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**Contributors**

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# ❖ REPORT ❖

— OF THE —

Medical Officer of Health,

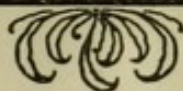
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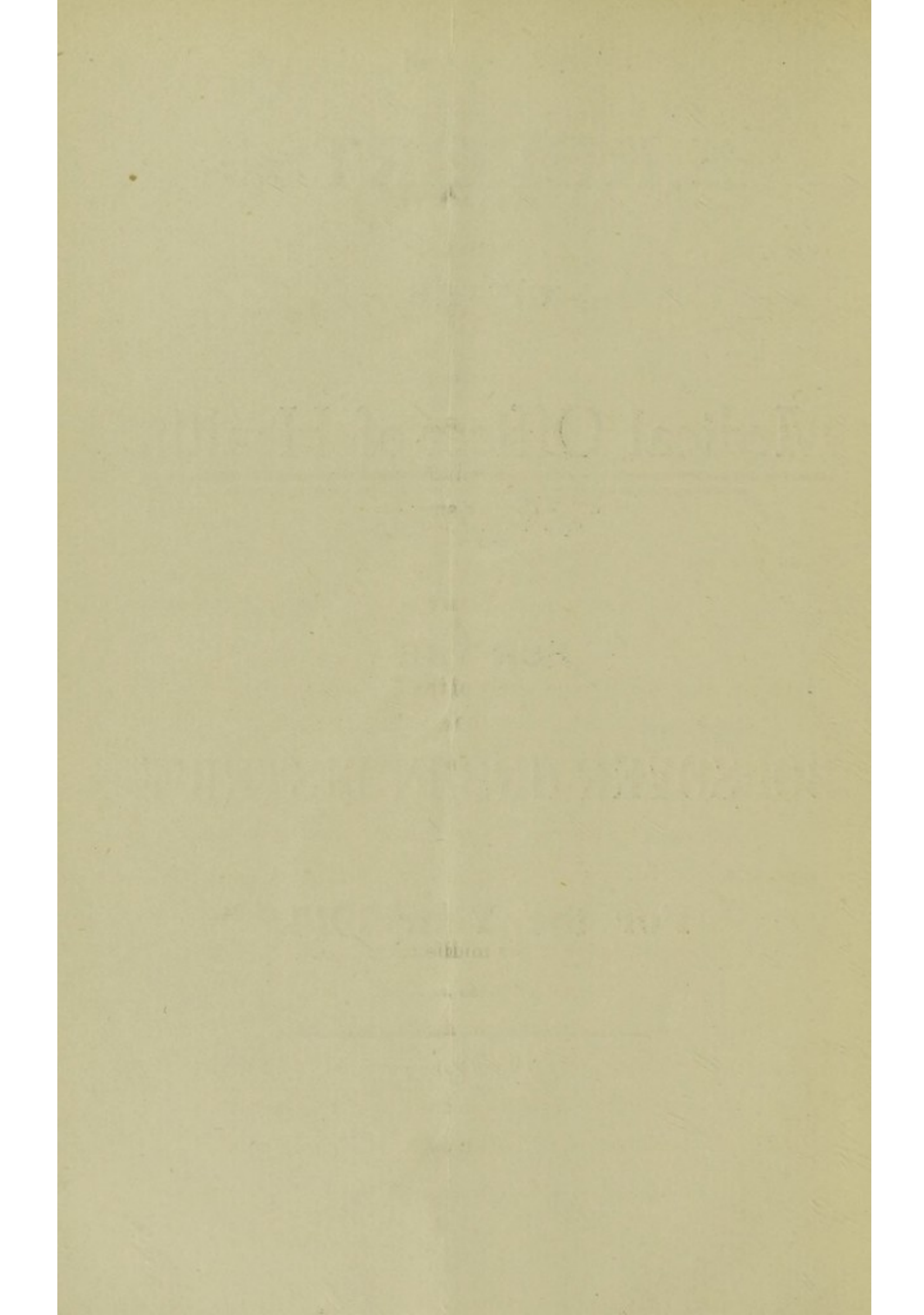
— FOR THE —

BOLSOVER URBAN DISTRICT

For the Year 1914.



Printed by Geo. Kent, Station Road, Bolsover.



**ANNUAL REPORT, 1914,**  
**OF THE**  
**Medical Officer of Health,**  
**BOLSOVER URBAN DISTRICT,**

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

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting you with my Report  
for the Year 1914.

**Natural and Social conditions of the District :**

Elevation of District from 400 to 600 O. D.

Geology, upper levels on Magnesian Limestone, lower  
levels on coal measures.

Area, Land 4797 acres. Water 1 acre. Total 4798 acres.

Census 1901—Population 6,844. Inhabited houses 1,272.

Census 1911—Population 11,225 Inhabited houses 2,245.

Population estimated to the middle of the year : 11885.

Inhabited houses ... 2,466.

New houses erected during the year...9.

Rateable value...£42,731/15/2. Assessable value.. £36,241.

General District Rate 3/- in the £ (for the year).

The chief occupation of the inhabitants is Coal Mining.



Deaths 130.      Nett Death Rate 11·58,  
 Births (including 1 transferable birth) 348.  
 Crude Death Rate 10·33                      Birth Rate 31·09.  
 Epidemic Diseases Death Rate ·36.  
 Enteric Fever and Diarrhœa ·26  
 Phthisis ·99                      Respiratory 2·4  
 Other Tuberculous Diseases ·088  
 Infantile Mortality per 1,000 births 91·95.

### Sanitary Conditions of the District :

The Water Supply of the Bolsover Company is very satisfactory, the water is very hard, and there is practically no risk of plumbo-solvent action. No cases of lead poisoning came under my notice. There are now 1406 houses supplied by the public supply.

These are distributed as follows :

	1914	1913
Carr Vale            ...    ...	406    ...	402
Shuttlewood and Stanfree	294    ...	294
Bolsover ...            ...    ...	706    ...	672
	<hr/> 1406    ...	<hr/> 1368

Houses connected during the past year...38.

I went over the Water Works recently with Mr. Bemrose and was very favourably impressed.

### Drainage and Sewerage :

All the Sewage disposal works have given excellent results during 1914. At the main outfall works all the sewage cannot be dealt with except in the driest weather, and some extension of the bacteria beds should be carried out at an early date.

Small systems of Sewerage and Sewage Disposal should be installed at Whaley Common, and Stanfree in order to abolish the present cesspools.

## Closet Accommodation

Considerable activity has been displayed by the Council in their endeavours to abolish the privy-middens system and substitute water carriage ; but 1914 does not show such good results as 1913, owing to unusual hostility on the part of some owners. Summary proceedings have been taken, but the decisions given by the Magistrates have not been altogether satisfactory to the object we have in view.

A considerable number of owners have been served with notices to convert privy-middens into Water Closets, and proceedings are now in hand for forcing compliance under Section 36, P.H. Act.

At Whaley Thorns, 160 pail closets have been substituted for privy-middens.

In Old Bolsover, 23 privy-middens have been converted into Water Closets, and 6 old middens repaired under an order from the Magistrates.

One midden was converted into a pail closet

Nothing has yet been done with regard to the 200 privy-middens in the Model Village, but no doubt this needful work will soon be put in hand.

By the courtesy of Dr. Peck, M.O.H., Chesterfield Rural District, I include some figures, affording convincing proof of the improvement in health following the substitution of privy-middens by Water Closets

“ The reports for 1911 and 1912 pointed out the fall that had taken place in the mortality of Speedwell Terraces, Staveley, since the conversion to water closets of the 175 privies that were there until June of that year. That the improvement in the health of the locality is due to the change and not to accident may be regarded as proved.



The following are the latest available figures, and the population of the Speedwell Terraces has been taken at 894

	Year.	SPEEDWELL.			REST OF STAVELEY.		
		All causes.	Rate per 1000	Infant Mortality per 1000 Births	All causes	Rate per 1000	Infant Mortality per 1000 Births
Before conversion into W.C.'s	1907	31	34.7	294	150	13.8	133
	1908	21	23.5	196	157	14.3	124
	1909	16	17.9	98	141	12.8	100
	1910	26	29.0	234	148	13.4	120
	Total Deaths and Average Rates.	94	26.3	205	526	13.6	119
After.	1911	12	13.4	100	137	12.3	136
	1912	10	10.4	61	129	11.4	76
	1913	10	11.2	†	178	15.5	†

† not yet available.

"It is to be remembered in considering the above figures that the reduction of the mortality is not the only benefit that has accrued, for many more cases of illness occur than deaths, and the marked lowering of the number of deaths shows that an enormous amount of sickness, suffering and ill-health has been prevented. It would pay the Council handsomely to convert every privy in the District into a water closet when the public water supply and an adequate sewer are available. The reduction in the cost of scavenging (about 2/- per house in the case of the Borough of Chesterfield), would pay the interest on the outlay, and leave diminished sickness, added enjoyment and greater security of life as profit."

### Scavenging :

The Scavenging in the whole of the Urban District is let by contract and costs approximately 6/- per house.

Complaints have been very frequent, especially during the

latter part of the year, and I am of opinion that you should take over the scavenging, and do the work yourselves by direct labour, under a responsible foreman.

### **Premises, and Occupations under Bye-Laws and Regulations :**

Number of premises 40. These are mostly new buildings and are satisfactorily kept.

Number of occupations 4. Classification of premises :— Cowsheds, Workshops, Bakehouses, and Common Lodging House.

### **Schools :**

Sanitary condition very good, water supply public mains, The Schools are periodically disinfected irrespective of infectious disease outbreaks.

The Derbyshire County Council control the Medical Inspection of the Schools.

### **FOODS.—Milk Supply**

At the beginning of the year there were 12 Cowkeepers on the register who had about 90 cows.

There are no milksellers who are not cowkeepers.

Each cow has an average space of about 800 cubic feet.

No cows were condemned for tuberculosis.

Periodical inspections were made, orders given, and carried out, as to cleanliness of premises and utensils.

	No. registered.	Inspections.	Defects.	Remedied.
Cowhouses ...	12	120	17	17

All the milk sold is, as far as I know, produced in the district.



### **Other Foods :**

Premises inspected where food is prepared and exposed for sale. During 1914 there were 48 inspections made.

Eight separate lots of fish, and one of vegetables were voluntarily surrendered.

No prosecutions considered advisable.

Meat is inspected in the slaughter-houses, and also in the shops

The modern slaughter-houses are good, and the old ones specially observed for cleanliness.

### **Housing :**

Further progress has been made with the inspection of the District under the Housing and Town Planning Act 1909,

128 houses were inspected.

14 houses were dilapidated and have all been remedied.

0 houses uninhabitable and notices were served to remove the tenants.

### **Factories and Workshops :**

63 Inspections made. 21 defects found, 21 remedied.  
Want of cleanliness 12, Ventilation 4, Defective closets 5.

## **Prevalence and control over Infectious Diseases.**

### **Small Pox :**

A case was notified in a van-dweller, in January. The case was removed to the Spital Hospital, and all contacts placed in quarantine, (vaccination refused). The case was afterwards found to be a bad form of Chicken Pox, the fact of vaccination being successful cleared up the diagnosis.

### **Infantile Mortality :**

There is a very welcome drop in the Infantile Mortality rate per 1,000 births registered, namely 91.9, there being 32 deaths in children under one year of age. This compares very favourably with the year 1913, when there were 54 deaths, the rate being 142.1.

In studying the drop in the Infantile Mortality rate, it should be noted that there were 32 fewer births registered this year than in 1913. The summer of 1914 was also a healthy one, Diarrhoeal diseases being practically nil, and those that did occur were of a mild type. It is also quite likely that the taking by you of measures for dust preventions (tar spraying, etc.,) has had a material effect in lessening the number of infantile deaths. The rate aforementioned (91.9) though an improvement, is still much too high, and I would suggest (for the fourth time) that you take immediate steps to adopt the Notification of Births Act, 1907.

The national crisis through which our Country is now passing, makes it (if possible) more important and imperative than ever, that everything and every measure possible for the preservation of human life should be promptly carried out.

### **Enteric Fever :**

Five cases of this disease were notified (6 in 1913) and no deaths occurred. Four of the cases were removed to Hospital. In one case a badly constructed cesspool, with back-wash of liquid filth from the drain, was probable the cause. The other three cases occurred in houses which had privy-middens.

### **Scarlatina :**

Fifty two cases were notified (37 in 1913). The cases occurred all over your District, and probably infection was brought from neighbouring towns. This disease was very



prevalent all around this neighbourhood during 1914. Twenty cases were removed to hospital. No deaths were attributed to this disease.

### **Measles :**

The district was practically free from Measles during 1914. Measles caused one death.

### **Diphtheria :**

Thirty-nine cases were notified (25 in 1913). Twenty-two of these cases occurred in Whaley Thorns, and I would suggest that increased attention be given to the Scavenging of this area. The privy-midden and pail closet system both allow accumulation of filth, the only point in favour of the pail system being that the filth is removed at much shorter intervals. You can quite see that where the scavenging of pails is neglected, a condition arises, which besides being disgusting, becomes a very grave menace to the public health. There were no deaths from Diphtheria. All the Medical Men in the district now send throat swabs to Derby for bacteriological examination.

### **Erysipelas :**

Thirty-four cases of this disease were notified, and there were no deaths. (27 cases were notified in 1913).

Isolation and disinfection were insisted upon in all cases, and warning notices sent to every infected person.

### **Puerperal Fever :**

Six cases were notified (2 in 1913) and there was 1 death.

### **Ophthalmia Neonatorum :**

Two cases were notified and prompt preventive measures taken.

### **Prevalence and control over Tuberculosis :**

Twenty-nine cases of Tuberculosis of the lungs (Phthisis) (22 in 1913), and five cases of other forms of Tuberculosis were notified during 1914.

Phthisis caused 11 deaths, making a rate of .99

Other Tuberculous diseases caused 1 death, making a rate of .088

Every advantage is taken by patients to obtain treatment at the Tuberculin Dispensary, Chesterfield, and I have myself noted some remarkably good results.

No doubt when the Chesterfield Sanatorium is available, still more remarkable results will follow.

### **Improvements effected during the year 1914 :**

1. Public water supply laid on to 38 houses.
2. Public Convenience in course of erection in the Market Place.
3. 23 Privy-middens converted into Water Closets.
4. 160 Privy-middens at Whaley Thorns converted into Pail Closets.
5. Provision of a Mechanical Road Sweeper, and nearly 50,000 square yards of town streets tar sprayed for dust prevention.
6. Adoption of Bye-laws to deal with paving of yards, and housing conditions in tents and vans.

### **Requirements :**

1. Improvement or abolition of the Common Lodging House.
2. Further extension of bacterial filters at the Old Sewage Works



3. Abolition of Cesspools at Stanfree and Whaley Common and provision of efficient sewerage systems for these portions of the district.
4. Pressing forward the conversion of existing Privy-middens into Water Closets.
5. Taking over by the Council of the direct scavenging of the whole district in place of the present system of contracting out.
6. Immediate adoption of the Notification of Births Act, in view of the wastage of life caused by the present war.

I remain Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

**WILLIAM STRATTON.**



**TABLE I.**—Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1914 and previous Years.

Name of District : —BOLSOVER URBAN.

Year.	Population estimated to middle of each Year.	BIRTHS.		Total Deaths registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.		Rate	
		Uncorrected Number.	Rate.	Number.	Rate.	Of Non-Residents registered in the District.	Of Residents not registered in the District.	At all Ages			
								Under 1 Year	Number.		
1909	12000	403	33.5	112	9.3	13	Of Residents not registered in the District.	47	Rate per 1,000 Nett Births.	125	10.4
1910	12000	418	34.8	117	9.75	12		55	131.5	129	10.75
1911	11225	389	34.9	148	13.18	13		70	179.9	158	14.07
1912	11225	383	34.1	110	9.7	10		49	127.9	120	10.6
1913	11225	380	33.8	113	10.06	16		54	142.1	129	11.4
1914	11225	348	31.09	106	10.33	24	NONE.	32	91.9	130	11.58

Area of District in acres (land and inland water) 4798 acres.

Total population at all ages, 11,225  
 Number of inhabited houses, 2, 245  
 Average number of persons per houses 5

{  
 At Census  
 1911



TABLE II.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the Year 1914.

Name of District :—BOLSOVER URBAN.

Notifiable Diseases.	Number of cases Notified.								Total cases removed to Hospital.
	At Ages...Years.								
	At all ages.	Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	
Small-pox ... ..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	39	1	2	23	9	4	..	..	.....
Erysipelas ... ..	34	..	1	3	7	8	12	3	.....
Scarlet Fever ... ..	52	..	10	40	1	1	..	..	20
Enteric Fever ... ..	5	..	..	1	1	1	2	..	4
Puerperal Fever ... ..	6	..	..	..	..	6	..	..	2
Ophthalmia									
Neonatorum ... ..	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	.....
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ... ..	29	..	1	6	14	6	2	..	.....
Other forms of Tuberculosis ... ..	5	..	..	3	2	..	..	..	.....
	173	3	14	77	34	26	16	3	27

Isolation Hospitals, Sanatoria, &amp;c. :

Small-pox Hospital at Spital, Chesterfield,

Dronfield, Mastin Moor, and Langwith,

Tuberculosis Dispensary and Sanatorium at Chesterfield, (ready early in 1915.)

**TABLE III.** Causes of, and Ages at Death during the Year 1914

Name of District : - BOLSOVER URBAN.

Causes of Death.	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 2 years	2 and under 5 years	5 and under 15 years	15 and under 25 years	25 and under 45 years	45 and under 65 years	65 and upwards.
Measles ... ..	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ... ..	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ... ..	11	...	...	...	1	2	5	3	...
Tuberculosis Meningitis ... ..	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
Cancer, (malignant disease) ... ..	12	...	...	...	...	...	1	8	3
Meningitis ... ..	4	...	2	1	1	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease ... ..	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	3
Bronchitis ... ..	10	5	...	2	...	...	...	...	3
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	16	5	3	2	...	...	3	3	...
Other diseases of respiratory organs ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Diarrhoea and Enteritis ... ..	3	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Nephritis & Bright's disease ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Puerperal Fever ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Other accidents & diseases of Pregnancy & Parturition ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth... ..	13	13	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ... ..	2	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Suicide ... ..	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Other Defined Diseases ... ..	26	4	1	...	...	1	7	5	8
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ... ..	16	3	1	...	...	...	1	5	6
Totals... ..	130	32	10	5	3	4	21	29	26



TABLE IV.

## — Infant Mortality. —

1914....Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under  
One Year of Age.

## BOLSOVER URBAN DISTRICT.

Cause of Death.				Under 1 week	1—2 weeks	2—3 weeks	3—4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	1—3 months	3—6 months	6—9 months	9—12 months	Total under 1 year
Whooping-Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Couvsulsions...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	3	1	5
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	3	5
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Atelectasis	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Malformations...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Premature Birth	...	...	...	6	...	...	...	6	...	1	...	...	7
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	1	1	...	...	4
Other Causes	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	2	...	2	6
Totals	...	...	...	11	1	...	...	12	4	6	4	6	32

Nett Births in the year : Legitimate 348.

Illegitimate, no record.

Nett Death in the year : Legitimate Infants 32,

Illegitimate Infants, no record.

# Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces, — and Homework. —

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## 1...INSPECTIONS.

			Inspections.		Written Notices
Factories	...	...	35	...	8
Workshops	...	...	—	...	—
Workplaces	...	...	28	...	13
			63	...	21

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## 2...DEFECTS FOUND.

Want of Cleanliness	...	12	...	12
Want of Ventilation	...	4	..	4
Sanitary Accommodation	...	5	...	5
		21	...	21

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## 3...HOME WORK.

There are no Outworkers in the District to which this Act applies.

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## 4...REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Number of Workshops on the Register at the end of the Year ... 15.

Jam Factories ..1,      Joinery...3,      Blacksmith...2,  
Dressmaking...4,      Boot Repairing...1,      Brick Works...1,  
Flour Mill ..1,      Printing...1,      Sausage making 1.



# ANNUAL REPORT of SANITARY INSPECTOR

## BOLSOVER URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT, 1914.

NAME OF INSPECTOR :—W. G. H. BROWNE, F.I.S.E., A.R.S.I.,

AREA OF DISTRICT—4798 ACRES.

ESTIMATED NO. OF HOUSES—2220.

NEW HOUSES ERECTED 1914—9.

### HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING.

No. of Houses Inspected under Section 17 ...	...	...	128
No. unfit for habitation ...	...	...	14
Representations made to Local Authority as to Closing Orders...	...	...	0
Closing Orders made ...	...	...	0
Number Repaired without Closing Order ...	...	...	14
Number Repaired after Closing Order made ...	...	...	0
Number Closed... ...	...	...	0
Number Demolished ...	...	...	0
Number Repaired Voluntarily ...	...	...	12

Informal Notices served by Sanitary Inspector.	Legal Notices served by Local Authority	Nuisances Abated
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### DRAINAGE,

No Disconnection of Waste Pipe ...	...	...	...
Delective Traps, Inlets, and Drains ...	19	13	19
Drains Obstructed ...	47	16	47

### CLOSETS AND ASHPITS.

Insanitary Privies, Pail Closets & Ashpits	189	18	161
Additional Closet Accommodation ...	...	...	...
Conversion of Privies into W.C.'s ...	63	16	23
Conversion of Pail Closets into W.C.'s ...	...	...	...
Defective Water Closets ...	1	0	1

# **OTHER DEFECTS.**

Paving of Courts and Yards	...	...	9	1	9
Eaves-Spouts and Down-Spouts	...	...	5	...	5
Urinals Defective	...	...	...	...	...
Water Supply	...	...	6	4	6
Offensive Accumulations	...	...	47	1	47
Animals improperly kept—Pigsties	...	...	13	2	13
Smoke Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...
Overcrowding	...	...	6	...	6
Water in Cellars...	...	...	2	...	2
Foul Condition of Houses	...	...	1	...	1
Nuisances not specified above	...	...	...	...	...
Totals...	...	...	408	71	340

	Number on Register	Inspections made	Notices Served.	Abated with- out noticee.
Dairies, Cowsheds & Milkshops	11	120	3	17
Bakehouses	4	16	2	2
Slaughterhouses	6	48	1	1
Offensive Trades	1	10	...	...
Common Lodging-houses	1	23	2	...
Totals	25	217	8	20

## Infected Rooms Disinfected :

Number 123.                      Method, Formic Aldehyde.

Samples submitted for Examination : Water 5,                      Milk 0.

Food Voluntarily Surrendered : 9

Signed,

W. G. H. BROWNE.



