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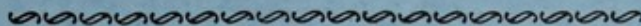
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Spalding Urban District Council



The Health of Spalding

1965



Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health





SPALDING U.D.C.

*Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Spalding, Lincs.*

J. M. MORFITT

B.Sc., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.C.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TELEPHONE: 3695 SPALDING

With the Medical Officer of Health's
COMPLIMENTS

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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.

Surveyor and Chief Public Health Inspector:

L.A. Gornall, F.I.A.S., M.R.S.H. to 31st July '65

Chief Public Health Inspector:

J.B. Jackson, M.A.P.H.I. from 1st August '65

Additional Public Health Inspectors:

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

J.B. Jackson, M.A.P.H.I. to 31st July '65

Meat Inspector:

J.A. Woollard from 1st June '65

SPALDING URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Town Hall,
Spalding.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1965.

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 1965.

The health statistics for the year were satisfactory. The birth rate figures for 1964 and 1965 were the highest for the past 15 years, although the town's birth rate still remains slightly below the national average.

The 263 births outnumbered the 194 deaths, representing a natural increase in population of 69. The population of the Urban District grew from 15,180 in 1964, to 15,340, an increase of 160. It is therefore clear, that 91 persons (160-69) must have moved into the town from elsewhere, over the year.

During the year the Council made an order under section 147 of the Public Health Act, 1936, adding infectious jaundice and leptospirosis to the list of infectious diseases notifiable in their district. This order, which was confirmed by the Ministry of Health, came into force on 1st June, 1965. The original purpose of notification of infectious diseases was prevention, and notification of infectious jaundice and leptospirosis is useful in that it enables enquiries to be made and action to be taken that might prevent the occurrence of other cases of these diseases. In some ways it is a pity that local authorities do not have the power to make deletions from the list of notifiable infectious diseases as well as additions. Measles notification for instance, serves no useful purpose apart from the collection of statistics. It is high time that there was a review of the need for notification of certain infectious diseases.

During 1965, a major change occurred, when Mr. L.A. Gornall, who combined the offices of Surveyor, and Chief Public Health Inspector retired.

As a relative newcomer, my knowledge of Mr. Gornall's many years of service to Spalding since 1930 is mainly derived from reading past Annual Reports. Even these archives make it abundantly clear that Spalding owes a tremendous debt of gratitude for his service to the public health.

All his erstwhile colleagues and I wish him a very long, happy and healthy retirement.

Since 1st August 1965, when two officers were appointed to fill Mr Gornall's post, as respectively Surveyor, and Chief Public Health Inspector, the Public Health Department has been a separate, autonomous Department of the Council.

An important development during the year was the appointment of a Meat Inspector.

This has helped to free the Public Health Inspectors for other work, and has made it possible for the Department to cope with the heavy demands imposed by recent legislation.

I would like to thank the members of the Council for their courtesy, and the town's family doctor's for their continued co-operation.

My thanks are also due to my colleagues in the Public Health Department 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.

Spalding has long been known as a good centre for coarse fishing and each weekend throughout the summer fishing season thousands of anglers from Sheffield and the industrial Midlands arrive to enjoy a day by the Welland or the Coronation Channel.

In recent years the town has been developing as a springtime tourist centre, and large numbers of visitors come to see the tulip fields and the decorated floats of the annual Tulip Parade.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

The area of the District is	7,837 acres
The Resident Population (1961 Census)	14,821
The Registrar-General's estimated mid-year Home Population figure (used in the calculation of Birth and Death Rates)	15,340
Rateable Value as at 1st April, 1965	£652,535
Sum represented by 1d. rate	£2,744
The number of inhabited houses and flats etc.	5,422

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS

1. Live Births:

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	135	116	251
Illegitimate	5	7	12
Total Live Births	<u>140</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>263</u>

2. Live birth rate per 1,000 population: 17.2

3. Still Births:

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

4. Total Live and Still Births: 266

5. Still Birth rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births: 11.3

6. Illegitimate Live Births per cent of Total Live Births: 4.6%

DEATHS

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
7. Deaths from all causes	97	97	194

8. Death rate per 1,000 population: 12.7

9. Infant Deaths:

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

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	3	2	5
Illegitimate	1	0	1
Total	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>

(b) Neo-natal deaths:

Legitimate	0	2	2
Illegitimate	0	0	0
Total	<u>0</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
Total Infant Deaths	6

10.	Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 Live Births	(Total)	22.8
11.	Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 Live Births (Legitimate)		19.9
12.	Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 Live Births (Illegitimate)		83.5
13.	Neo-natal Mortality rate per 1,000 Live Births	...	7.6
14.	Early Neo-natal Mortality rate	7.6
15.	Peri-natal Mortality rate	18.8
16.	Maternal Deaths	Nil

Two of the infant deaths occurred in the first week of life, due respectively to prematurity, and failure of lung expansion.

The remaining four infant deaths were due to pneumonia (2 deaths), congenital malformation and gastroenteritis.

The three still births were registered as due to:-

1. Multiple congenital defects
2. Anoxia (concealed pregnancy)
3. Anencephaly

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. Nearly half the deaths registered during the year were of people aged 75 years or over. (96 out of the total 194 deaths).

	<u>Live Birth</u> <u>Rate</u> <u>(Corrected)</u>	<u>Death</u> <u>Rate</u> <u>(Corrected)</u>	<u>Infant</u> <u>Mortality</u> <u>Rate</u>
Spalding Urban District	17.2	9.1	22.8
Holland County-Urban Districts	18.2	10.7	19.2
Holland County-Rural Districts	15.1	10.8	22.7
Holland County-All Districts	16.2	10.8	21.2
England and Wales	18.1	11.5	19.0

Birth Rates, Death Rates and Infant Mortality Rates
in Spalding Urban District, 1951 - 1965

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
1951	198	13.7	192	13.3	11	55.5	14.8.	14.4	32.0
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			
1956	230	15.8	230	15.8	3	13.0	15.4	14.6	24.0
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			
1961	214	14.4	205	13.8	6	14.0	16.3	13.4	17.1
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			
1965	263	17.2	194	12.7	6	22.8			

NUMBERS OF DEATHS FROM PARTICULAR CAUSES
IN SPALDING URBAN DISTRICT IN 1965

	<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	0	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	3	0	3
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	2	2
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	2	2
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	6	9	15
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	1	2
Diabetes	0	0	0
Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	11	23
Coronary disease, angina	20	12	32
Hypertension with heart disease	2	3	5
Other heart disease	16	21	37
Other circulatory disease	4	7	11
Influenza	0	0	0
Pneumonia	7	17	24
Bronchitis	7	1	8
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	3	4
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0	0	0
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	1	0	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	0	0	0
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	0	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0	0
Congenital malformation	2	1	3
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	6	12
Motor vehicle accidents	6	0	6
All other accidents	1	1	2
Suicide	0	0	0
Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
Total	<u>97</u>	<u>97</u>	<u>194</u>

HOME ACCIDENTS

I am indebted to the Matron and Casualty Sister at the Johnson Hospital for their kindness in allowing me to extract statistics from the register of home accident injuries treated at that hospital. The following tables analyse the 233 accident injuries sustained in 1965, and refer not to Spalding Urban District Council, but "Spalding and District".

<u>Age</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Below 5 years	44	29	73
5 - 14 years	18	18	36
16 - 39 years	19	38	57
41 - 64	9	30	39
65 years and over.	3	25	28
	<u>93</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>233</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	9	1	17	27
Burns	7	2	15	24
Falls	30	11	30	71
Cuts	5	7	42	54
Other accidents	22	7	28	57
	<u>73</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>132</u>	<u>233</u>

Two age groups are specially at risk, children under 5 years old, and the elderly. Boys seem more accident-prone than girls, but most of the elderly people who had home accidents were females.

This year there were more cuts and it was surprising how many were incurred while opening cans of food. It is a pity that the can opener, today's most important kitchen implement, should be so liable to cause accidents. The old fashioned type with a blade or prong is liable to slip, and produces a dangerously jagged opening in the tin. More modern openers that work by turning a handle do a neater job and leave the tin beautifully smooth, but one then has to lift out the razor sharp circle of metal that was the top of the tin. While there have been great improvements in the design of kitchen utensils in recent years, few of them are completely accident-proof, and there is still a need for care and thought in the kitchen - the housewives workshop, and the most dangerous room in the house.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES

98 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year.

Infectious Diseases	No. of Cases
Scarlet fever	3
Measles	93
Acute pneumonia	2
Total	98

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

PROTECTION AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASES

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer for much of the information given below.

Diphtheria Immunisation

No cases of Diphtheria occurred in the district during the year. During 1965, 190 children under five years of age and 3 children over five years of age received a primary immunisation course. A further 384 children between the ages of 5 and 16 years received a "booster" or secondary injection.

Tetanus immunisation

During the year, 226 children were immunised against tetanus. 192 of these children had a course of "triple antigen" that protects against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination

During 1965, 256 children under 5 years, and 49 children over 5 years, completed a course of oral polio vaccination.

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

Tuberculosis

The number of cases on the Register at 31st December, 1965, was 131, a decrease of 1 on last year's figure of 132.

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at 31. 12. 65.			
Pulmonary	46	35	81
Non-Pulmonary	24	26	50
Cases removed from Register during 1965 -			
Quiescent	0	1	1
Left District	0	1	1
Death	0	0	0
Cases added to the Register during 1965 -			
New Notifications	0	0	0
Transfers	0	1	1

Tuberculosis which was once a major scourge is now no longer one of the important killing diseases. In England we are now approaching the final phase, when there seems to be a real hope of eradicating this disease from the native-born population.

While there are still a fair number of people on the Tuberculosis Register in this District the vast majority of them have been rendered non-infectious, and will in due course be removed from the Register when their disease has been quiescent for the requisite 5 years.

It is of interest, that out of 1328 people attending Mass X-ray in Spalding in 1965, only one case of active pulmonary tuberculosis was found. Unfortunately, it is well known that the people who are most likely to have tuberculosis tend to stay away from Mass X-ray sessions. The classical example is the old person with a chronic cough, which is probably due to bronchitis, but which just might be due to tuberculosis. These old people are often the most resistant to such relatively new ideas as Mass X-ray.

The main hope for eradication is the school B.C.G. vaccination scheme, 13 year old children are tested to see whether they have natural resistance to tuberculosis, or whether they need to be protected by B.C.G. When the test result is strongly positive, this indicates that the child has had a tuberculosis infection which he has overcome, and examination of his home contacts sometimes brings to light an undiscovered case of the disease.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES
FOR THE URBAN DISTRICT

A. County Council Services

i. Ambulance Service.

The Spalding ambulance station is staffed by 1 Station Officer and 6 Wholetime Driver/Attendants and has an establishment of 2 ambulances, 2 utility ambulances and 1 sitting case "Minibus". The two ambulances are of modern design and one of the utility ambulances can be adapted to carry standard wheelchairs. A Minuteman portable mechanical resuscitator is kept at the Spalding station and all ambulances carry oxygen apparatus and equipment for mouth to mouth resuscitation.

ii County Health Department Services

The personal health services administered by the County Council cover a wide range, from domiciliary midwifery to mental health. Just under 30% of babies are delivered at home by the County midwives. All births are notified to the County Medical Officer of Health, so that a routine visit can be made by a health visitor, to extend her advice and reassurance to the new mother. Infant Welfare Clinic sessions are held regularly, at Holland Road Clinic, Spalding, and in recent years attendance of mothers and children has been increasing. Vaccination against smallpox, poliomyelitis, diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus is available at these clinics.

The School Health Service continues to fulfil its important function of safeguarding the health of school pupils, who are examined at the ages of 5 years, 11 years and 15 years. This service makes specialist help available e.g. speech therapy, and consultant eye, ear, nose and throat, and orthopaedic treatment. An important part of the work of the service is the general supervision, and school placement of pupils handicapped, either mentally, or through deafness, defective vision, or other physical handicaps.

The home help, home nursing, and chiropody services, are used to a large extent by elderly people, and these services are very useful in enabling them to keep going in their own homes. Without their help, many more hospital beds would be required. Home help, and chiropody is also available for other categories of patient besides the elderly - namely expectant mothers and the physically handicapped.

The County Mental Welfare Officers are concerned with the community care of people suffering from mental subnormality and mental illness. In the last ten years, there has been a quiet revolution in the treatment of mental illness, and it is quite common for a patient to be discharged home considerably improved after only a few weeks of mental hospital treatment. The Mental Welfare Officers have the task of following up such people, to do everything possible to help them cope with life in the community, to reduce the risk of relapse. In the last few years, there have been considerable developments in the training of mentally subnormal adults in the county, and in 1965 a new purpose built hostel and workshop for them, was built in Boston.

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 there is a new 56 bed annexe, for geriatric and chronic sick patients. There are casualty and X-ray facilities, and a number of visiting consultants attend to conduct out-patients clinics in all the major specialties.

C. Voluntary Bodies

Family Planning Clinic

During the year the Spalding family planning clinic, which was started on 14th October 1964 continued to thrive.

This clinic which is run by the Boston branch of the Family Planning Association, is held in the County Clinic, Holland Road, Spalding, on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday in the month, between 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. A moderate fee is charged, but in case of need it can be waived.

105 new patients enrolled at the Clinic in 1965, and the total number of attendances made at the clinic during the year was 234. In fact, on certain occasions so many patients turned up that the session had to be prolonged until 10 p.m. or later.

It is clear that this clinic is fulfilling a need, and the measure of public support may well be enough to justify a weekly, instead of a bi-monthly clinic session, in the near future.

D. Laboratory Facilities

These are provided by the Public Health Laboratory at Lincoln, and samples of food, water and specimens for bacteriological examination have been despatched there. These facilities are invaluable for the investigation and control of outbreaks of infectious diseases.

E. Mass Miniature Radiography

The Lincolnshire Mass X-ray unit visited Spalding in October 1965. Advance publicity was given, and all the clergymen in the district were asked to give the dates and times of the sessions in their announcements from the pulpit.

1328 people attended for a chest X-ray compared with 801 when the unit last visited Spalding in 1962.

Out of the people recalled for a further large film X-ray, 6 were referred to the Chest Physician. Of them, only one was found to be suffering from acute pulmonary tuberculosis, but three cases of lung cancer were detected. This casts an interesting light on the changing incidence of chest diseases.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Medical examination of Council Staff

During the year 11 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.

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, there was a further increase in industrial water demand, but the total water consumption in the Urban District was 3% below the 1964 figure.

The table below shows the marked increase in water supply to the beet sugar factory over the last three years.

The fluctuations in the amount of water used for domestic horticultural and other purposes are obviously related to fluctuations in weather conditions.

	<u>1963</u>	<u>1964</u>	<u>1965</u>
Domestic & horticultural	368,751,000	375,348,000	357,483,000
British Sugar Corporation	24,930,000	69,230,000	70,321,000
Smedleys Ltd.,	87,900,000	79,550,000	80,690,000
Totals	<u>481,581,000</u>	<u>524,128,000</u>	<u>508,494,000</u>

Further cross connections and link ups were made during the year in the distribution system in the Board's area, making it a simple matter to supplement supplies in one area from another. The Urban District is supplied from two borehole sources, in Bourne and Pinchbeck West. Both sources, distribution mains, and taps in the area of distribution were regularly sampled for bacteriological analysis.

During the year 236 samples were taken, with satisfactory results.

The results of the chemical examination of samples from the two boreholes are shown in the following table.

Chemical Results in Parts per Million

<u>Samples taken 25. 2. 65</u>	<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 here-under:-

<u>Diameter of Mains</u>	<u>Yardage of Mains Laid</u>
1½"	74
3"	2752
4"	1792
6"	2196

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

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.

I am happy to say that 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.

Pay up or Else!

The South Lincs Water Board has on occasions cut off the supply of mains water to households with serious arrears of water rates. The board is empowered to do this under the Water Act and is by no means the only water authority to take this step.

Nevertheless, cutting off the water supply, while often successful in recovering arrears of payment, is likely to lead to public health risks and is in my opinion a thoroughly bad policy. A few minutes thought brings to mind the possible consequences of a shut off in mains water supply. Other sources such as wells and rain water cisterns may be used and they may be unsatisfactory.

Water from neighbours taps is not likely to be in sufficient quantity for proper cleaning of utensils and washing of clothes, and arrangements for storage may leave much to be desired. While the W.C. can be flushed by a bucket of water I doubt if it would be long before the occupants decided not to bother humping a heavy bucket full of water to the toilet several times a day.

There are other ways of recovering arrears of rates and I hope the board will use them.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report for 1965 and would first like to refer to the retirement of Mr. L.A. Gornall, Architect, Surveyor & Chief Public Health Inspector after 35 years service.

Many works of improvement which were executed in Spalding during these years were due in no small measure to Mr. Gornall's zeal and foresight and include, to mention but a few, an improved sewerage system, the new cattle market, the fire station, modernisation of the refuse collection service, and the establishment of a profitable salvage scheme.

Mr Gornall may well feel proud of his record and I am sure the Committee will join me in wishing him and Mrs Gornall good health and a long and happy retirement.

On the 1st June Mr. J.A. Woollard, joined the staff as Meat Inspector and this appointment has enabled the Public Health Inspectors to spend more time on other duties. Progress has been made with the survey of premises to which the Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act 1963 applies, and, with the setting up of a separate Public Health Department on the 1st August and the consequent re-allocation of responsibilities, applications for Improvement Grants under the Housing Act 1964 were taken over.

I would like to thank my very able colleague, Mr. R.H. Grainger, for his loyal and efficient service; also my thanks to Mr. Woollard who has fitted very well into the public health team.

I am, Madam & Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J.B. Jackson

Chief Public Health Inspector.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Sewage Disposal Works

The sewage treatment plant at Marsh Road was built in 1930 to provide partial treatment; an effluent of high biological oxygen demand, containing much suspended solid matter, is now produced and discharged into the River Welland where it becomes tidal.

Since 1930, the town has grown from 3,631 to 5,422 inhabited houses and there has been a considerable increase in the use of water per head of population. Also a small industrial estate has been developed nearby, including food factories.

This plant enables the town's sewage to be discharged at relatively low cost, simply because the Welland happens to be tidal a short distance upstream from the point of discharge. There is little else that can be said in its favour.

In my opinion, the treatment plant is quite inadequate for the flow it has to deal with, and it reflects great credit on the work of the Surveyor's Department that even the present degree of purification is obtained.

I am also of the opinion that it would be unwise to extend, or make any major improvements to the Marsh Road plant, as the site, however satisfactory it no doubt was in 1930 is now unsuitable because of the proximity of food factories.

(J.M.M.)

Pumping system

The town of Spalding being built on flat land, split into two halves by a river, it is clear that the sewage has to be pumped to the treatment plant. The Council has 27 pumping stations, situated throughout the town, and in addition 3 privately owned pumping stations discharge into the public system. It is not uncommon for sewage to have to pass through as many as four pumping stages before reaching the disposal works.

This complicated system functions satisfactorily most of the time, but certain of the pumping stations are overloaded on occasions, particularly at times of storm.

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	11
Number of connections to Public Sewer during year	131

(b) Cesspools and Vault Closet Emptying

During the year, 310 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 2 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, 952 street gullies were emptied and cleansed.

(e) Salvage Collection and Disposal

Domestic refuse is collected at the same time as domestic refuse; a trailer is attached to each lighter 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, 1955:-

Waste Paper	5088
Metals	0
Rags	8
String	1
Total	5097

This sum represents the product of 1.827d. rate.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Public cleansing is the responsibility of the Engineer and Surveyor, and I am obliged to Mr. W.J. Evans, F.F.S., M.R.S.H. for the following information.

The Engineer & Surveyor's 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.

(c) 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, 1966:-

<u>Materials</u>	<u>£.</u>	<u>S.</u>	<u>D.</u>
Waste Paper	5088	0.	5
Metals	-	-	-
Rags	50.	4.	8
String	-	-	-
Total	<u>£5138.</u>	<u>5.</u>	<u>1</u>

This sum represents the product of 1.827d. rate.

Visits

The following Table shows the number of visits made during the year.

<u>Subject of Visit</u>	<u>Number of Visits</u>
Housing Act 1957	90
Rent Act	8
Housing Act 1964	77
Public Health Act 1936 & 1961	195
Factories Act 1937-59	48
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act 1963	202
Clean Air Act	276
Food & Drugs Act 1955	205
Meat Inspection Regs. 1963	583
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949	60
Slaughterhouse Act 1958	6
Swimming Pool	39
Other unclassified visits	29
Infectious Disease	18

HOUSING

1. General

Number of houses erected during the year:-

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Bungalows</u>	<u>Flats</u>
(a) By private enterprise	79	70	Nil
(b) By the Council	Nil	Nil	Nil

Number under construction at the end of 1965:-

	<u>Houses</u>	<u>Bungalows</u>	<u>Flats</u>
(a) By private enterprise	75	44	Nil
(b) By the Council	Nil	20	Nil

2. Slum Clearance - Housing Act, 1957

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

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

3. Overcrowding

No cases of overcrowding were reported during the year.

4. House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959

Improvement Grants - Discretionary

Formal applications received	1
Discretionary grants approved	1
Schemes completed	-

Standard Grants

Formal applications received	32
Standard grants approved	31
Schemes completed	22

5. Moveable Dwellings

The Willesby Road site is gradually being cleared of caravans, and at the end of the year accommodated 4 only.

Cradge Bank (51 sites) and Fulney Lane (9 sites) form the remainder of accommodation prescribed by the Council for moveable dwellings.

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 Departments 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 and might be attributed to the domestic fire-grate. The level of pollution, however, compares favourable 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.

OPEN-AIR SWIMMING POOL

During the 1965 season 30,109 bathers visited the Pool. These included 9192 school children under swimming instruction by Holland County Education Committee teachers.

In addition there were 468 season ticket holders whose attendances were not recorded. 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.

4. Ice Cream

One additional shop was registered for the storage and sale of ice cream.

There are no ice cream manufacturers in the district.

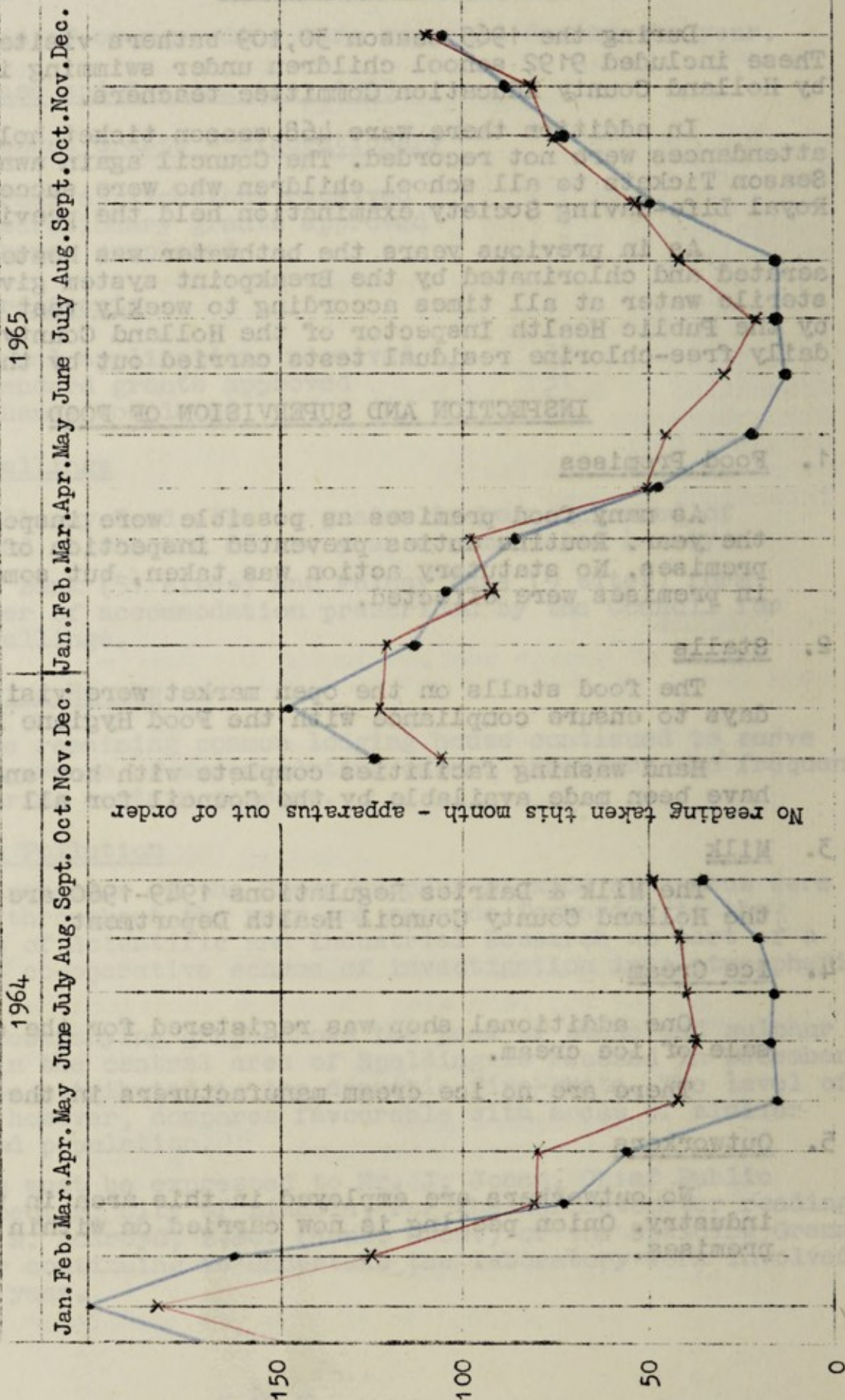
5. Outworkers

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

AIR POLLUTION

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

SMOKE: ●
SULPHUR: *



6. Slaughterhouses and Meat Inspection

There are three slaughterhouses in the district. The two small ones each fulfilling the needs of the separate butchers owning them with through put remaining static.

At the Fulney Abattoir, however, the number of pigs killed has increased by more than 50% above the figure for 1964.

On 1st June, Mr. J.A. Woollard, joined the staff as the Departments full time Meat Inspector. This has enabled the Public Health Inspectors to devote more time to other duties.

Weekend and evening slaughter continue and the meat inspection involved is shared by all the inspectors.

The following chart shows the increase in the number of animals slaughtered in the district over the past eight 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
1965	1648	15	16	4763	16310	22752	0.36	1.23

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)	1648	15	16	4763	16310	-
Number inspected	1648	15	16	4763	16310	-
All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci: Whole Carcasses condemned.	-	-	1	1	40	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	255	-	-	18	1192	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci:	15.33	-	-	0.38	7.55	-
Tuberculosis only Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	-	-	-	200	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	0.36	-	-	-	1.23	-
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:-

<u>Article Condemned</u>	<u>Disease or condition</u>	
Calf Carcase and organs	Uraemia	(1)
Pig carcasses & organs	Multiple Abscesses	(3)
	Congested	(4)
	Neoplasia	(1)
	Acute Peritonitis	(2)
	Acute Pleurisy	(1)
	Acute Pneumonia	(2)
	Pyaemia	(7)
	Septicaemia	(4)
	Acute Erysipelas	(4)
	Oedema	(4)
	Gas-Gangrene	(1)
	Emaciation	(4)
	Pylonephritis	(1)
	Transit exhaustion	(2)
Sheep carcasses & organs	Oedema	(1)

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

3 part bovine carcasses (47 lbs.)	1 sheep's head
10 beasts' heads	1 sheep's heart
13 beasts' lungs	221 pigs' heads
7 beasts' hearts	239 pigs' plucks
189 beasts' livers	235 pigs' lungs and tops
24 part beasts' livers	389 pigs' livers
5 beasts' skirts	53 pigs' hearts
2 beasts' kidneys & renal fats	71 pigs' kidneys
2 beasts' intestines	179 pigs' hocks and feet
6 beasts' mesenteries	11 pigs' legs
2 part sheeps' carcasses (11 lbs)	130 pigs' mesenteries
6 sheeps' plucks	7 pigs' intestines
2 sheeps' lungs	2 pigs' udders
12 sheep's livers	30 pigs' part carcasses(853lbs)

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:-

- 233 Cans of Meat and Meat Products
- 96 Canned Hams
- 14 Green Gammons, Backs and Middles
- 494 Cans, packets and jars of various canned foods.

Rodent Destruction

The Department have engaged a part time rodent operator so that a speedier service can now be given.

The operator works without supervision normally, but where specialist knowledge is required he is accompanied by an inspector.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for 12 months ended 31st December, 1965

	Type of Property				(5) Agricul- tural
	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)	
I. Number of properties in Local Authority's District	20	5013	1313	6346	183
II. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	Nil	41	7	48	3
(b) Survey under the Act	6	86	Nil	92	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).	20	302	20	342	12
IV. Number of properties inspected(in Section II) which were found to be infested by:-					
(a) Rats { Major	-	-	-	-	-
{ Minor	-	34	3	37	3
(b) Mice { Major	-	-	-	-	-
{ Minor	-	7	-	7	-
V. Number of infested properties(in Section IV) treated by the L.A.	2	53	3	-	3

	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).	2	28	2	32	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.	-	-	3	-	-

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 TO 1959

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health in respect of the Year 1965 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)	Inspections (3)	Number of: Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are enforced by Local Authorities	5	1	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Authority.	99	42	3	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	12	6	Nil	Nil
Total	116	49	3	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

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

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

The survey of these premises was continued, about 50% of registered premises being inspected by the end of the year.

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	15	91	18
Retail Shops	17	146	109
Wholesale shops and Warehouses	1	21	10
Catering Establishments	1	18	6
Fuel Storage Depots	1	1	1

Table B Number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises: 202.

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

<u>Class of Workplace</u>	<u>Number of Persons Employed</u>
Office	867
Retail Shops	723
Wholesale Depots Warehouses	148
Catering Establishments open to public	93
Canteens	
Fuel Storage Depots	4
	<u>1835</u>
Males - 817	
Females - 1018	

Lighting Standards

An investigation was made of lighting standards found in the course of inspections under the Act and the report submitted to the Minister of Labour in accordance with L.A. Circular 9 is repeated below.

Summary of Report submitted in accordance with L.A. Circular 9 (Supp. No. 1) Lighting Standards.

Lighting varied considerably in different premises as the following figures show:-

Offices

Ranged from 10-50 lumens per sq.ft. Average 30 l.s.f.

Retail shops " " 15-60 " " " " " 30 l.s.f

Restaurants " " 15-40 " " " " " 25 l.s.f.

This does not include one ancient hostelry where artificial lighting in keeping with antiquitous environment showed an "intensity" of 3 lumens per sq.ft.

Kitchens

Ranged from 15-55 lumens per sq.ft. Average 30 l.s.f.

Warehouses

" " 5-40 " " " " " 25 l.s.f.

Such wide ranges indicate a need for minimum standards.

In some offices it was noted that by a re-arrangement of office furniture better lighting of the working plane could be achieved.

Lighting in food shops especially super markets, grocers, fish and chip shops was generally very satisfactory, while with clothiers, mens outfitters etc, shop lighting was subdued and only average or below average.

Light fittings in rear store rooms are sometimes neglected and allowed to become dusty thereby losing much light.

Staircases and corridors tend to be insufficiently lighted particularly in retail shops and wholesale warehouses leading to storerooms.

No specific standards have been recommended, although improved lighting has been called for in certain cases where lighting is indisputably unsatisfactory.

No instances of excessive glare have been noticed.

It was found while selling areas are well lighted, a lesser standard was provided in stockrooms and places to which the public did not have access.

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No specific standards have been recommended, although improved lighting has been called for in certain cases where lighting is indistinctly unsatisfactory.

No instances of excessive glare have been noticed. It was found while sailing across the well lighted, lesser standard was provided in stockrooms and places to which the public did not have access.

	f.a.l. 50	f.a.l. 50	f.a.l. 50
1	50-55	50-55	50-55
2	50-55	50-55	50-55
3	50-55	50-55	50-55

f.a.l. 50 50-55 50-55 50-55 50-55 50-55 50-55 50-55 50-55 50-55

