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Contributors

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ANNUAL REPORT

Of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1910.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Doncaster Rural District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit for your consideration my ninth and last Annual Report on the health and sanitary condition of your district for the year ending 31st December, 1910.

The district, comprising an area of 90,011 acres (140 square miles), contains 44 parishes, arranged into the five registration sub-districts of Barmborough, Bawtry, Campsall, Doncaster, and Tickhill.

There are two distinct industrial areas in the district—Agriculture and Coal Mining, the latter a very rapidly increasing one. At present there are five collieries in operation and three in course of construction, all of them being extensive concerns and employing a large number of workers. Besides these, there are at least three others in contemplation, and which, when completed, will make eleven collieries in the district.

Inhabited houses in the district number ...	8,519
Unoccupied " " " " ...	176
<hr/>	
Giving a total of	8,695

New houses completed during the year, included	692
Population of whole district (Census 1901)	25,453
Ditto ditto ditto (estimated December, 1910, on the number of occupied houses)	43,446
Average number of persons per house ...	5.10
Ditto ditto ditto (Yorkshire)	4.75
Average number of persons per acre ...	.48
Ditto ditto ditto (Yorkshire)	.92
Average number of persons per square mile	289
Ditto ditto (United Kingdom)	363
The gross estimated rental, March, 1910, was	£447,871
<hr/>	
The rateable value for Agricultural land, March, 1910, was	£ 55,070
Ditto ditto other Hereditaments...	£273,662
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Total ...	£328,732
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Altitude.

The height above sea level at various places in the district is as follows:—

Fenwick	Bench Mark	near Railway Gates	21.6 feet
Askern	„	on Church	... 31.2 „
Bentley,	„	near Chapel	... 31.2 „
Bawtry,	„	on pump, High St.	35.9 „
Campsall,	„	on Church	... 58.0 „
Conisboro',	„	on Church	... 211.5 „
Clifton,	„	near Manor House...	425.8 „

Industries.

Coal-mining, agriculture, glass and tile works, lime-burning, pipe and brick-making, malting, fat extracting and sugar boiling works.

Building Operations.

Building operations were mainly confined to the mining districts, the houses being chiefly cottage in character. There were 294 sets of plans submitted during the year, of which 240 were approved and 54 rejected. The plans passed had reference to no fewer than 1,056 dwellings, of which 261 are in the parish of Adwick-le-Street, 387 in Bentley, and 141 in Edlington.

VITAL STATISTICS.

POPULATION OF WHOLE DISTRICT, census
1901 :—25,453.

Estimated, 1910 43,446

POPULATION OF SUB-DISTRICTS

	1901	
	(Census)	(Estimated 1910)
Barnborough	14,139	19,474
Bawtry	3,797	4,350
Campsall	5,558	15,814
Doncaster	149	988
Tickhill	1,810	2,820
Total	25,453	43,446

The "natural increase" in the population, that is the excess of births over deaths, is 849.

The population has more than doubled in the last twenty years, even after allowing for the loss of several large districts which have obtained urban powers.

By next April I anticipate that this district will be the largest populated Rural District in the West Riding, and, as stated in my Report of last year, such a rapid growth has very greatly increased the work in the Sanitary Department, in which only one Sanitary Inspector is employed, the work being far in excess of that which

existed six or seven years ago, when an Inspector and Assistant Inspector were employed, and even although the Sanitary Surveying Department was then included. During the past year, moreover, other extensive duties have been added to the department, under the "Housing and Town Planning Act," and by the "Tuberculosis in Dairy Cows Regulations," the carrying out of which has in neither case been attempted, and when it is understood that under the former Act practically a house to house inspection of the district has to be undertaken, and that under the Tuberculosis Regulations over 1,200 cows have to be specially inspected several times a year, some idea of the extra work entailed may be comprehended. An increase in the staff of the Sanitary Department has for some time been necessary, and in September I recommended that an additional Inspector be appointed, giving a preference to one with a special knowledge of cattle and meat inspection. This suggestion was not carried out.

I have frequently drawn the attention of the Council to the fact that there has never been an office provided for the Medical Officer of Health. When the adjoining premises were acquired last year I was asked by the Sub-Committee to visit and report on the suitability of the rooms for the Sanitary Department. This I did, but from then till now I have heard nothing further about the matter, nor was I even notified of the next meeting of the Sub-Committee.

I understand, however, that these premises have been occupied by the Clerk's staff, notwithstanding the fact, that, at a meeting of the Council in January, 1909, when I had again brought the question of an office forward, the Clerk said he "was quite satisfied with the accommodation for himself and his staff, so it did not arise from them."

Some years ago (May, 1903) when I pointed out to the Committee that it was necessary for the Medical

Officer to be connected to the Fever Hospital by telephone a resolution was passed that this should be done.

Why the resolution of the Council was not put into effect I do not know, but nothing was done until this last year, when the offices were connected to the telephone system, arrangements being made for the officials (and non-officials) with the exception of the Medical Officer, who, to use the telephone, has to go to another official's room.

Birth Rate.

There were 1,419 births registered in the district during the year, 701 males and 718 females, yielding a birth rate of 32·6 per 1,000 persons living, being 1·1 below the previous ten-yearly average. See Table 1.

The birth rate for England and Wales was 25·0.

The birth rate in the sub-districts was as follows:—

Barnborough	...	...	39·6	per 1,000
Bawtry	...	...	20·7	" "
Campsall	...	...	30·0	" "
Doncaster	...	...	24·3	" "
Tickhill	...	...	20·2	" "

In the Parish of Conisbro' the birth rate was 39·5 per 1,000

"	"	Denaby	...	...	44·3	"
"	"	Adwick-on-Deerne	...	28·1	"	"
"	"	Bentley	...	20·3	"	"
"	"	Carrhouse-and-Elmfield	..	24·3	"	"
"	"	Bawtry	...	17·6	"	"
"	"	Adwick-le-Street	...	44·9	"	"
"	"	Owston and Carcroft	...	34·0	"	"

Illegitimate Birth Rate.

Of the 1,419 births, 52 were illegitimate—22 males and 30 females—equal to 3·6 per cent. of the total births, or 1·1 per 1,000 of the population.

Death Rate

There were 570 deaths registered during the year—287 males and 283 females, yielding a death rate of 13·1 per 1,000 of the population. Last year the rate was the same.

Corrected Death Rate.

The deaths of 17 strangers who died within the district during the year, were notified at the time to the authorities of their respective districts. The deaths of 3 strangers whose home address could not be ascertained, are included in the original estimate. Included also are the deaths of 33 residents of the district—23 males and 10 females—who died in institutions outside it.

There have now to be added the deaths of 6 persons—2 males and 4 females, who died in the West Riding Asylums, but who belonged to the district, making the total number of deaths 576 (289 males, 287 females), and giving a *true or corrected death-rate of 13·24 per 1,000*. Last year it was 13·2, and in 1908 it was 14·1.

The death rate in England and Wales (Rural) was 12·8.

The death rate in the various sub-districts was as follows:—

Barnboro'	...	...	...	...	16·6 per 1,000
Bawtry	...	...	...	...	11·9 „
Campsall	...	...	...	...	10·2 „
*Doncaster	...	...	...	...	7·0 „
Tickhill	...	...	...	...	8·5 „

*Excluding Borough deaths in Carr House Hospital.

The death rates per 1,000 in the larger parishes were as follows:—

Askern	...	...	...	11·7	Adwick-le-Street	...	13·5
Adwick-on-Deane	...	...	...	8·4	Carrhouse & Elmfield	...	7·0
Bawtry	...	...	...	10·0	Conisboro'	...	15·5
Bentley	...	...	...	6·4	Denaby	...	19·7

Ordinary or Non-Preventible Diseases.

Caused 460 deaths, equal to 10.58 per 1,000. The figure last year was 10.9, whilst in 1908 it was the same.

Epidemic or Preventible Diseases.

Caused 110 deaths, equal to 2.53 per 1,000. Last year it was 2.1 and the year previous 2.4.

Infantile Death Rate.

There were 193 deaths registered during the year of infants under one year old, and which, calculated on the number of children born during that period, viz., 1,419, yields an infantile death rate of 136 per 1,000 births or one death in every ten children born during that year.

Last year there were 154 deaths. The infantile death rate for England and Wales (Rural) was 96.0.

This death rate is 31 below the average of the previous 10 years. Of the 193 deaths in infants, 12 were due to Epidemic Diarrhoea, and 29 to an allied affection, which should be classed with it, namely, Infective Enteritis; 4 to Whooping Cough; 10 to Measles; 13 to Bronchitis; 23 to Pneumonia; and 26 to Premature Birth.

It is satisfactory to find the infantile death rate still decreasing.

Sickness.

The amount of sickness in the district during the year has been about the average.

I. Ordinary or Non-Preventible Diseases.

Respiratory Diseases.

100 deaths = 2.3 per 1,000. Diseases of the chest caused 100 deaths during the year, viz.—53 from Pneumonia, 43 from Bronchitis, and 4 from other affections. Last year there were 97 deaths.

Circulatory Diseases.

(45 deaths = 1.03 per 1,000). Affection of the heart caused 45 deaths compared with 51 last year.

Cancer.

(31 deaths = 0.71 deaths per 1,000). This disease caused 31 deaths compared with 21 last year. The cause and cure of cancer are as yet undetermined, but both are certain of discovery before long, judging from the discoveries in other directions during the past year.

Diseases of Parturition.

Three deaths occurred during the year as the result of child-birth. Last year there was one death.

Premature Birth.

(26 deaths = 0.59 per 1,000). There were 26 deaths from premature birth, compared with 20 last year.

Coroner's Certificate.

(22 deaths = 0.50 per 1,000). There were 22 deaths certified by Coroner's Certificate during the year. The cases numbered 28 in the previous year.

Uncertified Deaths.

(12 deaths = 0.27 per 1,000). There were 12 deaths during the year of persons which were not certified by medical practitioners nor by inquest. These require to be returned as "uncertified." This is a matter I consider of great importance, my opinion being that no death should be returned as "uncertified." The cases during the past year coming under this heading occurred chiefly in young children.

Phthisis Pulmonalis.

Consumption of the Lungs (22 deaths = 0.50 per 1,000). There were 22 deaths from consumption of the lungs, compared with 21 last year. The figure this year is equal to 1 in every 20 of the deaths from ordinary diseases, and is 0.1 below the average of the past ten years. (See Table IV).

Under the regulations which came into force a year ago cases of consumption of the lungs in persons receiving parish relief require to be notified to the Sanitary Authorities. Two cases only were reported, one in Adwick-le-Street and one in Bentley. Under the system of voluntary notification in other persons, adopted by your Council in 1904, not a single case was notified—a matter to be regretted. Compulsory notification will, before long, however, become general. As already mentioned, the County Council are now requiring more stringent inspection of the milk supplies, with the object of reducing Tuberculosis—a matter of no small moment in a large district, and necessitating the appointment of an expert to carry out the work efficiently.

Other Tubercular Diseases.

(20 deaths = 0.46 per 1,000). Deaths from Tubercular affections, other than Consumption of the Lungs, numbered 20, compared with 18 last year. The cases this year occurred—7 from affection of the abdomen, 6 of the head, and 7 from a general Tuberculosis.

II. Epidemic or Preventible Diseases.

There were 110 deaths from Infectious Diseases during the year compared with 89 in the year previous.

Diphtheria.

(37 cases, 3 deaths = 0.06 per 1,000) There were 37 cases of Diphtheria reported, with 3 deaths, as against 30 cases with one death last year. The cases occurred mainly at Adwick-le-Street, the rest being distributed well over the district.

Provision of Diphtheria Antitoxin.

There were 4 applications for a supply of this serum during the year, compared with 3 in each of the two previous years. It is now permitted to supply this remedy for curative purposes in the case of poor persons

Formerly only small doses were provided for preventive use, a condition which I have frequently pointed out was very unsatisfactory.

Scarlet Fever.

(173 cases, 2 deaths = 0.04 per 1,000). There were 173 cases of Scarlet Fever reported, with 2 deaths, as compared with 69 cases with no death last year. The cases occurred chiefly at Woodlands, Denaby Main, Conisborough, and Hampole. In the latter village the disease was checked without any of the seven cases being removed to hospital.

Measles.

(32 deaths = 0.73 per 1,000). This affection caused 32 deaths, compared with 13 deaths in the previous year. The cases occurred chiefly at Denaby, Hickleton, Conisboro', Woodlands, and Wadworth.

Whooping Cough.

(9 deaths = .20 per 1,000). There were 9 deaths registered from Whooping Cough, compared with 16 deaths in the previous year. The cases occurred chiefly at Woodlands and Conisboro'.

Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis (Spotted Fever.)

Two cases of this disease were reported in October at Moss. Both cases were in young children in one family, one of them unfortunately proving fatal. (Special Report). A resolution passed by the Council some time ago to add this disease to the list of diseases requiring notification by medical men was never put into effect.

Anthrax.

Two cases of this fatal disease occurred at the end of May at Rossington. The disease originated in a bullock which died of the disease, and which, unfortunately, was dressed before the nature of the case was

discovered. In the case of one man the disease ended fatally, in the other in recovery. (Special Report).

Epidemic Diarrhœa.

(17 deaths = .39 per 1,000). Infantile Diarrhœa caused 17 deaths, compared with 9 last year. The cases occurred chiefly at Conisboro', Denaby Main, and Woodlands.

Infective Enteritis.

Deaths from this affection numbered 34, compared with 38 in the previous year. The cases occurred chiefly at Conisboro', Denaby Main, and Woodlands. Of the total 51 deaths from Epidemic Diarrhœa and Infective Enteritis, 41 were in children under 1 year old.

The following table shows the result of investigations regarding the feeding of infants:—

	Nursed by Mother.	Fed on Cows' Milk (bottle).	Fed on Artificial Food.
Of 25 cases investigated in 1910 the mortality per centage equalled	20	...	36
Of 25 " 1909 " "	10	...	28
Of 24 " 1908 " "	8	...	17
Of 20 " 1907 " "	15	...	25
Of 30 " 1906 " "	13	...	36
Of 50 " 1905 " "	4	...	34
	—	—	—
174 cases averaging per cent. ...	12	29	57
	—	—	—

These figures show that a breast fed infant has about a two and a half times greater chance of survival than a bottle-fed baby, and a nearly five times greater one than an infant fed on artificial food.

Tpyhoid (Enteric) Fever.

(8 cases and 3 deaths = .06 per 1,000). There were 8 cases of Typhoid Fever notified in the district during

the year, and of these 3 ended fatally. In the previous year there were 23 cases, with 3 deaths. The number of cases this year is an exceedingly small one and will probably stand as a record for many years to come, as it does for many years past.

The cases occurred—3 at Denaby Main and 1 each at Fenwick, Carcroft, Bentley, Carrhouse, and Barmboro'. An outbreak of Typhoid Fever early in December in a district which adjoins your own was attributed to infected milk being brought into it from Harlington in the Rural area. The matter is still under investigation, but at present everything points to there having been an undiscovered case of the "carrier" type of disease in the family of the farmer from whose cows the milk was obtained. One case was reported at the farm on December 20th. All trading in milk from this dairy was suspended, and is still so at the time of writing.

Erysipelas.

(39 cases, 1 death = .02 per 1,000). There were 39 cases of Erysipelas notified, as against 15 cases in the previous year. One death resulted.

Small-pox.

For the fifth year in succession there has not been a case of Small-pox in the district—not since 1905, when there were 21 cases.

Epidemic Influenza.

(5 deaths = .11 per 1,000). Epidemic Influenza was again fairly prevalent in Spring and caused 5 deaths, compared with 7 in the previous year.

Puerperal Septicæmia.

(3 cases, 2 deaths = .04). One case of lying-in fever occurred each at Bentley, Denaby Main, and Conisboro', both the latter proving fatal. In the two previous years there was no notification of this disease.

The Infectious Diseases Notification Act.

Under this Act there were 260 cases of Infectious Disease reported, as against 137 last year.

The number of cases last year was as follows:—

Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	173
Enteric (Typhoid) Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Puerperal Fever (acute Septicæmia)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
								—
Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	260
								—

The increase in the cases of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria is especially to be noted, as is the decrease in cases of Typhoid Fever. The Woodlands part of Adwick-le-Street parish was the chief sufferer from Scarlet Fever.

Disinfection.

There were 202 premises disinfected during the year, including 7 schools and 10 houses or rooms after occupation by consumptives. Bedding and clothing from 38 houses were removed for steam disinfection.

Disinfection of premises was carried out chiefly by means of Formalin spray, and occasionally by the old method of sulphur stoving. In the case of Typhoid Fever, the contents of the ashpits and closets were removed and the interiors sprayed with disinfectant. No expense was incurred during the year for compensation, this being the fourth year in succession that no outlay has been necessary on this account.

School Notices.

There were 390 notices, regarding infectious disease and disinfection, sent to school authorities during the year, making a total of 2,560 notices since I first introduced

the system in 1903 of notifying the school authorities regarding cases of infectious diseases. It is gratifying to find that school teachers and attendance officers have appreciated the early information regarding outbreaks of infectious disease which the system has afforded. There were 211 notices received from the district school officers during the year.

Hospital Isolation.

The following "notified" cases were removed to hospital during the year (see also Table X.):—

	Scarlet Fever.	Enteric Fever.	Diph- theria.	Total
Conisboro' & New Conisboro'	25	0	2	27
Denaby and Denaby Main ...	33	3	0	36
Bentley-with-Arksey ...	11	0	3	14
Adwick-le-Street and Wood- lands ...	30	0	6	36
Rest of District ...	23	2	6	31
	<hr/> 122	<hr/> 5	<hr/> 17	<hr/> 144

Schools.

Of the 38 schools in the district, 4 were closed for varying periods during the year on account of outbreaks of infectious disease. In the previous year there were 8 schools closed, for a total of 22 weeks.

The sanitary condition of the elementary schools in the district continues to be improved, the costs being necessarily very great and likely to continue so.

The following schools were closed:—

Wadworth, infants, March, 3 weeks, Measles and Whooping Cough.

Denaby Main, ditto, July, 4 weeks, Measles.

Hampole, ditto, November, 3 weeks, Scarlet Fever.

Hickleton, ditto, December, 4 weeks, Measles.

Total closure, 14 weeks.

Water Supplies.

The water supplies in most parts of the district where public or private water schemes have been established, have been satisfactory during the year, such, for example, as Austerfield, Barmboro', Bentley (in part), Bawtry, Brodsworth, Conisboro', Clayton, Cadeby Carrhouse, Denaby Main, Hooton Pagnell, Warmsworth, and Woodlands. The water softening plant has been erected at Cadeby Colliery for softening the water supplied to Conisboro' and Denaby Main.

The Edlington New Colliery Village, at present supplied from a deep bore well, is shortly to be included in the Doncaster Corporation supply.

The water supplies derived from wells at *Owston*, *Carcroft*, and *Skellow* were seriously interfered with during the year 1909 by the sinking operations at the Bullcroft Colliery. As these operations were suspended during last year on account of the overwhelming quantity of water met with, the supplies to the various wells soon returned. It remains to be seen how the re-emptying of the pit shaft will affect the wells, but probably any further loss of water in the wells may only be temporary, pending the completion of the tubbing of the shafts.

In the new part of the village of *Adwick-le-Street* the water supply provided by some of the property owners is very deficient. The Council might, I think, consider the question of supplying water to this district, and possibly also include the *Carcroft* area by means of a public water supply on a sort of co-operative basis.

In dealing with such large and growing districts, it is necessary for the Council to take energetic action in providing public water supplies, the provision of water by private individuals being in many instances quite inadequate.

At *Wadworth* the enclosure of a spring of water in Low Lane and the erection of a pump, was carried out

after a great deal of unnecessary opposition, but much to the satisfaction of persons living in the neighbourhood. An increased supply for the rest of the village will be required in the near future. Wadworth might with advantage be included as well as *Braithwell* and *Stainton* in the proposed new water scheme.

Armthorpe is still without sufficient water supply notwithstanding all the trouble taken by a member of the Sanitary Committee in advising the Parish Council on the matter. Every consideration was shown to the local body (though on the face of the information given by the Health Officials such was quite unnecessary), and when it was expected that the matter of providing public wells for the village was practically settled, the Parish Council wrote to this authority throwing up the whole affair. The matter was then referred by the Sanitary Committee to a Special Sub-Committee, but though months have elapsed since that was done, it has never again been raised, nor the Sub-Committee called together, for what reason I am not aware.

The inhabitants of *Armthorpe*, whenever suitable opportunity offers, complain of want of drinking water, and I certainly agree that there is great need for such provision, as the following figures show. To leave the decision of such an important question to the Parish Council was unnecessary, and to indefinitely drop it is a serious matter.

ARMTHORPE WATER SUPPLIES.

Houses provided with water said to be "good," but quality unknown except in some six instances	30
Houses with "bad water" (33)	48
Houses with no water (15)	
Owners of property said to have "good" water for tenants	10
Owners providing only "bad" water or none at all	20

Housing of the Working Classes Act.

Practically nothing was done during the year on the important question of "Housing," but recent legislation imposes compulsory and greatly increased duties on the Public Health Department by "The Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations." The active support of the Council will be necessary in carrying out the requirements of the new Act.

As pointed out from time to time in the monthly Reports, there are numerous cottages existing both in the rural and urban parts of the district which are in a tumble-down and neglected condition and require repairs or reconstruction; but in my opinion an even more serious state of affairs exist in some of the new blocks of property recently erected in the new colliery districts by private speculators. Rows of cottages have been permitted to be erected prior to any definite plan for laying out new streets, or the provision for drainage or water supplies.

In former reports I have pointed out the desirability of having these matters attended to *prior to the erection of the houses*, and how, if this rule were adhered to, much of the subsequent insanitary conditions which have come into existence in the Carcroft and Adwick-le-Street districts would have been avoided.

The character of the cottages, too, in many cases calls for notice, houses having been erected by speculative builders of the most "jerry" description, and not in accordance either with bye-laws or with those built in former years

In one glaring instance, regarding which the Surveyor had also reported, I gave the Clerk a certificate under the Housing of the Working Classes Acts, stating that a block of *new* houses at Carcroft were "unfit for occupation," *but no action was taken*. The houses and their surround-

ings were absolutely in the worst finished and most insanitary conditions I have ever met with, and necessitated immediate action being taken. After the elapse of some months and the passing of resolutions to prosecute the offender (which were never carried out), and after investigations by the County Council, some improvements were made in the condition of the buildings and in some others adjoining, which were also in a very insanitary condition as regards drainage, but even to-day the state of affairs at these properties is disgraceful and offers no encouragement to the tenants to keep their homes decent and clean. Their complaints that "nothing is done" are unfortunately justified.

The new Housing and Town Planning Act renders procedure in such cases very much simpler than formerly, especially if combined with Parts II. and III. of the Public Health Act, 1907, the adoption of which I have formerly advised. The recommendations of the Sanitary officials should be backed up by putting into effect the various clauses of these Acts.

Overcrowding.

Overcrowding is very prevalent in many parts of the district, both rural and urban, but especially in the new colliery districts, to which large numbers of families are crowding. One frequently finds two families living in three-bedroomed houses, with as many as 13, 15, or 18 persons per house.

Notices to abate overcrowding were served in only 10 instances during the year. In seven cases the nuisance was abated, but probably in a temporary manner only, or by setting up a similar nuisance elsewhere, the offenders being pretty well aware that no action will be taken. One cannot but feel for the hardships many families have to put up with, owing to want of housing accommodation, and the Council might well consider the question of themselves providing such.

Factory and Workshop Act.

There are 77 workshops in the district, comprising 16 dressmakers, 4 milliners, 3 tailors, 7 bakehouses, and 48 others, such as saddlers, sugar boilers, cabinet-makers, motor works, carpenters, smiths, etc. The premises have been inspected, and in four instances occupiers have had their attention drawn to certain matters required by the Factory Inspectors. In three of these cases the requirements have been carried out. In the fourth instance a notice has recently been served to compel the person to do the necessary work.

Temporary Buildings.

I have frequently recommended that these erections should not be permitted except under certain definite conditions regarding the period of their existence, and the time for demolition. This method has been in existence in many districts for some years, and I understand that some such plan is now to be carried out.

All matters in connection with Drainage and Sewerage are dealt with in the Surveyor's Report, and those referring to Cowsheds, Slaughter Houses, Lodging Houses, Markets, Scavenging, and Nuisances in the Sanitary Inspector's Report. Both of the reports are appended.

My thanks are again due to the Registrars, Assistant Overseers, and the Education Authorities for much assistance and information received during the year.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

C. J. RUSSELL McLEAN, M.D., D.P.H.,

Medical Officer of Health.

Union Offices, Doncaster. 11th January, 1911.

DONCASTER
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

The Report

— OF THE —

Sanitary Surveyor.

1st January, 1911.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Rural District Council of Doncaster.**

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my annual report on the working of the various Sewage Systems in the District, and on the Building Plans submitted to the Sanitary Committee, and Houses completed during the year.

The number of building plans submitted during the year was 294, of which 240 were approved and 54 rejected.

The plans approved related to:—

	Sets.
Dwelling-houses	155
Alterations and additions to houses ...	16
Alterations to Clubs, etc.	1
Shops	3
Alterations, etc., to Public-houses ...	3
Estate Plans	16
Stables, Coach-houses, etc.	6
Schools	1
Golf Pavilion	1
Warehouses and Store Sheds	5
Wash-houses	3
Conveniences (Closets, Latrines, etc.) ...	6
Slaughter Houses	3
New Drainage	9
Factory	1
Piggeries	2
Poultry Show House	1
Sewage Purification Works	2
Dairies, Cowsheds, etc.	2
Bakehouse	1
Alteration to Church	1
Swimming Bath	1
Convalescent Home	1
Total number of Plans	240

Plans for Dwelling-houses have been approved in the following parishes:—

Adwick-le-Street	...	...	...	...	261
Armthorpe	...	...	...	...	1
Askern	...	...	...	...	1
Austerfield	...	...	...	...	2
Barmborough	...	...	...	...	2
Barnby Dun	...	...	...	...	8
Bawtry	...	...	...	...	54
Blaxton	...	...	...	...	1
Bentley-with-Arksey	...	...	...	...	387
Braithwell	...	...	...	...	8
Burghwallis	...	...	...	...	34
Carr House and Elmfield	...	...	...	...	34
Clayton	...	...	...	...	1
Conisborough	...	...	...	...	44
Denaby	...	...	...	...	2
Edlington	...	...	...	...	141
Hickleton	...	...	...	...	1
Norton	...	...	...	...	14
Owston	...	...	...	...	14
Skellow	...	...	...	...	39
Wadworth	...	...	...	...	1
Warmsworth	...	...	...	...	6
Total number of Houses					1056

The number of Houses completed during the year was:—

Adwick-le-Street	...	...	...	...	148
Adwick-on-Deane	...	...	...	...	9
Armthorpe	...	...	...	...	3
Askern	...	...	...	...	3
Barmborough	...	...	...	...	3
Bentley-with-Arksey	...	...	...	...	340
Braithwell	...	...	...	...	2
Blaxton	...	...	...	...	5
Carr House and Elmfield	...	...	...	...	2
Conisborough	...	...	...	...	14
Denaby	...	...	...	...	85
Edlington	...	...	...	...	56
Skellow	...	...	...	...	22
Total number of Houses completed					692

All new houses have been inspected and their drains tested.

In the districts where building has proceeded very rapidly there have been many cases of houses being occupied before the final inspection and without any water certificate.

I beg to suggest that a hard and fast line be drawn and proceedings taken against any person who allows a house to be occupied without first obtaining the certificate of the Surveyor as to compliance with the bye-laws and approved plans, and also a certificate as to the adequacy and purity of the water supply.

SEWAGE WORKS.

Adwick-le-Street.

SEPTIC TANKS, FOUR ROTARY PERCOLATING FILTERS, DOUBLE FILTRATION.

The amount of sewage treated during the year was 30,622,500 gallons, as ascertained by weir gaugings, taken daily at 9 a.m., 1 p.m., and 5 p.m., and assuming there is no flow between midnight and 6 a.m.

The population served is 4,048, and the average amount of sewage per head is 20·7 gallons per day.

The Highfields Colliery Village (which, unlike the Woodlands Village, is sewered on the separate system, the surface water going direct to the Langthwaite Dike) was connected to the works on September 24th, 1910.

Double filtration has been given except in times of heavy rain, when all four filters are used at once. The storm water overflow and stand-by tanks which are used when the flow exceeds 300,000 gallons a day, have been used on 24 days.

The average daily volume of sewage was 83,900 gallons, or 58·5 gallons per cubic yard of filtering material, and the effluent has been very good.

The contractor for the construction of the works never succeeded in making the tanks and sludge filter watertight, and this for nearly a year made it impossible to deal properly with the sludge. The defects have, however, been made good by our own men, and since November the tanks have been properly sludged out.

The Bentley Mill Dyke, into which the effluent is discharged, has been cleaned under a yearly contract.

Askern.

SEPTIC TANK, PERCOLATING ROTARY FILTER, AND LAND FILTRATION.

The amount of sewage treated during the year was 8,176,465 gallons, or 22,400 gallons per day, or 29.3 gallons per head per day on the estimated population of 765. The gas consumed in pumping was 138,100 cubic feet, which works out at 3,760 gallons lifted per foot high per 1,000 cubic feet of gas.

The land filtration area has been waterlogged for many months, the stiff clay land being quite useless for filtration.

The amount of sewage treated on the percolating filter is excessive, being 158 gallons per day per cubic yard of cinders, and the works, which are now taxed to their utmost capacity, will soon need extension in view of the coming influx of population. The engines and pumps have had extensive repairs. The effluent has generally been fairly good.

Austerfield.

SEPTIC TANK AND SMALL COKE FILTER.

The tank has been emptied, and the dyke for 23 chains below the outlet has been cleaned out.

Bawtry.

SEPTIC TANK, ROTARY PERCOLATING FILTER, AND LAND FILTRATION.

The amount of sewage dealt with during the year was 6,470,000, or 14.8 gallons per head per day, on an estimated population of 1,193.

55,400 cubic feet of gas were used in pumping $3\frac{1}{4}$ hours per day. The number of gallons lifted per foot high per 1,000 cubic feet of gas was 4,580, showing the high efficiency of the pumps and engines.

The land beds have again been let to a yearly tenant with satisfactory results.

The amount of sewage per cubic yard of percolating filter averaged 90.5 gallons per day. The effluent has been excellent.

Bentley-with-Arksey.

SEPTIC TANKS, THREE ROTARY PERCOLATING FILTERS, AND LAND FILTRATION.

There are no means of gauging the exact amount of sewage dealt with, but it is about 120,000 gallons per day, or 18.3 gallons per head per day on the population, estimated to be 6,551. The amount of sewage per cubic yard of material in the percolating filters is 80 gallons per day.

The extension of sewers to the new Colliery Village and Rostall, and the new electric pumping station have been completed.

The electric pumping plant in the three original pumping stations has given a great deal of trouble, the motors frequently needing repair. New impellers have been fitted to the pumps.

The effluent from the works continues to be excellent.

Conisborough.

CHEMICAL PRECIPITATION, FILTERS OF GRAVEL, SAND, POLARITE, AND LAND FILTRATION.

The amount of sewage treated during the year was 60,225,000, as against 48,300,000 last year, which works out at 23.5 gallons per head per day on an estimated population of 7,009. About one quarter of this is pumped, the remainder gravitating to the works through the inverted syphon. 199,700 cubic feet of gas were used in pumping, which is less than last year, although the volume of sewage pumped has been greater. A new centrifugal pump has been substituted for one of the old ones.

18 tons of Aluminoferrous precipitant has been used, as against 26 $\frac{1}{4}$ tons last year. We have continued the system of sludging out the tanks every ten days, and extended the sludge drying filters. An additional coke breeze filter has also been added.

The effluent has been very satisfactory.

Denaby.

SEPTIC TANKS, TWO ROTARY PERCOLATING FILTERS, AND LAND FILTRATION

These works serve Denaby and portion of Conisboro', a population estimated at 9,742. The amount of sewage treated during the year was 61,088,000 gallons, or 17.2 gallons per head per day. 499,700 cubic feet of gas have been used for pumping, showing a loss of efficiency, the number of gallons lifted one foot high per 1,000 cubic feet of gas being 1,725, as against 2,020 last year.

There was a serious breakdown of one of the pumps in February, owing to the fracture of a crosshead. The pumps have been repaired and thoroughly overhauled, and the gas engines have also been overhauled by the makers, and more efficient water cooling arrangements made. The plant is now in good order.

The filters are rather heavily worked, treating as they do 98·2 gallons per day per cubic yard, but show no sign of deterioration.

The land beds have again been let to a tenant for cultivation with good results, and the effluent has always been excellent.

The main sewer has been extended 267 yards by tunnelling under the G. C. Railway level crossing nearly to Gray's Bridge.

The Septic tanks have been sludged out about every four months, and the receiving tank about once a fortnight.

The area of sludge-drying filters has been extended and we have a considerable amount of dried sludge stacked up.

Loversall.

IRRIGATION THROUGH LAND PLANTED WITH WILLOWS.

These small works continue to serve their purpose, making no nuisances and requiring a minimum of attention.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

WALTER R. CRABTREE, M.Sc., A.M.I.C.E.,

Surveyor.

SANITARY DEPARTMENT.

Annual Report

— OF THE —

Sanitary Inspector

for 1910.

I. R. DODDS.

January, 1911.

**To the Chairman and Members of the
Doncaster Rural District Council.**

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration my Report, dealing with the work of the Sanitary Department, for the year ending December, 1910.

Dairies, Cowsheds, & Milkshops.

There are 121 cowkeepers and purveyors of milk on the register, including 13 which have been added during the past year. All the premises have been regularly and thoroughly inspected; during the year improvements have been made to meet the requirements of the Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order. The instructions now being issued as regards inspection of cowsheds and sanitary conditions are so stringent that special attention is compulsory as to general cleanliness by milkers, who pay no attention prior to milking to the cleanliness of their hands, and it will be advisable for cow-keepers to give this matter their personal attention.

Instructions have been given to each cowkeeper on the register as to whitewashing and cleaning out cowsheds twice a year, in May and October. There are 207 sheds, housing 1,220 cows

Two new cowsheds have been erected during the year on the up-to-date principle, one at Moorhouse capable of housing 12 cows, and one at Bentley built for 8 cows.

Slaughter Houses.

The number of occupiers of slaughter houses on the register is 31. The premises have been inspected and most of them found in order. As suggested in previous reports, notices are posted up in conspicuous places on all slaughter houses with the words "Licensed Slaughter House," or "Registered Slaughter House," as the case may be. This has been done through the regulation under Sections 169 and 170 Public Health Act, 1875, and 29 and 30 of the Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1890.

Workmen's Dwelling Huts.

I have inspected 45 temporary wooden and corrugated iron huts at Stainton belonging to the Maltby Main Colliery Company, also 8 huts at Edlington belonging to the Yorkshire Main Colliery Company.

The general sanitary condition was found satisfactory.

Lodging Houses.

The lodging house at Bawtry, which is registered for 26 lodgers, has been visited several times and found in fairly good order. Improvements have been made to outdoor conveniences.

Bakehouses.

There are seven bakehouses on the register, which have been frequently inspected. These are all kept in order and meet the requirements.

Sale of Foods and Drugs Acts.

Six samples of milk have been taken in the district during the year. They were analysed by the County Analyst and found to be genuine.

Unsound Food.

The markets in the district have been inspected at frequent intervals, and in no case was it found necessary to seize any meat on account of disease, but I have had

occasion to caution some of the butchers as to condition and quality. The widely scattered situations of the slaughter houses, however, the increasing population on account of the mining industry, and the fact that much meat is brought into the district ready for sale renders efficient inspection a very difficult matter.

Excrement Disposal— Systems in Vogue.

In Old and New Conisborough, and Bentley-with-Arksey, the privy middens are now emptied once in every four weeks by contractors employed by the Council, who provide a tip for Conisborough, but the Bentley-with-Arksey contractor provides his own ground for disposal.

At Denaby the scavenging is done by the Denaby and Cadeby Main Collieries, Ltd., who provide their own ground for disposal.

In Askern the refuse is moved once in every six weeks, and monthly during July, August, and September; the Contractor is responsible for disposal ground in this case.

With the exception of Askern, the dry refuse and ashes in the above parishes is collected by bell carts every week. Askern every four weeks.

At the Woodlands Model Village, Brodsworth, each house is provided with a W.C. Dry refuse is collected in sanitary bins and removed once a week by the Colliery Company. This system of refuse removal is by far the best one if it can be well carried out.

In the village of Clifton (in the parish of Conisboro'), the night soil scavenging, let by contractor, is attended to every three months.

The emptying of middens in the remaining parts of the Rural District are attended to by the owners of property or their tenants.

Arrangements are made with the various contractors to send in sheets every week showing where they are

working and the amount of work done. These places are afterwards inspected. In the case of Bawtry, public scavenging might now be carried out by your Council.

A large amount of attention has been given in connection with the above matter during the year.

There are still in almost every part of the district nuisances caused by many careless householders from their persistence in throwing water into the ashpits. In some cases the men object (and reasonably so) to enter the ash-middens for the purpose of cleaning.

I would like again to draw the Council's attention to the very unsatisfactory condition of many of the private streets and back roads in some parts of the district, more especially in those where building is being extended in the new colliery districts. Such conditions, besides being detrimental to the welfare of the residents, render removal of house and other refuse almost impossible.

Annual Cost of Scavenging.

Old Conisbro', £255 10s. ; New Conisbro', £270 ;			
Clifton, £9 ; Askern, £40 ; Bentley-with-Arksey, £380.			
			s. d.
Cost per house, Old and New Conisbro',			
	including Clifton	5	0
Ditto	Askern	4	7
Ditto	Bentley-with-Arksey	6	7

Number of Occupied Houses in Askern			174
Ditto	Ditto	Bentley-with-Arksey	1151
Ditto	Ditto	Old and New Conisbro',	
		including Clifton	2160
Total			3485

NOTE.—The extra cost of Scavenging in the Parish of Bentley-with-Arksey is occasioned by the large number of Ashbins, viz., 589, which have to be emptied once every week.

Nuisances.

Over 800 house inspections have been made in connection with the sanitary condition generally.

This year 210 preliminary notices for the abatement of nuisances in the various parts of your district have been served.

These have been complied with excepting 34, which are yet in hand. The details of the notices are as follows, viz.:—

New corrugated iron pails for closet	31
New corrugated iron ashbins required to replace	14
New W.C.'s	14
Converting privies into W.C.'s	4
New Privies	25
New Ashpits	27
New dry ashpits	16
Defective privies repaired	124
Insanitary ashpits repaired	124
Paving in yards	91
Defective drains	250
Defective spouts and fall pipes	43
Defective Sink Pipes	87
Accummulation of manure, rubbish, and fish tubs, etc., removed	27
New drains laid	56
New gullies in connection with drains	76
Inspection chambers provided to drains	9
Overcrowding abated	8
Filthy houses cleaned	5
New cesspools constructed	15
Water in cellars removed	5
Improper keeping of animals	10
Defective brick channelling in back yards	23
Providing proper means of access for emptying ashmiddens and privies	4
Cleaning out sanitary dykes	19
New coal houses	3
Notices served to empty private privies and ash- middens	433
Cleaning out wells supplying drinking water	8
Repairs, pavings, drainage to cowsheds	9
Total	1360

Statutory Notices.

According to your instructions, twelve Statutory Notices have been served on owners of property. These have been abated with two exceptions, which are now in hand.

During the year 260 premises were disinfected thoroughly after infectious disease, Formalin Spray being chiefly used.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

I. R. DODDS, C.E.,

Sanitary Inspector.