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Contributors

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WOODHALL SPA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1937.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
WOODHALL SPA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Gentlemen,

As you are aware, this is the last Annual Report I shall present before you. Under the recent Act it is no longer possible for registered medical practitioners to engage in a public service and private practice simultaneously. This policy has much to recommend itself, since in combination with the Rural and Urban Districts of Horncastle we now have a circumscribed area under the full-time care of one Medical Officer of Health. In wishing my successor every success and a pleasant co-operation with you as members of the Urban District Council, I also wish to express to the members of the Council, individually and collectively, my sincere gratitude for their loyal co-operation and unstinted help during my five very difficult years of office. My tasks have been made easier with the knowledge of your confidence and support.

The year 1937 was notable for two severe epidemics of non-notifiable infectious disease. We were the victims of a most infectious strain of Influenza, of the pulmonary type, in January and February, when a large percentage of the population was infected.

There was also an epidemic of Whooping Cough in May, when the efficacy of Whooping Cough vaccine as a prophylactic (preventive) measure was demonstrated, while its utility from a treatment point of view once the disease was established, was significant.

We count ourselves fortunate, however, that whilst the Urban and Rural Districts of Horncastle were labouring under a severe epidemic of diphtheria, no cases were notified to me from the Urban District of Woodhall Spa. Preventative immunisation of children of school age attending schools in Horncastle was no doubt one of the chief contributory factors in maintaining a clean record.

I have also been associated with the Council's promotion of a Bill in Parliament for the purpose of purchasing the Water Undertaking from the Woodhall Spa Gas and Water Company. The Gas and Water Company withdrew their opposition to the promotion of the Bill except to the clause referring to purchase under the Land Clauses Act. As a result the purchase price will be assessed before an independent arbitrator in July, and I hope, Gentlemen, that you can come to an amicable decision.

We are still without an Isolation Hospital for cases of Notifiable Infectious Diseases in this area. The Burgh Scheme is in abeyance until an amicable agreement can be reached between the respective Councils concerned regarding the proportionate sharing of the financial responsibility.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	1,874
Registrar-General's estimate resident population mid-1935	1,458
Number of Inhabited Houses according to Rate Book, Dec., 1937	437
Rateable Value	£11,119
Sum represented by 1d. Rate	£42 9s. 8d.

SOCIAL CONDITIONS, INCLUDING CHIEF INDUSTRIES CARRIED ON IN THE AREA AND THE EXTENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

Woodhall Spa is primarily a Health Resort, the centre of industry being the Victoria Bromo-Iodine Baths, which have been in existence over 100 years. There are no heavy industries or factories. The stable population is mainly residential, but we are subject to a seasonal influx of some 1,000 or more visitors. There are 4 large hotels and several boarding houses, which cater for the visitors. The West End of the area and the surrounding district are mainly agricultural. There is very little unemployment in the area and certainly none of such a character as to affect the Public Health of the community. There are no slums and no dire poverty. The residential population is composed mainly of retired gentry, tradesmen, shopkeepers and poultry farmers.

METEOROLOGICAL EXTRACTS.

WEATHER REPORT FOR 1937.—Rainfall Total (1937), 25.01 inches. Rainfall Average (9 years), 23.12 inches. Sunshine (1937), 1,103.2 hours. Sunshine over 9 years, 1,497.0 hours. Temperature (1937), 48.66 deg. F.; do. over 9 years, 48.74 deg. F. (Compiled by J. Collins, Esq., F.R.M.S.).

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.
LIVE BIRTHS: Legitimate, 14 (10 males, 4 females); birth-rate per 1,000, 9.73; Illegitimate, 1; birth rate per 1,000, .69.

STILL-BIRTHS: Nil.

DEATHS (all causes): Total, 23 (10 males, 13 females); death rate per 1,000, 15.77. Seven deaths outside this area were transferable to the U.D.C., Woodhall Spa.

Deaths from Puerperal causes	nil
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age	1
All Infants per 1,000 live births	1
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 live births	1
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	nil

CAUSES OF DEATH: Influenza, 1; Cancer, 2; Heart Disease, 6; other Circulatory Diseases, 1; Nephritis, 0; Violence, 1; Liver Diseases, 0; Diabetes, 0; Cerebral Haemorrhage, 2; Aneurysm, 0; Measles, 0; Prematurity, 1; Bronchitis, 1; Appendicitis, 1; Pulmonary Tuberculosis, 1; other Tuberculosis, 1; Digestive Disease, 1; other defined causes, 2. There were no deaths from Notifiable Infectious Diseases.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

(1) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY:

M.O.H.: George Armour, M.B., Ch.B., Honours,
Tasburgh Lodge, Woodhall Spa.

J. B. Scholefield.

Diplomas: Royal Sanitary Institute; Institution of Municipal and County Engineers; Institution of Structural Engineers; Society of Engineers.

The Sanitary Inspector also holds the appointments of Surveyor, Rate Collector, Rating Officer and Inspector of Petroleum.

TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER: Dr. W. Kerrigan, of Louth; Appointed for this area by the County Council.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE CENTRE: The nearest is Rolleston House, Horncastle, and is in charge of women doctors appointed by the County Council. Minor ailments are treated and free advice given on infant feeding and child welfare.

VENEREAL DISEASES: Clinics are provided by the County Council at Lincoln, Scunthorpe, Grimsby, Cleethorpes and Gainsborough. Lincoln (the nearest) is held at Beaumont Manor, Beaumont Fee. The hours of attendance are:—

MEN: Monday and Thursday at 5 p.m.

WOMEN: Monday, 10 a.m.; Thursday, 9.45 a.m.

ORTHOPEDIC SURGEON: Edward J. Bilcliffe, F.R.C.S.E., who can be consulted at the County Health Department by appointment.

DENTAL TREATMENT.

(a) The County Council offers Dental Treatment and Artificial Dentures at a low cost, or free in cases of extreme poverty to nursing or expectant mothers who would otherwise not be able to afford it.

(b) VETERINARY SURGEON: John Marshall, M.R.C.V.S., North Street, Horncastle, is appointed by the County Council to inspect Dairy Cattle in this area. Mr. J. B. Scholefield is the Meat Inspector.

NURSING IN THE HOME.

(a) GENERAL.—No grant is made by the Urban District Council for the provision of nurse. The District Nurse is provided by the Local Nursing Association, supported by Voluntary Subscriptions, and a substantial grant is made by the County Council. The District Nurse is Miss A. E. Priestley, C.M.B., Alexandra Road, Woodhall Spa. The Health Visitor is Miss Bintelcliffe, c/o Mrs. Williamson, Woodhall Spa.

(b) **INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**—Nurses have been appointed by the County Council, to nurse, in their own homes under the supervision of the Medical Attendant, cases of Puerperal Fever and Puerperal Pyrexia, Ophthalmia Neonatorum and Pneumonia following Measles and Whooping Cough.

MIDWIVES.

No midwife is employed or subsidised by the Woodhall Spa U.D.C., but a certified midwife is supplied by the Local Nursing Association.

NATIONAL HEALTH INSURANCE.

There is no relation between the U.D.C. and this service.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

(a) The County Laboratory, Lincoln, provides the facilities for examination of throat swabs for Diphtheria and blood for Wassermann (Syphilis) and Widal (Typhoid) reactions free of charge.

(b) The chemical and bacteriological examination of samples of the Water Supply is done by the Clinical Research Association, London.

The chemical and bacteriological examination of Milk Samples is done by the County Council in co-operation with the University of Sheffield.

LEGISLATION IN FORCE.

Ministry of Health Provisional Orders Confirmation (Lincoln and Lincoln Joint Smallpox Hospital District) Act 1932.

Under this Act we now have the Lincoln and Lindsey Joint Smallpox Board (with one representative from our Local Council), whose duty it is to supervise the provision and maintenance of a Smallpox Hospital. All future cases of Smallpox will be transferred to the hospital at Osgodby and the maintenance of any case admitted from this area will be provided for by the rates.

HOSPITALS.

(a) ALEXANDRA HOSPITAL, WOODHALL SPA.

This is a Voluntary Hospital reserved for the treatment of Rheumatism and Allied Disorders, and does not provide accommodation for surgical or medical cases. It attracts patients from all over the country.

(b) HORNCastle WAR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL.

A Surgical and Medical Hospital (Cottage) with 11 beds and private ward, staffed by a matron and two nurses. It has an excellent operating theatre and admits a good number of surgical cases from this area. It supplies a much-needed want on account of its close proximity and receives energetic local support. I am myself one of the 5 surgeons on the staff. E. J. Bilcliffe, F.R.C.S. (Lincoln); G. Bagot Walters, F.R.C.S. (Lincoln); and Lt.-Col. J. P. Stephen (Grimsby), Consulting Surgeons; and H. Cecil Barlow, M.B., B.S. (Lincoln), the Consulting Physician.

(c) LINCOLN COUNTY HOSPITAL.

A General Hospital of 150 beds now undergoing extensive alterations and enlargement. It provides accommodation for General Medical, Surgical, Nose, Ear and Throat, Ophthalmic, Orthopaedic and Radiological cases. It is hoped in the near future to instal special Radium and X-ray departments for the treatment of cancer and allied diseases. It is well supported by the Local Hospital Association.

MATERNITY AND NURSING HOMES.

Abnormal maternity cases can be given institutional treatment on the recommendation of the Medical Attendant in charge of the case. Maternity Homes have been established at Lincoln, Scunthorpe, Cleethorpes, Louth and Market Rasen. Application for admission should, in all cases, be made to the County Medical Officer, Dr. W. S. H. Campbell, County Offices, Lincoln.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

This is generally investigated by the County M.O.H.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA AND FEVER.

A panel of consultant surgeons is provided to assist medical practitioners in the diagnosis and treatment of Puerperal Pyrexia. Applications should be made to the County M.O.H.

CONSULTING SURGEONS: Mr. R. B. Purves, Lindum House, Lincoln; Dr. H. Cecil Barlow, Minster Yard, Lincoln; Dr. G. C. Wells-Cole, Minster Yard, Lincoln; Mr. J. C. Bagot-Walters, Nettleham Road, Lincoln.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION FOR UNMARRIED MOTHERS, ILLEGITIMATE AND HOMELESS CHILDREN.

No provision is made for these by the Council, but there is a Church Army Home in Lincoln, which is always willing to extend their hospitality.

INSTITUTIONAL PROVISION, IF ANY, FOR THE CARE OF MENTAL DEFECTIVES.

We have no institution within this area, and the County Mental Hospital, Bracebridge, Lincoln, accepts the majority of our cases. There is also an Institution for Mental Defectives at Harmston, run on the colony system.

AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

(a) **FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**—No provision is made for such by this Council. It is customary to hire the ambulance belonging to the Lincoln Corporation Isolation Hospital. This is not entirely satisfactory, but we have no alternative. The Horncastle Red Cross V.A.D. Ambulance is available in cases of extreme emergency.

(b) **FOR NON-INFECTIOUS AND ACCIDENT CASES.**—The Horncastle Branch of the British Red Cross Society possess a handsome motor ambulance. This can be hired at a reasonable cost for the transference of medical and surgical cases. It is garaged at Friskney's Garage, West Street, Horncastle. Tel. Horncastle 33.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Ante-natal, Infant Welfare and Tuberculosis Clinics are held at Rolleston House, Horncastle, on certain prescribed days.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The River Witham supplies the main water course and divides the Lindsey County Council area from that of Kesteven. There is no pollution of this river from this area.

To the south of the area is a swiftly flowing stream known as the "Beck" or "Sewer," which supplies several houses in the Woodhall Spa U.D. and the Horncastle R.D. for domestic purposes. This water has been certified unfit for drinking purposes and notices have been posted in prominent positions notifying the public of the danger of using this water for domestic purposes.

SECTION C.

SANITARY REPORT, 1937.

WATER ANALYSES.

The water is a piped supply to the residents and is examined bacteriologically and chemically at the discretion of the Medical Officer of Health with the approval of the U.D.C. Two samples were taken on 28/1/37 and 21/9/37 for analysis, the reports of which are as follows:—

1. CHEMICAL.

	Jan.	Sept.	Jan.	Sept.
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.0144	0.0096	0.0101	0.0067
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hours at 27 deg. C.	0.366	0.174	0.256	0.122

BACTERIOLOGICAL.

	Jan.	Sept.
Average no. of organisms producing visible colonies on gelatine plates at 20–22 deg. C. for 3 days	86 per c.c.	16 per c.c.
Average no. of organisms producing visible colonies on agar plates at 37.5 deg. C. for 2 days	3 per c.c.	2 per c.c.
Bacillus Coli not present in 100 c.c. Streptococci not found in 30 c.c. Cl. Welchii (spores) not present in 100 c.c.		

ANALYSTS' REPORT.

The Analyst's report was: "The results shew this water to be satisfactory for drinking purposes," in both January and September.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Public Water Supply is maintained by the Woodhall Spa Gas and Water Company, a privately owned Company, in which the U.D.C. Woodhall Spa has no financial or governing interest. The catchment area is a large moorland, entirely clear of all animal stock and enclosed, situated in the Kirkby-on-Bain area of the parish of Tattershall Thorpe. I understand the land is leasehold. The moor slopes gently towards the storage reservoirs and the subsoil is composed entirely of sand and gravel. In order to augment the supply the Company have had dug five wells in an adjacent water-bearing area. In cases of necessity water is pumped from these wells on to the filter beds. These wells serve as a very useful adjunct in cases of drought. There was no shortage of water during 1937.

The storage reservoirs are now capacious and supply storage for 620,000 gallons of water. These reservoirs are not cement-lined but hold the water by reason of the impervious nature of the sandstone subsoil. The filter beds are of sand and gravel.

I understand there is an arrangement with the Horncastle Water Company for an annual additional supply of water which can also be utilised in case of drought or fire. The pressure of the water is low, due to the low "head of water" provided by the Horncastle Road Reservoir, which constitutes the gravitation tank.

DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The sewerage system is satisfactory. Sewage is treated bacteriologically and the effluent is satisfactory. Most of the houses are served by the sewers except at the West end of the village, where dry closets and slop pails are still used. The contents of the pail closets are collected once or twice per week and disposed of at the Sewage works.

I am pleased to observe that the Council have forewarded in their minds the needs for a proper sewerage system for the West end of the village. Consulting Sanitary engineers have already been consulted and various engineering schemes have been examined. Although mindful of the cost of such a big undertaking the Council are determined to proceed in the matter. This will obviate all pail and earth closets in that district.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Pail closets and privy vaults are still used in the rural parts of the village, and their contents are regularly disposed of on adjoining land by the occupants. 90% of the houses are connected with the sewer.

SCAVENGING.

House refuse is removed once or twice weekly according to the size of the property concerned. A few houses still dispose of their own dry refuse. The main is removed in a covered garbage truck and destroyed at the Sewage Works by open slow combustion.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

Street cleansing has now been re-organized on a modern basis, the work being full-time for one man with modern orderly truck, and augmented by roadmen as required.

MOSQUITOES.

All the neighbouring pools and streams are regularly sprayed with crude kerosene oil to combat this pest. Some of the breeding grounds are difficult of access and it is proposed to adopt new measures.

WORKSHOPS AND FACTORIES.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES, including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	No. of Inspections.	No. of Written Notices.	No. of Occupiers prosecuted.
Factories	15	nil	nil
Including Factory Laundries)			
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	21	nil	nil
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises)	nil	nil	nil
Total	36	nil	nil

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.	Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	Found.	Remedied.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—									
Want of cleanliness
Want of ventilation
Overcrowding
Want of drainage of floors
Other nuisances
Sanitary accommodation insufficient
Sanitary accommodation unsuitable or defective
Sanitary accommodation not separate for sexes
Offences under the Factory and Workshops Acts:—									
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)
Other offences
(Excluding offences relating to outwork and offences under the Sections mentioned in the Schedule to the Ministry of Health (Factories and Workshops Transfer of Powers) Order, 1921)
Total

SLAUGHTER HOUSE AND MEAT.

A healthy situated and well-kept abattoir is provided and utilised by two local butchers who supply English meat. During the Summer slaughtering is carried out daily. A humane-killer for all animals is used and inspection of the premises is frequently carried out.

SHOPS.—No action was found necessary in the matter of ventilation and temperature and sanitary conveniences. A periodical inspection is made of selected shops.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.—Since there are no factories, no action was taken in this matter.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

In 1935 there was constructed in the Royal Jubilee Park a very up-to-date open-air swimming pool. It is the property of the Petwood Estate Company, but is open to the public at a subscribed fee. It is in charge of a fully qualified registered practitioner in the Spa Director, Dr. G. M. Sanderson, who supervises a very competent staff. The bath is filled from the Town water supply and is efficiently and properly disinfected by the most modern Chlorine Gas plant. It is constantly filtered by efficient suction on a rotation system through modern filtration tanks. There is also a privately-owned Bathing Pool at Petwood Hotel, open to residents only. There is no filtration nor chlorination, but with the new bathing pool in full action it is rarely used and was empty for the greater part of 1937. St. Hugh's School also has a private swimming pool for its pupils. The water in this case is disinfected with Chloros fluid.

SCHOOLS.

The Woodhall Spa Church of England Elementary School is under the governorship of the Church Council. The U.D.C. appoints one representative to the School Management Board. We must congratulate the Church Council on their magnificent efforts since my unfavourable report of 1935. The lavatories have been reconditioned and renovated with new pans and an efficient and hygienic flushing system in the water closets. The play-ground has been asphalted and rendered into a safe court for play and physical exercises. In addition, thanks to the Playing Fields Association, the children have been supplied with an open-air playing and sports field and a spacious shelter in case of inclement weather. The heating system has been revolutionised and the old open coke stoves abolished and in their place an efficient central heating system installed. This, I am pleased to observe, also includes the children's cloakrooms. Hot and cold water (secured from the town supply) is now supplied to the wash-basins. The floor has also been repaired and replaced where necessary, and the roof and walls repaired. There are also in Woodhall Spa two well-conducted and constructed private schools.

GENERAL OBSERVATION AS TO HOUSING CONDITIONS.

During 1937, 20 new houses were erected by private enterprise. No houses are built by the Local or by any Local Authorities. The houses are ideal for the artisans they mostly intend to serve and are commodious and provided with h. and c. water supply, baths and w.c.'s. There are now very few vacant houses in the whole area. I note with pleasure that the Council are examining closely the question of adopting a Town Planning Scheme. It is a plan I recommend to the Council in view of the nature of the village as a Health Resort and residential area and to obviate the ever-increasing erection of poultry farms in the area.

STATISTICS.

REPORT OF WORK DONE BY THE SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1937.

Total number of new houses erected during the year	20
(I) By the Local Authority	nil
(II) By other Local Authorities	1
(III) By other bodies or persons	19
1. Inspection of Dwelling houses during the year—	
(1) (a) Total number of Dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under the Public Health or Housing Acts)	130
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	137
(2) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	nil
(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	nil
(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	nil
2. Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit for occupation in consequence of informal action by the Council and their Officers	2
3. Action under Statutory powers during the year:—	
Under the Housing Act, 1930	nil
Common Lodging Houses	nil
Canal Boats	nil
Tents, Vans, etc.	nil
Bakehouses:	
Number in district	3
Number of underground bakehouses	nil
Number of inspections	9
Contraventions of Factory Acts	nil
Defects remedied	nil

Slaughter-houses:	
Number on register	1
Number of Inspections	12
Frequency of Inspections	Half-yearly
Contraventions of by-laws	nil
Defects remedied	nil
Cowsheds:	
Number on register	6
Frequency of Inspections	Half-yearly
Number of Inspections	5
Contraventions of regulations	1
Contraventions remedied	1
Number of milch cows in district	No records
Dairies and Milk Shops:	
Number on register	11
Number of Inspections	12
Frequency of Inspections	Half-yearly
Contraventions of regulations	nil
Contraventions remedied	nil
Any instance of disease attributed to milk during the year	No
Unsound Food	nil
Offensive Trades	nil
Wells	nil
Water Supply:	
Area supplied	600 acres
Percentage of houses supplied	90%
New Cisterns provided	0
Cisterns cleansed, repaired, covered, etc.	0
Number of samples obtained for analysis:	
(a) from wells	0
(b) from public supply	2
Any insufficiency and where	0
Closets:	
No. of houses with privy vaults in district	15
No. of houses with pail closets in district	53
No. of pail closets substituted for privy vaults	1
No. of pail closets repaired	No record
No. of houses with water closets in District	400
No. of water-closets substituted for dry receptacles	0
No. of water-closets repaired	0
Drains:	
Drains examined, tested, exposed, etc.	10
Drains unstopped, repaired, trapped, etc.	6
Waste pipes, rain water pipes disconnected, repaired, etc.	0
New soil pipes or ventilating shafts fixed	0
Existing soil pipes or ventilating shafts repaired	0
Drains reconstructed	1
Sewers:	
New lengths of sewer laid	0
Tanks, rinter Beds, etc.:	
Alterations to sewage disposal works	0
Any inadequacy of sewage disposal works or complaints as to smells	No
Cesspools:	
Cesspools rendered impervious	1
Cesspools emptied, cleansed, etc.	1
Cesspools abolished	0
Disinfection:	
Rooms disinfected	4
(a) ordinary infectious disease	4
(b) tuberculosis	0
Rooms stripped and cleansed	0
Articles disinfected or destroyed	0
(a) ordinary infectious disease	0
(b) tuberculosis	0
House Refuse:	
Number of covered ashpits	15
Number of uncovered ashpits	0
Number of bins substituted for ashpits	0
Number of houses using bins	260
Is refuse removed by householders or by public scavenger	Public Scavenger
How frequently is refuse removed from each house?	Twice weekly when required
Number of complaints of non-removal	0
Method of final disposal	Burnt at Sewage Works
Are existing arrangements for refuse removal satisfactory?	Yes
Nuisances:	
Total number of Nuisances during year—	
(1) Abated as result of informal action by Sanitary Inspector	6
(2) Reported to Council:	
Statutory notice issued	0
Statutory notice not issued	0
Details of Nuisances Abated after Informal Intimation:	
Overcrowding	0
Smoke	0
Accumulation of refuse	2
Foul ditches, ponds and stagnant water	3
Foul pigs and other animals	0
Dampness	1
Yards re-paved or repaired	0
Other nuisances	0

SECTION E.

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

Periodical samples of vendors' milk are taken by the police for bacteriological and chemical analysis. All the samples taken during 1937 were eminently satisfactory bacteriologically and for Tubercle Bacilli. One dairy, not within this

area but supplying it, has been granted a licence for and supplies Grade A milk. There is no Certified, Grade A (T.T.) or Pasteurised milk vendor in this area. The cowsheds and dairies are periodically inspected.

(b) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.—No action was deemed necessary after inspection of slaughter-houses, shops and vehicles.

(c) ADULTERATION.—No action deemed necessary in 1937.

(d) CHEMICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF FOOD.—No examinations were made in 1937.

(e) NUTRITION.—There is very little real poverty in this area and few cases of hardship. In cases of necessity it is usual to arrange a supplementary supply of milk, eggs and food through the local Public Assistance Authority.

GENERAL.

There were 6 cases of Notifiable Infectious Disease, 4 Scarlet Fever and 2 Pneumonia. There were no cases of Puerperal Fever.

Cases of infectious disease are usually nursed in their own homes where efficient isolation is possible and where the hygienic environment permits. In cases of necessity, at the discretion of the medical practitioner in charge, the patients can be removed to the Lincoln Corporation Isolation Hospital, but unless they are removed with the consent of the M.O.H. the whole financial responsibility rests upon the parents or guardian.

Antidiphtheritic Serum is supplied by the U.D.C. in necessary cases. Antiscarlatinal Serum is not. The responsibility for efficient treatment and isolation is the practitioner's in charge of the case under the supervision of the M.O.H.

School intimations forwarded to the M.O.H. by the headmaster are promptly attended to and an investigation made of the source of infection is completed by the M.O.H. The schools are visited, any suspicious cases isolated, and advice given as to how to prevent spread of infection. In one of the private boarding schools an alternate head-to-foot arrangement of the beds in the dormitories is insisted upon in cases of non-notifiable infectious diseases.

Up to December 31st, 1937, no artificial immunisation was provided by the U.D.C., but the M.O.H., in his private capacity, has Schick and Dick tested a considerable number of applicants. Several were afterwards immunised. No local action has been taken in regard to Measles serum for prophylaxis.

Disease.	Total cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	4	—	—
Pneumonia	2	—	—

(a) CANCER.

There were 2 deaths by Cancer in 1937. The population of this area is mainly residential and retired and the average age of the population well above the average. No doubt the age-incidence is of some importance, Cancer being a disease mostly of the later decades of life. There is a small private supply of radium in the Lincoln County Hospital for the treatment of Cancer and there is an arrangement between this Hospital and the National Radium Institute for the Loan of Radium. This hospital does not possess apparatus for Deep X-ray therapy, but this can be obtained at Nottingham, 60 miles away.

(b) PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

No action under P.H. (Prevention of Tuberculous) Act 1925.

(c) TUBERCULOSIS.

No action under P.H. (Prevention of Tuberculous) Regulations 1925 or under Sect. 62 P.H. Act 1925.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
15-25		1				1		1
Totals		1				1		1

TOTAL NUMBER OF TUBERCULOSIS ON REGISTER, DEC., 1937.

Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total	
M	F	M	F	M	F
	2		4		6

There are no definitely fixed Sanatoria for this area. Women are generally admitted to Branstor Sanatorium and serious cases to Louth. A few are admitted to Grimsby (Scarbro Isolation Hospital), whilst others go to Kelling (Norfolk), Harlow Wood (Staffs.) or other Sanatoria.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

GEORGE ARMOUR, M.B.

M.O.H. Woodhall Spa Urban District.