

[Report 1913] / Medical Officer of Health, East Retford.

Contributors

East Retford (England). Rural District Council.

Publication/Creation

1913

Persistent URL

<https://wellcomecollection.org/works/vz9baefr>

License and attribution

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

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

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



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

EAST RETFORD
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

1913

BY

HANWAY R. BEALE, M.D. LOND.,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

RETFORD :
PRINTED BY WINTER & SON, 24, GROVE STREET,
1914.



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29184332>

TO THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EAST RETFORD.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present to you my ninth Annual Report, being that for the year 1913.

The birth-rate shows a fall of 2·9, the total number of births being 25 less than last year. The rate, as you will see from the tables further on, is 18·72.

The number of cases of notifiable infectious disease was 66, compared with 59 last year. Of these, 39 were the ordinary infectious diseases, and 27 were Tuberculosis in all forms; of the ordinary cases, Scarlet Fever accounted for 24.

The deaths numbered 17 more than last year, giving a death-rate of 11·45. The total number of deaths for the year was 181.

In the vital statistics further on I am showing a considerable increase in the population of the District, as was adumbrated in my last year's report.

General Description.—The District is purely rural in nature, and is situated in the northern part of the County of Nottingham. Roughly, it is lozenge-shaped, having its greatest length of 26 miles from north to south, and its greatest breadth

of 11 miles from east to west. Physically, the District may be described as undulating, with a main ridge of hills running down the middle in the direction north to south. It is drained on the west by the river Idle, and on the east by the river Trent. There are numerous villages and farmhouses scattered about the District, and also a few larger houses in their own estates.

The population is almost entirely dependent upon agriculture for its maintenance. In the near future it is probable that there will be an increase both in houses and population, owing to the development of coal mines either in the District or just over the border. A new pit is being sunk at Harworth, which will probably affect the population about Ranskill and Scrooby.

The municipal borough of East Retford is situated almost exactly in the centre of the District.

Geology.—The District is situated on the edge of what is apparently a large geological basin, whose centre is situated somewhere away to the east, and as one travels westwards the successive geological strata show themselves at the surface in areas running nearly parallel, and in a direction from north to south. These strata shelve away downwards to the east and south east, being covered in succession by the more recent deposits. Thus from west to east we have pebble beds or conglomerate, superposed upon sandstone, extending over almost the entire District from north to south, and as far east roughly as the river Idle; this is succeeded to the north and east of the town of Retford by waterstones, and then succeed the keuper marls, which are mixed in places with beds of sandstone, and through which run beds of gypsum. This latter has a very marked effect upon the water in the shallow wells of the eastern portion of the District, giving it a very hard character. There is a bed of alluvial deposit along the course of the river beds of the Idle and Trent.

Meteorology.—The year 1913 was marked by an absence of extremes of heat or cold, by less than the usual amount of bright sunshine, and by a small rainfall. In many parts of the District, the absence of rain was acutely felt, and this was particularly marked during the summer months on the clay lands to the east. October was the wettest month, in which 4·9 inches of rain fell, and of these 4·3 was measured on the four days October 4th to 7th inclusive.

Sewage.—There is no general sewage disposal service for the whole District. Nearly all the villages have a system of drains to carry off the local sewage, and in several parts there are sewage tanks to deal with it.

The bulk of the excrement disposal is by means of midden privies, which are being steadily renovated through the District and made more accessible and easy to empty; wherever possible they are being removed to a greater distance from the houses. This system of midden privies is by no means an ideal one, but in a district which is purely rural the disadvantages are not so great as in the town. Where houses and villages are scattered it is found very difficult to make the inhabitants empty pan closets satisfactorily, and these are frequently found to be over-filled. It is otherwise where they are installed in a village and can be emptied regularly under contract. This system is in use to a large extent in the village of Tuxford. In Barnby Moor there are about 30 water closets, the drains from which are taken to a sewage tank and the effluent passed into a dyke drain. This effluent and the water in the dyke were fully commented upon in my last year's report, and found to be satisfactory. There has been one new water closet installed in Tuxford, and one conversion of a privy. Water from the Lincoln mains has now been laid on to the houses in Tuxford and also East Markham; the waste from this will dilute the water in the dykes and be beneficial, provided no large number of water closets are installed.

The question of drainage for the District is a very difficult one. Many parts are flat and low lying, and give no proper fall. The rivers flow between artificial embankments, and are sometimes at a higher level than the surrounding country. A meeting is to be held shortly to consider the advisability of a sewage scheme for Ranskill.

Full particulars of the laying down of drains and other matters in this connection will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector.

Water Supply.—There are a few deep wells, but for the most part shallow wells are depended upon. Good water is obtained on the western side of the District where the soil is sandy, but on the eastern side it is very hard owing to veins of gypsum which run through the soil, and the water is often of a very suspicious quality, being contaminated by surface water. In a few villages it is certainly not fit for drinking, and in these cases rain water is relied upon. In a few instances water from the Chesterfield Canal is drunk. The few deep wells in the District are mostly on the property of large landowners. One of these supplies the whole of the neighbouring village from his deep well. The Rampton Criminal Lunatic Asylum obtains its water from a deep well. The water in the well of a new house was found to be contaminated with fæcal matter; it was supposed to have been contaminated maliciously. The well was emptied and the water analysed three times, and the tenant advised to boil the water. No certificate was granted.

The Lincoln City Waterworks have been at work for some time, and the main pipe line is tapped to supply the villages of Tuxford and East Markham, for which a reserve reservoir has been built, and the houses in these two villages now have a constant supply of good water.

Slaughter-houses on the whole are well kept and clean. Two required cleansing and limewashing, and this was done.

Housing Accommodation.—The housing is just sufficient for the needs of the District. In some parts labourers have to walk some distance to their work. Twelve new houses have been erected during the year. The Sanitary Inspector (who is the officer appointed under me under the Housing and Town Planning Act) and I have visited constantly and made inspections of houses throughout the District. Most of the defects found were such as we have been accustomed to dealing with under the Public Health Act, and consisted mostly of—

- Insufficient lighting
- Insufficient ventilation
- Defective eaves, gutters, etc.
- Leaking roofs
- Defective yard paving
- Insufficient privy and ashpit accommodation
- Insufficient drains
- Dirty houses
- Too close proximity to pigstyes.

The table and report on page 38 sets out the result of inspections, the orders of the Council, and the results attained under the Housing and Town Planning Act. Four houses were closed in Tuxford owing to deficient light and air, insufficient sanitary accommodation and general disrepair. In the same village a house was found in great disrepair and very dirty ; it was occupied by the owner. An order for cleansing was made, and the house was cleansed in due course. Another house also in Tuxford was found to be very dirty and ill kept, and not fit for habitation ; this was occupied by the owner. Notice under the Public Health Act was served in December, and the matter is in progress. A group of houses in Clarbrough were found defective, especially as regards light. Additional windows were put in by the landlord after notice had been served.

Overcrowding.—There was one bad case of overcrowding in Tuxford. The nuisance was abated voluntarily after I had seen the occupier. One of the common lodging houses that I inspected had too many beds in one of the rooms for the cubic space available. This was remedied voluntarily. A serious case of overcrowding was found at Scrooby, which was also abated after notice given on instructions from the Council.

Both the Sanitary Inspector and I have found very little difficulty in administering the Housing sections of the Housing and Town Planning Act. It is our endeavour to work efficiently with as little resort to coercive measures as possible, and by the use of a little tact we find that coercive measures are seldom required. Full details of inspections made will be found in the report of the Sanitary Inspector on page 38.

Cowsheds.—I inspect the cowsheds of the District, and on the whole they are well kept and clean. This is not a dairy county, and there are comparatively few registered cowkeepers. Of these, for the most part only two or three cows are kept. Milk is sent to the Trentside Dairy at Leverton, where it is made into cheese, and milk is sent to Gainsborough, Doncaster, Nottingham, and East Retford for consumption. Three new cowkeepers have been added to the register during the year, and their premises were satisfactory on the whole. One showed a slight defect, and the tenant promised to rectify it. One cowshed was found to be very dirty, and was cleaned and limewashed within a week of my visit.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The plan followed when a case of infectious disease is notified is that I visit the house personally if possible, make enquiries, and give instructions as to isolation and disinfection. Hanging cards of instructions and disinfectants are distributed gratis. At the termination of the case, the house is disinfected by the Sanitary Inspector and his staff. When a child is infected,

this usually means a visit to the school to enquire for absentees and a visit to all suspicious cases who may be absent. By so doing, I am often able to find an unsuspected case.

There is no isolation hospital in the District. During the year I suggested that an arrangement might be made with the Borough Council of East Retford to admit a limited number of Scarlet Fever cases into their hospital, where the circumstances of the case seemed to make such a procedure unusually desirable, and provided there was sufficient room available in the hospital. The Borough Council on being approached by the District Council acquiesced in this, and power is now given me by the District Council to make the necessary arrangements, when desirable. Advantage has not been taken of this at present. One case was considered suitable, but owing to the fact that no horse ambulance was available to bring the child some six miles, the new arrangement was not carried out. In consequence of this I was instructed to look for a temporary vehicle which would do for the purpose until a proper ambulance is purchased when the isolation hospital is built.

During the year negotiations have been in progress between the District Council and the Borough Council for the provision of a joint isolation hospital, and many meetings were held. The District Council agreed to all the conditions suggested by the special Sub-committee which was appointed to deal with this matter, but the resolution that the two Districts should combine was defeated in the Borough Council by one vote; consequently the scheme for a satisfactory isolation hospital fell to the ground. A letter was received in October from the County Council asking what steps were being taken in the matter, and I had a long interview with the County Medical Officer in November.

Negotiations with the Borough Council of East Retford are about to be re-opened, and a meeting of the Sub-committees of the two Councils has been fixed. I trust that before my next report is written, this question will have been settled satisfactorily.

The provision of a steam disinfecter has remained in abeyance until the hospital question was finally disposed of. Of course, should the hospital be built, it would be necessary to instal a disinfecter, preferably in the hospital grounds.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year all cases of Tuberculosis, Pulmonary and other, have been compulsorily notifiable. The total number of infectious cases notified was 66, seven more than the previous year; in these are included 27 cases of Tuberculosis. The cases of notifiable infectious disease are given month by month in the following table :—

TABLE A.

Month	Diph- theria	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Enteric Fever	Puerperal Fever	Acute Pol- iomyelitis	Total
Jan.	...	1	2	1	...	...	4
Feb.	...	1	3	...	...	...	4
March	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
April	...	...	5	...	...	...	5
May	...	...	3	...	...	...	3
June	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
July	...	1	...	1	...	...	2
August	...	...	1	...	...	...	1
Sept.	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
October	2	...	6	...	...	...	8
Nov.	2	1	2	...	...	...	5
Dec.	1	1	...	2	...	...	4
Totals	5	6	24	4	...	...	39

The cases notified in each of the registration sub-districts are given in Table II. on page 18.

Diphtheria.—Five cases were notified, and one other was found by me during inspection. In one case a sink waste was found directly connected with the drain; this defect was remedied. One case was caused by the child going in, unknown to the mother, to see his brother who was infected. Another case was infected outside the District, and came home and developed the disease. One case was fatal. Case-rate ·38 per thousand.

Erysipelas.—Six cases, all mild.

Scarlet Fever.—Twenty-four cases, the same number as the previous year. There was an epidemic from January to May causing eleven cases amongst scholars attending Everton school. Three cases occurred at South Leverton, all in one family, in May, and an epidemic occurred in North Leverton in October and November, when six cases were infected. All were mild, and no deaths occurred. Case-rate 1·52 per thousand.

Acute Poliomyelitis.—No cases of this disease have been notified.

Enteric Fever.—Three cases occurred during the year. One of the cases was a newcomer to the District and probably brought the infection with him, as both his wife and son had suffered from this disease at his old home at the time of his removal. Case-rate ·2 per thousand.

Puerperal Fever.—No cases have occurred.

Phthisis or Pulmonary Tuberculosis.—Twenty-three cases have been notified. This number is a considerable increase on those notified last year. I think the reason may be that more of the cases found are notified, notification having been in force for only two years. The incidence of Phthisis seems somewhat high for a Rural District, but I find that many of the cases have acquired Phthisis away at work and have returned to their homes in this District to be nursed.

A travelling Tuberculosis Caravan visited the District in May, and lectures on the subject were given and a museum shown.

The sanatorium accommodation provided for insured persons and their dependents is very meagre and insufficient. The Insurance Committee have taken over the Ransom Sanatorium near Mansfield, where there are 32 beds. Accommodation is also provided for this disease in the Nottingham General Hospital, but patients frequently have to wait a very long time before gaining admission, owing to the long list of those waiting to be taken in, and much of the benefit they might have is lost owing to the delay.

Tuberculosis in Cattle.—Twelve notices of the seizure of suspected animals have been received during the year ; of these Tuberculosis was diagnosed in eight cases, and four were found not to be tuberculous.

Small-pox.—The District has remained free from this disease.

There is an increasing number of unvaccinated persons, and should a case of Small-pox arrive and be unnoticed for some little time, the consequences would probably be very serious.

Anthrax.—One case of Anthrax in a beast was found at Scrooby ; the carcass was destroyed. This is the only case notified during the year.

The following Table B shows the incidence of, and deaths from, the three notifiable diseases Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, and Enteric Fever for the past 10 years, and of Phthisis for the past two years. The death-rate from the three notifiable diseases is thus 12·02 per cent. of the deaths from all causes and 1·39 per thousand of the total population.

TABLE B.

Year	Diphtheria and Memb. Croup		Scarlet Fever		Enteric Fever		Phthisis †		Total Cases	Total Deaths	Total Deaths all causes
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths			
1904	2	...	56	...	2	1	...	...	60	1	210
1905	3	1	41	...	1	1	...	...	45	2	199
1906	1	1	18	1	1	...	...	...	20	2	201
1907	8	1	73	4	2	...	...	...	83	5	200
1908	8	2	58	3	2	...	...	...	68	5	174
1909	13	2	43	...	2	2	...	...	58	4	200
1910	6	1	53	2	1	1	...	...	60	4	198
1911	5	...	47	1	8	1	...	...	60	2	186
1912	11	1	23	...	4	...	13	8	51	9	165
1913	6	1	24	...	3	1	23	20	56	22	183
Average for 10 yrs	6·3	1	43·6	1·1	2·6	·7	...	...	56·1	5·6	191·8

† *Note.* The incidence and deaths from Phthisis are not given for years previous to 1912, when it was first made generally notifiable.

NON-NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

My information with regard to these is necessarily somewhat scanty, and I am dependent chiefly on reports from the School Attendance Officers and Teachers. There has not been very much sickness during the year.

Chicken-pox.—One case was reported from Houghton in February, and there were eight cases at Eaton in April. The school was closed.

Whooping Cough.—There were several cases at East Drayton in February.

Measles.—A small outbreak occurred at Rampton in April and May for which the school was closed, and one at East Drayton in September. In December a rather severe outbreak occurred at Everton in which there were 52 cases. The school was closed.

Influenza.—Eighteen cases were reported from East Drayton in May. The school was closed.

Mumps.—Fourteen cases occurred in East Markham. The school was closed.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—I am not acquainted with any cases of this disease during the year.

The Sanitary Committee on my recommendation decided to make the disease notifiable in the District, but owing to some formality the Local Government Board would not assent. It will be notifiable by General Order of the Local Government Board after the 1st April, 1914.

VITAL STATISTICS.

I have used the number 15081, that being the number of persons estimated to be living in the District in the middle of the year 1913. I have thus allowed for an estimated increase of 236. This is composed of the natural increase of the District together with a known definite increase of immigrants.

Births.—The total number of births registered in the District was 292. In addition to these, four have been returned by the Registrar General as having been born out of the District

but belonging to it. The total number is therefore 296, giving a birth-rate of 18·72. The birth-rate is thus slightly lower than in the previous five years. Table C shows details of the births and the localities in which they occurred.

TABLE C.

Registration Sub-Districts.	Legitimate Births.		Illegitimate Births.		Total.
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
Gringley ...	27	33	2	4	66
Clarborough	36	34	...	2	72
East Retford	22	17	2	1	42
Tuxford ...	43	33	4	3	83
Misson ...	16	11	1	1	29
Totals ...	144	128	9	11	292
Births outside but belonging to the District	...	...	2	2	4
Totals ...	144	128	11	13	296

Deaths.—The number of deaths registered in the District was 168, giving a crude death-rate of 10·63. In addition to these, 15 persons belonging to the District died in institutions outside and must be included, and two persons died in an institution in the District but belonged to another District and have been excluded. Thus the net number of deaths of residents belonging to the District is 181, giving a corrected death-rate of 11·45. A further correction can be made by means of a factor provided by the Registrar General, which shows what the death-rate would actually be were the population of the District as regards the proportion of females and old people the same as the average for the whole kingdom. By the use of this the rate is shown to be **9·55** per thousand.

The public institutions outside the District in which persons have died are as follows :—

The Retford Hospital.
 East Retford Union Workhouse.
 The Sheffield Royal Infirmary.
 The Notts. County Asylum.
 A private Nursing Home in Sheffield.

The Union Workhouse is not in the District, being situated within the Borough of East Retford.

Infantile Mortality.—The number of deaths of infants under one year of age was 15, giving a mortality per thousand births of 50·67, being 11·7 less than last year. There is thus a fall in the number of infantile deaths. Only one death of an illegitimate infant occurred, and it is unsafe to make any remarks upon such a small number.

The oldest person who died was 102.

The deaths from Pulmonary Tuberculosis numbered 20, a considerable increase on last year, possibly due to the cold inclement summer.

Cancer (Malignant Disease) numbered ten cases, being seven less than the previous year.

Details as to age, incidence, etc., will be found in the tables which follow.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

HANWAY R. BEALE,

Medical Officer of Health.

Bridgegate House,

Retford,

March, 1914.

TABLE I.
Rural District of East Retford. Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1913 and previous Years.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each Year. 2	Births.			Total Deaths Registered in the District.		Transferable Deaths.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.			
		Un-corrected Number	Nett.		Number	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.	
			Number	Rate.					Number	Rate per 1000 Nett Births	Number	Rate.
1		3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1908	14236	...	339	23·8	174	12·2	...	16	27	79·9	190	13·34
1909	14236	...	329	23·11	200	14·04	...	16	30	91·8	216	15·17
1910	14700	...	313	21·76	178	12·1	...	20	28	89·4	198	13·47
1911	14776	306	312	21·1	162	10·96	1	24	18	57·6	185	12·5
1912	14845	319	321	21·62	144	9·7	1	21	23	62·3	164	11·04
1913	15081	292	296	18·72	168	10·63	2	15	15	50·67	181	11·45*

Total population at all ages, 14776. Number of inhabited houses, 3446. Average number of Persons per house, 4·28. (At Census of 1911.)
 Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 92740. * Nett corrected rate (see page 15) 9·55.

TABLE II.
East Retford Rural District. Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1913.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.							TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED IN EACH LOCALITY.					TOTAL CASES REMOV'D TO HOS-PITAL.	
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years						Gringley	Clarbore	East Retford	Tuxford	Misson		
		Un-der 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 45	45 to 65							65 & up-wards
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Cholera (C) Plague (P)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) ...	6	2	4	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	4	1	...	
Erysipelas ...	6	...	...	1	5	...	...	...	3	2	...	...	...	
Scarlet Fever ...	24	4	18	...	2	...	...	...	9	2	...	...	...	
Typhus Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Enteric Fever ...	3	...	1	1	...	1	...	...	2	1	...	...	...	
Relapsing Fever (R) ...	}	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Continued Fever (C) ...		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Puerperal Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ...	23	1	2	5	9	6	...	...	12	2	5	1	...	
Other forms of Tuberculosis ...	4	1	...	2	1	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	
Totals ...	66	8	25	9	17	7	...	17	28	7	12	2	...	

No Isolation Hospital in the District.

TABLE III.

*East Retford Rural District.**Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the year 1913.*

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.									Total Deaths whether of Residents or Non- Residents in Institutions in the District.
	All ages.	Under 1	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and upwards	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
All causes { Certified ..	179	15	3	3	5	3	16	44	90	...
{ Uncertified	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...
Enteric Fever	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ..	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza	2	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary)	20	...	1	...	1	2	7	8	1	1
Tuberculosis)										
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, malignant disease	10	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	3	...
Rheumatic Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease..	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	14	...
Bronchitis	17	1	...	2	1	...	...	3	10	...
Pneumonia, all forms ..	7	...	...	...	...	1	2	3	1	...
Other Diseases of Res- piratory Organs }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis & Typhlitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...
Alcoholism ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease }	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	1
Puerperal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Accidents and Diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition .. }	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Congenital Debility & Malformation, includ- ing Premature Birth }	10	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, exclud- ing Suicide .. }	4	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	2	...
Suicides	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	...	...
Other Defined Diseases	42	3	1	1	1	...	2	12	22	...
Diseases ill-defined or unknown .. }	39	...	1	...	...	...	...	1	37	...
Totals	183	15	3	3	5	3	16	45	93	2

TABLE IV.

*East Retford Rural District.**Infant Mortality.**1913. Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year*

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 week	1-2 weeks	2-3 weeks	3-4 weeks	Total under 1 month	1-3 months	3-6 months	6-9 months	9-12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
All causes { Certified	3	1	1	..	5	5	2	1	2	15
Uncertified ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Small-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Chicken-pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping-cough	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria and Croup ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tuberculous Meningitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Abdominal Tuberculosis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Tuberculous diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Convulsions	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1
Laryngitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchitis	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhœa	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Gastritis	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Syphilis	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Rickets	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Suffocation, overlying	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Injury at Birth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Atelectasis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Congenital Malformations	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Premature Birth	2	..	..	..	2	1	..	..	..	3
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus	..	1	1	..	2	1	..	..	1	4
Other causes	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	3
Totals	3	1	1	..	5	5	2	1	2	15

Nett Births in the year { Legitimate .. 272
 { Illegitimate .. 24

Nett Deaths in the year of { Legitimate Infants .. 14
 { Illegitimate Infants .. 1

THE FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT, 1901.

TO THE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EAST RETFORD.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have to present the following Report as required by the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, section 132.

Section 32 of the Public Health (Amendment) Act is not in force in the District.

The chief places in a Rural District such as this which require to be inspected under this Act are the smithies and carpenters' shops, dressmakers' and tailors' workrooms, and bakehouses. There is one factory employing about 40 hands engaged in the manufacture of iron shovels and forks, but this is the only one of any size.

There are no underground bakehouses.

The workshops and workplaces are as a rule well kept, clean, and properly ventilated. They are not overcrowded. The degree of cleanliness required of course has to vary, and a widely opened shoeing-smith's cannot be expected to be kept as clean as the workshops in other less smoky businesses.

There are no factory laundries or dye-works.

Amongst offensive trades, one blood and bone boiler exists in the District. I reported on these premises last year, and since then he has removed still further from any habitation, and the premises are much more satisfactory than previously.

There are no outworkers employed in the District, nor have I been able to find any outworkers resident in the District but employed from elsewhere.

No prosecutions have been necessary during the year.

Below is a summary of the work done, in table form ; but in addition to the figures shown, I make it a practice to call in to various workshops in the District when I happen to be in the neighbourhood ; then, if all is satisfactory, no note is made.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1.—*Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.*

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises. 1	Number of		
	Inspections 2	Written Notices 3	Prosecutions 4
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	7	...	...
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	33	...	...
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	12	...	...
TOTAL	52	...	...

2.—*Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.*

Particulars.	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts:—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	3	3	..	..
Want of ventilation	..	..	..	..
Overcrowding	..	..	..	..
Want of drainage of floors	..	..	..	..
Other nuisances	..	..	..	..
Sanitary accommodation .. {	insufficient	..	..	..
	unsuitable or defective	..	..	..
	not separate for sexes	..	..	..
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts:—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouses (s. 101)	..	..	..	..
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)	..	..	..	..
Other offences (excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)	..	..	..	..
TOTAL	3	3	..	..

3.—*Home Work.*

None.

4.—*Registered Workshops.*

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year. 1					Number 2
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	13
Blacksmiths' Shops	...	...	...	...	15
Ironworks	...	...	...	...	2
Dressmakers and Tailors	...	...	...	...	10
Carpenters	...	...	...	...	18
Others	...	...	...	...	17
Total number of Workshops on Register					65

5.—*Other Matters.*

Class. 1					Number 2
<i>Matters notified to H. M. Inspector of Factories :—</i>					
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts					...
Action taken in matters referred by H. M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts (s. 5, 1901)					Notified by H.M. Inspector ... Reports (of action taken) sent to H. M. Inspector
Other					...
<i>Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—</i>					
Certificates granted during the year					...
In use at the end of the year					...

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

HANWAY R. BEALE.

**ANNUAL REPORT for 1913 by
THOMAS HENRY, Sanitary Surveyor and
Inspector of Nuisances.**

COMPLAINTS AND INSPECTIONS—

1	Number of Complaints received during the year ...	12
2	Number of Houses, Premises, &c., Inspected ...	240
3	Number of Re-inspections of Houses, Premises, &c. ...	1200

RESULTS OF INSPECTIONS—

Formal Orders issued for Sanitary Amendments of Houses and Premises :			
4	For the Abatement of Nuisances ...	14	48
5	„ Provision of New Drains ...	15	
6	„ „ Privies and Ashpits ...	17	
7	„ „ Wholesome Water ...	2	
8	Houses, Premises, &c., Cleansed, Repaired, &c. ...	5	
9	School Urinals Repaired and New Provided ...	2	
10	Overcrowding Abated ...	6	
11	Drains to Houses and Buildings: New, Provided...	36	
12	„ „ Repaired, Cleansed, Trapped, &c. ...	7	
13	„ „ Ventilated ...	2	
14	New Cesspools for House Drainage ...	8	
15	Old Cesspools Abolished ...	1	
16	Water Closets: New, Provided ...	1	
17	„ Abolished ...	0	
18	Privies converted into Pan Closets ...	16	
19	Pan Closets converted into Privies ...	0	
20	Old Privies Abolished ...	20	
21	Privies: New, Provided ...	34	
22	„ Repaired ...	3	
23	Ashpits or Ashbins: New, Provided ...	36	
24	„ „ Repaired ...	2	
25	Urinals to Public Houses Provided ...	1	
26	Waste Pipes connected with Drains, &c., Disconnected ...	4	
27	Animals Removed, being improperly kept ...	8	
28	Pigsties adjoining Houses Abolished ...	6	
29	„ Provided with Drains ...	6	
30	Privies and Ashpits Emptied and Cleansed ...	16	
31	Yards and Causeways Paved ...	13	

WATER SUPPLY—

32	Pumps and Wells: New, Provided...	...	...	...	6
33	„ „ Cleansed, Repaired, Covered, &c.	...	...	...	8
34	Water Certificates for New Houses Granted	...	...	...	0

LODGING HOUSES—

35	Number of Lodging Houses Registered under 35th Section of “Public Health Act, 1875”	...	...	...	1
----	--	-----	-----	-----	---

REMOVALS—

36	Removals of Accumulations of Dung, Stagnant Water, Animal and other Refuse	...	...	...	5
----	---	-----	-----	-----	---

THE HOUSING OF WORKING CLASSES ACT, 1890-1909—

37	Houses Closed (voluntarily)...	...	...	...	4
----	--------------------------------	-----	-----	-----	---

CANAL BOATS ACT, 1884—

38	Canal Boats Inspected	...	...	...	21
----	-----------------------	-----	-----	-----	----

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS—

39	Summonses	...	...	...	0
----	-----------	-----	-----	-----	---

The foregoing statistics barely represent the large amount of work actually carried out in many individual cases. To do so it would be necessary to give the lengths of drains laid, number of gullies, inspection chambers, &c. One drain might represent a cottage drain, or an elaborate system to one house, and premises. For instance, one farm premises recently drained, after notice, represents 190 yards of pipes, two inspection chambers, gullies, and the fold-yard was raised with 50 tons of slag. In this case I took levels for the owner, and prepared a section, in order to make a satisfactory job.

During the year, I have written very many letters, and had personal interviews with sixty owners or owners' representatives, upon their various premises, in order to explain the Council's requirements. In the ordinary course of events, an interview (also on the premises) with a builder follows, generally for the purpose of an estimate for the work, and when the latter is settled, another interview for the purpose of setting out the work. These interviews have invariably resulted in the necessity of the sanitary improvements being appreciated, and the execution of the work has generally proceeded satisfactorily.

It will be noticed from the preceding schedule that the number of Public Health Act notices served for the provision of privies, ashpits and drains, show a considerable diminution, as compared with previous years, and the number actually provided is consequently smaller. This is due to the fact that many inspections under the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, have been made of houses, previously dealt with under the Public Health Act. During the 16 years I have held the office of Inspector of Nuisances, 769 privies, 839 ashpits, and 1028 drains to houses, have been constructed; and as combined privies and ashpits cost about £10 each, and drains average say £2 each, it will be seen that at least £10,000 has been caused to be expended on this branch of private sanitary work by the District Council.

The combined privy and ashpit now approved, and constructed in accordance with the "particulars" annexed, is the most practical form that I have seen, and the least offensive, if properly treated, viz.: by covering the fæcal matter with ashes; but some occupiers, although instructed to do so, seldom attain this ideal, while in the case of pan closets (of which there are a number) they never do so, and it has become a common place remark that "he who recommends a pan closet ought to have to empty it," though where a system of public scavenging is in operation this observation does not apply.

The nuisance from a knacker's boiling house, reported last year, has resulted in the establishment of a very satisfactory plant for this business, hundreds of yards from any house or highway.

Houses Voluntarily Closed.—Four houses have been voluntarily closed by the owners in Tuxford Parish, in preference to complying with the Council's required amendments.

Sustained and Unrecorded Inspections.—Many minor nuisances which entail an inspection are not recorded, and I frequently find that verbal notices are sufficient to ensure the emptying of privies and ashpits, and the removal of offensive accumulations. This may be described as ‘sustained inspection,’ of which there is no record.

Paved Causeways.—In several instances new paved causeways to houses, where none previously existed, have been provided through my advice, without formal notices.

VOLUNTARY SANITARY IMPROVEMENTS.

It is a frequent occurrence now for owners to voluntarily undertake sanitary improvements to their cottages, which is not recorded, and my advice is sought, and freely given, for such a desirable object.

NEWCASTLE ESTATE.

The system of thoroughly repairing all the Duke of Newcastle's property (each Village is being taken in rotation), and referred to in my previous reports, is still being continued, under the direction of the Estate Agent, Mr. A. E. Elliott. It is, in my opinion, a very wise course, and a matter for congratulation, both to the Duke and the Council. If all the voluntary sanitary work, so effectively done on this estate, were tabulated, the figures of my return would be very largely increased, the sanitary work all being done under my supervision. One especially good improvement was the concreting of the whole surface of a fold-yard in Tuxford Village.

NEW HOUSES.

Owners of new houses are required, in accordance with the Public Health (Water) Act, 1878, to obtain a certificate from the Rural District Council that the water supply is wholesome, and

within a reasonable distance from the house. I therefore make it a practice to send, to such owners, a leaflet containing extracts from the said Public Health (Water) Act, pointing out the owners' responsibility in this respect. I also see that a privy, ashpit, and drain are provided to each house, as required by the Public Health Act, 1875. Full "particulars," as per appended copies, are sent to building owners, as to the construction of these requirements, and the work is generally carried out as satisfactorily as if Bye-laws were in force. Similar particulars also accompany all notices served under section 23 of the Public Health Act. The system in vogue is now so well understood, that plans of new houses are generally submitted for my inspection.

(Copy).

PRIVATE DRAINS.

THE COUNCIL will regard as sufficient a drain constructed to comply with the following particulars :—

1. In all cases where a branch drain is required beneath a highway, such branch drain may be laid and connected to the main sewer by the Council, at the expense of the owner. No works shall be commenced until the sanction of the Surveyor thereto has been obtained. Notice in writing should be given at the office of the Surveyor whenever any drain is completed, and no drain be filled in or covered until it has been inspected, tested, and approved by an authorised officer of the Council

2. Defective drains must be made good or destroyed, contaminated soil removed, and the space filled in solid.

3. The pipes to be the best quality glazed stoneware socketed pipes, jointed in cement.

4. No right angled junction is to be used in any drain.

5. Rain water pipes discharging into drains or sewers must discharge over trapped gullies.

6. All drains must be laid in straight lines.

7. Every drain should have properly constructed inspection chambers, one at or near the point where the drain leaves the premises, and others as may be necessary at the rear of the premises.

8. No drain is to be less than 4 inches in diameter, and the inclination not less than 1 in 40.

9. Each house must have a separate connection of its drains with the main system, or with a cesspool, unless the Council shall give its written consent to drains from two or more houses being joined in one such connection.

10. Stable, cowshed, and pigstye gullies to have arrangements for catching sediment.

11. Gullies at sink wastes, must be fixed, not less than 12 inches, from such sink waste outlet.

12. All drains laid within or under any building intended to be used as a dwelling house or workplace must be of best quality glazed socket-jointed stoneware pipes, laid on and surrounded with 6 inches of Portland cement (or cement of equal quality) concrete, or of cast iron socket-jointed pipes jointed with lead and properly caulked.

13. Where the ground is water-logged, the drains should be laid either with stoneware pipes with patent joints of approved pattern, or with cast iron pipes.

14. Nine inch gullies, with nine inch grids, must be provided to all drain inlets, unless otherwise specified.

(Copy).

PARTICULARS OF CONSTRUCTION IN RESPECT TO PRIVIES AND ASHPITS.

A privy and ashpit should be constructed at a distance of *twenty-four feet* at the least from any dwelling house or public building, or any building in which any person may be or may be intended to be employed in manufacture, trade or business.

A privy and ashpit should not be constructed within the distance of *sixty feet* from any well, spring, or stream of water used or likely to be used by man for drinking or domestic purposes, or for manufacturing drinks for the use of man, or otherwise in such a position as to render any such water liable to pollution.

Every privy and ashpit should be constructed in such a manner and in such a position as to afford ready means of access for the purpose of cleansing such privy and ashpit and of removing filth therefrom, and in such a manner and in such a position as to admit of all filth being removed from such privy and ashpit, and from the premises to which such privy and ashpit may belong, without being carried through a dwelling house or public building or any building in which any person may be or may be intended to be employed in any manufacture, trade or business.

The seat of a privy should be so constructed that the whole of such seat or a sufficient part thereof may be readily removed or adjusted so as to afford adequate means of removing the contents and of cleansing such receptacle. The seat may be either hinged or loose.

The ashpit shall be constructed immediately behind, and *not* beside, the privy seat, and shall be not less than *four feet* by *four feet* on plan.

Every privy and ashpit shall be properly roofed over and provided with a sufficient opening for constant ventilation, as near to the top as practicable, and communicating directly with the external air.

The floor of every privy and ashpit to be flagged or paved with hard tiles or other non-absorbent material, bedded and jointed in cement, and the riser or front under and partially supporting the privy seat shall be constructed of one hard Yorkshire flagstone (*not* limestone), not less than *two and a half inches* thick, let in *three inches* at least below the level of the floor, bedded in cement at the base, and let into the walls at each side for not less than *two inches*; the whole extent of each side and back of the space between the floor and the level of the seat to be constructed of flagging, slate or good brickwork at least *nine inches*

thick, built in cement, the internal face of such brickwork to be of blue Staffordshire bricks *four and a half inches* in thickness at the least; and the floor shall be in every part thereof at a height of not less than *six inches* above the level of the surface of the ground adjoining such privy; and such floor shall have a fall or inclination towards the door of such privy of *half an inch* to the *foot*.

A window of not less dimensions than *two feet* by *one foot*, exclusive of the frame, should be provided in one of the walls of the privy, and opening directly into the external air.

The ashpit should be furnished, at the side thereof, with a suitable door of not less superficial area than *five feet* by *two feet three inches*, the blue brick sill of such doorway to be not more than *twelve inches* above the adjacent surface of the ground, fixed in such a position and so constructed and fitted as to admit of the convenient removal of the contents of such ashpit, and to admit of being securely closed and fastened for the effectual prevention of the escape of any of the contents of such ashpit.

BUILDING BYE-LAWS.

No Building Bye-laws are in force in this District, and hence there are no restrictions upon the erection of new houses, (which have been hitherto satisfactorily constructed), beyond the provision of a wholesome water supply, and sanitary accommodation, as described above.

WATER SUPPLY.

Four new borehole wells have been sunk into the sandstone by owners during the year, upon private property. One owner bored to a depth of over 300 feet, in Hayton Parish, to supply one farm house. At two new houses in Scrooby Parish, a borehole 120 feet deep was sunk, but after three analyses, the water failed to prove wholesome, owing, it was thought, to some accidental or wilful pollution. The occupiers were advised to boil the water before use.

East Markham and Tuxford Water Supply.—Under the powers secured by the District Council in the Lincoln Corporation Water Act of 1908, the scheme for supplying the Parishes of East Markham and Tuxford, designed by Mr. E. J. Silcock, M.I.C.E., of Leeds, has been completed.

The first connection was made on May 26th, 1913, at Tuxford, and since that date to February 7th, 1914, 79 houses and premises in East Markham, and 166 in Tuxford, have been supplied with water from the mains. The estimated population to be supplied in both Parishes was 1500, so that approximately 1200 persons are using this water, which must be considered very satisfactory progress, and the Water Inspector (Mr. T. H. Good) deserves his share of the credit. It was only necessary to serve three owners with statutory notices relating to 16 houses to provide water, and these have been complied with. Other reluctant owners were induced, either by letter or personal interviews, to provide this water for their houses.

Rampton Criminal Lunatic Asylum. Housing of Workmen.—There have been no cases of over-crowding arising out of these works during this year. The building of a section of the superstructure commenced in October, 1910, and was completed in October, 1912, the contractors being Messrs. W. Pattinson & Sons, Ltd. A number of houses for the officials are occupied and more have been built this year, this work, other building operations, and road making being still in hand. The Asylum is occupied. This establishment is self-contained, so far as regards water, drains, and drainage disposal.

SEWER WORKS, &c.

During the year, the following Works have been executed, in accordance with the directions of the Sanitary Committee, by the Council's workmen, under my direction. The new pipes used are Glazed Stoneware Socketed Pipes, generally known as

Sanitary pipes. This work is not an increasing quantity, being permanent; the pipes when laid do not wear out, like road metalling, so no renewals are necessary.

Askham.—Parish pump repaired.

Bothamsall.—Twenty yards of blocked horseshoe tile sewer have been replaced with six inch sanitary pipes.

Barnby Moor.—The sewage catchpits are regularly emptied and cleansed. The stream into which the sewage discharges is also cleansed by the Parish, and paid for out of a voluntary rate. During rain the outfall sewer was flushed by means of valves, and holding up.

KENNELS DRAINAGE. I have inspected this several times and found the septic tank effluent clearer than the sewage from the Village.

Cottam.—The old tile sewer near Mr. Bescoby's new houses, being completely blocked, it was taken up and six inch sanitary pipes were laid. One manhole was constructed.

East Markham.—An open sewer adjoining the Cinder Path has been piped for a distance of 180 yards with twelve inch pipes, and one manhole constructed.

East Drayton.—Complaint being made of an open sewer near the Village Street, a Sub-committee was appointed to inspect it. No action was taken.

Everton.—A retaining wall has been built at the sewer outfall.

Gringley-on-the-Hill.—A length of blocked tile sewer in Mr. Whaley's field has been taken up, cleansed, and relaid.

Grove.—The sewage flows into a ditch in Eaton Parish. The ditch has been cleansed.

Hayton.—An open sewer near the Village Street has been piped for a distance of 30 yards with 15 inch pipes.

Lound.—There are long lengths of sewers and sewage ditches with very flat gradients that are continually being flushed and cleansed. The construction of a catchpit on the sewer near Mr. Edwards' has considerably improved this length, in intercepting the detritus, which is carried into the sewer principally by surface water, and has hitherto settled upon the invert of the pipes, owing to the flat gradient.

Misson.—One manhole built on the Gib Dyke sewer.

Mattersey.—The roadside sewer opposite the Chapel has been piped with nine inch pipes for a distance of 35 yards, which is a great improvement.

North Leverton.—One sewer ventilating shaft has been fixed against Mr. Turner's house, in the Station Road.

Normanton-on-Trent.—Owing to the old tile sewer being blocked, it was necessary to replace it with nine inch pipes for a distance of 350 yards, two manholes being built.

Ranskill.—Considerable attention has been devoted to the preparation of a scheme for abating the nuisance arising from the sewage cesspools, near the Church and the Great North Road, which were complained of as being a serious nuisance. The cost of a scheme, (which was not a complete one for the Parish), was proved to be prohibitive if paid for out of the current rates, and after consultation with the Parish Council, it was decided by the District Council to instruct Mr. E. J. Silcock, M.I.C.E., of Leeds, to prepare a complete scheme of sewerage for the Parish, with a view to obtaining a loan for the execution of the work.

The sewage from Station Road, including waste from a malting, is discharged through a nine inch pipe into a disused gravel hole, the outlet from which is a three inch agricultural tile, and this is repeatedly blocked.

Sturton-le-Steeple.—A blocked sewer opposite Freeman's Lane has been cleansed with the drain rods.

Tuxford.—Thirty-two yards of six inch pipes have been laid in Chapel Yard, in lieu of a defective sewer of various sizes. One manhole built. After three years the septic tank in Mr. White's field has been again emptied.

Wiseton.—Three sanitary trapped gullies have been fixed in the Village Street.

NORTH WHEATLEY WATER SUPPLY.

Owing to the drought during last summer, many of the houses were without water, being dependent upon rain water. The well waters are generally too hard for domestic purposes, and Lord Middleton, through his Agent, wrote calling attention to the matter. The latter gentleman subsequently saw me and offered to pay half the cost of obtaining an Engineer's report, as to the best means of supplying this village with good water. The District Council referred the offer to the Parish Council, who called a Parish Meeting, when it was decided not to entertain the offer.

TUXFORD SCAVENGING.

This work has been carried out by the late Mr. Peter Clark, and his executors, in a satisfactory manner. The sanitary tumbler cart has been repaired, and a new body provided to it.

The number of pans to be emptied increases, with the abolition of defective privies, as owners find the provision of pans cheaper than introducing water closets. Only two conversions from pans to w.c.'s have as yet been made.

SEWERS, SEWAGE DITCHES, & CESSPOOLS

In the new sewers, flushing is effected by valves during rain, and holding back. The old sewers are flushed with a flushing water cart. Several cases of blocked sewers have been effectively dealt with, by the aid of the drain rods, which have also been lent to various ratepayers, to cleanse their drains. This is appreciated.

There are sewage ditches in every Parish, and catchpits in most, and they have been regularly and thoroughly cleansed, and where necessary, deodorised, throughout the district. Many of these ditches have very flat gradients, such as Sutton, Lound, Mattersey, Finningley, Rampton, Marnham, &c., and entail frequent cleansing for considerable distances. The sewage tanks constructed in Everton, Clayworth, and Tuxford have proved beneficial.

DISINFECTION.

All houses have been disinfected, under my direction, after infectious cases, including Tuberculosis.

COMMITTEES.

During the year Sub-Committees to consider proposed sewer extensions, and difficult cases of suggested sanitary improvements on private property, have made inspections in various Parishes.

INCREASE IN CORRESPONDENCE.

This has very considerably increased owing to the operations of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, 1909, and the East Markham and Tuxford Water Scheme. In 1908, my sanitary correspondence equalled 1350 letters forwarded ; in 1913, 1532 letters forwarded, and on the Water account 1226, making a total of 2758, against 1350 in 1908.

THOMAS HENRY,

Sanitary Surveyor and Inspector of Nuisances.

February, 1914.

HOUSING, TOWN PLANNING, &c., ACT, 1909.

**REPORT by THOMAS HENRY,
Designated Officer.**

1	Number of Houses Inspected	...	...	...	...	286
2	Number which on inspection were found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	4
3	Number of Representations made to Local Authority with a view to making of Closing Orders	...	...	...	...	4
4	Number of Closing Orders made	...	...	...	...	0
5	Number of Houses the defects of which were remedied without the making of Closing Orders	...	...	...	...	105
6	Number of Houses which after making of Closing Orders were put in a fit state for human habitation	...	...	...	...	0
7	Number of Houses closed voluntarily without the making of a Closing Order	...	...	...	...	4
8	Formal Notices served	...	...	...	...	56
9	Remedies suggested in ditto	...	...	...	...	171

The general character of the defects found and dealt with consist of : insufficient light and ventilation to rooms and food stores, leaky roofs, insufficient and defective eaves gutters to houses and outbuildings, defective stairs and floors, stairs and step ladders to bedrooms without handrails, broken down fire grates and stoves, a few dirty houses, defective yard and causeway paving, absence of food stores, untrapped sink wastes, &c.

During the year amendments to 105 houses have been executed as follows :—

1	Windows made to open	...	...	...	...	...	32
2	New Windows	...	...	...	...	...	55
3	Eaves Gutters provided	...	...	...	...	...	33
4	Yards and Causeways paved	...	...	...	...	...	40
5	New Floors and Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	9
6	Ventilators to provide "through" ventilation	...	...	...	...	...	10
7	New Fire Grates and ditto repaired	...	...	...	...	...	5
8	Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	22
9	Stairs repaired and Handrails provided	...	...	...	...	...	25

House Rents.—These vary considerably, as the following particulars of 554 houses shew:—

1	From 1/- to 1/6 per week	...	...	...	...	75
2	„ 1/7 „ 2/- „	...	...	...	...	192
3	„ 2/1 „ 2/6 „	...	...	...	...	67
4	„ 2/7 „ 3/- „	...	...	...	...	56
5	„ 3/1 „ 4/- „	...	...	...	...	37
6	„ 4/1 and above „	...	...	...	...	36
7	Rent included in Wages	...	...	...	...	41
8	Rent included in Farm Rent	...	...	...	...	23
9	Owned by Occupier	...	...	...	...	27

554

The closet accommodation, ash-pits, drains, and water supply are dealt with under the Public Health Act and Public Health (Water) Act, and a very large amount of this work has been done in previous years; see page 25.

Four houses have been voluntarily closed by the owners, after the service of notices requiring certain amendments to the houses.

A number of informal notices have been served relating to houses belonging to the Newcastle Estate and other houses in various parishes.

Informal notices with some owners are usually so much waste paper.

Owners of property in this district, having had, during my term of office as Inspector, experience of the enforcement of the requirements of the Public Health Act, hardly appreciate the "greater detail" of the requirements of the Housing, Town Planning, &c., Act, but it is becoming to be better understood, owing to the education resulting from my interviews with the owners, although some of them are very slow in executing the repairs ordered. For instance, an owner has employed one man to carry out certain works to a number of houses, but his progress may be imagined, as stated in my last report, when in cleansing a well, this individual had to descend into the well, fill the bucket, come out of the well, empty bucket, descend again, and so on. The work on this Estate was not completed in March, 1914, when the Estate was sold. Generally rents are increased by the smaller owners in consequence of the enforced expenditure, and there are tenants who resent any improvement to their houses for this reason, being quite satisfied with their environments, at the risk of larger rents. Several tenants were given notice to quit, immediately after my inspection of their houses.

It is very satisfactory to report that some occupiers have expressed their appreciation of the advantages of the "through" ventilation provided in their bedrooms, by means of "hit and miss" ventilators, but many others look upon such an innovation as quite unnecessary, and say, there are enough draughts in their houses already. In most cottages, the living room door opens direct from the open air, and it is customary for this to be left open.

Some owners reposed sufficient confidence in the Council, to request me to carry out the repairs for them, at their cost, which has been done. In two cases, advantage has been taken of the five year period for payment, the amount being over £100 in each case.

THOMAS HENRY,

March, 1914.

Designated Officer.