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### BEESTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1925,

Including a survey of the period 1921-5.



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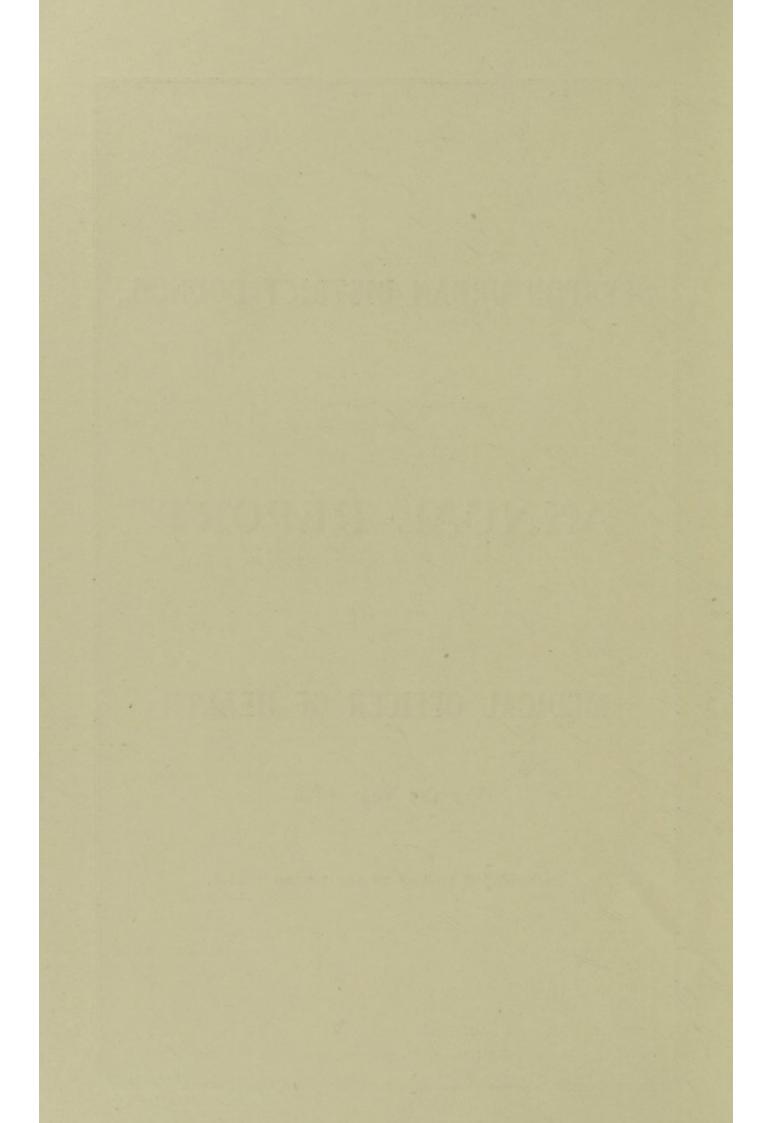
# ANNUAL REPORT

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### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1925,

Including a survey of the period 1921-5.



### Beeston Urban District Council.

#### Members (1925).

Chairman:

MRS. E. LITTLEWOOD, J.P., 3, Middle Street.

Vice-Chairman:

MR. W. THUMS, 72, High Road.

MR. J. R. ANDERSON, Bruno House.

MR. G. BURROWS, 64, Imperial Road.

MR. W. H. GEORGE, 7, High Road.

MR. J. HEARD, 66, Imperial Road.

MR. W. IRELAND, 101, Marlborough Road.

MR. R. MARVIN, Grange Avenue.

MR. T. J. MEAKIN, 2, The City.

MR. H. PARRY, 89, Wollaton Road.

MR. A. REDWOOD, 28, Enfield Street.

MR. W. THOMAS, 45, Dovecote Lane.

MR. I. THORNHILL, 57, High Road.

MR E. WEST, 33, Farfield Avenue.

MR. J. WILLBERY, 51, Marlborough Road.

#### Officers :

Clerk :

MR. W. H. REDGATE, Public Offices and Wheeler Gate, Nottingham. (Deceased, 1925.)

Medical Officer of Health:

C. H. WARNER, M.D., B.S., B.Sc., D.P.H., F.I.C., Alma House, Southwell.

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector:

MR. ERNEST A. BUSH, Public Offices and Cromwell Road.

Collector and Assistant Overseer:

MR. ARTHUR KIRKLAND, Public Offices and Imperial Road.

Treasurer:

MR. A. S. PAGE, Midland Bank, Ltd., High Road.

Health Visitor:

NURSE A. ROSE, Elm Avenue.

### ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

### MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TO THE

### Beeston Urban District Council, FOR THE YEAR 1925.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MRS. LITTLEWOOD, AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you my Sixth Annual Report. According to instructions received from the Ministry of Health, the present compilation takes the form of a "Survey Report," and deals not only with the events of the past year, but also with the measure of progress made in the District during the preceding five years in the improvement of the Public Health, and the extent and character of the changes made during that period in the Public Health Services of the Area.

If at this stage reference be made only to the comprehensive scheme by which the pail-closets of the District were converted to the water-carriage system in 1922-4; to the Council's Housing activities; and to the extension of the Child Welfare and Maternity work of the District, culminating in the provision of a new and commodious building shortly to be opened for use as a Centre, one might hazard the conjecture that rarely, if ever, in any previous period of five years has such progress been made.

# NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

#### GENERAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT.

Area of District in acres	
Population:  According to 1911 Census  According to 1921 Census  As estimated by the Registral General for middle of 1925  Population per acre	12,462
Number of Inhabited Houses (1921)	54,914

# PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTERS OF THE AREA.

Beeston lies to the south-west of Nottingham, with which City it is connected by adequate train and motor omnibus services. The centre of the Town is about four miles distant from Nottingham Market Place. The highest point in the District (213 feet above sea level), is near the northern boundary, and from this elevation the ground, generally speaking, slopes southwards to the Trent, where the level is about 80 feet at the river bank, the lowest point in the District.

The Sub-Soil is composed for the most part of gravel which lies on sand-stone. These geological formations, together with the prevailing gentle slope, favour effective drainage of surface water. Certain areas in the more low-lying parts of the Town are, however, liable to occasional flooding after heavy rain. There is clay on the north western side of the Parish where, I am told, there was a brick-yard in former days.

# SOCIAL CONDITIONS. CHIEF INDUSTRIES.

The manufacture of lace, normally the chief occupation of Beeston, remains in a depressed condition; important allied indusiries are Hosiery and Embroidery, and the treatment of Artificial Silk. The largest number of hands (1,500) is employed in Telephone Works, and an Iron Foundry (for boilers and radiators), extensive Creosote works for dipping railway sleepers, and a factory where Horticultural Buildings are made should also be mentioned in this connection.

No industry in the district requires special mention as being injurious to health.

#### EXTENT OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND POOR-LAW RELIEF.

Some figures are given under these headings as helping to throw light on the social conditions of the district.

Number of Unemployed on Labour Exchange Register.

On 31st December,	1921		 920
,,	1922		 456
,,	1923		 379
,,	1924		 384
,,	1925		 386
	Out-Rel	ief.	
Year ended:			£
31st March, 1921			 711
,, 1922			 1596
,, 1923			 2648
,, 1924			 1844
,, 1925			 1583
,, 1926			 1616

#### VITAL STATISTICS.

The Vital Statistics for 1925, together with those for preceding years, are given in a table in the appendix (page 29). Certain extracts may, however, be conveniently included here:—

E	BIRTHS.		
	Total.	Males.	Females.
Births-Legitimate	230	118	112
" Illegitimate		10	5
Birth-rate (Births per 1,000 of		n)	18.8
D	EATHS.		
	Total.	Males.	Females.
Deaths (at all ages)	151	81	70
,, (under 1 year)		11	9
General Death-rate (Deaths pe	r 1,000 of	f population)	. 11.6
Infantile Mortality Rate (Deat)	hs of Infa	ints under one year	r
of age per 1,000 birti	hs		. 81.6

A glance at the table in the appendix (page 29) shows that both the birth-rate and the death-rate remain practically the same as those for last year. Had it not been for the epidemics of Measles and Whooping Cough, which together accounted for ten deaths as compared with none in 1924, the death-rate would have been appreciably lower.

Both rates compare favourably with those for England and Wales as a whole.

The Infantile Mortality Rate is discussed under the heading "Maternity and Child Welfare" (page 27).

# GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

## HOSPITALS PROVIDED OR SUBSIDISED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY OR BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL.

For Fevers.—Under arrangements made by the Beeston Urban District Council with the Basford Rural District Council, cases of Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Typhoid Fever are admitted to the Basford Sanatorium.

For Small-Pox.—The Council, in common with the Urban Districts of Arnold, Carlton and Hucknall, and the Rural District of Stapleford, owns the Rushcliffe Isolation Hospital at Hucknall. During the five years under review, the accommodation has been increased by the provision of an additional hut, central heating has been installed throughout, and other improvements have been made. There is now accommodation for about 50 patients. No case of

Small-pox has occurred in Beeston during the period in question and, consequently, the Town has derived only indirect benefit from its share in the Hospital, but the liberal use of the institution by other authorities has resulted in very heavy, though unavoidable, expense to this District.

For Tuberculosis.—The Ransom Sanatorium, Mansfield, an excellently equipped institution provided by the County Council, is available, and 12 Beeston residents were admitted during 1925.

#### OTHER HOSPITALS AVAILABLE FOR THE DISTRICT.

The General Hospital, the Children's Hospital, the Hospital for Women and the Eye Infirmary, in Nottingham, afford facilities which are freely utilised by Beeston residents, many of whom also avail themselves of the out-patient treatment given at the Nottingham General Dispensary.

A development of some importance is the opening by the Cripple's Guild, in Nottingham, of premises where any child on a Doctor's recommendation can obtain expert advice on orthopædic subjects. Beds are available for in-patient treatment.

#### BEESTON ORPHANAGE.

This institution provides accommodiation for twenty-one boys and thirty girls between the ages of five and fourteen years, and I understand that it will shortly be possible to take in twelve additional children.

There is no institutional provision for un-married women or illegitimate infants in the District.

#### AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

For Infectious Cases.—The Basford Sanatorium and the Rushcliffe Hospital supply the ambulances necessary for the removal of patients to these Institutions.

For Non-Infectious Cases.—The British Red Cross (21st) Beeston Branch was formed on August 27th, 1925, when a Committee and qualified ambulance workers were appointed. Dr. Cole generously undertook to act as instructor to those attending First Aid Classes.

A Motor Ambulance was provided by the Society free of charge, except for a small annual contribution to the General Fund. Certain conditions as to its use were stipulated, the most important being that no infectious cases are conveyed, and that no charge is made to poor persons.

The cost of upkeep is defrayed by public subscription, a very generous response to an appeal having been made.

The Ambulance is available for residents of Beeston, Chilwell, Attenborough, Bramcote and Toton.

During the five months ending December 31st, 1925, 58 cases were dealt with, 16 being accidents and the remainder urgent cases for operation at the General Hospital, Nottingham.

#### CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Certain information regarding institutions available for this District are given below in summarised form for purposes of reference:

CLINIC	SITUATION.	BY WHOM PROVIDED.	HOURS.
Maternity & Child Welfare Centre	Middle Street,* Beeston	Beeston Urban District Council.	Tues. & Thurs., 2.30—5 p.m.
Tuberculosis Dispensary	Goldsmith St., Nottingham	Notts. County Council.	Wed., 10-12 (Women and Children). 2-3.30 (Men).
Clinic for Venereal Diseases	35, N. Church St. Nottingham	Nottm. Corporation (cost of County patients refunded by the County Council)	see below.

V	ENE	EREAL DISEASE	CLINIC-TIM	IE :	TABLE.
	MA	LES.		FEM	ALES.
	-	10.0—12.0 noon		-	5.0—7.0 p.m.
Wednesday Thursday		6.o—8.o p m.	7	-	10.0—12.0 noon
Saturday	-	6.0 — 8 o p m. 10.0—12.0 noon	Thursday Friday		6.0—8.0 p.m.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

A list of the Public Health Officers of the Local Authority is given below:

- § Medical Officer of Health (part time) and † Officer in charge of the Infant
  Welfare Centre: C. H. Warner, M.D., B.S. B.Sc. (Lond.), D.P.H. (Oxon.), F.I.C.
- § Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor: E. A. Bush,

Member of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

† Health Visitor: Nurse A. Rose, cert. 3 years' general training. Veterinary Inspector: J. C. Heather, M.R.C.V.S. Clerk of Works: J. S Lattin.

Assistant in the Health Department: A. Baldwin.

<sup>\*</sup> The work of the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre will shortly be transferred to new premises in Dovecote Lane.

<sup>§</sup> A grant towards the salary of these Officers is contributed by the County Council.

<sup>†</sup> A grant towards the salary of these Officers is contributed by the Ministry of Health.

#### CHEMICAL WORK.

The Chemical Work undertaken for the Council consists chiefly of the examination of water. Tests are carried out by the Council's Officials, and samples are frequently referred to a consulting chemist in Nottingham. Certain details are given under the heading Water (page 12).

#### PROFESSIONAL NURSING IN THE HOME.

- (a) General.—The Beeston Church Nursing Association and the Beeston Nursing Society each provide a Nurse.
- (b) Midwifery.—The Nurse supplied by the Church Nursing Association also functions as a midwife, at suitable fees payable to the Association. There are in all four midwives practising in the District.
- (c) For Infectious Cases.—The need for the provision of homenursing for cases of Measles and Whooping Cough has several times been referred to in these Reports. Recently, with the approval of the Ministry of Health, an attempt was made to come to an arrangement with the two local Nursing Societies, whereby they should allow their Nurses to undertake this work, the necessary precautions being taken, at fees to be agreed upon, but the negotiations fell through. Failing this, it has been decided to engage an outside nurse by the week to take charge of cases of these diseases, should any considerable epidemic occur.

# LEGISLATION IN FORCE. ADOPTIVE ACTS.

The following Acts or parts of Acts have been adopted by the Beeston Urban District Council:—

- 1.—The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890.
- 2.—The Bath and Wash Houses Acts.
- 3.—The Private Street Works Act, 1892.
- 4.—The Notification of Births Act, 1907.
- 5.—The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907.
  Parts ii and iii; Sections 52 to 66 inclusive, and Section 68 of Part iv; Parts v, vi, vii and x.

#### BYE-LAWS.

The principal Bye-laws of the Council relating to Public Health are the following:—

Bye-Laws with respect to New Streets and Buildings (Aug. 1, 1896, supplemented May, 1908, and April, 1909.)

Bye-Laws with respect to Slaughterhouses (Aug. 1, 1896).

Bye-Laws with respect to Nuisances (Aug. 1, 1896).

- Bye-Laws with respect to Cleansing Footways and Pavements (Aug. 1, 1896).
- Bye-Laws with respect to the Management of the Cemetery (Aug. 1, 1896).
- Bye-Laws with respect to the Management of Dovecote Lane Recreation Ground (Aug. 28, 1908).
- Bye-Laws with respect to the Management of Broadgate Recreation Ground (June 16, 1924).

#### New Building Bye-Laws.

The Bye-laws relating to new streets and buildings, passed by the Local Government Board in 1896 have now been revised and new Bye-laws approved (1925). The most important additions are those relating to the strength of timbers, and in future curtilage will be required for all lock-up shops and similar premises. Greater freedom is allowed with regard to the use of constructional materials other than bricks, and there are changes relating to the width of roads and other matters.

The Surveyor considers that with regard to the laying out of new streets, where plans have been submitted and approved, it should be compulsory, before any houses are erected, to show on the ground the new centre level and width of the street. At present, the builders fix their own levels, and the owners of the houses run the risk of having to make alterations to comply with the deposited plans before the street is taken over by the Council.

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

#### WATER.

With the exception of small out-lying areas, Nottingham Corporation water-mains are laid throughout the district. The water is derived partly from the Derwent Valley Water Board, and partly from local supplies. The quality is excellent, without lead-solvent action, and the supply is constant.

The pressure in the higher parts of the District was insufficient for a short period during 1925, and the Corporation met this difficulty by erecting a Boosting Station, which has proved very satisfactory.

The consumption in Beeston per head per day, according to data supplied by the City Water Engineer, has been as follows:—

	1913	19'1 gals.	
1922	 27'7 gals.	1924	28'9 gals.
1923	 27.5 gals.	1925	30°53 gals.

The increase, amounting to more than 50% in twelve years, has been due almost entirely to a greater use of water for commercial purposes.

The supply is led directly into the houses with the exception of 139 old and small dwellings, which are supplied by 30 stand-pipes.

There are six private boreholes in Beeston, varying from 90 to 300 feet in depth. The water, which is used for manufacturing purposes, requires softening before use.

Fifteen dwellings in the Rylands area are supplied from 13 shallow wells in the alluvial gravel. The water from these wells is hard, and varies according to the River level. As a precaution, I have advised all occupiers to boil the water before it is used for drinking purposes. Your Health Officials would be relieved of a source of anxiety if all these houses were supplied with water from the mains. There are, in addition, three wells in other parts of the District supplying four houses.

Samples from all of these wells are tested at frequent intervals by the Council's officials, and further samples are submitted to the analyst if it should appear necessary. As a result, four wells have been condemned since 1920, and three more unsatisfactory wells are being dealt with at the time of writing.

#### RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The River Trent forms the southern boundary of the Parish for a distance of one and a half miles. It receives the effluent from the Council's Sewage Disposal Works. The river is not navigable below the Weir, i.e. from the Lock House to Nottingham, traffic here having to follow the Beeston Canal.

The Beeston Canal receives the overflow from the River above the Weir, and is a constantly flowing stream. The Council have the right to discharge sewage effluent into the Canal. This is done only in time of flood, however.

The Tottle Brook forms part of the north-western boundary of the Parish. It is a clean and comparatively rapidly flowing stream, and after supplying the Lakes on the Highfield Estate (Nottingham), discharges into the Trent.

The Pasture Dyke commences in Chilwell Parish, and after passing through the middle of Beeston, discharges into the Canal. On account of its slight fall, the maintenance of this water-course in a satisfactory condition has always required special attention from the Council's staff.

#### DRAINAGE, SEWERAGE AND CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

In these matters, exceedingly satisfactory progress has been made during the period under review.

In 1921 Albert Road and Frederick Road were sewered, and it was thus possible to abolish four cesspools (draining 38 houses) which were previously emptied by the Council.

1922 saw the commencement of the conversion scheme, 150 pailclosets being done away with.

In 1923 1,992 pail-closets were converted, and in 1924 63 more were dealt with. This completed the conversion scheme, and enabled the night-soil men to be dispensed with. In all, 2,205 pail-closets were converted to the water-carriage system at a total cost of £20,461. As emphasised in my report for 1923, the abolition of the disease-spreading and demoralising pail-closet is an achievement for which the whole Town should be, and I believe is, most deeply grateful to the Council. The beneficial effect of the change will be most evident in connection with premises where food is prepared.

During the course of this work very considerable lengths of old and defective sewers were relaid.

Formerly, sewage from the Rylands district was collected in a tank, from which it was pumped on to a small irregation area; this area is now disused, the pumping main having been connected (in 1923) with the nearest sewer (Meadow Road), whence the sewage gravitates to the Disposal Works.

During the last five years 917 yards of new sewers have been laid in connection with the Council's Housing Scheme, and 916 for new streets.

There are some isolated farms and dwelling houses (about twenty in all), chiefly in the Rylands District, where conversion was not possible, no sewers being laid. These few houses are, for the most part, supplied with pail-closets, and the occupiers in all cases deal with their own refuse, ample land being available for the purpose.

#### SEWAGE DISPOSAL WORKS.

These were laid down in 1914, and consist essentially of a Pumping Station and Destructor, three Dortmund Tanks and four Filting Beds. The pumps are capable of raising 160,000 gals. per hour, steam being provided by the burning of domestic refuse in a two celled Destructor, two gas engines being also available for this purpose. The sewage is pumped into the Dortmund Tanks, where aëration and sedimentation are effected. The fluid from the tanks is sprinkled over the filtering beds, the fourth of which was completed in 1922, where further purification, chiefly by bacterial action, is effected. A final sedimentation takes place in two Humus Tanks.

The effluent is frequently analysed and is quite satisfactory.

During the past five years there has been a great increase in the volume of sewage treated, the chief cause being the conversion to the water-carriage system of more than 2,000 pail-closets, a great augmentation in the volume of trade waste water and the building of new houses. The question of extending the Works is now under consideration.

#### SCAVENGING.

The scavenging of the whole Town is efficiently carried out by the Council's staff.

No cesspool or pail-closet is now emptied by the Local Authority.

Fixed receptacles for ashes and so forth have been done away with, and at the end of the year 3,346 Sanitary bins were being collected weekly by the Council, and the contents (65 tons) of domestic and trade waste burnt by the Destructor. As a matter of fact, more household refuse could be burnt in the home than is at present the case, and it would be an advantage to all concerned if this fact were brought home to the public

#### MANURE PITS.

There have been no complaints as to a nuisance arising from these during the year. Frequent inspection has, however, been necessary in order to prevent unnecessary accumulations. An effort is being made to do away with the five fixed receptacles near Slaughter Houses, as they form breeding grounds for rats and flies.

#### ROAD SURFACE.

Since the roads have been coated with washed gravel and prepared tar, there has been practically no dust, and it has been found unnecessary even to water the roads, if properly swept every day.

#### GENERAL SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

About 410 visits have been made in connection with this work, and notices were served in respect of the following:—

Polluted Wells .			 2
Stopped up and defecti	ive drains		 43
Defective spouts .			 6
			 2
Nuisance from keeping	swine		 I
1 (7			 10
Defective W.C.'s (Flu	shing appa	iratus)	 20
Water in Cellars .			 3
Galvanised Ash Bins .			 12
Smoke nuisance .			 2

All the above nuisances were remedied by the owners without legal proceedings having to be taken.

#### SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Several complaints have been made during the year 1925; even with careful stoking it is difficult to prevent black smoke issuing for a few minutes. The owners of premises where the nuisance has occurred have made any suggested alteration immediately on being notified by the Sanitary Inspector. In most cases it is found that bad stoking has been the cause of the trouble.

In 1923, two offending factory chimneys which were too small were replaced by larger ones. In 1924 the possible methods of preventing unpleasantness from the emission of fumes resulting from certain foundry processes were investigated in considerable detail, but without, for the time being, arriving at a satisfactory result.

#### RECREATION GROUNDS.

Important additions have been made during the five years under review to the area in the District permanently set aside for Recreation. The Broadgate Pleasure Ground was presented to the Town by Sir Louis Pearson, C.B.E.; and of University Park, a gift to the public from Sir Jesse Boot, nearly half is in Beeston Parish.

#### SCHOOLS.

There are two public Elementary Schools in the area, controlled by the Notts Education Committee. The closet and urinal accommodation and the sanitary condition generally, are satisfactory. They are supplied with water from the Corporations mains.

#### FACTORIES AND WORKSHOPS.

These have been frequently inspected, particular attention being paid to the nature and efficiency of the sanitary accommodation, whitewashing and general cleanliness, and the means of escape in case of fire.

Of the larger factories, there are five blocks used for lacemaking, these being sub-divided into twelve separate tenements. Other factories are mentioned on page 6.

Three new factories, concerned with artificial silk, hosiery and embroidery, have been erected during the last five years, and one tenement factory was condemned as being unsafe.

Statistics concerning inspections and defects found are given in a table in the appendix.

Home-work is confined exclusively to the Lace and Hosiery Trades; most of this work is now done at the factories.

### HOUSING.

#### GENERAL HOUSING CONDITIONS.

The total number of houses completed in the District during the last five years is 341, the yearly figures being as follows:—

1920	 14	1923	 40
1921	 34	1924	 105
1922	 34	1925	 114

The Council have encouraged the production of houses by every means in their power. They have themselves erected 128 houses up to the end of 1925 as shown below, and building operations are being continued.

#### HOUSES ERECTED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY.

1921	 29	1923	 10
1922	 27	1924	 26
	1925	36	

In addition, in 1924-5, 146 subsidised houses were put up by private enterprise.

The above sets of figures show a decided increase in the rate of building as a whole, but there is still a marked shortage, as is evidenced by the number (about 350) of applicants on the waiting list for new houses. Apart from the deficiency of houses remaining after the War, we have, of course, to consider the normal increase in population which, during the last few years has been fairly constant, being estimated at 100 to 200 yearly.

It should be added, large building estates will in all probability be developed shortly in the northern part of the District.

#### OVERCROWDING.

Overcrowding, largely due in Beeston as elsewhere, to the cessation of building during the War and the high cost of labour and materials subsequently, remains only too prevalent in the District. Inability to pay increased rents is however, another important factor. Sub-letting is very prevalent. Large families with married sons and daughters live together, and the applicants for Council Houses are largely made up of such, and other lodgers and so forth, rather than actual occupiers of houses; but many of these prefer to put up with inconveniences and menace to health rather than take a new house.

Under the present conditions of house shortage it is exceedingly difficult to deal effectively with overcrowding. One feels that it is not yet possible to take the average case before the Magistrates, but in many instances the Council's officials have been able to put the individuals concerned in the way of finding better accommodation.

#### FITNESS OF HOUSES.

For the most part Beeston is a town built upon modern lines, and the general standard of the houses of the District compares quite favourably with that of most towns of similar type.

The defects found in unfit houses are generally of a minor nature and can be remedied without great difficulty. In very many cases the tenants are not free from blame, but probably the majority of defects which come under observation must be ascribed to lack of proper management and supervision by owners.

In connection with defects due to carelessness of tenants, it may be added that notices calling attention to the need for care in the use of fittings were posted in every closet converted, a scheme which could with advantage be considerably extended.

While minor defects predominate, there are a number of old houses in the District which can never be rendered fit in all respects for human habitation, but until sufficient accommodation is available it is impossible to close or demolish these under the Housing Acts, and, as stated in my last report, sanction has been given for the temporary re-occupation of a number of houses condemned before the War, subject to their being rendered reasonably fit.

It is generally found that when attention has been drawn to a housing defect, the latter has been remedied without the necessity for formal proceedings.

Conditions, so far as they effect housing, as regards water supply, closet accommodation and refuse disposal, together with measures taken in connection with these matters, have been dealt with on pages 11 to 14, and the revision of building bye-laws on page 11.

#### HOUSING STATISTICS (1925).

			The state of the s			
			year ;—	ed during the	new houses erecte	Number of
114					tal	(a) Tot
			ing Acts	e under Hous	ith State Assistance	(b) Wit
36				thority	By the Local Au	(i)
72				or persons	) By other bodies	(ii)
					elling-houses.	1. Unfit dwel
105	d for				tion—(1) Total n sing defects (under	
0	strict)	on of Dis	(Inspect	the Housing	Number of dwell recorded under Regulations, 1910 1925	ı I
0					Number of dwell dangerous or inju habitation	(
30		ot to be i	g) found	ng sub-headi	Number of dwelling	

#### 2. Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling-houses render	red fit in consequence
of informal action by the Local Autho	

30

#### 3. Action under Statutory Powers.

Proceedings under the Housing Acts	 	0
Proceedings under Public Health Acts	 	0

The total area of the Council's Housing Site is 44.654 acres, and is laid out (June 1926), as follows:—

New Streets and Build	dings	 21'00 acres
Allotment Gardens		 9.86 "
* Uncultivated		 11.63 "
Plantation (reserved)		 2.16 "
	Total	44.65 acres

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

#### MILK SUPPLY.

The cowsheds, dairies and milkshops of the District have been systematically inspected during the year, and it is satisfactory to be able to report that there is evidence of increased care being taken in regard to the cleanliness of premises and those matters which, in general, tend towards the production and distribution of wholesome milk. In reviewing the work of the last five years, the outstanding feature is the appointment by the Council (in 1923), of Mr. J. C. Heather, M.R.C.V.S., to inspect periodically all the milking cows in the District, the chief intention of this step being that no possible means of avoiding the dissemination of tuberculosis should be neglected. He has reported from time to time, dealing with each dairy farm in detail, and including in his survey the state of the cows and their feeding, the cowsheds and bedding, the conditions under which the milking and straining of milk are carried out, the care of the utensils, and the nature of the water supply available for their cleansing. It is largely due to his efforts, both in criticism and advice, that the cowsheds and the conditions of milking, particularly the latter, have shown a decided improvement.

No licences for the sale of milk under special designations (graded milk) have been applied for.

#### MEAT.

#### PUBLIC HEALTH (MEAT) REGULATIONS, 1924.

The above came into force on April 1st, 1925. Your Sanitary Inspector has been indefatigable in visiting the slaughter-houses at the time of killing, a system of post-card notification by butchers having been instituted.

<sup>\*</sup> Of this area 7 acres is immediately available for building purposes, the roadway being roughly formed and sewers laid.

During the nine months ending December 31st, 141 stones of English meat were voluntarily surrendered, particulars of which are as follows:—

No.				stones	lbs.	Cause
3	Beef	Carcases (	whole)	 124	0	 Tuberculosis
	,,	Organs		 2	14	 Ditto
2	,,	Livers		 2	4	 1 Fluke, 1 Cirrhosis
I	Swine	e Carcase	(whole)			Tuberculosis
I	"	,,	,,	 4	0	 Swine Fever
				-	_	
		To	tal	 141	4	

There is no doubt as to the far reaching and beneficial effects of these Regulations if properly carried out. As a result of the Regulations, all butchers in Beeston are insured against any loss, provided proper notices of slaughtering are given to the Local Authority. A large quantity of Beef and Pork is delivered already killed and dressed, and, I hope, properly inspected elsewhere.

There is now a consensus of opinion that all meat seized or surrendered should be burnt, and the Beeston Council have adopted this method of disposal.

It should be added that the Butchers of the Town have always been most ready to assist in connection with this work.

The condition of the butchers' shops in Beeston is very satisfactory as regards cleanliness, and every effort is being made by your Officials to ensure that all exposed meat is covered by plain net lace.

#### SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.

The number of licensed slaughter-houses in use throughout 1925 is seven; there were nine in 1920, two having been voluntarily disused. They are kept in good repair but, as I have pointed out from time to time, the construction, situation, and surroundings of some of them are unsatisfactory, and I am still of the opinion that when circumstances warrant it, a public abattoir should be provided.

#### OTHER FOODS.

#### BAKEHOUSES.

These have been frequently inspected. Certain minor defects have been pointed out and remedied, but the condition of the premises has been found generally satisfactory. There are no underground bakehouses in the District, and little night baking is done.

#### UNSOUND FOOD AND FOOD POISONING.

No case of unsound food being exposed for sale came under the notice of your Officers during the year, and no case of food poisoning was reported.

#### SALE OF FOOD & DRUGS ACTS, AND MILK & CREAM REGULATIONS.

These are administered by the County Council.

# PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

The following table gives details of the cases notified, admission to Hospital, and deaths during the year 1925:—

DISEASE.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths.
Diphtheria	12	5	I
Scarlet Fever	3	0	0
Enteric Fever		Project Control	9 100
(including Paratyphoid)	1*	I	0
Puerperal Fever	0	0	0
Pneumonia	5		19
Tuberculosis—		Barrie and	
(a) Pulmonary	16	16	8
(b) Non-pulmonary	4	0	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	0	0
Erysipelas	2	0	0
Chicken-pox	42	0	0

#### AGE INCIDENCE.

The cases notified may be analysed into age-groups as under :-

	At all ages.	Under 1 year.	I and under 2 years.	2 and under 3 years.	3 and under 4 years.	4 and under 5 years.	5 and under 10 years.	10 and under 15 years.	15 and under 20 years.	20 and under 35 years.	35 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 years and over
Scarlet fever	 3			1338	1		I				101	I	70
Diphtheria	 12					4	3	2	3				
Enteric Fever	 1*											I	
Pneumonia	 5		1			100			1	1	I	1	
Erysipelas	 2	1						73		1		I	
Chicken-pox	 42	2	2	I	I	3	29	3	1				

<sup>\*</sup> This case (Paratyphoid Fever) was contracted outside the District.

#### COMPARISON WITH RECENT YEARS.

Below are summarised the cases notified during the last seven years, diseases not consistently notifiable during the period considered being omitted:—

Disease.	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Scarlet fever	63	54	17	17	53	19	3
Diphtheria	9	II	2	8	4	17	12
Enteric fever	0	1	0	0	0	0	1 *
Pneumonia	47	27	23	5	13	6	5
Tuberculosis - Pulmonary	10	17	8	17	20	25	16
" Other forms	I	0	1	3	I	2	4
Puerperal fever	0	0	2	I	0	0	0
Malaria	4	7	0	0	0	0	0
Erysipelas	5	5	0	I	3	5	2
Trench fever	I	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	2	0	4	0	I	2
Total Cases Notified	142	124	53	56	94	75	45

It will be observed that there has been a striking decline in the number of cases notified.

#### NOTES ON INDIVIDUAL NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

Scarlet Fever.—The small number of cases (three) during 1925 was very remarkable. During the last five years there has been no instance of a fresh case arising in a house after the return of a patient from Hospital nor, in the case of patients treated at home, any spread of infection to other individuals in the same house after the diagnosis was made.

**Diphtheria.**—The Council provides anti-toxin gratuitously for the treatment of this disease. It was thus supplied in two cases in 1925. So far as I am aware, no use has as yet been made in the District of the Schick and Dick tests in Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever respectively.

<sup>\*</sup> This case (Paratyphoid Fever) was contracted outside the District.

Tuberculosis.—It is satisfactory to see a decline in the number of cases notified as compared with last year. The deaths\* also show a reduction, as shown below:—

	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
Deaths from Tuberculosis: Pulmonary Other forms	11 2	12	13	15	7 3	17	8 4
Total	13	14	20	23	10	17	12

Particulars of new cases of tuberculosis and deaths from the disease in 1925 may be tabulated thus:—

	New	Cases.		Deaths.				
AGE PERIOD.	Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non- Pulmonary	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	М.	F.	М.	F.
o years							2	
I ,,		1010	2	I	2000		2	
5 "		I	I			100		
10 ,,		I	BON CO	1011153		Beat		
15 ,,	I	2			I	I		1000
20 ,,		I		1	I			
25 ,,	I	2		VE 2 3	I	I		
35 "	2	3	01110-1	10 10		II.		
45 ,,	2				I		13314	1 10111
55 "		1	10000		I			
65 & upwards						I	mail.	
Totals	6	10	3	I	5	3	4	

<sup>\*</sup> The ratio of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths to total Tuberculosis deaths was 4'12, this proportion being more satisfactory than has been the case in recent years.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925. It has not been necessary to take any action under these Regulations relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade since no case has occurred among such, nor has it been found necessary to apply for an order for compulsory removal to hospital under the Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62.

Small-Pox.—This disease has been very prevalent in surrounding Districts since 1921. No case has occurred in Beeston, but the matter has caused considerable anxiety to your Health Officials. For some time a cleansing and disinfecting station was maintained where the persons and clothing of the occupants of infected houses could be satisfactorily dealt with while their homes were being disinfected.

Chicken-pox has been made compulsarily notifiable in order to ensure every case coming under medical supervision. The importance of vaccination has from time to time been advertised by means of posters and hand bills, but the proportion of unvaccinated among the population remains lamentably high. Every effort is made to prevent the conveyance of infection by means of out-work.

The District is fortunate also in that there has been no case of Encephalitis Lethargica, a disease the prevalence of which, throughthe Country, appears now to be somewhat on the decline.

#### NON-NOTIFIABLE ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Measles.—A considerable epidemic of measles occurred during the early months of 1925. 138 cases among children under five years of age were reported by the Health Visitor and, in all, eight deaths were registered as due to this cause, a number in excess of any recorded during recent years

Whooping Cough.—This disease was prevalent at the same time. 28 cases were noted among the children seen by the Health Visitor. There were two deaths.

For deaths due to Measles and Whooping Cough during the last five years see page 30; and for arrangements made for the nursing of cases of these diseases see page 10.

It happened that Mumps, of which the Health Visitor saw 14 cases, and also Chicken-pox, occurred freely together with the two diseases mentioned above, and at a number of consultations with the Educational Authorities the question of school closure was discussed, but following the lines laid down in the memorandum issued jointly by the Ministry of Health and the Board of Education, the Schools were kept open.

Influenza.—Only one death was ascribed to influenza during 1925, and the number has not exceeded three since 1919, when it was 23. But it is probable that some of the deaths registered as

due to pneumonia, of which the number has been rather high during the last two years, were in reality primarily due to influenza.

#### EXAMINATION OF PATHOLOGICAL & BACTERIOLOGICAL SPECIMENS.

Pathological and Bacteriological aids to diagnosis are available free of cost to the patient in every case, as the result of arrangements made by the County Medical Officer with the Nottingham City Pathological Laboratory, and liberal use is made of the facilities thus provided.

#### DISINFECTION.

Thorough disinfection of premises is carried out after the occurrance of a case of infectious disease when the patient has been removed to Hospital, or at the conclusion of the illness if he remains at home. Clothes and other articles are treated in a Manlove Alliott steam disinfector.

There are at present no public facilities available in the area for the cleansing of verminous persons and their belongings.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

# ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR ATTENDING TO THE HEALTH OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

Great development has taken place in the work under this heading since 1920. Up to Sept. 1921, the Council employed a part time Health Visitor only; a whole time official then took up her duties, which were outlined as follows:— to visit as soon as possible after birth, and re-visit at frequent intervals all infants and children up to 5 years of age; to inquire into deaths of young children and cases of still-births, Ophthalmia Neonatorum and Puerperal Fever; and to assist at the Centre (when provided), and generally to carry out the instructions of the Medical Officer of Health in matters relating to Maternity and Child Welfare.

At the same time the Council equipped premises in Middle Street for use as a Centre, which was opened in January, 1922. The accommodation consisted of a waiting and weighing room, a room for consultations with the Medical Officer, whose duty it would be to advise in matters connected with the health of young children and expectant and nursing mothers, a small room where tea could be prepared, and a shed for perambulators.

A Committee of Voluntary Helpers, including representatives of the two Nursing Associations and of the St. John's Ambulance Association, was formed to assist in the work of the Centre, and I would take this opportunity to again express the thanks of the Officials to the members of this Committee, and particularly its Chairman, Mrs. Littlewood, for the wholehearted and unsparing work they have devoted to this object, under conditions which have latterly been cramped and overcrowded. It would indeed be quite impossible to carry on the activities of the Centre without their assistance.

The Centre was first opened on Tuesday afternoons, but it was soon found necessary to hold two sessions weekly instead of one, and it gradually became obvious that the work was outgrowing the premises, exceeeingly useful as these had been in the earlier experimental stage. It is, in fact, at times most difficult to carry out the work efficiently, particularly with regard to expectant mothers. The Officials engaged in this work were exceedingly grateful, therefore, when the Council acceded to the recommendation that a new Centre should be provided.

The accommodation in the building now being completed in Dovecote Lane has been provided on a liberal scale, and comprises a large waiting room, a weighing room, a room for the Medical Officer, a kitchen, a coal store, a verandah affording shelter for perambulators, and ample lavatory accommodation. The building will stand on a small grass plot where "toddlers" can play in fine weather. In short, it is confidently anticipated that the accommodation and equipment will be all that could be desired to meet the needs of the children and mothers of a growing population. A considerable extension of antenatal work will probably be possible in the new premises.

Below are tabulated the total number of visits (to infants, young children and expectant mothers) made by the Health Visitor, and the attendances at the Centre by all the above classes, during the last five years.

			Total Visits.	Total Attendance at Centre.		
1921 {		(part time) (whole time)			-	
1922			 3054		1580	
1923			 3807		1437	
1924			 4208		2359	
1925			 3463*		2682	

The following are further details for 1925:

#### Health Visiting.

Infants under 1 year visited for the first time	 264
Re-visits to Infants	 1030
Children of 1 to 5 years visited for the first time	 48
Re-visits to older Children	 1936
Expectant Mothers visited for the first time	 62
Re-visits to Expectant Mothers	 123
Attendances at Centre.	

By Expectant Mothers	 	61
By Infants and Young Children	 	2621

<sup>\*</sup> The smaller number of visits in 1925 is accounted for by the prevalence of illness among young children, necessitating a longer average duration of the visits.

The scheme whereby milk is supplied by the Council free or at reduced price in exceptional circumstances to nursing mothers, expectant mothers and young children, has remained in operation. During 1925, 814 pints of free milk were supplied, the recipients being children under two years old (7), children two to four years old (4), expectant mothers (2), and nursing mothers (21).

Reference is made on page 8 to the orthopædic treatment available for young children in Nottingham through the work of the Cripples' Guild.

## MATERNAL DEATHS, STILL-BIRTHS & INFANT DEATHS. MATERNAL DEATHS.

It is satisfactory to know that there were no deaths among women in 1925 due to accidents or diseases of pregnancy or parturition. The numbers of such deaths during the last few years (which have been very low), will be found on page 30.

#### STILL-BIRTHS.

Nine still-births were notified during 1925.

An effort is made to induce women who have had still-born children to attend at the Centre for investigation of the case, in order, if possible, to avoid similar accidents in the future.

#### DEATHS OF INFANTS (under one year of age).

Details for 1925 are given in the following table:-

Deaths.			Infantile Mortality Rate. †				
Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total	Legitimate	Illegitimate	Total		
17	3	20	73'9	200	81.6		

#### CAUSES OF INFANT DEATHS, 1925.

Pneumonia		 	 4
Prematurity		 	 3
Measles		 	 2
Convulsions		 	 2
Tubercular Men	ingitis	 	 2
Marasmus		 	 2
Asphyxia at birt	h	 	 I
Acute Gastro-Er	teritis	 	 I
Scurvy		 	 I
Spina Bifida		 	 I
Whooping Coug	h	 	 I

<sup>†</sup> i.e.—Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births.

The Total number of deaths (20) is the same as last year, but on account of a reduction in the number of births, the mortality rate per 1,000 births is slightly higher. Had it not been for the epidemics of Measles and Whooping Cough previously referred to, the rate would have been considerably reduced, as was pointed out in connection with the general death rate; in addition to the deaths recorded as being due to Measles and Whooping Cough, some of the deaths attributed to pneumonia were in all probability primarily due to these diseases.

For a review of the period 1919-25 see appendix, page 29.

# INFECTIOUS DISEASES OF PARTURIENT WOMEN, INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

#### PUERPERAL FEVER.

It is very gratifying to be able to state that no case of puerperal fever has occurred during the last three years, and that no deaths have occurred in the Town from this cause for six years. Further details are given on the next page.

#### OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Two cases of this disease (a gonorrhœal infection of the eyes of new-born infants and a frequent cause of blindness) were notified, and both made good recoveries. The table below gives a five years survey.

Year.		Cases.					
	Notified	Treated		Vision un- impair'd	Vision impair'd	Total Blind- ness	Deaths
		at Home	in Hospital				
1921	0	10	0	0	0	o	0
1922	4	4	0	4	0	0	0
1923	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1924	1‡	I	0	-	_	-	-
1925	2	1	1*	2	0	0	0

<sup>\*</sup> Treated as out-patient at the Nottingham Eye Infirmary.

<sup>‡</sup> Death resulted from prematurity.

#### OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES OF INFANTS AND YOUNG CHILDREN.

For Measles and Whooping Cough see page 23. The deaths from Infantile Diarrhœa are given in the table below. No case of Poliomyelitis has been notified during the last five years.

Year.	Puerpera	from æa rears).	
	Cases	Deaths	Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years)
1919	0	0	3
1920	- 0	0	0
1921	2	0	2
1922	I	1*	0
1923	U	o	2
1924	0	0	1
1925	0	o	3

Before leaving the subjects of Maternity and Child Welfare, I wish to express my appreciation of the energy and efficiency with which the Council's Health Visitor, Nurse A. Rose, pursues her work.

In conclusion, I have again to thank the Members of the Council for the careful and sympathetic consideration which they have invariably given to any recommendations which I have had to bring to their notice, and to thank the other Officials of the Authority for much assistance freely given. I am especially indebted to the Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector, Mr. E. A. Bush, for most valuable help in compiling this report.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

CHAS. HORNE WARNER, M.D.

July, 1926.

<sup>\*</sup> This was the case of a Beeston Resident whose confinement and death took place outside the County.

### APPENDIX.

TABLE I.

### VITAL STATISTICS OF BEESTON URBAN DISTRICT.

1		Town The	7	Nett De	aths belong	ing to the	District.
Year Population estimated to middle of each Year *	Nett Births		Under	r Year	At all Ages.		
	to middle of	Number Rate		Number	Rate per 1000 Nett Births.	Number	Rate
1919	†12649 ‡11243	222	17.5	22	99	143	11.8
1920	12627	302	23.9	19	62.9	116	9.2
1921	12640	284	21.7	17	59.9	132	10.4
1922	12760	267	20.9	13	48.7	114	8.9
1923	12820	230	17.9	13	56.2	113	8.8
1924	12890	249	19.0	20	80.3	149	11.2
1925	13040	245	18.8	20	81.6	151	11.6

<sup>\*</sup> As estimated by the Registrar General.

<sup>†</sup> For Birth Rate.

<sup>‡</sup> For Death Rate.

#### TABLE II.

	CAUSES	OF DEAT	гн.						
No.	(At all ages,	Civilians	only).		1921	1922	1923	1924	1925
1.	Enteric Fever				0	0	0	0	0
2.	Small-pox				0	0	0	0	0
3.	Measles				0	1	0	0	8
4.	Scarlet Fever				0	, 0	0	I	0
5.	Whooping Cough				2	2	0	0	2
6.	Diphtheria				0	0	1	0	I
7.	Influenza				3	I	I	3	1
8.	Encephalitis Lethargica	3			0	0	0	0	0
9.	Meningococcal Meningi	tis			0	0	0	0	0
10.	Tuberculosis of Respira	tory Syste	m		13	15	7	17	8
II.	Other Tuberculous Dise	ease			7	8	3	0	4
12.	Cancer, malignant disea	ise			II	12	17	13	15
13.	Rheumatic Fever				3	0	I	I	0
14.	Diabetes				3	2	I	2	I
	Cerebral Hæmorrhage,	&c.	,		8	5	5	12	14
16.	Heart Disease				13	4	8	13	12
17.	Arterio-sclerosis				7	12	3	3	13
18.	Bronchitis				14	II	14	16	13
19.	Pneumonia (all forms)				13	8	5	21	19
20.	Other Respiratory Dise	ases			I	2	2	I	3
21.	Ulcer of Stomach or Di	ıodenum			I	I	2	3	I
22.	Diarrhœa &c. (under 2	years)			2	0	2	I	3
	Appendicitis and Typhl	itis			0	0	I	I	0
	Cirrhosis of Liver				0	2	0	I	0
25.	Acute and Chronic Nep	hritis			0	0	4	3	2
	Puerperal Sepsis				0	1*	0	0	0
27.	Other accidents and d	iseases of	pregnand	cy and					
-0	parturition				0	0	0	2	0
20.	Congenital debility and birth	maiiorma	pren	nature	3	7	4	9	7
29.	Suicide				1	0	2	2	0
30.	Other Deaths from viol	ence			6	4	6	4	3
	Other defined diseases		2		21	15	24	18	21
32.	Causes ill-defined or un	known			0	I	0	2	0
					-	-	-	_	_
		All	causes		132	114	113	149	151

<sup>\*</sup> See footnote, page 28.

#### TABLE III.

### FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

### 1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES, 1924. 1925

		Number of					
Pren	nises.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions			
Factories		 150	6	0			
Workshops		 130	5	0			
Workplaces		 4	o	0			
Total		 284	11	0			

#### 2.- DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

	Nui	Number of Defects.			
Partico	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	of prose- cutions	
Nuisances under Health Acts					
Want of cleanline	ess	4	4	4	0
Want of ventilati	on	2	2	2	0
Overcrowding		0	0	o	o
Want of drainag	e of floors	3	3	0	o
Other nuisances		0	0	o	0
1	insufficient	2	2	2	0
Sanitary accommodation	unsuitable or defective	1	I	0	0
accommodation	not separate for sexes	0	0	0	0
Offences under the Workshop					
Illegal occupation bakehouse		0	0	o	o
Other Offences		3	3	0	0
Total		15	15	8	0



BEESTON.

H. A. PRICE, PRINTER, HIGH ROAD.