
1952		

1953	}	31
1954		
1955		

1956	}	48
1957		
1958		

1959	}	49
1960		
1961		

1962	}	51
1963		
1964		

During the past 15 years in South Holland, as in the rest of the country, the number of lung cancer deaths has steadily risen. In England and Wales in 1963* there were 24,434 deaths from lung cancer, and 35,332 deaths from bronchitis. This death roll dwarfs many of the other causes of public anxiety - e.g. motor vehicle accidents with 6,351 deaths and cancer of the uterus with only 3,969.

It is now beyond reasonable doubt that cigarette smoking is a causative factor both in lung cancer, which cuts off far too many people in their 50's, and in chronic bronchitis, an illness which causes considerable economic loss to the country, as well as much personal suffering.

It is, of course, true that everyone has to die sometime, but this is hardly a serious argument against taking all possible steps to prevent disease. No one questions the efforts that are being made to cut the toll of death and injury on the roads, and few would quibble at the attempts that are now being made in a number of places to prevent cancer of the uterus, by getting women to come forward for a test to detect this cancer before it causes symptoms. (See P.21).

* Provisional figures from Registrar General's Quarterly Returns.

Unfortunately only a few of the many different cancers human-kind may develop are of known causation. The great majority of doctors believe that lung cancer is one such, where the most important causative factor is smoking. Unhappily this preventable cancer is not yet being prevented, for the obvious reason that smoking is an addiction, albeit a mild one, and people find it hard to stop. Human nature being what is is, it is easy for the smoker to turn a blind eye to the unpleasant facts of the case, or to rely on one or other of the myths that are still current - e.g.

"10 a day won't harm me".

"Filter tips are sure to be safe".

"It's all these diesel fumes".

"Statistics can be made to prove anything".

etc. etc. etc.

The plain fact is that non-smokers very rarely get lung cancer, while the heavier the cigarette consumption, the greater the risk. A heavy smoker has a 1 in 8 chance of dying from lung cancer, which may not sound too bad, but thousands of people lose out on this 1 in 8 chance every year.

There is obviously no limit to the tax that can be imposed on tobacco, and it is unlikely that cigarettes will stay even at their present price for very long. It would seem to be wise to make the effort and stop smoking now, before matters reach such a pass that manufacturers have to bring out a miniature cigarette with a $1\frac{1}{2}$ " long filter to retail at 5/- for 20. Smokers who feel they cannot break the addiction, no matter how heavily they are contributing to Government revenue, would be safer if they switched to a pipe or cigars.

The cigarette manufacturers are working hard to hook the younger generation, and of course, they are succeeding only too well. Commercial television is soon to shut its doors to cigarette advertisements, but another door is being opened - pirate radio. Throughout the day cigarette advertising jingles are interspersed between the pop songs - could one imagine a better medium for influencing young people? The country's health educators with their tiny budget and resources cannot hope to rival the stream of propaganda the tobacco companies put out, with their vastly greater funds. Fortunately even with the techniques of modern advertising it is quite difficult to fool all the people all the time. There might be something to be said for the old fashioned idea of offering a son a substantial gift of money or goods if he abstains from smoking before his 21st birthday, but it is even better for parents to set their sons and daughters a good example by abstaining from this highly expensive habit.

HOME ACCIDENTS

Since May 1st 1964, 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.

<u>Age</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Below 5 years	32	17	49
5 - 15 years	8	13	21
16 - 40 years	13	18	31
41 - 64 years	7	16	23
65 years and over.	-	16	16
	<u>60</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>140</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	5	-	13	18
Burns	8	1	9	18
Falls	23	10	23	56
Cuts	6	2	19	27
Other accidents	7	3	11	21
	<u>49</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>140</u>

The tables, which analyse the 140 accident injuries treated at the Hospital from May to December inclusive, show a pattern similar to that found in studies carried out elsewhere in the country. Two age groups are specially at risk, children under 5 years old, and the elderly. Boys seem more accident-prone than girls, but all the elderly people who had home accidents were females.

There is certainly no reason for Spalding and District to be complacent about home safety, as many of these accidents could have been prevented.

Falls can have serious, indeed often fatal, consequences in old people with brittle bones, and the precautions needed for their prevention are fairly obvious - e.g. adequate light on the stairs, proper footwear, handrails, avoiding long trailing garments, and abolition of such death traps as trailing flexes, holes in lino or carpet, and moveable mats at the head of the stairs. I would like to suggest that relatives might tactfully check up on these points when they visit elderly people who live alone.

The figures show that there is still a need for the teaching that is given at child welfare centres on burn and scald prevention. In the 8 months for which statistics were kept, there were 36 burns and scalds, 13 of them in children under 5 years. These painful injuries tend to leave unsightly scars that can be a lifelong disfigurement and psychological trauma.

Accident prevention in the home is simply a matter of applying common sense precautions. Accidents don't just happen, they are caused, and to prevent them we need to rid ourselves of that cosy myth that accidents happen to other people. To stay safe in the home depends on two things - making the house safe by eliminating potential death traps, and, even more important, by becoming safety minded so that safety becomes a built-in part of your house-keeping routine.

It cannot be too often stated that in England and Wales there are more accident deaths in the home than on the roads.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

58 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year.

Infectious Diseases	No. of Cases
Pulmonary tuberculosis	2
Whooping Cough	6
Measles	49
Meningococcal infection	1
Total	58

There was no notification of scarlet fever, poliomyelitis, diphtheria or food poisoning.

Although 10 cases were notified as dysentery, none were confirmed bacteriologically.

Incidence of infectious disease in recent years.

Disease	Number of Cases in Years							
	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Scarlet Fever	0	4	4	2	1	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Measles	277	41	18	2	452	1	303	49
Whooping Cough	5	20	0	0	8	0	13	6
Poliomyelitis	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

Infectious Disease Comments

Acute Non-Bacterial Gastro-enteritis

During the year there were a number of cases of vomiting, with or without diarrhoea, but laboratory tests failed to reveal the presence of any of the usual causative bacteria. South Holland is one of the areas of the county where this non-bacterial gastro-enteritis crops up from time to time. On the 4th and 5th of June, several children in both divisions of the Spalding Girls High School developed symptoms. The illness had a relatively sudden onset, so that some of the girls who were perfectly well when they arrived at school became ill during the day. All had nausea, and nearly all vomited. Most of the children had abdominal pain, and about half had transient diarrhoea. Many of them had headache and mild fever, and felt so unwell that they had to be sent home by car. The illness lasted 2-3 days on average. 71 girls at the High School, and 13 children at Goodfellows School were affected. Although the Goodfellows School and one division of the High School obtain meals from the same school kitchen, this is most unlikely to have been the vehicle that spread the infection, as other schools, and "meals-on-wheels" people supplied from the two High School kitchens were not affected.

The family doctors informed me that cases of vomiting and abdominal pain had been occurring in adults as well as children, since the last week in May.

Two other schools were affected with a somewhat similar illness much later in the year - St. John's with 8 cases in October, and the Parish Church Day School with 30 cases in November.

Aberdeen Typhoid Outbreak

When it was realised that this epidemic was probably due to the consumption of corned beef, canned in certain establishments in South America, where untreated river water had been used to cool the tins after heat treatment, the Ministry of Health sent a number of circulars to Medical Officers of Health, asking them to arrange for the withdrawal of the suspect tins.

The first circular, dated 2nd June, 1964, advised the withdrawal of six pound cans of corned beef from two Argentine establishments, and one Uruguayan establishment that had been canned between certain dates. Unfortunately, it was not until the following day that the Ministry sent information about the date codes needed to identify the suspect tins. Three further circulars sent additional information on the 11th, 15th and 33rd June, stating that tongue from the suspected canning establishments should also be withdrawn, and giving the name of another Argentine corned beef establishment whose tins should be withdrawn.

It was most unfortunate that the information as to what cans to withdraw was handed out piecemeal in this fashion, as it meant that the Public Health Inspectors had to reduplicate their time-consuming trips round all the food shops, restaurants, and canteens in the district to give the necessary advice on withdrawal of cans of meat, which were returned to the wholesalers. As some cans from the suspect establishments were found in this district and as it was likely that in some cases meat from such tins had already been sliced and sold to the public, the family doctors in the area were informed of this fact.

The story about how the typhoid bacteria probably got into the cans in South America, and how the corned beef was sliced and placed in an unrefrigerated cold meat display in a supermarket, under temperature conditions that favoured growth of the bacteria, is now common knowledge. One lesson that should be taken to heart by retailers is the fact that food poisoning germs, as well as typhoid, can multiply fast in ready-to-eat meat products held at room temperature during the hot days of summer. Great care is needed to prevent such products from picking up these germs, e.g. by minimizing handling, and by scrupulous cleanliness. One mistake that is still sometimes seen is the practice of displaying ready-to-eat meat products and raw meat cheek-by-jowl on the same slab or tray. No matter how ideal the slaughterhouse arrangements, raw meat is never sterile, and may well carry a few food poisoning organisms. Normally, this does not matter in the least as the meat is cooked, and this kills the germs; but there is no such safety factor for foods like haslets, meat pies, and sliced cold meats which are eaten without further cooking.

Because of this it is important that knives, meat slicers, tongs, and dishes etc, are not used first for raw meat and later for foods which are ready for immediate consumption.

In this, as in other aspects of food hygiene, much depends on the attitude of the housewife, as the small numbers of Public Health Inspectors, who are heavily committed in many other fields cannot hope to visit all the many food premises in this district as often as they would like.

One favourable outcome of the Aberdeen typhoid outbreak was the increased public awareness of food hygiene, but unfortunately, even in Aberdeen this did not last very long. Now only a minority of housewives would care to run the risk of being branded a crank or a fusspot by complaining about lack of hygiene in food shops or cafes.

I wish there were far more "fusspots", as complaints from customers would bring home to shop managers the need for food hygiene even more forcibly than a talk from the public health inspector.

Diphtheria Immunisation

No cases of Diphtheria occurred in the district during the year. During 1964, 222 children under five years of age and 5 children over five years of age received a primary immunisation course. A further 305 children between the ages of 5 and 14 years received a "booster" or secondary injection.

The figures provided by the County Medical Officer show the numbers and percentages of the child population on 31st December, 1964, immunised at any time during the period 1950-1964 inclusive:-

District	Under 1 year		1 and under 5 years		5-14 years	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Boston Borough	200	36.5	709	45.3	3445	92.8
Spalding Urban	119	46.4	413	43.8	1904	92.0
Boston Rural	150	50.0	686	51.4	3010	92.1
East Elloe Rural	118	42.7	586	47.5	2959	86.0
Spalding Rural	123	42.2	471	40.6	2664	88.2

Once again there has been a fall in the percentages of children aged 1 - 5 years who have been immunized. It seems that more parents are not bothering to have their children immunized until they go to school.

Diphtheria still occurs in these islands, and there is still a need for every baby and young child to be protected by immunization.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

These figures provided by the County Medical Officer, show the percentages of Spalding children who had received polio vaccination by 31st December, 1964, classified by date of birth.

Of the babies born in 1964, 8.6% had been vaccinated against poliomyelitis at 31st December, 1964. By 31st March 1965, this figure had risen to 22.0%.

Other pre-school age groups were as follows:-

			<u>Percentage Vaccinated</u>	
			<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>
Born in	-	1963	67.4	7.9
		1962	74.8	61.5
		1961	85.5	79.9
		1960	79.6	74.9

The above figures and those shown in the following paragraph are given to indicate the steady rise in poliomyelitis vaccination during the pre-school period, and to a smaller extent, during school ages.

School age groups:-

			<u>Percentage Vaccinated</u>	
			<u>1964</u>	<u>1963</u>
Born in	-	1959	87.3	86.4
		1958	85.7	82.4
		1957	88.6	86.3
		1956	89.5	87.8
		1955	85.7	85.2
		1954	87.4	86.0
		1953	89.8	89.3
		1952	88.6	88.6
		1951	99.4	98.4
		1950	84.3	83.8
		1949	78.1	77.4
		1948	71.6	70.8

Tuberculosis

The number of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1964, was 132, a decrease of 1 on last year's figure of 133.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at 31.12.64.			
Pulmonary	46	36	82
Non-Pulmonary	24	26	50
Cases removed from Register during 1964 -			
Quiescent	0	2	2
Left District	0	1	1
Death	0	0	0
Cases added to the Register during 1964 -			
New Notifications	0	2	2
Transfers	0	0	0

Details of Cases on the Tuberculosis Register 1953 - 1964

Year	New Notifications	Cases on Register at end of year.		Deaths During Year
		Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	
1953	4	73	40	-
1954	3	76	43	2
1955	1	75	45	1
1956	3	80	46	1
1957	5	82	47	1
1958	4	85	46	-
1959	3	89	47	1
1960	2	86	48	2
1961	4	89	48	2
1962	3	85	50	2
1963	1	83	50	1
1964	2	82	50	-

B.C.G. Vaccination in South Holland
Year ended 31.12.64.

School	No. Elegible	Acceptance		Skin Tested	Negative	B.C.G. Vaccin- ated	Positive	Chest X-ray Advised
		No.	%					
Spalding Grammar	72	53	73.6	51	38	37	10	1
Spalding High	75	49	63.5	49	38	36	11	2
Gleed Boys	135	106	78.5	96	78	76	13	2
Gleed Girls	180	124	68.9	120	95	95	21	7
George Farmer	114	93	81.6	88	73	73	11	4
Peele Secondary	138	97	70.3	89	74	74	11	4
Crowland Secondary	76	25	32.9	24	21	21	2	1
Donington Cowleys	120	71	59.1	68	66	60	2	0

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

When the test result is strongly positive, this indicates a need for a chest x-ray, and this is arranged by the Chest Physician. Thus the scheme not only gives children protection against tuberculosis, but the preliminary test picks out those who need supervision because they have already had an encounter with the tuberculosis germ. Sometimes investigation of their home contacts brings to light an unrecognized case of the disease. It is clear that this scheme is an important means of stamping out tuberculosis, and the increase in percentage of children benefiting from it in 1964 is most welcome.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES

FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT

A. County Council Services

(i) Domiciliary Midwives

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

(ii) Health Visitors

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 routine, visits every home where a birth has been notified to the County Medical Officer of Health. Three health visitors cover the Spalding town area.

(iii) Clinic Centres

Infant Welfare Clinics and Ante-Natal Clinics are held at Holland Road Clinic, Spalding. Vaccination against smallpox and poliomyelitis and immunisation against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus are available at this clinic.

During the year, 94 Infant Welfare sessions were held, with an average attendance of 28 children.

153 babies under one year old were enrolled during the year - this represents 57.4% of babies born in 1964.

(iv) School Health Service

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 consultants are made as required.

An important part of the work of the School Health Service 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 also at Spalding Clinic. Where absolutely necessary, transport is provided, and in exceptional cases treatment may be arranged at home.

(viii) Ambulance Service

The Spalding ambulance station is staffed by seven whole-time driver/attendants, and has an establishment of two ambulances, one car, and two utility ambulances.

The 1951 Austin Sheerline Ambulance has been replaced by a fibre-glass ambulance on the latest LD5W B.M.C. chassis. This is equipped with an A.C. Alternator "Selectaride" variable suspension, synchromesh gear box and offset rear axle differential to allow for a low central gangway. The body complies with all the safety suggestions of the government as enforced in passenger transport vehicles, including a sliding communicating door between the driving and ambulance compartment which also acts as an emergency exit. All the ambulances are equipped with oxygen therapy apparatus, and equipment for applying mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

A Minuteman portable mechanical resuscitator is kept at the Ambulance Station, and a portable incubator for transporting small premature babies is stored at Boston General Hospital, for use in the whole of the County.

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-patient, 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 change of use is proposed for this hospital, which will lose its acute medical and surgical beds, when the proposed new 500 bed District General Hospital is built at Boston. The first step towards the Johnson Hospital's future role as a chronic sick and geriatric hospital took place this year, with the building of the Avalon annexe. This annexe which received its first patients on 7th December, 1964, is a unit for 56 elderly or chronic sick patients, housed in 4 and 6 bed wards. There are 8 single bedrooms, and a day room is provided on both the floors. The annexe is well-equipped, and special attention has been given to noise prevention.

While this modern geriatric annexe is a welcome development, it does not allay fears that in future, if the plan proceeds, many patients will have to travel to Boston for treatment that is at present carried out in the Johnson Hospital acute beds.

Unfortunately, representations that were made to the Ministry of Health at the end of 1963, failed to secure anything more than the promise that consultations would be entered into nearer the time when the change of use was to occur.

C. Voluntary Bodies

During the year a new family planning clinic was started in Spalding, as it was clear that there was a need for this service. Several women had previously attended the Boston family planning clinic, and they formed a nucleus of patients for the new clinic. The Boston Branch of the Family Planning Association, which runs this new clinic in Spalding, was particularly fortunate in obtaining the services of a local lady doctor, and both the district councils (Spalding U.D.C. and R.D.C.) made a financial grant. Holland County Council agreed to allow clinic sessions to be held in the County Clinic, Holland Road, Spalding, on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in the month, between 7 and 8 p.m.

In the first six months since the clinic opened on 14th October, 1964, 54 patients have made 85 attendances. 25 of these patients were previously attending other clinics, and the remaining 29 were new patients. An interesting aspect of the clinic's work has been the taking of cervical smear tests to detect cancer of the uterus before it results in symptoms. Such a test should ideally be taken before any woman goes on to 'the pill' method of oral contraception. Fortunately, arrangements could be made for the Boston hospital laboratory to examine these smear tests, 17 of which were taken. All were negative.

There is no doubt that this clinic provides a very useful service for the town and district, and it is to be hoped that more married people who have already had children will avail themselves of the help and advice provided there. A moderate fee is charged, but this is never beyond a patient's means and in cases of need, it can be waived.

D. 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.

C. Voluntary Bodies

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In the first six months since the clinic opened on 15th October, 1964, 54 patients have made 65 attendances. 29 of these patients were previously attending other clinics, and the remaining 25 were new patients. An interesting aspect of the clinic's work has been the taking of cervical smear tests to detect cancer of the uterus before it results in symptoms. Such a test should ideally be taken before any woman goes on to 'the pill' method of oral contraception. Fortunately, arrangements could be made for the Boston Hospital Laboratory to examine these smear tests, 17 of which were taken. All were negative.

There is no doubt that this clinic provides a very useful service for the town and district, and it is to be hoped that more married people who have already had children will avail themselves of the help and advice provided there. A moderate fee is charged, but this is never beyond a patient's means and in cases of need, it can be waived.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Medical examination of Council Staff

During the year 4 persons were medically examined to ascertain their fitness for entry into superannuation and sickness schemes.

2. Requests for re-housing on Medical grounds

Applicants for Council houses who claim that they have serious medical grounds for priority re-housing, are investigated by your Medical Officer of Health, and recommendations are made to the Housing Committee.

3. Health Education

Talks were given to a variety of organisations on health topics - e.g. home safety, the work of the public health department, food hygiene, and the prevention of enteric infections.

4. 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 terrible 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, although visits were made to elderly people who were living alone and starting to get into difficulties, no compulsory removal orders were needed.

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.

During the year under review the water demand in the area of the Spalding urban district continued in step with the general trend of increased consumption.

This is shown by the following figures which are recorded for the year 1964, and for the previous year:-

1963 - 481,381,000 gallons

1964 - 524,128,000 gallons

Increase for 1964)
over 1963) - 42,747,000 gallons.

This is an increase of approximately 8.8% whereas the increase for 1963 over 1962 was 92,135,000 gallons or 25.6%. These fluctuations are caused by various factors; one which is of considerable importance is the wide inconsistency of the weather conditions. These conditions can affect many industrial demands dependent on horticultural and agricultural pursuits. Some credit for this reduction in consumption can be attributed to continuing inspection and waste control. Another contributory agent may be that the main trunk lines from the principal sources have reached their maximum carrying capacity and interim steps to meet this limiting factor are being taken by the installation of an intermediate booster station at Guthram.

The Spalding water demand is now served from both Bourne and Pinchbeck West, the waters of which are of similar character as shown in the table of chemical analyses included in this report.

Continuous weekly samples for bacteriological analyses are taken from the various sources and also from distribution mains and these have given satisfactory results.

The results from the chemical examination of samples from the two principal sources at Bourne and Pinchbeck are shown in the following table.

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

	<u>Bourne</u>	<u>Pinchbeck</u>
Appearance	Clear & Bright	Clear & Bright
Turbidity (APHA units)	Nil	Nil
Colour	Nil	Nil
Odour	Nil	Nil
pH	7.2	7.2
Free Carbon Dioxide	30	32
Chlorine present as Chloride	21	23
Total Hardness	370	285
Carbonate	230	240
Non-carbonate	140	45
Oxygen absorbed	0.3	0.2
Iron	0.03	0.04
Manganese	Absent	Absent
Zinc Copper Lead	Absent	Absent
Fluoride	Less than 0.1	0.4

The analyst's report in each case stated the samples were clear and bright in appearance, neutral in reaction and free from metals apart from a negligible trace of iron.

The water is hard in character but not excessively so and contains no excess of mineral constituents and is of a very satisfactory organic quality.

From the aspect of the chemical analyses these results are indicative of a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

A considerable quantity of new mainlaying has been carried out during the year, the details of which are shown hereunder:-

<u>Diameter of Mains</u>	<u>Yardage of Mains Laid</u>
2"	759
3"	3,257
4"	891
6"	181

These works are in connection with new housing proposals and also relaying and alignment of main replacements in consequence of new road works.

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 Medical Officer of Health for advice on the medical and bacteriological aspects of their work. The newly constituted Water Board covers 9 District Council areas served by five Medical Officers of Health so that the Engineer and Manager has a super-abundance of medical advice.

It is still the responsibility of the district council public health department to ensure that the water supply arriving at the town taps is pure and wholesome.

All the employees of the Water Board who are engaged on work where they could conceivably cause contamination of the water supplies have had blood tests to rule out the possibility of their being typhoid carriers, and bacteriological tests of three consecutive weekly samples of urine and faeces are taken twice a year.

There is satisfactory co-operation and exchange of information between the Board's Officers and the public health department.

Fluoride content of water

In this district the water is deficient in fluoride, only 0.1 - 0.4 parts per million being present, instead of optimum 1 part per million, and the state of childrens teeth suffers in consequence.

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 element.

<u>Yards of mains laid</u>	<u>Diameter of mains</u>
752	2"
3,257	3"
891	4"
181	6"

The following sections of the Annual Report refer particularly to the work of the Public Health Inspectors.

Visits

The following Table shows the number of visits made during the year:-

<u>Subject of Visit</u>	<u>Number of Visits.</u>
General sanitation	252
Infectious Diseases	169
Housing Act, 1957	55
Housing: Public Health Act, 1936	56
Rent Act, 1957	4
Food Premises: Food and Drugs Act, 1955	302
Factories Act, 1937-1961	48
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	145
Miscellaneous visits to Council houses	3
Clean Air Act, 1956	336
Agriculture (Safety, Health & Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956	24
Meat Inspection	1071
House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959	78
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1964.	8

HOUSING

1. General

Number of houses erected during the year:-

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Bungalows</u>	<u>Flats</u>
(a) By private enterprise	47	64	5
(b) By the Council	Nil	10	Nil

Number under construction at the end of 1964:-

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Bungalows</u>	<u>Flats</u>
(a) By private enterprise	90	41	Nil
(b) By the Council	Nil	Nil	Nil

2. Slum Clearance - Housing Act, 1957

During the year slum clearance continued and resulted as follows:-

(1)	Demolition Orders made	9
(2)	Closing Orders cancelled and Demolition Orders made	-
(3)	Closing Orders made	2
(4)	Closing Orders determined	-
(5)	Undertakings accepted	-
(6)	Houses purchased and demolished	3
(7)	Houses repaired by informal action	5
(8)	Houses repaired by formal action	2

3. Overcrowding

No cases of overcrowding were reported during the year.

4. House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959

Improvement Grants - Discretionary

Formal applications received	Nil
Discretionary grants approved	Nil
Schemes completed	4

Standard Grants

Formal applications received	33
Standard grants approved	33
Schemes completed	27

5. Moveable Dwellings

The Royce Road site was cleared during the year and the number of caravans at Willesby Road was reduced (to 13 sites) in accordance with the Council's policy to have ultimately two sites only, Cradge Bank (51 sites) and Fulney Lane (9 sites).

6. Common Lodging Houses

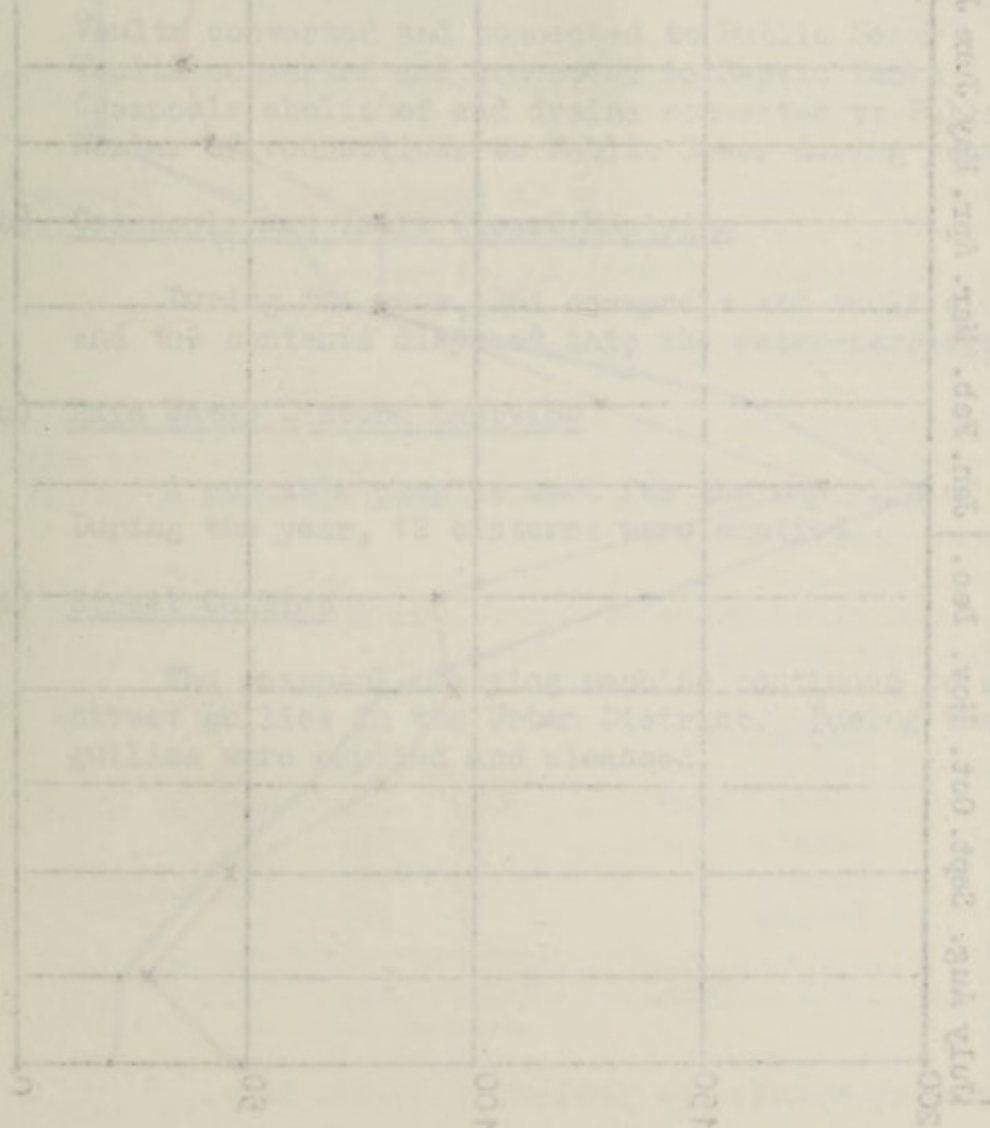
The one remaining common lodging house continued to serve its useful purpose of accommodating casual labourers who frequent the area during certain seasons.

7. Atmospheric Pollution

Daily readings of the Smoke/Sulphur Dioxide apparatus were maintained throughout the year and records forwarded to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research as part of a countrywide co-operative scheme of investigation into atmospheric pollution.

The accompanying graph shows the peak of smoke and sulphur pollution in the central area of Spalding is reached in December/January and might be attributed to the domestic fire-grate. The level of pollution, however, compares favourably with areas of similar industry and population.

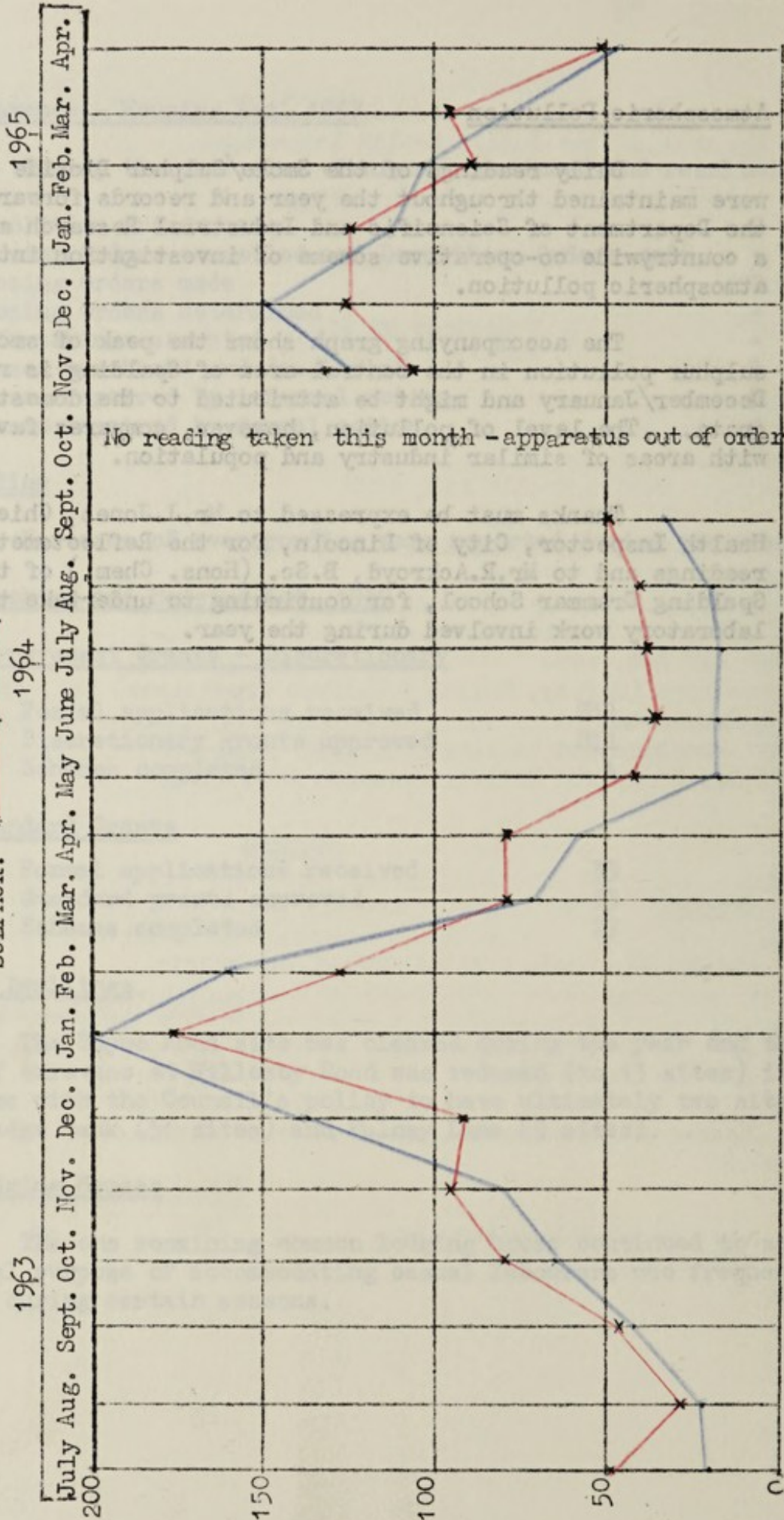
Thanks must be expressed to Mr.J.Jones, Chief Public Health Inspector, City of Lincoln, for the Reflectometer readings and to Mr.R.Ackroyd, B.Sc. (Hons. Chem.) of the Spalding Grammar School, for continuing to undertake the laboratory work involved during the year.



AIR POLLUTION

AVERAGE DAILY CONCENTRATION OF SMOKE AND SULPHUR
IN MICROGRAMS PER CUBIC METRE

SMOKE: —●—
SULPHUR: —x—



DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

The sewage treatment plant at Marsh Road which was built in 1930, provides only partial treatment, the effluent being discharged into the River Welland where it becomes tidal. Since 1930 the town has grown from 11,830 to 15,180 inhabitants, and an extensive drainage project, the Coronation Channel has altered the tidal arrangement of the Welland. Once this river was tidal all through the middle of the town; now it only starts to be tidal a hundred yards or so upstream from the point where the effluent is discharged. Since the treatment plant was built, a small industrial estate has been developed nearby including food factories.

While sewerage and sewage disposal arrangements are at present adequate for the District, for reasons outlined above, they cannot be regarded as wholly satisfactory.

During the year, the undermentioned work was carried out:-

(a) Closet Accommodation

Vaults converted and connected to Public Sewer	Nil
Vaults converted and connected to Septic Tanks	Nil
Cesspools abolished and drains connected to Public Sewer	3
Number of connections to Public Sewer during year	107

(b) Cesspools and Vault Closet Emptying

During the year, 261 cesspools and vault closets were emptied and the contents disposed into the water-carriage sewerage out-fall.

(c) Rain Water Cistern Emptying

A portable pump is used for the emptying of rain water cisterns. During the year, 12 cisterns were emptied.

(d) Street Gullies

The cesspool emptying machine continued to be used for emptying street gullies in the Urban District. During the year, 998 street gullies were emptied and cleansed.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The Department is responsible for the collection of domestic and trade refuse, privy-vaults, cesspools, street gullies and the disposal of the waste materials, and street scavenging.

(a) Refuse Collection and Disposal

A weekly collection of refuse is given to the central domestic premises and a fortnightly collection now serves the most distant properties. Food and business premises receive a twice-weekly collection.

Tipping has now ceased at Baxter's Pit and all refuse is now disposed of at Bertie Fen.

Regular treatment of the tip with rodenticides and insecticides and covering of exposed surfaces with soil have improved conditions considerably.

(b) Street Scavenging

All classified and unclassified roads within the Urban area have been swept regularly.

This work to vehicular roads is carried out by a 'Karrier' Mechanical Sweeper and courts, passages and footpaths are dealt with manually and collected in Street Orderlies.

(d) Salvage Collection and Disposal

Domestic salvage is collected at the same time as domestic refuse; a trailer is attached to each freighter for this purpose. Special collections are arranged when quantities and types of materials make this necessary.

Details are given below of the values of salvage sold during the financial year ending 31st March, 1965:-

<u>Materials</u>	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	3695	7.	9.
Metals	10	18.	0.
Rags	79	10.	3.
String	1	18.	9.
Total	£3788	14.	9.

This sum represents the product of 1.46d. rate.

OPEN-AIR SWIMMING POOL

During the 1964 Season 41,634 bathers visited the pool, an increase of 13,592 on the previous Season. Of the total, 9,544 were school children under swimming instruction from the Holland County Education Committee teachers. The Council again awarded free Season Tickets to all school children who were successful in the Royal Life-Saving Society examination held the previous year.

As in previous years the bathwater was heated, filtered, aerated and chlorinated by the Breakpoint system giving a clear sterile water at all times according to weekly test samples taken by the Public Health Inspector of the Holland County Council and daily free-chlorine residual tests carried out by the Department.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Food Premises

As many food premises as possible were inspected during the year. Routine duties prevented inspection of many more premises. No statutory action was taken, but some improvements in premises were effected.

2. Stalls

The food stalls on the open market were visited on market days to ensure compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Hand washing facilities complete with hot and cold water have been made available by the Council for all stall holders.

3. Milk

The Milk & Dairies Regulations 1949-1960 are enforced by the Holland County Council Health Department. (See report on Page 41).

4. Ice Cream

No additional premises were registered for the storage and sale of ice cream.

5. Outworkers

No outworkers are employed in this area in the food industry. Onion peeling is now carried on within the factory premises.

6. Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection

The appointed day, 1st April, 1964, saw closure of the New Bond Street Premises; the two remaining slaughterhouses, Willow Walk and 241 Winsover Road, and the newly opened Fulney Abattoir meet the slaughtering requirements of the district while the last-named provides a large proportion of "export" meat.

Meat inspection continued to increase at the Fulney Abattoir taking up more than 50% of one Public Health Inspector's time. Work at the other two slaughterhouses necessitated evening and Sunday attendance.

The following chart shows the increase in the number of animals slaughtered in the district over the past seven years and the very significant decrease in the amount of tuberculosis found in the course of inspections.

	<u>Record of Animals Slaughtered</u>						<u>Percentage of Animals affected with Tuberculosis</u>	
	<u>Cattle</u>	<u>Cows</u>	<u>Calves</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Bovines</u>	<u>Pigs</u>
1958	1154	9	9	2584	6884	10640	4.38	1.62
1959	1028	4	27	3238	7367	11664	6.20	1.02
1960	1115	20	25	2770	7715	11635	1.89	1.64
1961	1485	4	22	3900	8254	13665	0.13	1.46
1962	1538	6	31	3825	9269	14669	0.13	1.55
1963	1644	4	12	3632	9663	14955	0.06	1.3
1964	1736	31	29	4981	10770	17547	0.23	1.29

The following tables give details of the amount of meat inspected and condemned:-

APPENDIX

Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	1736	31	29	4981	10770	-
Number inspected	1736	31	29	4981	10770	-
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci: Whole Carcases condemned.	3	-	-	-	33	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	236	-	-	36	635	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci:	13.52	-	-	0.72	6.20	-
Tuberculosis only Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	-	-	-	139	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.23	-	-	-	1.29	-
Cysticercosis: Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	7	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	7	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Details of Meats and Offals condemned are contained in the following list:-

Article Condemned

Disease or condition

Bovine Carcasses and Organs

Uraemia (1)
Oedema (2)

Pig Carcasses and Organs

Pyrexia (2)
Septic peritonitis (1)
Pathological Emaciation (3)
Gangrene (2)
Oedema (9)
Pyæmia (12)
Tuberculosis of spine (1)
Moribund (2)
Suffocation (1)
Odour (1)

The following were rejected for various reasons too numerous to mention:-

7 part bovine carcasses (422 lbs.)	149 pigs' heads
12 beasts' heads	162 pigs' lungs
10 beasts' lungs	58 pigs' hearts
7 beasts' hearts	236 pigs' livers
196 beasts' livers	48 pigs' kidneys
2 beasts' spleens	48 pigs' hocks
5 beasts' kidneys	53 pigs' mesenteries
1 beast's diaphragm	56 pigs' part carcasses
34 Sheep's livers	(1319 lbs.)
2 part sheep's carcasses (21 lbs.)	

Other Food Inspection

The following foodstuffs, generally in possession of local tradesmen, were found to be unfit for human consumption and were voluntarily surrendered and destroyed:-

210	Cans of Meat and Meat Products
104	Canned Hams
17	Green Gammons, Backs and Middles
563	Cans, packets and jars of various canned foods.

COUNTY FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING

Mr. F. Fidler, 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 310 samples were submitted to the Public Analyst and an additional 89 samples of milk were examined by County Health Department Staff.

The number of samples reported as showing some irregularity was 6.1% of the total samples, compared with 7.8% unsatisfactory in the previous year.

The formal and 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. This year it was decided to pay greater attention to the sampling of drug preparations and 82 samples were taken.

UNSATISFACTORY SAMPLES

1. Rose Hip and Orange Syrup

The label on the bottle claimed the presence of 56 mgms. Vit. C per fluid oz. The analyst only found 37 mgms.

The makers were contacted and they were amazed to learn that this commodity was still available since they stopped production in 1956 and called in all known stocks. The firm agreed to collect the stock remaining at the shop.

2. Bitter Orange Drink

The label claimed 50 mgms. Vit. C per fluid oz. Two samples taken at different times showed 41.5 and 39 mgms. respectively. The appearance of the bottles suggested they had been stored for a long time. The manufacturing firm was contacted and they undertook to withdraw all stocks remaining at the shop, and this was done.

The above two instances are good examples of the deterioration in Vit. C content of fluid products when they are stored for lengthy periods.

3. Potassium Chlorate Tablets

The amount permitted by the British Pharmacopoeia is 315 mgms. of Potassium Chlorate per tablet. The tablet in question contained 328 mgms. per tablet. The excess was small and not considered to be of any serious significance.

The stock was old and the origin doubtful, and the vendor agreed to withdraw the small remaining stock in hand.

4. Childrens Diarrhoea Mixture

The formula given on the label included a claim of 7.2% chalk content while analysis showed 6.4% chalk.

The firm was contacted and they pointed out the difficulty of obtaining a uniform content in each bottle, due to the rapid settlement of chalk during the filling process.

The deficiency was not of a critical nature and the firm was endeavouring to obtain uniformity by means of a high speed stirrer.

5. Canned Pork (Danish)

The meat content was found to be 82% and the Analyst considered it should have 95% meat.

In correspondence with the Danish Firm they claimed that analysis on the same batch did in fact show 95% meat. There are no Statutory Standards for this commodity and unless a very gross deficiency was found it would be difficult to take action on the basis of Recommended Standards.

6. Condensed Milk (Danish)

The Condensed Milk Regulations require a total milk solids content of 31%. The samples examined showed 30.4% and 30.6% total milk solids. The Danish Firm was contacted and they submitted lists of analyses of all batches manufactured by the Firm over a period of months. The lists purported to show the product did reach the required standard.

As the deficiency was so small it was decided to leave the matter over for a period and then resample.

7. Single Cream Cheese

Three samples of Cream Cheese obtained on different occasions from the same source had the following milk fat content - 37%, 39% and 43.5%.

Recommended standards suggest the cheese should contain 45% milk fat, but in the absence of Statutory Standards it was felt that it would be impractical to take a prosecution on the basis of Recommended Standards, unless a very gross deficiency was found.

8. Tonic Elixir

This sample showed a slightly higher strychnine content than was listed on the label, but the excess had no real physiological significance.

A recheck sample was found to be satisfactory.

9. Canned Fruit

Two samples of canned fruit were reported to be deficient in the sucrose content of the syrup.

There is no Statutory Standard for this article but there is a Code of Practice agreed to by the Cannery Association. Some difficulty arose over the analysis of these samples and there was some difference of opinion between analysts as to what was the original syrup strength used in the canning.

While the assessment of sugar content of a sample at that particular moment is a comparatively easy matter, it becomes necessary to make various adjustments to assess what the sugar content was at the actual time of canning. These adjustments are variable since different fruits and vegetables have a different effect on the sugar content.

However, the analysts got together and with the aid of the Chief Chemist of the Cannery Research Association the matter has now been satisfactorily settled and the samples passed as genuine.

10. Tomato Juice

This commodity was labelled Tomato Juice but was found to contain added Sugar and Salt, therefore it was necessary for the label to be altered to draw attention to these additions and this has been done.

COMPLAINT SAMPLES

1. Canned Tomatoes

A housewife complained the tomatoes had a bitter taste. The can together with a duplicate can from the same source was submitted to the Analyst and he could not find anything wrong with either samples.

2. Mouldy Cornish Pasty

This complaint was justified as visible moulds were present. The complainant did not wish for legal action as the vendor had only just taken over the business.

The vendor was warned and advised to seek help from the firm supplying him with his stock, with regard to advice on temperature of storage of cooked meat products.

3. Portion of Cockroach in Bread Loaf

The complaint was justified, but here again the complainant did not wish to be involved in legal action.

The local health department was contacted and a visit was made to the Bakery under the Food Hygiene Regulations. Evidence of cockroach infestation was found and the owner undertook to call in a specialist firm to exterminate the pests.

4. Fried Chicken

Two youths passing through the district complained they had been served with cat, rabbit or other animal in place of fried chicken asked for at a Boston Restaurant.

They produced no evidence whatsoever in support of their complaint.

Visits were made to the Restaurant and to the firms factory where the Canned Fried Chicken was prepared.

At neither place was any evidence available to support the allegation.

5. Prosecution

A market stall fish vendor was found to be selling fillets of catfish as Halibut fillets.

The vendor was fined £20 and £3. 6. 0. costs.

MILK

Composition

The general standard of compositional quality of milk retailed in this area remains good.

The average composition of milk samples reported to be genuine was:-

For ordinary standard milk (73 samples)

Average 1964

Milk Fat = 3.74%
Solids not fat = 8.61%

Average 1963

Milk Fat = 3.73%
Solids not fat = 8.69%

The presumptive legal standard is:-

Milk Fat = 3.0%
Solids not fat = 8.5%

For special high quality milk (6 samples)

Average 1964

Milk Fat = 4.90%
Solids not fat = 9.15%

Average 1963

Milk Fat = 4.81%
Solids not fat = 9.15%

This type of milk commands a higher price when retailed to the public and is sold under the description of:- Channel Island, Jersey, Guernsey, or South Devon Milk.

Milk sold under any of these descriptions is required to have a fat content of at least 4.0%.

Two samples were unsatisfactory, one was 8% deficient in the amount of fat required. The retailer was selling some milk he had obtained from a source other than his own herd. Previous and subsequent samples from this source were satisfactory, and the deficiency was probably due to inadequate bulking or mixing before bottling.

Another sample was reported to be deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 1.5%. Owing to souring there was no evidence available to indicate whether this milk was a naturally low quality milk or whether it had been tampered with very slightly.

The figure obtained for fat was quite good and three subsequent samples were satisfactory. Other samples taken at the same time as the low sample were also perfectly satisfactory.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963

These Regulations became fully operative as from 1st October, 1964, when they replaced the 1960 Regulations.

The changes in legislation were not very great.

The permitted special designations for milk now are:-

(a) "Pasteurised", (b) "Sterilised", (c) "Untreated" in the case of Raw Milk. It is of course, permissible to combine these designations with the description "Channel Island" wherever applicable.

There are two milk pasteurising premises and 144 milk dealers who are licenced by the County Council.

Sampling and visits are carried out by the County Health Inspector. The actual testing of samples is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Lincoln.

The pasteurising premises are regularly visited and inspections of plant, heat recorders etc. are made.

Checks are also made on the cleanliness of bottles and churns. Whenever milk sample failures are encountered an investigation and re-sampling is carried out.

A total of 492 samples of milk were submitted for the appropriate test to be made, with the following results:-

Type of Sample	Failed Keeping Quality Test	Failed Heat Treatment Test
Pasteurised 424	3	3
Sterilised 26	-	-
Raw Milk 42	4	-
Total 492	7	3

Biological Cultural and other Milk Tests

6 Samples submitted for Tubercle Bacilli were all negative.

124 Samples submitted for Antibiotics, 3 were positive.

124 Samples submitted for Brucellosis, 3 were positive.

In the case of positive Antibiotics, the owner, the Milk Marketing Board and the Milk Production Officer were notified.

In the case of Positive Brucellosis, the district medical officer of health and the Ministry Veterinary Surgeon were notified.

Rodent Destruction

The Department remains without the services of a rodent operator and the Public Health Inspectors were able to give only a very limited portion of their time to this work.

All complaints are dealt with promptly and treatment effected but it cannot be said that a complete rodent destruction service exists at present.

However, in November the Council gave authority for the appointment of a part-time operator and it is hoped that this will enable more rodent control work to be undertaken.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for 12 months ended 31st December, 1964

	Type of Property				
	Non-Agricultural				
	(1) Local Author- ity	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	(5) Agricul- tural
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District.	14	5132	1081	6227	178
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	Nil	60	2	62	2
(b) Survey under the Act	6	25	Nil	31	Nil
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	-	-	-	-	-
III. Total inspections carried out - including re-inspections. (To be completed only if figures are readily available).	18	102	3	123	5
IV. Number of properties inspected (in Section II) which were found to be infested by:-					
(a) Rats { Major	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Rats { Minor	6	71	2	79	2
(b) Mice { Major	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Mice { Minor	-	3	-	3	-
V. Number of infested properties (in Section IV) treated by the L.A. (Figures should NOT exceed those given at Sec. IV)	6	74	2	82	2

	Type of Property				
	Non-Agricultural				
	(1) Local Author- ity	(2) Dwelling Houses (inc. Council Houses)	(3) All other (including Business Premises)	(4) Total of Cols. (1) (2) & (3)	(5) Agricul- tural
VI. Total treatments carried out - including retreatments. (To be completed only if figures are readily available).	17	59	-	76	3
VII. Number of notices served under Section 4 of the Act:					
(a) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Structural Work (i.e. Proofing).	-	-	-	-	-
VIII. Number of cases in which default action was taken following the issue of a notice under Section 4 of the Act.	-	-	-	-	-
IX. Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
X. Number of "Block" control schemes carried out.	-	-	4	-	-

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 TO 1959

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of
the Year 1964 for the Urban District of Spalding in the
County of Holland (Lincs.)

PART I OF THE ACT

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of:		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are enforced by Local Authorities.	4	2	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Authority.	99	37	2	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	14	9	Nil	Nil
Total	117	48	2	Nil

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).	1	1	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):-					
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
Total	3	3	-	-	-

PART III OF THE ACT

Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing Apparel	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Pea Picking	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Pet Animals Act, 1951

One pet shop was re-licensed during the year.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

A survey of these premises was commenced, but little progress could be made owing to pressure of other work.

Table A. Registration of General Inspections.

	Number of premises registered during the year	Total Number of registered premises at the end of the year	No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	80	80	2
Retail Shops	137	135	4
Wholesale shops and Warehouses	17	17	-
Catering Establishments	15	15	1
Fuel Storage Depots	-	-	-

Table B Number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises: 8.

Table C. Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by workplace.

<u>Class of Workplace</u>	<u>Number of Persons Employed</u>
Office	719
Retail Shops	736
Wholesale Depots Warehouses	128
Catering Establishments open to public	64
Canteens	6
Fuel Storage Depots	-
	<u>1653</u>

Males	-	691
Females	-	962

