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BOROUGH OF



STAMFORD

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Health of the Borough

for the year


1955

BY THE

Medical Officer of Health

TO WHICH IS ADDED THE
ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector



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STAMFORD

REPORT OF THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1955

BY THE

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE

Senior Sanitary Inspector

BOROUGH OF STAMFORD

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillor G. W. Gray (Chairman)
The Mayor
Councillor E. S. S. Bowman, O.B.E., J.P. (Vice-Chairman)
Councillor L. Large
Councillor Mrs. G. M. Boyfield, J.P.
Councillor J. W. L. Whincup
Councillor E. E. Betts
Councillor H. Smith
Councillor B. A. Munton

HOUSING AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Councillor P. Bullard (Chairman)
The Mayor
Alderman G. C. Swanson (Vice-Chairman)
Alderman T. H. Rosser
Councillor F. Boyfield
Councillor L. Large
Councillor Mrs. G. M. Boyfield, J.P.
Councillor L. J. Connor
Councillor A. W. P. Liddle
Councillor H. Smith

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

Medical Officer of Health :

H. ELLIS SMITH, M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :

L. J. ROLL, A.R. San. I., Cert. S.I.B.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

A. R. BURT, A.R. San. I., Cert. S.I.B.

BOROUGH OF STAMFORD

ANNUAL REPORT

Town Hall,
STAMFORD.

May, 1956.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the
Borough of Stamford.

Councillor Mrs. Boyfield and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my second Annual Report on the Vital Statistics, Health and Sanitary conditions of the Borough.

The Birth Rate at 16.39 per 1,000 estimated population compares favourably with that for England and Wales of 15.0. The Death Rate of 14.34 per 1,000 estimated population is higher than the England and Wales figure of 11.7 due to a preponderance of those in the older age categories in the Borough. It will be noticed that I am making use of the comparability factor to compensate in some measure for this factor.

The virus Type A Influenza epidemic which marked the close of 1954 burnt itself out in the early weeks of 1955. In addition to much incapacity it caused one death. There was an epidemic of measles during May and June but the disease on the whole was mild, though four cases were admitted to hospital.

There has been no case of diphtheria in the Borough since 1945. The price of this immunity is vigilant care in ensuring that the child population is protected and I again urge the necessity for every child to be immunised before the first birthday. Vaccination against smallpox meets with little demand, until someone wants to go abroad. With speed annihilating distance the infection could easily be imported so there is little room for complacency.

With the introduction of the new poliomyelitis vaccine and with the Medical Research Council pronouncing in favour of B.C.G. vaccination in the campaign against tuberculosis, it is indeed well not to forget the old and trusty prophylactics.

Diseases of the Cardio-Vascular system register as the principal cause of death, with cerebral vascular lesions accounting for almost a quarter of the total deaths. They were followed by malignant growths.

There is in the Borough a reflection of the National problem with four deaths from carcinoma of the lung and bronchus

compared with seven in 1954, and one in 1953. In my opinion with the isolation of two carcinogens from tobacco smoke—3, 4 Benzpyrene and 1, 2 Benzantracene, and traces of arsenic—yet another, together with the statistical evidence there is a proved connection between smoking and lung cancer. Furthermore, I consider the evidence is strong enough to warrant a campaign to discourage those who do not smoke from starting and in particular to warn school leavers of the dangers implicit in ever beginning. If the effects were as sudden and dramatic as in a car crash it would be relatively easy to enlighten public opinion on the dangers, but the long latent period of ten years or more lulls the critical senses into a false sense of security. Suffice it to say that once developed modern surgery can do little.

Tuberculosis caused two deaths, the same as in the previous year.

There were seven accidental deaths. Two were due to motor vehicles, five were due to other causes, the majority again being in the Home, adding to the total of well over 6,000 which occur in the homes of this country every year and mostly preventable.

It was most regrettable that the Council's building programme which had been implemented year by year in such an efficient manner should have been forced to a virtual standstill at the end of the year owing to the lack of the necessary authority to proceed. I have interpolated my comments within the body of the report but there is one thing which I would like to reiterate and that is the hope that the sewage works will soon be started. Pure water is a basic National asset and it should not be polluted.

The new Food Hygiene Regulations mark a big step forward in the campaign for clean and safe food. They apply to all food premises including market stalls with special provisions for premises where food is sold for immediate consumption though the exact interpretation of the latter phrase is a little difficult. In this age when the alphabet starts with A for Atom and Automation I wonder if there is a place for a stall in an open market selling food for immediate consumption.

These Regulations will throw a big increase in supervisory work upon your Chief Sanitary Officer and his Assistant, on top of that stemming from the Slum Clearance programme. Having regard to the additional work and time required, will the present resources—~~shared with Kewton Rural District~~ be sufficient for these multitudinous duties?

In conclusion I would like to thank the members of the Council and in particular the Chairman and Members of the

Health Committee for their great help and interest in all aspects of the work. I would like to thank the Town Clerk and my other colleagues on the staff for their constant help and co-operation with a special acknowledgment to Mr. Roll, Mr. Burt and Miss Butler.

Finally, I wish to thank Dr. W. Anley Hawes for kindly standing by for me when I have been away.

I am, Madam and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

H. ELLIS SMITH.

BOROUGH OF STAMFORD

STATISTICS

Area	...	...	...	...	...	1918 acres
Population (Census 1951)	...	...	...	...	...	10899
Population (Registrar General's estimate 31.12.55	...	...	...	...	...	11380
Rateable Value at 31.12.55	...	...	...	...	...	£79389
Product of Penny Rate (estimated)	...	...	...	...	...	£315
Number of inhabited houses from rate book at 31.12.55	...	...	...	...	...	3580

VITAL STATISTICS

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1955

Note : Birth and Death Rates.

As the age and sex distribution of the population in different areas materially affects both the Birth and Death Rates of these areas, comparability factors allowing for this are issued by the Registrar General for each Local Government Unit. These factors may be used for calculating what are termed in this Report as "Nett" rates and fairer comparisons are obtained if the latter are used when comparing rates with those of any other area (when these have been similarly adjusted) or with the rates for the Country as a whole.

These factors for Births and Deaths in respect of Stamford are 1.03 and 0.82 respectively. The corresponding figure when multiplied by the Crude Rate (that is, for Births or Deaths as the case may be) will give the Nett Rate.

	M.	F.	Total
LIVE BIRTHS	96	85	181
Legitimate	92	81	173
Illegitimate	4	4	8
CRUDE live birth rate per 1,000 of estimated population	15.91		
NET live birth rate per 1,000 of estimated population	16.39		
Rate for England and Wales	15.0		

				M.	F.	Total
STILL BIRTHS	...	...	...	—	1	1
Legitimate	...	...	...	—	1	1
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
Still Birth rate per 1,000 live and still births	...	...	...	...	...	5.53
Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	23.1
DEATHS				M.	F.	Total
Number of Deaths	...	...	...	112	87	199
CRUDE death rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	...	...	...	17.49
NETT death rate per 1,000 estimated population	...	...	...	...	...	14.34
Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	11.7

INFANTILE MORTALITY (i.e. Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age).

				M.	F.	Total
Number of Deaths	...	...	...	3	2	5
Legitimate	...	...	...	3	2	5
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	...	27.6
Rate for England and Wales	...	...	...	...	...	24.9*

Four of the deaths occurred in the neo-natal period,
i.e. under four weeks of age.

* Lowest ever recorded in this Country.

Number of deaths of infants under one year of age :—

Year	No of deaths under 1 year of age
1950	5
1951	3
1952	3
1953	4
1954	5
1955	5

MATERNAL MORTALITY (i.e. Deaths due to Pregnancy, Childbirth or Abortion).

NIL.

MARRIAGES SOLEMNISED IN THE BOROUGH
OF STAMFORD

1953	...	88
1954	...	94
1955	...	78

INTERNATIONAL STATISTICAL CLASSIFICATION OF DISEASES, INJURIES and CAUSES OF DEATHS

							Male	Female	Total
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Tuberculosis (Other forms)	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Syphilitic Disease	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Meningococcal Infections	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Malignant Neoplasm of Stomach	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	6
Malignant Neoplasm of Lung, Bronchus	...	...	...	...	...	4	—	4
Malignant Neoplasm of Breast	...	...	...	...	...	—	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm of Uterus	...	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	...	...	...	...	...	14	3	17
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	...	...	...	...	...	24	22	46
Coronary Disease, Angina	...	...	...	...	...	7	7	14
Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
Other Heart Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	5	11	16
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	7	6	13
Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	7	5	12
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	11	3	14
Other Diseases Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Nephritis and Nephrosis	...	...	...	...	...	4	2	6
Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
Pregnancy: Childbirth and Abortion	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Congenital Malformation	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	6	8	14
Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
All other Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	—	5	5
Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Homicide and Operations of War	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total						112	87	199	

NET DEATHS FROM STATED CAUSES UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

	Under 1 Week	1—2 Weeks	2—3 Weeks	3—4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1—3 Months	3—6 Months	6—9 Months	9—12 Months	Total under 1 Month
Premature Birth, Malformation &c.	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Pneumonia and Bronchitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Enteritis and Diarrhoea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Causes	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Total	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	1	5

FACTORY ACT, 1937 and 1948.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1955

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector).

	Number on Register	Inspec- tions	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	16	20	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	79	51	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total	95	71	—	—

2. CASES ON WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation	—	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	—	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—

PART VIII.—OUTWORK

Nature of work	No. of Outworkers in August LIST required by Sec. 110 (1)	No. of Cases of default sending lists to Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel	5	—	—	—	—	—

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

NURSING IN THE HOME

Under the County Council Scheme the Borough has one District Midwife.

Residence :

9, Adelaide Street, Stamford.

HOME HELPS

Home Helps are provided for the town of Stamford and neighbouring villages in South Kesteven by the County Council with Headquarters at the Barn Hill Clinic, Stamford.

Application should be made to Barn Hill House, Stamford:

Monday and Wednesday afternoons 2—5 p.m.

Friday mornings 9.30—12.30 p.m.

WELFARE FOODS

Welfare Foods can be obtained from the Barn Hill Clinic at the following times :

Monday to Friday 10 a.m. to 12 noon

2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Saturday 10 a.m. to 12 noon

HEALTH VISITOR

Under the County Council Scheme one full time Health Visitor is employed for work in the Borough.

AMBULANCE SERVICE

The Ambulance Service for the Borough is run by the St. John Ambulance Brigade under the County Council Scheme. There are three ambulances and one sitting case car. This service runs smoothly and efficiently.

GENERAL HOSPITALS

Acute and Maternity admissions to :

Stamford and Rutland Hospital, Stamford, under No. 12 Area Peterborough Hospital Management Committee of the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board.

Chronic and Long Term illness to :

St. George's Hospital, Stamford.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL

Infectious cases are admitted to the Peterborough Isolation Hospital under the Peterborough Management Committee.

TREATMENT CENTRES AND CLINICS

(a) PROVIDED BY KESTIVEN COUNTY COUNCIL

Child Welfare :

Weekly Clinic—Friday 2—4 p.m.
Barn Hill House, Stamford.

Diphtheria Immunisation :

Diphtheria Immunisation clinics are held at Barn Hill House, Stamford, the first Wednesday afternoon of each month 2—4 p.m.

Numbers immunised during the year :

Pre-school age—44

School age—56

Total 198

Reinforcing Dose—98

In addition 8 children living outside the Borough were immunised. 96 children were immunised by the General Practitioners, 84 Primary and 12 reinforcing dose.

The staffing at the Barn Hill Immunisation Clinic has again been undertaken by members of the Lincs. 10 Detachment of the British Red Cross Society to whom I would like to express my sincere thanks.

School Clinic :

Barn Hill House, Stamford, providing Ophthalmic, Orthopaedic and Physiotherapy, Dental and Eye Clinics.

(b) PROVIDED BY THE REGIONAL HOSPITAL BOARD

Tuberculosis :

Weekly clinic—Tuesdays from 9 a.m.
Fridays from 2 p.m.

Under Dr. G. Bernard Royce, Consulting Chest Physician,
Peterborough Group of Hospitals.

Venereal Disease :

Clinics are held at the Out-Patient Department, Memorial Hospital, Peterborough, under Dr. N. A. Ross.

Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays—
5.30—7 p.m.

Tuesdays—10.30—12 noon

Laboratory Facilities :

Bacteriological investigations are provided by the Public Health Laboratory, Memorial Hospital, Peterborough, under Dr. D. H. Fulton.

This valuable service includes examination of milk and water samples and general bacterial investigations for both the General Practitioners and Public Health Service.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water :

The water supply of the Borough is provided by the Stamford Waterworks, owner The Marquess of Exeter, K.G., C.M.G. Piped supplies are obtained from the following sources :

Bone Mill (Well)	}	Situating in the Soke of Peterborough on the high ground South of Stamford.
Leicester Road (Springs)		
Whitewater (Springs)		
Wothorpe (Springs)		
Northfields (Bore)	}	Situating in the Borough.
Ryhall Road (Bore)		

The water is obtained from the water bearing strata in the Lincolnshire Limestone. The supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity during the year.

69 samples for bacteriological examination were taken 38 being of raw water and 31 of chlorinated. Details of the bacteriological results are shown in the Chief Sanitary Inspector's report.

No chemical analyses were made.

The approximate daily consumption of water within the Borough is 650,000 gallons. Allowing for industrial usage the domestic consumption rate approximates to 35 gallons per head per day.

Sewage :

The scheme for the proposed new sewage disposal works has been submitted to the Ministry of Health for their approval and an Inquiry has been held into it. In the meantime a poor effluent is chased by an ever-increasing load, a situation which of necessity must be resolved.

The Public Baths were kept under supervision. A Code of Rules for Health and Cleanliness were adopted and displayed thereat.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

ANALYSIS OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DEATHS THEREFROM

Notifications received during the year.

	Total Cases Notified 1955	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths	Total Cases Notified 1954
Scarlet Fever	22	—	—	32
Pneumonia	14	2	12	18
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	2	—	1
Dysentery	13	13	—	2
Food Poisoning	1	1	—	2
Erysipelas	—	—	—	1
Malaria	—	—	—	1
Meningococcal Meningitis	1	1	—	1
Poliomyelitis	1	1	—	—
Encephalitis	1	1	—	—
Measles	218	4	—	11
Whooping Cough	20	—	—	4
Total	293	25	12	73

AGE DISTRIBUTION OF THE NOTIFIED INFECTIOUS DISEASES

	Not known	Under 1 year	1—	2—	3—	4—	5—	10—	15—	20—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65 and over	Total
Scarlet Fever					1	4	15	1								22
Pneumonia		1		1					1				5	1	5	14
Puerperal Pyrexia										2						2
Dysentery			2	4		1	2	2	2							13
Food Poisoning												1				1
Meningococcal Meningitis				1												1
Poliomyelitis						1										1
Encephalitis							1									1
Measles	1	4	14	23	20	25	120	9	2							218
Whooping Cough	2	1	1	2		4	8	2								20
Total	3	6	17	31	21	35	146	14	5	2	1	1	5	1	5	293

The incidence of notifiable disease was higher than in the two preceding years due to a measles epidemic during the months of May and June. It was mild and fortunately complications were few.

There were 22 cases of scarlet fever compared with 32 in 1954 and 34 in 1953. They were sporadic over the year and none required admission to hospital, underlining how the virulence has declined.

The 13 cases of dysentery occurred in the Stamford and Rutland Hospital following on the admission of the small child of an itinerant caravan dweller to the children's ward. The outbreak was very quickly localised and brought under control.

The case of poliomyelitis occurred in a four-year-old boy. It was of the non-paralytic variety and recovery was complete.

14 cases of pneumonia were notified and 12 deaths were ascribed to this disease during the same period. This however does not mean that the disease was fatal in 85 per cent. of cases but appears to arise from the fact that pneumonia supervened as a terminal event in other diseases.

There were no cases of diphtheria.

In the fight to control infectious disease it is vital for the Health Department to be made aware at the earliest possible moment of the occurrence of a case. The policy has been continued of sending a letter to the parent in any household where a case of notifiable infectious disease has occurred, telling him of his responsibilities under the Public Health Act in the prevention of its spread.

TUBERCULOSIS

	Deaths during 1955				New Cases during 1955			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
5—15 years	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
15—25 "	—	—	—	—	—	*3	—	—
25—35 "	—	—	—	—	*1	—	—	—
35—45 "	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
45—55 "	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65 "	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 65 years	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	1	1	—	—	3	5	—	—

* 1 Male and 2 Female transfers.

10 new cases of tuberculosis were reported in 1954
(including 2 cases of non-pulmonary)

Eight new cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year, the same total as in 1954. Of these 3 were transfers in. There were 22 in 1953.

Two deaths occurred from this cause during the year, the same number as in 1954.

A close follow-up of all known cases and their famliar contacts continues but a closer integration of the clinical and after-care services would ensure the maximum impact of this work. ~~Diarchy seldom works well.~~

HOUSING

PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES

Statistics of new houses erected in the Borough during 1955 as supplied by the Housing Department :

1. BUILT BY LOCAL AUTHORITY :

Traditional Brick Houses	60
Houses in course of erection at end of year ...	12

2. BUILT BY PRIVATE ENTERPRISE :

Traditional Brick Houses	12
---------------------------------	----

Applicants for Council Houses as supplied by the Housing Department at December, 1955 :

Effective Housing List	107
Tied and Service Tenants	37
Old Person Dwelling Applicants	62
Miscellaneous Applicants	21
Deferred List, i.e. Those who have applied since 1st October, 1955	22
	<hr/> 249 <hr/>

By 31st August the Council's programme for slum clearance had been formulated. It was decided that 91 houses should be dealt with either as individual unfits or by inclusion in Clearance areas. Within the next five years it was proposed to deal with 50 of them.

As many of the present occupants of these houses are elderly, they will require, if possible, to have small housing units as these would best meet their domestic requirements and physical resources. The imminent building programme in St. Leonard's Street will ideally meet these needs.

13 people have bene able to take advantage of the Improvement Grants up to 31st December, which does something to offset the fall in the number of new houses erected in the year.

Other housing details will be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

Under the Council's Points Scheme sanitary deficiencies and health factors are taken into consideration. In all cases where health points are claimed I have carried out a personal investigation of the circumstances and recommended accordingly, after a full appraisal of the clinical condition. I would like to thank the General Practitioners of Stamford for their kind help and co-operation in this work.

Residential caravans, while providing a home for some are by no means an ideal place to bring up a young family. There is a crying need for a full review of the Law relating to caravan licensing and caravan sites ; as at present the powers of control over them are nebulous.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

This year was notable for the introduction of the New Food Hygiene Regulations which are to become effective from January 1st, 1956. These provide a code of standards and behaviour for all engaged in the Food business. The new law may well require some expenditure of time and money on the part of those who process, handle and expose foodstuffs for sale, but I am sure the standards laid down are sensible, practicable and long overdue, and will be accepted by those concerned in the knowledge that they are for the good of all.

A synopsis of the Regulations was sent to every food premises in the Borough.

The Regulations give your Sanitarians new powers for their counter attack on the conditions which on the National Front annually cause an ever-increasing incidence of dysentery and food poisoning.

Following on the discovery of an infected sample of dried Chinese Egg Albumen within a neighbouring authority, visits were paid to all likely users of this commodity within the Borough but in no instance was it being utilised.

The Municipal Slaughterhouse, with its improvements and new equipment has continued to provide a fine service aided by the goodwill of all concerned in the undertaking.

100 per cent. Meat Inspection is maintained.

The high quality of the animals slaughtered during the year is worthy of note.

The premises from which Ice Cream is sold have been kept under supervision.

The safety of milk in its passage from cow to consumer is the responsibility of three different authorities, The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the Local Food and Drugs Authority and the Local Authority. Does this help to ensure its integrity?

FOOD POISONING

One case of Food Poisoning was notified during the year. This occurred in the Stamford and Rutland Hospital and involved a patient domiciled in Peterborough.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Advantage was taken of the offer of free Press publicity by the Ministry of Health in support of the Diphtheria Immunisation Campaign.

Thanks to the co-operation and help of the Library Committee and the Librarian, bookmarks stressing the necessity for immunisation were placed in books on loan from the Borough Library. Thanks are also due to the Local Lending Libraries for their help.

The Borough Library also helped in the circulation of propaganda material on the Prevention of Accidents in the Home, and provided room for a display of 8 Food Poisoning Posters. Central Council for Health Education posters were also displayed during the year.

In spite of these visual aids it is the spoken word—be it from the members of the Health Staff in and out of office hours, the members of the Health Committee or the converted members of the public—which carry the greatest weight and there has been no lack of support from all these sources.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT—Section 47

No action was necessary.

BOROUGH OF STAMFORD

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1955

TABULAR STATEMENT OF INSPECTIONS

Meat and Foods	...	...	...	...	365
Housing and Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	269
Milk and Dairies	...	...	...	...	11
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	57
Shops and Factories	...	...	...	...	71
Water Supplies	...	...	...	...	70
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	64
Total					<hr/> 907 <hr/>

NOTICES SERVED

	Issued	Complied with
Informal	34	22
Statutory	21	13

MEAT INSPECTION

It is gratifying to record that the Municipal Abattoir continued to operate efficiently and harmoniously throughout the year. The number of animals slaughtered, 10,440, constituted an all-time record for these premises, the heaviest kill during the war being some 8,800 animals which total however included over 7,000 sheep. This year's total includes over 4,000 pigs, so the amount of work done both in slaughtering and inspecting is greater than ever.

Until the return from National Service of Mr. A. R. Burt in June, I was without qualified assistance and here I would like to express my appreciation of the services of Mr. J. W. Clements of South Kesteven R.D.C. who rendered valuable

assistance in the work of meat inspection from February until June. Here also should be recorded the devotion to duty of Mr. Burt. Though the hours of slaughtering are somewhat curtailed there is still a good deal of work in the evening and he has undertaken his full share of this with the greatest willingness so that the ideal of 100 per cent. inspection can be maintained.

That the Abattoir has been operated smoothly and profitably is in no small measure due to the conscientious and tactful work of Mr. H. B. Hibbitt, the Manager, while the co-operation of Messrs. H. Nelson, Ltd., the slaughtering contractors and their staff has at all times been most readily forthcoming. It is perhaps a tribute to the care taken in dressing and hanging the carcasses that, despite the very warm summer, no complaint of bone taint arising from heated meat reached me in respect of any animal slaughtered in the local Abattoir.

The projected improvements to the premises were all carried out during the year. The new hanging-room came into use at the end of January and in conjunction with the new offal truck immediately proved its value in time saving, hygienic hanging and facility of inspection. Later in the year the new overhead automatic weighing machine was installed and an outbuilding converted into a gut-cleaning room, thus at last getting this objectionable process out of the slaughter-hall.

Next year I hope to be able to record some improvement in the lairage arrangements and also in the provision of steam for pig scalding together with some further improvement in hanging arrangements to avoid unnecessary handling of carcasses. The total weight of all meat condemned was 22,815 lbs., and includes the following imported meat in addition to the home-killed meat shown in the following Tables :—

4 Part Hindquarters Beef, 2 Part Forequarters, 11 lbs. Liver.

TABLE 1.

	CATTLE		CALVES	SHEEP	PIGS
	exclg. Cows	Cows			
No. of Animals Inspected	1327	32	13	4630	4438
TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.					
No. of whole carcasses and offals condemned...	8	1	—	—	5
No. of carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	148	5	—	—	296
Percentage of carcasses affected with T.B. ...	11.7%	18.7%	—	—	6.7%
DISEASES OTHER THAN T.B.					
No. of whole carcasses and offals condemned...	2	—	1	6	15
No. of carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	137	2	—	115	354
Percentage of carcasses with diseases other than T.B.	10.5%	6.2%	7.6%	2.6%	8.1%

No case of *Cysticercus Bovis* was observed during the year.

DETAILS OF CONDEMNED MEAT SHOWN IN TABLE 1
TABLE 2.

Meat Condemned	Beef	Mutton	Pork	Veal
Whole Carcasses and Offals ...	11	6	20	1
Heads	80	1	177	—
Tongues	80	1	177	—
Pairs of Lungs	100	20	263	—
Livers	129	82	33	—
Plucks (complete)	—	1	32	—
Fats (Mesenteric)	18	—	159	—
Spleens	1	—	5	—
Hearts	—	—	67	—
Kidneys	7	—	23	—
Udders	—	—	—	—
Tripes	—	—	—	—
Forequarters (whole) ...	5	—	—	—
Hindquarters (whole) ...	—	—	—	—
Other parts of Carcasses ...	11	14	21	—

OTHER FOODSTUFFS

The following foodstuffs other than butchers' meat have also been condemned as unfit for human consumption :—

MEAT PRODUCTS

Corned Beef	16 tins	Smoked Sausage	13 lbs.
Chickens	1 jar	Stewed Steak	1 tin
Ham	6 tins	Tongue	2 tins
Luncheon Meat	19 „	Veal, Jellied	2 „

FISH

Cod Fillets	3 st.	Crab	1 tin
Haddock Cutlets	2 „	Crawfish	1 „
Kippers	6½ „	Herrings	1 „
Prawns	6 tins	Pilchards	8 tins
Fish Paste	1 jar	Salmon	3 „

VEGETABLES

Beans	3 tins	Peas	10 tins
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FRUIT AND PRESERVES

Apricots	11 tins	Pears	4 tins
Bilberries	21 „	Peaches	6 „
Cherries	2 „	Pineapple	46 „
Cocoanut	130 lbs.	Raspberries	8 „
Grape Fruit	1 tin	Rhubarb	1 „
Jam	3 jars	Strawberries	1 „
Marmalade	1 „	Tomatoes	209 „
Olives	1 bottle		

MISCELLANEOUS

Cake	204 lbs.	Milk, Evaporated	98 tins
Cheese	51 „	Pickles	6 jars
Cheese (processed)	5 boxes	Salad Cream	2 bottles
Lemon Squash	1 bottle	Sauce	1 „
Oats, Porridge	3 pkt.	Soup	4 tins

ICE CREAM

There were 3 additional premises registered during the year for the sale of Ice Cream, making a total of 51 such premises. All applications were for the sale of the prepacked article.

MILK AND DAIRIES

There were no changes in the Register of Distributors during the year and the Licences issued under the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations were the same as in 1954. It is regretted that the staff situation prevented the carrying out of the usual programme of sampling but the character of the milk coming into the town has changed vastly in the last decade. In the later years of the war undesignated milk from no fewer than 24 farms situate in 6 different Counties was being consumed in the Borough ; now there is no undesignated milk at all coming into the town and only one such supply within the Borough.

WATER SUPPLIES

The results of samples taken from the various sources supplying the Borough and submitted for bacteriological examinations are summarised in the annexed table. In addition three samples of water taken from the well at St. George's, 1 sample of chlorinated water was reported as satisfactory and two samples of unchlorinated water as unsatisfactory.

A sample of chlorinated water taken from the local Swimming Bath at a period of peak use was reported as highly satisfactory.

Type of Water	No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Suspicious	Unsatisfactory
Chlorinated	29	29	—	—
Unchlorinated	36	23	3	3

7 samples were not reported as a result of laboratory accidents.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES, DISINFECTION AND DISINFESTATION

Enquiries were made in connection with 22 cases of Scarlet Fever, 1 case of Food Poisoning and 1 of Poliomyelitis. Appropriate measures of disinfection were carried out in all cases. In addition disinfection was carried out in respect of 3 cases of Tuberculosis after the removal of the patient from the premises.

Once again it has not been necessary to take any action in respect of infestation by bugs.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

No licences were issued under the above Act during the year.

PRESERVED FOOD, ETC., FOOD AND DRUGS ACT

The number of premises registered under the above Act remains unchanged at 42.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS. PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936, SEC. 269

17 applications for licences to station moveable dwellings on sites within the Borough were received and approved mainly in respect of the Council's site at Empingham Road.

RAG FLOCK ACT 1951

There were no additions to the existing single Registration of premises under the above Act.

HOUSING INSPECTION

The year under review may be regarded as one of reasonable progress. The closure of the East side of Lumby's Terrace was completed as a result of Closing Orders against the remaining occupied houses and preliminary surveys have been carried out in respect of the next areas scheduled for clearance, viz. Britons Court and Elm Street/East Street. It would appear that the speed of Slum Clearance operations will be largely governed by the rate at which alternative accommodation for the large numbers of older people now living in these areas can be produced.

7 applications for Certificates of Disrepair were received and after inspection, Certificates were issued in 6 cases.

17 premises were inspected as a result of applications for Improvement Grants and of these a recommendation for the making of a grant was made in 14 cases. In the remaining cases the proposals were sub-standard in various respects, or the applications were subsequently withdrawn.

No. of Visits	...	...	...	...	...	269
No. of Houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	139
No. of Houses inspected and recorded	...	...	...	...	...	98
No. of Visits made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	227
No. of Houses unfit for habitation	...	...	...	...	...	36
No. of Houses not in all respects fit	...	...	...	...	...	62

REMEDY OF DEFECTS

No. of Houses closed by undertakings under Sec. 11 Housing Act 1936	...	...	...	...	1
No. of Houses closed by Orders under Local Govt. Act 1953	...	...	...	...	10
No. of Houses made fit by Informal Action	...	...	...	...	15
No. of new cases of overcrowding discovered	...	...	...	...	1
No. of cases of overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	3
No. of cases of statutory overcrowding remaining at end of year	...	...	...	...	Nil
No. of Houses licensed for temporary occupation	...	...	...	...	1
Proceedings under the Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	Nil

L. J. ROLL,
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

May, 1956.

