

[Report 1910] / Medical Officer of Health, Beeston U.D.C.

Contributors

Beeston (Nottinghamshire, England). Urban District Council.

Publication/Creation

1910

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/np6fpu4e>

License and attribution

You have permission to make copies of this work under a Creative Commons, Attribution license.

This licence permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited. See the Legal Code for further information.

Image source should be attributed as specified in the full catalogue record. If no source is given the image should be attributed to Wellcome Collection.



Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

From Beeston Reports -

BEESTON URBAN
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report

— OF THE —

Medical Officer of Health,

FOR THE YEAR 1910.

OLIVER TITCOMBE, PRINTER, BEESTON.



Beeston Urban District Council.



OFFICERS :

MR. A KIRKKAND, (Rate Collector and Assistant Overseer).

MR. W. H. REDGATE (Clerk).

MR. E. A. BUSH, (Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector).

DR. F. ROTHERA, (Medical Officer of Health).

MEMBERS :

W. H. PRATT J.P. (Chairman).

MR. J. R. ANDERSON.

MR. GEO. HANDS.

„ JOS. ANDERSON.

„ T. J. N. MEAKIN.

„ GEO. BURROWS.

„ GEO. PALING.

„ J. BARNATT.

„ W. H. SPENCER.

„ S. W. BANNISTER.

„ W. THUMS.

„ G. W. BROUGH.

„ S. W. WIDDOWSON.

„ J. J. BYWATER.

„ J. W. WILSON.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1910.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Beeston Urban District Council.**

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit for your consideration my 18th Annual Report, which deals with the vital statistics and sanitary condition of the Parish for the year 1910. The figures I am about to lay before you in tabular form will prove that while the Death-rate has not reached the low level of the previous year 1909—which constituted a record—it is still well below the average of the previous ten years. The Birth-rate is also returning to its normal proportions. Owing to the continued depression in trade the Parish is not developing so rapidly as we could wish; still it is pleasing to find that on August 1st there were only 308 unoccupied houses as compared with 393 on the corresponding date of the previous year.

METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS.—For the fourth year in succession the weather has exercised a beneficial effect upon the public health. There were no extremes of heat or cold, and the rainfall was again 3 inches above the average. As I have shown in my previous Reports absence of hot weather, coupled with an abundance of rain materially reduces the mortality from infantile diarrhoea. The table of meteorological observations taken at Beeston Fields has again been kindly supplied to me by G. Fellows, Esq., and will be found in the appendix.

POPULATION.—I am again indebted to Mr. Kirkland, our esteemed Rate Collector and Assistant Overseer, for the information that on August 1st, 1910, there were 2,934 houses in Beeston, of which 2,626 were occupied, and 308 were empty. This shows an increase of only 33 new houses built during the year. Taking, as in other years, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inhabitants in each house (the average shown in the census of 1901) this gives us an estimated population of 11,817, which is the figure upon which I base my vital statistics for the year. This shows an increase of 531 inhabitants upon the previous year, whereas the natural increase

of population, i.e., excess of births over deaths is 192. While admitting this estimated population is only approximate, it is the nearest we can arrive at, and it will be a relief to all medical officers when we get accurate figures based upon the census returns to be made on April 2nd this year. For statistical purposes it would be very desirable to have a census every five years instead of every ten as now. During the year there have been:—

309 births and 117 deaths as against					
279	"	"	99	"	in 1909
317	"	"	111	"	" 1908
323	"	"	141	"	" 1907
278	"	"	118	"	" 1906
286	"	"	116	"	" 1905
300	"	"	155	"	" 1904
278	"	"	112	"	" 1903
267	"	"	97	"	" 1902
278	"	"	118	"	" 1901
291			118 average for the 10 years.		

This gives a
Birth-rate of

26.1
24.7
26.7
26.8
24.1
26.4
28.
26.7
27.4
31.
26.7

and a Death-rate of

9.9 per 1000 per annum for 1910						
8.7	"	"	"	"	"	1909
9.3	"	"	"	"	"	1908
11.7	"	"	"	"	"	1907
10.2	"	"	"	"	"	1906
10.7	"	"	"	"	"	1905
14.4	"	"	"	"	"	1904
10.7	"	"	"	"	"	1903
10.	"	"	"	"	"	1902
13.1	"	"	"	"	"	1901
10.8 average for the 10 years.						

BIRTHS.—Of the 309 births registered during the year, 171 were males and 138 females. Thirteen were illegitimate, 7 males and 6 females, a proportion of 1 to 23 legitimate births. A birth-rate of 26.1 very closely approximates to the average for the 10 years, and may now be looked upon as normal. Were the births uniformly distributed over all sections of society it would be better for the nation. Unfortunately this is not the case, the large families being found mostly amongst the labouring classes, while the middle class, hitherto the back-bone of the country, are now more than satisfied to curtail their parental responsibilities.

DEATHS.—The number of deaths, viz., 117, is somewhat larger than for the previous year 1909, the increase being at the expense of the two extremes of life. Of these deaths, 54 were males, and 63 females. On two of them an inquest was necessary, and one was notified to the Coroner, who certified the death as due to natural causes. In addition to these, 117 deaths of "residents within the district," the Local Government Board now requires us to add the deaths of residents taking place in institutions outside the district. I am indebted to Dr. Handford, the County Medical Officer of Health, for the information

that 13 of these occurred, viz., 7 in Basford Workhouse, 3 in the County Asylum, and 3 in the Nottingham General Hospital. The addition of these 13 deaths brings up the total to 130, with a net or corrected death-rate of 11 per 1,000 per annum. Of the total deaths:—

38 occurred during the 1st Quarter

26 " " " 2nd "

20 " " " 3rd "

33 " " " 4th "

The following are the causes of the deaths that occurred during the year (see Table IV. at end of Report):—Measles, 2; Scarlet Fever, 3; Whooping Cough, 2; Diphtheria, 1; Influenza, 1; Enteritis, 4; Phthisis, 10; Other Tuberculous Diseases, 4; Cancer, 15; Bronchitis, 11; Pneumonia, 4; Alcoholism, 2; Venereal Diseases, 2; Premature Birth, 15; Heart Disease, 13; Debility from Birth, 5; Convulsions, 2; Apoplexy, 6; Senile Decay, 14; all other causes, 14.

ZYMOTIC OR EPIDEMIC DEATH-RATE.—Only 8 deaths resulted from these diseases, viz.:—Measles, 2; Scarlet Fever, 3; Whooping Cough, 2; Diphtheria, 1. This compares more than favourably with previous years, and represents a zymotic death-rate of .67 per 1000 per annum as compared with 1.1 in 1909, 1.01 in 1908, 2.05 in 1907, 2.1 in 1906, 1.01 in 1905, 3.08 in 1904, 0.67 in 1903, 1.1 in 1902, 3.6 in 1901. Average for 10 years 1.5.

The deaths may be tabulated as follows:—

	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901
Under 1 year	32	26	32	27	41	30	47	23	25	38
1 year and under 5	15	6	9	24	16	15	17	5	9	19
5 yrs. and under 15	4	4	1	11	4	5	12	6	5	6
15 " " "	25	1	3	6	4	5	7	6	5	2
25 " " "	65	35	29	31	38	30	31	35	41	28
65 and upwards	30	31	32	37	23	30	37	31	25	21
	117	99	112	141	118	116	155	112	97	118

Of the 30 deaths occurring in persons over 65 years of age, 4 were between 65 and 70, 13 between 70 and 80, 10 between 80 and 90, while 3 were over 90 years of age. This again speaks well for the longevity of our inhabitants, and since many of these died from sheer old age, helps to make our figures even more favourable.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.—The number of deaths in infants under one year of age is in excess of the previous years. Of the 309 births registered during the year, 33 died before attaining one year of age. This gives an Infantile Mortality rate of 106.7 per 1000 births registered. That is to say if 1000 children had been born in Beeston during the year, 106 would have died during the first year of their existence. The average for the previous ten years is 109.

Following my usual plan, I give in tabular form the cause of deaths in infants and compare with the previous 10 years:—

	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901
Premature Birth ...	15	4	4	5	8	8	11	5	5	4
Debility from Birth	5	5	3	5	3	2	1	4	6	8
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ...	3	3	5	2	5	6	7	5	5	8
Convulsions ...	0	2	2	3	3	2	4	2	3	3
Constitutional Syphilis ...	2	1	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0
General Tuberculosis	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	0	0
Diarrhœa ...	3	4	7	2	16	2	16	5	2	5
Tubercular Meningitis ...	1	1	1	1	0	2	3	2	3	2
Measles ...	0	0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	3
Natural Causes (Coroner's Enquiry)	0	0	1	2	2	0	1	0	2	2
Whooping Cough ...	0	4	3	2	0	0	1	0	3	3
Other Causes ...	4	2	2	2	4	4	1	0	1	0
	33	26	32	27	41	30	47	23	25	38

As will be seen by reference to the above figures, more than one half of the deaths in infants was due to Premature Birth and Debility from Birth, viz., 14 of the former and 5 of the latter. Excluding these so-called unavoidable deaths, our figures would present a much more favourable aspect. Even some of these deaths might have been saved had the mother had competent advice in the rearing, feeding, and management of a delicate baby. Such help is forthcoming in those places where the Notification of Births Act has been adopted, and many lives have been saved through its instrumentality, but as I have explained before in previous Reports, it is no good adopting this Act unless you are prepared to go a step further and appoint a trained nurse to give the necessary instructions to young and inexperienced mothers. Until this can be done, I would suggest that we have printed a leaflet on the feeding and care of infants, and that the Registrar be asked to give one of these to each person having the custody of the child when registering its birth. This would be an inexpensive item and might effect much good. Our proportion of premature births is very heavy, and must be ascribed to some cause. It cannot be too widely known that much care and attention are required by the mother during pregnancy—the principle being rest from laborious work after the sixth month of pregnancy, suitable food, and abstinence from alcohol.

NOTIFICATIONS.—The number of infectious diseases notified to me during the year was 45. Tabulated and compared with the previous ten years, they are as follows:—

	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901
Smallpox ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever ...	21	21	5	13	53	22	31	24	45	10
Diphtheria ...	20	15	19	33	57	81	60	4	7	4
Croup ...	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Typhoid Fever ...	0	6	1	2	3	1	3	4	6	6
Erysipelas ...	4	6	7	9	6	10	7	4	1	0
Puerperal Fever ...	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	45	49	33	57	119	114	103	36	61	21

The average for the previous ten years is 68. In every case of infectious disease notified to me preventive and precautionary measures were taken. These include a personal visit to the infected houses, the sanitary arrangements investigated, milk supply noted, whether out work of any kind is taken in, and directions given both verbally and by a printed leaflet as to measures to be adopted for preventing the spread of the disease. On receiving due notice that infection is at an end, the house is disinfected by compressed sulphurous acid gas by one of your own staff. Disinfectants are also supplied gratis when necessary. To adequately carry out disinfection, however, we need a disinfecting chamber for the bedding and wearing apparel.

While on the subject of notifications, I might say that under a General Order of the Local Government Board, all Medical Officers are now required to send a weekly list of all infectious diseases notified during the week to the L.G.B. and to the County Medical Officer of Health, such lists to be forwarded by post so as to be received not later than by the first post on Tuesday morning. Hitherto we have sent monthly lists to the County Medical Officer only, and he has tabulated and forwarded to each Medical Officer a return of all notifications sent in for the entire county with notes as to increases or decreases of any particular disease, closure of schools in consequence of epidemics, etc. Personally I shall miss these monthly returns, as they afforded a ready means of watching the spread and near approach of any particular disease.

SMALLPOX.—For the seventh year in succession no case of this disease has been notified in Beeston. While this is eminently satisfactory, I must repeat the warning given in my previous Reports. The only real safeguard against this disease is vaccination and re-vaccination, and the number of children now escaping this simple operation through the so-called conscientious objections of parents is a strong menace to the safety of the community. I can only express the hope that should this dread disease appear in the neighbourhood, these parents will waive their scruples, not only in the interest of their own offspring, but also for the public weal, by having their children vaccinated at the earliest possible moment.

The Smallpox Hospital situated at Hucknall Torkard, which we share with other Urban Authorities, is kept in a state of preparedness for any emergency, and can be available at a few hours' notice. Our share of the expense of maintaining this hospital for the year is £26 12s. 10d.

SCARLET FEVER.—The number of cases of this disease is exactly the same as for the previous year 1909, viz., 21. Fifteen houses were involved, in two cases two children being afflicted with the disease, and in two other cases 3 being implicated. The cases generally speaking were of a mild type, yet three deaths ensued—two children and one adult. One case was removed to the Isolation Hospital at Bagthorpe by the courtesy of the Nottingham Health Authorities, owing to the near approach of the mother's confinement, the expense being defrayed by us.

DIPHTHERIA.—Twenty cases of this disease have been notified during the year as compared with 15 in 1909. One death resulted. In every instance the children from the infected houses were kept from school until we had positive evidence that their throats were free from infection, as shown by the examination of swabs at the Nottingham City Laboratory, three weeks after the onset of the disease. To show the

necessity of this, I may mention that in five instances, although the throats looked perfectly healthy, the organism causing the disease was found to be still present at the first examination, necessitating a second swab being sent after another three weeks' interval. In one instance a third examination was necessary before safety could be assured. These examinations entailed a cost to your Council of £2 12s. 6d.

Anti-toxin serum is still supplied gratis by your Council to such people who cannot afford to pay for it.

TYPHOID OR ENTERIC FEVER.—That no case of this formidable disease was notified during the year speaks well for our sanitary administration, since no disease is so prone to follow in the footsteps of insanitary defects. The cool moist summer undoubtedly lessened the risk by diminishing dust, by decreasing the number of flies, and by keeping the sewers well flushed. Still so long as we are so dependent on the dry method of excreta removal we must be apprehensive of this disease, if once started, spreading somewhat rapidly, and for this reason, if for no other, it would be well for us to hasten the conversion of the present somewhat antiquated system to the more modern and hygienic water carriage system.

ERYSIPELAS.—The four cases of this disease call for no special comment, and led to no serious results. So far as I can see this disease might with advantage be struck off the list of notifiable diseases.

PUERPERAL FEVER.—No case of this disease has been notified during the year. Fortunately for the poorer classes in Beeston, a second midwife is now installed in our midst—one trained to the care and necessities of absolute cleanliness in the management of such cases. Under the Midwives Act of 1902, no woman can now practise as a midwife without going through a special training and obtaining a certificate from the Central Midwives Board, with the exception of those who were previously to the passing of the Act, practising as such. These latter untrained midwives are gradually giving up work, and in a few years to come only trained midwives will exist, much to the advantage of the women they are called in to attend.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

MEASLES.—In the absence of notification of this disease, no estimate of the number of cases can be formed. In October and November several cases occurred in the lower part of the town, but at no time did it assume the proportions of an epidemic. Still two deaths resulted from it, and its complications, and it cannot be too widely known how serious this disease may be. I find the majority of parents treat it very lightly, and it is only when some serious complication has arisen that a doctor is called in—often too late to save life.

WHOOPING COUGH.—Though never very prevalent, also accounted for two deaths. Like Measles, Whooping Cough is very infectious, even in its earliest stages, and for this reason where numbers of young children are congregated together in our elementary schools it is impossible to prevent either of them from spreading unless early closure of the infants' department be adopted.

DIARRHŒA.—The same remarks I made with regard to Typhoid Fever relate to this disease, and owing to the cool moist weather experienced during July, August, and September, we have had a remarkable immunity from epidemic diarrhœa. So far as I know, as a general practitioner, very few cases occurred, and no deaths resulted therefrom. Still I cannot refrain from again warning parents and others having the care of very young children against the danger of leaving milk and other food exposed to the influence of the common house fly, which has been conclusively proved to be one of the principal agents in causing and distributing both these diseases.

INFLUENZA.—Seems to be dying a natural death either by attenuation of the specific organism that causes the disease or by immunity to its attack from repeated invasions on the part of its hosts. One death was recorded from this disease.

PHTHISIS OR CONSUMPTION.—I regret to find that the number of deaths from this disease has again increased, no less than 10 having been recorded, while 4 other deaths resulted from other tuberculous diseases. It has been estimated that for every death at least six other cases exist, so that on this basis we have the large number of 60 consumptives in our midst—each a danger to himself and a menace to those about him.

The following table shows our record for the last 10 years:—

	Phthisis.	Other tubercular diseases.
1910	10	4
1909	5	2
1908	7	8
1907	9	4
1906	6	2
1905	14	8
1904	17	4
1903	15	4
1902	11	7
1901	6	2
Average to 10 years 10.		4.5

The death-rate from Phthisis alone for the year is 0.8, and for all tubercular diseases 1.1. At present we have no means of combating this insidious but fatal disease. Until it is placed on the notifiable list of diseases, we as a Health Authority have no means of hearing of such cases, and little opportunity of doing anything tangible in controlling the spread of the disease. Under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations Act, 1908, cases coming under the cognisance of the Parish Medical Officer are notified to the Medical Officer of Health, but for the year under review (1910) no such case was sent in. We have no provision made for the treatment of Phthisis within the district, but as a step in the right direction your Council has decided to give an annual donation of £10 to the Notts. Sanatorium situated near Mansfield, in order to enable us to send any case there that we think deserving, and in an early enough stage of the disease to be benefited by the treatment. Meantime one can only reiterate that the greatest safeguards against consumption are plenty of fresh air both by day and night, sunlight, regular abstemious habits and good food. I would also wish again to point out how important it is to thoroughly disinfect a room lately occupied by a consumptive, and how willing we are as a Sanitary

Authority, to do this, if our attention be drawn to it by the doctor in attendance or the patient's relatives. In this connection it would be desirable for me to have the Registrar's returns of deaths weekly, so that I might get on the track of such cases more quickly than I can do now with monthly returns.

MILK SUPPLY.—I have little to add to the remarks I made in my last and previous Reports on this important subject. All the cowsheds and dairies have been inspected by the Sanitary Inspector and myself twice during the year, and while much still remains to be done to the former, before we can consider them approaching perfection, still more regard is paid to the removal of manure to a greater distance from the cowsheds than used to be the case, and more attention is being paid to ventilation, lighting and general cleanliness. With regard to the question of ventilation, if farmers would but realise that cows are just as susceptible to consumption as human beings, and that the conditions favourable to prevention is the same in both, viz., abundance of fresh air, sunlight and cleanliness, we should see far less of stuffy, dark, dirty, byres than we do now. Unfortunately there is a popular opinion held by that most conservative class of people—the farmer—that cows will not yield much milk if kept in cool surroundings, and it is for that reason that they are kept in more unhygienic conditions than any animal, except perhaps the pig. That it is a fallacy has been proved over and over again, Nature having endowed the cow, as all other animals, with a means of protecting itself by growing more hair when exposed to colder surroundings.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL AND SCAVENGING.—No radical modification of our methods of sewage disposal and scavenging have been made during the year. The number of tubs, viz., 2,200 is practically the same, the only alteration being that we are gradually substituting galvanised iron pails for the wooden tubs hitherto used. About 500 of these are now in use and are proving eminently satisfactory. All the tubs, whether wooden or galvanised, are collected weekly and taken down to the farm to be emptied, cleansed and disinfected. This work is done by your sanitary staff between the hours of 10 p.m. and 7 a.m., and on the whole is done satisfactorily. In addition to these 2,200 tubs, 750 dry ash bins are collected weekly and deposited in a disused gravel pit, together with the monthly collection of tins and other refuse.

In consequence of a report I made in September on the administration and management of a sewage farm a committee was formed and met at the farm to discuss the matter. As a result of this meeting the following resolutions were passed:—

- (1)—That at least 20 acres be utilized for sewage irrigation only.
The Surveyor to report monthly as to the areas being used.
- (2)—That six rows of suitable osiers be planted on the sides of farm nearest Railway and Meadow Road.
- (3)—That attention be given to main effluent drain.
- (4)—That the Surveyor report on the question of additional outlets from the main carrier.
- (5)—That alterations be made to the main shafting in the pumping station in order to allow of both engines being worked together if necessary.
- (6)—That the Premier Gas Engine be overhauled and the makers be asked to express their opinion as to the practicability of working both centrifugal pumps with this engine.

- (7)—That after April the Farm Committee be discontinued, any questions as to crops being left in the hands of a Sub-Committee appointed by the Health Committee.

All these resolutions were adopted by the Council and have been carried out. They are a decided step in the right direction and will for a time overcome many of the difficulties we have been labouring under. The increased area allowed for irrigation purposes only, should get rid of the objectionable method of ponding the sewage on particular plots for months at a time, which I have been inveighing against for years, while the increased pumping facilities should prevent the accumulation of sewage in the low lying sewers during the night.

With regard to the heap of night soil deposited at the farm not more than 800 loads have been taken away by farmers.

It is found that the oldest heap is now entirely free from organic matter, consisting of nothing but ashes. This can be utilized on the farm roads and embankments, which can absorb 3,000 or 4,000 loads. It would be very desirable to extend the accommodation road at the farm in a southerly direction to a point beyond the dyke, so that the new night soil can be removed to a greater distance from existing houses. The outfall culverts at the farm were thoroughly cleaned out in January. I can see no reason why this should not be done annually instead of being left two or three years as heretofore. It would prevent the great accumulation of sediment which must be objectionable in every way. The engine and both centrifugal pumps have been overhauled by the makers, and both pumps can now be used together when required. The 21 inch iron sewer extending from the City along Humber Road to the farm has been thoroughly cleaned out, and catch pits have been built in convenient positions to intercept the road detritus which has given so much trouble in the past. One hundred and fifty tons of heavy deposit were removed which previously blocked the sewer to 14 inches of its total capacity. This sewer is now delivering 200,000 gallons per day or half the total quantity discharged at the farm. It would probably take more, but not without running the risk of flooding the City in times of storm, which I am glad to say has not once happened during the year.

All the outfall sewers and culverts were carefully gauged on two separate days during January, hourly records being taken, and no rain having fallen for two weeks. The average daily flow was found to be 419,000 gallons, the minimum flow which occurred at 5 a.m. being at the rate of 6,263 gallons per hour. The number of gallons per head per day is 37. It is proposed to continue these gaugings in the summer in order to ascertain the dry weather flow. During the year six of the remaining insanitary middens have been converted to water carriage, leaving only 16 in the Parish. Half the cost of this conversion was defrayed by your Council as provided under the Public Health Acts Amendment Act. This is a step in the right direction, but while one of these eminently unhygienic and objectionable structures remains in our midst I shall not cease my endeavours to have them removed.

During the year the Council has approved plans for 29 houses, and 23 new houses have been certified as being fit for habitation. With one exception, all the new houses were in streets north of the High Road. One new bakehouse has been built in Mona Street—this has been erected in accordance with the Council's regulations. I should like to point out, however, that external stoking of the oven is most desirable

where practicable, the presence of dust and ashes in the making-up room not being conducive to ideal conditions. A temporary motor garage has been erected on land off Chilwell Road, which forms an addition to one previously erected, and is allowed to remain so long as the Council's sanction is obtained by the owner from year to year. A more permanent garage has been built in Station Road, which complies with the Factory and Workshops Act in every respect. Two lock-up shops were also erected during the year, one of which comes under the Factory and Workshops Act.

In addition to the above the following have been built:—3 private motor sheds, 1 laundry (converted from existing workshop), 4 stables, and also 13 alterations and additions to existing buildings.

The ground floor room of the old silk mill has been provided with sufficient exits to allow of it being used as a place of public entertainment. In this connection I may say that where regular cinematograph shows are held, the Local Authority must see that sufficient exits are provided, and the County Council issue the licence only after this has been done.

The drains of all new houses are subjected to the water test before being certified as sound.

Plans for the Bramcote Road Building Estate containing about 1,050 yards of new streets were deposited in November, but have not yet received the sanction of the Council.

In consequence of the flood which occurred early in December, considerable discomfort was occasioned to the inhabitants of the lower part of the township. From observations made on December 4th, at 9 a.m., when the maximum height was reached, the level was 88.72 above Ordnance Datum, or $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches above the street step entrance to the Union Church in Dovecote Lane. The rail level at the station is 88.71, and these were just awash. The highest flood level ever recorded occurred in October, 1875, and reached at the Lock House to 89.49, as against 88.53 this time, a difference of practically 9 inches in favour of the former.

The flood level of all new houses in the lower part of Beeston as fixed by the Council is 89.07, which is $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches above the maximum height reached during the recent floods.

The backing-up of drains and sewers during times of flood cannot be prevented, and beyond the inconvenience caused, the damage to property was small. Several of the low lying yards in streets off the Queen's Road were pumped out by the Council's Workmen, and this, coupled with a liberal supply of disinfectants, prevented an epidemic of any kind.

NUISANCES.—The following complaints have been dealt with during the year by your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Bush:—Stopped up or defective drains and gulleys, 28; defective yard paving, 2; insufficient closet accommodation, 4; insufficient ashpit, 6; offensive cess-pools, 2; offensive dykes, 6; stagnant water under dwelling house floor, 1; smoke nuisance, 4; offensive trade refuse, 3; offensive pig styes, 2; other nuisances, 3. None of these relate to factories or workshops, which are given elsewhere.

The Housing and Town Planning Act, 1909, will form an epoch in the social legislation of this country. The passing of this Act throws great responsibilities upon all Sanitary Authorities and their Medical Officers. The Local Government Board are taking measures to compel all Local Authorities to immediately carry out the provisions of the above Act, particularly Part 3 thereof, which requires that all houses let at a yearly rent of £16 and under shall be inspected and reported upon from time to time. The Act provides that where a house is let for £16 per annum and under, "the condition is implied, in the contract for letting, that the house is fit for habitation and includes in the implication a condition that the landlord shall keep the house in a state reasonably fit for habitation during the holding." The same Section (Section 15) also gives power to the Local Authority in regard to landlords who make default in this respect. This should greatly strengthen the hands of the Local Authority, for, previously under the Public Health Act of 1875, it was necessary either to prove the existence of a statutory nuisance, or to show to the satisfaction of a Court of Summary Jurisdiction that the house was in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation. The Local Government Board in a circular letter addressed to Urban Council Authorities trust that Councils will not hesitate to use their powers under the new section.

In connection with the inspection of houses by the Medical Officer of Health, or by an Officer designated by the Local Authority, but acting under his direction and supervision, accurate records must be kept of the inspections, and submitted to the Local Authority at its monthly meetings that they may take such action within their powers as may be necessary or desirable in regard to any dwelling house to which the records relate, and a note of any directions so given and the result of any action taken shall be added to the records. These records must contain information under appropriate headings as to:—

- (1)—The situation of the dwelling house, and its name and number.
- (2)—The name of the officer who made the inspection.
- (3)—The date of inspection.
- (4)—The date of the last previous inspection and a reference to the record thereof.
- (5)—The state of the dwelling house in regard to:—
 - (A) Arrangements for preventing contamination of water supply.
 - (B) Closet accommodation.
 - (C) Drainage.
 - (D) The condition of the house in regard to light, the free circulation of air, dampness and cleanliness.
 - (E) The paving, drainage, and sanitary condition of any yard or outhouses belonging to or occupied with the dwelling house.
 - (F) The arrangements for the deposit of refuse and ashes.
 - (G) The existence of any room which would in pursuance of subsection 7 of Section 17 be a dwelling house so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.
 - (H) Any defects in other matters which may tend to render the dwelling house dangerous or injurious to the health of an inhabitant.

(6)—Any action taken by the Medical officer of Health, or other officer of the Local Authority, either independently or on the direction of the Local Authority.

(7)—The result of any action so taken.

(8)—Any further action which should be taken in respect of the dwelling house.

If the District Council fails to take action the County Council can do so.

It will be the duty of the Local Authority to inspect houses said to be unfit for habitation, and to close them until they are made fit, at the expense of the owner.

Should the owner fail to make the necessary repairs and alterations, the Local Authority can do the work and charge the expense to the owner, or such houses can be demolished.

Failing action by the Local Authorities, the Local Government Board reserves to itself the right to step in and enforce these duties.

Facilities will be given for public loans for housing purposes at a cheaper rate, and provisions are made to encourage the erection of cottages in rural districts by Local Councils.

Part II of the Act deals with town planning and need not be considered in this Report.

From this very brief resumé of the Act it will be seen that much solid and beneficent work confronts us. A large proportion of the houses in Beeston are modern, but in the older parts of the township there are numbers that require close attention, and, I fear, much alteration, before we can consider them hygienic or desirable dwellings.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND OUTWORKERS.—The work entailed by the Factory and the Workshops Act of 1901 steadily increases year by year. Owing to the sub-division of the Anglo-Scotian Mills and Humber Works into separate tenements (each tenement being in the eye of the law a factory) there are now 48 factories in Beeston. All of these have been inspected by your Sanitary Inspector and myself on three occasions during the year. The sub-division of the works referred to above has necessitated considerable alterations and additions to the sanitary accommodation for both sexes, and also to the exits required in case of fire. These have been willingly done by the owners at the suggestion of and under the supervision of your Inspector. Twenty written notices were sent in as to minor matters such as white-washing, want of flushing in urinals, dirty yards, etc. All were immediately rectified, and in this connection I would again wish to say how courteously all our suggestions are taken, and how willingly they are carried out.

WORKSHOPS.—Sixty-one of these are now on the register and have been inspected on an average three times during the year. Nine written notices have been sent for trivial matters which have been immediately remedied. Special attention has been devoted to the 19 bakehouses (15 occupied), and the 8 slaughter-houses (7 occupied), and little fault can be found with the way these are kept. In one slaughter-house we found that pigs were being kept in the fasting pen directly communicating with the slaughter-house where meat was hanging. This of course was not permissible and was at once stopped.

The Outworkers' premises are kept in a cleanly condition, and in no instance was work being done in a house where any infectious disease was present.

In conclusion, I desire to express to the Chairman and Members of the Council my thanks for their courtesy and kind attention to any suggestions made by me, and also to your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Bush, for much help and information in the compilation of this Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

FRANK ROTHERA, M.D.,

Medical Officer of Health.



TABLE I.
BEESTON URBAN DISTRICT.
Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1910 and Previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year.	Births.		Total Deaths registered in the district			At all Ages.			Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.			Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.			Nett Deaths at all Ages belonging to the District	
		Number.	Rate.*	Under 1 year of age.		Rate per 1,000 Births registered	Number.	Rate.*	Rate.*	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Rate.*	Rate.*	Number	Rate.*
				Number.	Rate.*												
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
1900	10185	243	23.8	23	94.6	99	9.7	9.7	14	130	12.0	14	130	12.0	14	130	12.0
1901	8950	278	31.0	38	136.0	118	13.1	13.1	13	131	11.3	13	131	11.3	13	131	11.3
1902	9729	267	27.4	25	93.6	97	10.0	10.0	18	159	13.7	18	159	13.7	18	159	13.7
1903	10377	278	26.7	23	82.7	112	10.7	10.7	19	130	10.9	19	130	10.9	19	130	10.9
1904	10692	300	28.0	47	156.6	155	14.4	14.4	15	114	10.1	15	114	10.1	15	114	10.1
1905	10800	286	26.4	30	104.8	116	10.7	10.7	15	132	11.3	15	132	11.3	15	132	11.3
1906	11533	278	24.1	41	147.4	118	10.2	10.2	13	130	10.1	13	130	10.1	13	130	10.1
1907	12046	323	26.8	27	83.5	141	11.7	11.7	15	132	11.3	15	132	11.3	15	132	11.3
1908	11844	317	26.7	32	100.0	111	9.3	9.3	13	130	10.1	13	130	10.1	13	130	10.1
1909	11286	279	24.7	26	91.3	99	8.7	8.7	13	130	10.1	13	130	10.1	13	130	10.1
Average for yrs. 1900-1909	10744	284	26.5	31	109.0	116	10.8	10.8	13	130	10.1	13	130	10.1	13	130	10.1
1910	11817	309	26.1	32	103.5	117	9.9	9.9	13	130	10.1	13	130	10.1	13	130	10.1

*Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population.

Total population at all ages 8,950

Number of inhabited houses..... 1,978 } At Census of 1901

Average number of persons per house... 4.5

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water)... 1,586.

TABLE II.

Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1910 and previous years.

Name of District, BEESTON (Notts.)

NAMES OF LOCALITIES.		1.—BEESTON.			
YEAR.		Population estimated to middle of each year.	Births registered.	Deaths at all Ages.	Deaths under 1 Year.
		A	B	C	D
1900	...	10,185	243	99	23
1901	...	8,950	278	118	38
1902	...	9,729	267	97	25
1903	...	10,377	278	112	23
1904	...	10,692	300	155	47
1905	...	10,800	286	116	30
1906	...	11,533	278	118	41
1907	...	12,046	323	141	27
1908	...	11,844	317	111	32
1909	...	11,286	279	99	26
Averages of } Years 1900 to 1909		10,744	284	116	31
1910	...	11,817	309	117	32

TABLE III. **Cases of Infectious Disease Notified during the Year 1910.**

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED IN WHOLE DISTRICT.						
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards.
Small-pox	0						
Cholera	0						
Diphtheria including } Membranous croup }	20		4	10	4	2	
Erysipelas	4				2	1	1
Scarlet fever...	21		5	12	2	2	
Typhus fever	0						
Enteric fever	0						
Relapsing fever	0						
Continued fever	0						
Puerperal fever	0						
Plague	0						
Totals	45	0	9	22	8	5	1

Number of Cases removed to Hospital—Scarlet Fever 1.

Isolation Hospital: Small Pox Isolation Hospital, at Hucknall Torkard.

Total available beds, 12 to 20.

Number of Diseases that can be concurrently treated: Small-pox-only.

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at Death, during Year 1910.**Name of District: BEESTON, (Notts).**

CAUSE OF DEATH. 1	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards.
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Small-pox	0						
Measles	2		2				
Scarlet Fever	3		2			1	
Whooping-Cough... ..	2		2				
Diphtheria including Mem- branous Croup... ..	1			1			
Croup	0						
Fever { Typhus	0						
Enteric	0						
Other continued	0						
Influenza	1	1					
Cholera	0						
Plague	0						
Diarrhœa	0						
Enteritis	4	3	1				
Gastritis	0						
Puerperal Fever	0						
Erysipelas	0						
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis	10				1	8	1
Other Tuberculous Diseases	4	1	2		1		
Cancer, malignant Diseases	15			1		10	4
Bronchitis	11	2				1	8
Pneumonia	4	1	2			1	
Pleurisy	0						
Other Diseases of Respira- tory Organs... ..	0						
Alcoholism	2					1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	2						
Venereal Diseases... ..	2	2					
Premature Birth	15	15					
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	0						
Heart Diseases	13			1		8	4
Accidents	0						
Suicides	0						
Debility from Birth	5	5					
Convulsions	2		2				
Apoplexy	6					3	3
Senile Decay	14						14
All other Causes	14	3	3	1		6	1
All Causes	130	33	16	4	2	39	36

Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public
Institutions in the District : None.

TABLE V.

Infantile Mortality during the year 1910.

Deaths from stated causes in weeks and months under One Year of age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.			Under 1 week.	1-2 weeks.	2-3 weeks.	3-4 weeks.	Til under 1 mth.	1-2 months	2-3 months	3-4 months	4-5 months	5-6 months	6-7 months	7-8 months	8-9 months	9-10 months	10-11 months	11-12 months	Total deaths under 1 year.
All Causes, Certified ...			13	2	1	1	17	3	3	1	0	3	0	1	1	1	1	2	33
" Uncertified ...																			0
Common Infectious Diseases,	Small Pox ...																		0
	Chicken Pox ...																		0
	Measles ...																		0
	Scarlet Fever ...																		0
	Diphtheria, Croup...																		0
	Whooping Cough...																		0
Diarrhœal Diseases	Diarrhœa all forms																		0
	Enteritis ...								1	1		1							3
	Gastritis ...																		0
Wasting Diseases	Premature Birth ...		12	2		1	15		1										16
	Congenital Defects		1				1												1
	Injury at Birth.																		0
	Want of Breast Milk																		0
	Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...					1	1	1											3
Tuberculous Diseases	Tuberculous Meningitis ...																		0
	Tuberculous Peritonitis																		0
	Tabes Mesenterica ...														1				1
	Other Tuberculous Diseases ...																		0
	Erysipelas ...																		0
Other Causes.	Syphilis ...							2											2
	Rickets ...											1					1	1	3
	Meningitis ...																		0
	Convulsions ...																		0
	Bronchitis ...													1				1	2
	Laryngitis ...																		0
	Pneumonia ...											1							1
	Suffocation, overlying																		0
	Other Causes ...																	1	1
	Total all Causes		13	2	1	1	17	3	3	1	0	3	0	1	1	1	1	2	33

District (or sub-Division) of Beeston.

Population estimated to middle of 1910, 11,817.

Births in the Year.	Legitimate 296.	Deaths in the Year.	Legitimate Infants 33
	Illegitimate 13.		Illegitimate Infants 0

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1910, for the Urban District of Beeston, (Notts.),

On the Administration of the Factory and Workshops Act, 1901,
in connection with
FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES, AND HOMEWORK.

INSPECTIONS.

Premises.	Number of			
	On Regis- ter.	Inspe- ctions	Writ'n N'tic's	Prosecu- tions.
FACTORIES AND TENEMENT FACTORIES (Including Factory Laundries)	48	144	20	0
WORKSHOPS (Including Workshop Laundries)	61	183	9	0
WORKPLACES (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report.)	0	0	0	0
Total,	109	327	29	0

DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars,	Number of Defects.			
	Found	Reme- died.	Refr'd to HM Insp'n	Prosecu- tions.
NUISANCES UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT :-				
Want of Cleanliness... ..	4	4		
Overcrowding	0			
Want of Drainage of Floors	0			
Other Nuisances	8	8		
Sanitary } Insufficient	10	10		
accomodation. } Unsuitable or defective	2	2		
Not seperate for sexes	3	3		
OFFENCES UNDER FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT :-				
Illegal occupation of Underground Bake- house (s. 101)	0			
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)	0			
Other Offences	0			
(Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in part 3 of this Report)				
Total	27	27		

OTHER MATTERS.

Particulars.	Number
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories ...	None
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 133)	8
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5) } Notified by H.M. Inspector ...	None
Other	None
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101)	None
Certificates granted during the year	None
In use at the end of the year... ..	None
	Number of Outworkers.
	Con-tractors, Work-men.
HOMEWORK :—	Lists
Lace, lace curtains and nets—	
Once in the year	9 2 10
Lists received from Employers	
Twice in the year	30 2 181
	39 4 191
Addresses of outworkers, received from other Councils	46
Addresses of Outworkers, forwarded to other Councils	49
Notices served on occupiers as to keeping or sending Lists :	35
Number of Inspections of Outworkers' premises ...	90
Orders prohibiting Homework in infected premises, (ss. 109, 110).	0
REGISTERED WORKSHOPS :—	
Workshops on Register (s. 131) at the end of year	
Bakehouses (15 occupied)	19
Slaughter Houses (7 occupied)	8
Tailors' Workshops	3
Dressmakers'	3
Plumbers'	5
Builders' and Joiners'	11
Painters' and Decorators'	7
Various	5
Total Workshops on Register ...	61

FRANK ROTHERA, M.D.,

February, 1910.

Medical Officer of Health.

THE WEATHER OF 1910.

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS.

AT BEESTON FIELDS, NOTTINGHAM.

210 feet above sea level.

Readings at 9 a.m. daily.

TEMPERATURE,				RAINFALL.		
	Mean.	Above or below Mean.		Total fall, Inches.	Above or below Average.	No. of days on which Rain fell.
January... ..	37.3	— .1		2.19	+ .21	
February	40.6	+ 2.0		2.06	+ .29	
March	42.9	+ 1.9		.65	— 1.24	
April	45.1	— .6		1.84	+ .12	
May	54.4	+ 2.4		2.35	+ .16	
June	59.7	+ 1.9		2.26	+ .19	
July	58.4	— 2.6		2.91	+ .16	
August	59.9	+ .2		3.77	+ 1.04	
September	55.3	— .4		.90	— 1.07	
October	51.2	+ 2.7		1.87	— .99	
November	36.8	— 5.5		3.79	+ 1.58	
December	42.6	+ 4.6		5.02	+ 2.58	
	48.7	+ .5		29.61	+ 3.03	195

The wettest year since 1905.

GEORGE FELLOWS,

THE WEATHER OF 1810.

SUMMARY OF OBSERVATIONS.

AT EXETER FARM, WILMINGTON.

Readings at 9 a.m. daily.

210 feet above sea level.

TEMPERATURE.		WIND.		HUMIDITY.		RAIN.		STATE OF SKY.		REMARKS.	
Month.	Day.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.
January	1	32.0	20.0	30.0	18.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
February	1	35.0	22.0	32.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
March	1	38.0	25.0	35.0	23.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
April	1	40.0	28.0	37.0	26.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
May	1	42.0	30.0	39.0	28.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
June	1	45.0	33.0	42.0	31.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
July	1	48.0	36.0	45.0	34.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
August	1	50.0	38.0	47.0	36.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
September	1	48.0	36.0	45.0	34.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
October	1	45.0	33.0	42.0	31.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
November	1	42.0	30.0	39.0	28.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0
December	1	40.0	28.0	37.0	26.0	0.0	0.0	1.0	0.0	1.0	0.0

The observations were taken at 9 a.m. daily.

