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East Retford  
Urban District Council.



ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

1907.

BY

A. E. MANNERS-SMITH,

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



RETFORD:

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1908.



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# To the Urban District Council of the Borough of East Retford.

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GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year 1907.

The population of the Borough estimated to the middle of 1907 is 13350, showing an increase of 132 on the preceding year.

The Births for the year numbered 284, as against 359 in the preceding year, a decrease of 75. The Birth Rate is 21.27 per 1000, the average for the past ten years being 27.85.

The Deaths registered were 152, as against 198 in 1906, a decrease of 46. This may partly be attributed to the cool rainy summer of 1907, and I trust in some measure to the gradual improvement of the sanitary condition of the town. The Death Rate for the Borough is 11.38, the average for the past ten years being 15.59. This is the lowest rate of which I can obtain any record in the Borough.

**Infant Mortality.** It will be observed that the number of deaths of Children under 1 year of age shows a welcome decrease, the figure being 28 as against 43 in the preceding year. This reduces the death rate per 1000, from 119.7 to 98.59. The subject of Infant Life Protection has been very prominently brought forward during the past twelve months, mainly owing to the extreme interest shown by the ex-Mayoress, Mrs. Bradshaw, through whose instrumentality the Ladies' Health Association has been brought into existence. A capable and energetic Health Visitor has been engaged who visits



the Mothers of the poorer classes in their homes, and advises as to the management and feeding of newly-born children. I am hopeful, therefore, that the low death rate may be maintained, though it must be borne in mind that the cool summer already mentioned was an important factor in preventing anything like an epidemic of Summer Diarrhœa, so fatal to infants. The new regulations relating to Cowsheds, introduced by the Council, will, I hope, do much to ensure the provision of a pure Milk supply, the importance of which cannot be exaggerated.

**Infectious Diseases.** It is with much pleasure that I am able to again announce the absence of any epidemic of an infectious nature. Eleven cases of Scarlet Fever have been dealt with at the Isolation Hospital, out of a total number of 15 cases notified. One case I regret to say proved fatal. During the past few months there have been no cases for treatment in the Hospital.

**Notifiable Infectious Diseases.** There were 27 cases notified during the year, 18 of these cases were from the Ordsall District, 4 from East Retford, 2 from West Retford, 3 from North Retford. This also shows a decrease from last year, when there were 34 cases notified, whilst in the year 1905 there were no fewer than 155 cases notified. The Notifiable Diseases are classified in Table III, Vital Statistics.

**Typhoid Fever.** The only case of Enteric Fever notified was in the parish of Ordsall. This was evidently contracted away from Retford.

**Scarlet Fever.** There were 15 cases of Scarlet Fever, one, as I have already mentioned, ending fatally. This was one of 3 cases occurring in one house in North Retford, and from enquiries I made I concluded the infection was introduced from outside the Borough.

**Diphtheria.** There was only 1 case.

## NON-NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

**Measles.** In the early part of the year the town was visited by a severe epidemic of Measles, 4 cases of a malignant type proving fatal.

**Whooping Cough.** There have been a considerable number of cases, 2 of which terminated fatally.

**Diarrhœa.** As already mentioned the Summer of 1907 was exceptionally free from this infantile disease, owing to the absence of any extended period of hot weather.

## OTHER DISEASES.

**Cancer.** The deaths were 11, being an increase of 1 on the previous year.

**Tubercular Diseases.** There were 15 deaths from Phthisis and 6 from other Tubercular Diseases, making a total of 21 as against 16 last year. Possibly the cold damp summer, which so favourably affected health in other ways, may have had an injurious effect in these cases. Last year I pointed out the importance of the prevention of spitting in public places, and I would again draw the attention of the the public to its danger.

**Small Pox Hospital.** The Hospital has not been required for use during the year, as no cases occurred.

**Retford Hospital.** Only 4 deaths occurred in the Hospital during the year, two of which were non-residents.

**Union Workhouse.** There were 17 deaths in the Workhouse during the year, 8 which were non-residents.



**Nuisances.** For action taken under this heading, I beg to refer you to the Borough Surveyor's report appended. I should like to take this opportunity of mentioning the invariable kindness and help I receive at the hands of Mr. Kennedy, in all matters requiring our joint attention.

**Little Gringley Water Supply.** This Hamlet is now supplied with water.

**Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops Order.** The Council have adopted new regulations in this matter, which came into force in July, 1907. The importance of these regulations cannot be over-estimated providing, as they do, for the lighting, ventilation, cleansing, drainage and water supply of Cowsheds and Dairies, as also reasonable precautions to be taken by purveyors of Milk against infection or contamination. This vitally important question of a pure Milk Supply will, I believe, shortly become a national one. I am afraid that in the past almost any housing conditions, no matter how objectionable, have been considered fit for Cattle, and although prejudice dies hard, still I think we may reasonably hope for more enlightened views by persons engaged in the trade of Cow Keepers and Milk Vendors.

**Elementary Schools.** One Department of a School (St. Saviour's Infants') was closed for a short period only in the year, owing to the epidemic of Measles then prevailing.

## Meteorology.

The summer of 1907 was noted for its excessive rainfall and lack of sunshine.

I am indebted to Geo. R. Davies, Esq., B.Sc., of the Grammar School for the Rainfall Table given below.

A Rain Gauge has now been set up at the Sewage Disposal Works at Bolham, and in future I hope we shall not have to trespass on the kindness of the Grammar School Staff.

**Rainfall Table.**

Month.	No. of Days Rain fell.	Inches.
January .....	9	0.70
February.....	16	1.36
March .....	16	1.52
April .....	16	1.87
May.....	19	2.93
June .....	20	2.80
July.....	13	1.74
August .....	11	1.79
September .....	8	0.63
October .....	24	5.21
November .....	21	1.88
December .....	18	2.25
<b>Total in Year.....</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>24.68</b>

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

A. E. MANNERS-SMITH.



## BOROUGH OF EAST RETFORD.

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The Factory and Workshops Act,  
1901.

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*Cannon Square,  
East Retford,  
February 29th, 1908.*

GENTLEMEN,

The following is my Report for the year 1907.

During the year 1907, 13 inspections of workshops were made, and in 3 cases written notices were served.

**Defects found.** 1 case of want of cleanliness; 1 case of defective sanitary accommodation; and 3 cases of special sanitary requirements for Bakehouses, making a total number of defects found, 5.

I received 6 lists of outworkers during the year.

I inspected all the dwellings of the outworkers and found them satisfactory.

There are 86 workshops in the register for the Borough.

There have been no legal proceedings during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. E. MANNERS-SMITH.

*To the Urban District Council,  
East Retford.*

# Vital Statistics.

TABLE I. VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1907 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

Year.	Population estimated to Middle of each year.		Births.		Total Deaths Registered in the District.				Total Deaths in Public Institutions in the district.		Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the district.		Nett Deaths at all ages belonging to the District.	
	1	2	Number.	Rate.*	Under one year of age.		At all ages.		in Public Institutions	Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the district.	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the district.	Number	Rate.*	
					Number.	Rate per 1,000 Births registered.	Number.	Rate.*						
1897..	11166	316	28.3	47	148.73	207	18.53	13	1	0	206	18.45		
1898..	11255	351	31.18	58	165.24	210	18.65	17	9	0	201	17.85		
1899..	11343	352	31.03	51	144.8	178	15.69	21	10	0	168	14.81		
1900..	11432	347	30.35	58	167.01	203	17.75	31	17	0	186	16.27		
1901..	12385	344	27.77	43	125.0	186	15.01	24	9	1	178	14.37		
1902..	12563	330	26.26	41	124.21	163	12.97	30	12	1	152	12.1		
1903..	12741	361	28.33	43	119.11	159	12.48	25	13	0	146	11.45		
1904..	12919	279	21.59	48	172.08	175	13.54	23	11	0	164	12.69		
1905..	13066	348	26.63	33	94.82	207	15.84	37	11	4	200	15.3		
1906..	13218	359	27.15	43	119.7	206	15.5	21	11	3	198	14.97		
Averages for years														
1897—	12209	339	27.85	46	138.07	189	15.59	24	10	0.9	180	14.82		
1906..	13350	284	21.27	28	98.59	152	11.38	21	10	10	152	11.38		

\*Rates in Columns 4, 8, and 13 calculated per 1,000 of estimated population. The deaths to be included in Column 7 of this Table are the whole of those registered during the year as having actually occurred within the district or division. The deaths to be included in Column 12 are the number in Column 7, corrected by the subtraction of the number in Column 10 and the addition of the number in Column 11.

By the term "Non-residents" is meant persons brought into the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and dying in public institutions there; and by the term "Residents" is meant persons who have been taken out of the district on account of sickness or infirmity, and have died in public institutions elsewhere.

The "Public institutions" to be taken into account for the purposes of these Tables are those into which persons are habitually received on account of sickness or infirmity, such as hospitals, workhouses and lunatic asylums. A list of the Institutions in respect of the deaths in which corrections have been made should be given on the back of this Table.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 4498. Total population at all ages, 12340. Number of inhabited houses, 2707. Average number of persons per house, 4.55,—at the Census of 1901.



VITAL STATISTICS—continued. TABLE II.

Names of Localities	1 EAST RETFORD.				2 WEST RETFORD.				3 NORTH RETFORD.				4 ORDSALL.			
	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year
Year	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D	A	B	C	D
1897 ..	3452	86	44	5	824	19	27	6	2492	84	55	16	4398	127	80	20
1898 ..	3454	86	56	12	827	19	18	6	2492	88	59	17	4482	158	68	23
1899 ..	3456	92	50	12	829	23	13	2	2492	87	38	10	4566	150	67	27
1900 ..	3458	102	52	17	832	13	15	4	2492	90	48	13	4650	142	71	24
1901 ..	3436	81	40	7	782	19	20	7	2934	81	52	13	5233	163	66	16
1902 ..	3436	67	35	9	782	14	12	2	2977	93	53	15	5368	156	52	15
1903 ..	3436	92	38	12	782	13	13	1	3020	98	51	20	5503	158	44	9
1904 ..	3436	77	48	16	782	17	18	2	3063	69	44	10	5638	116	54	20
1905 ..	3470	88	54	6	782	18	19	1	3101	100	62	14	5713	142	65	12
1906 ..	3512	98	47	10	782	15	15	4	3149	99	51	6	5775	147	85	23
Averages of years 1897 to 1906 ..	3455	87	46	11	800	17	17	3	2821	80	51	13	5133	146	65	19
1907 ..	3544	72	40	9	783	14	13	1	3174	71	46	3	5849	127	53	15



VITAL STATISTICS—continued. TABLE III.  
Cases of Infectious Disease notified during the year 1907.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases notified in whole district.						Total Cases notified in each Locality.				No. of Cases removed to Hospital from each Locality.			
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.					1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
		Under 1	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65								
Small-pox ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Cholera ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria ..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
INCLUDING Membranous Group ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas ..	8	2	..	1	5	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever ..	15	3	6	4	2	..	3	1	10	..	..	..	..	..
Typhus fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric fever ..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Relapsing fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Continued fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal fever ..	2	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ..	27	6	6	6	9	..	4	2	3	18	..	..	..	..

The Isolation Hospital is "Arlington House," New Street, Retford. The Small-pox Hospital is in North Retford.

## VITAL STATISTICS—continued. TABLE IV.

Causes of, and Ages at, Death during Year 1907.

*East Retford Urban District.*

Causes of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents," whether occurring in or beyond the district.							Deaths at all ages of "Residents" belonging to local- ities, whether occurring in or be- yond the district.				Total deaths whether of Residents or non Resid- ents in Public Institu- tions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1.	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards	East Retford.	West Retford.	North Retford.	Ordsall.	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Small Pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	4	1	2	..	1	..	..	1	..	2	1	..
Scarlet Fever	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Whooping Cough	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..
Diphtheria and Membranous Croup	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Croup	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Fever { Typhus	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
{ Enteric	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..
{ Other continued	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Epidemic Influenza	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..
Cholera	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Plague	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diarrhoea	2	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..
Enteritis	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Septic Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	15	..	1	..	5	8	1	5	2	5	3	2
Other Tubercular Diseases	6	..	1	2	2	1	..	1	..	2	3	2
Cancer, Malignant Disease	11	..	..	..	..	6	5	3	2	2	4	1
Bronchitis	6	1	..	..	..	1	4	..	2	3	1	..
Pneumonia	8	2	1	1	..	1	3	..	..	5	3	..
Pleurisy	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Alcoholism	6	..	..	..	..	3	3	..	1	1	4	..
Cirrhosis of Liver	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Venereal Diseases	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Premature Birth	8	8	..	..	..	..	..	4	..	..	4	..
Diseases and Accidents of Parturition	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Heart Diseases	16	..	..	1	..	6	9	5	1	7	3	5
Accidents	6	..	2	1	..	3	..	..	2	1	3	1
Suicides	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
All other causes	58	11	3	..	1	11	32	18	3	17	20	9
All causes	152	28	11	5	10	41	57	40	13	46	53	21



## VITAL STATISTICS—continued. TABLE V.

**INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1907.***Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.*

CAUSE OF DEATH.		Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-2 Months.	2-3 Months.	3-4 Months.	4-5 Months.	5-6 Months.	6-7 Months.	7-8 Months.	8-9 Months.	9-10 Months.	10-11 Months.	11-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.	
Common Infectious Diseases	Small-pox . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
	Chicken-pox . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
	Measles . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	
	Scarlet Fever . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
	Diphtheria : Croup Whooping Cough . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	2
Diarrhœal Diseases	Diarrhœa, all forms . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
	Enteritis . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
	Gastritis, Gastrointestinal Catarrh . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Wasting Diseases	Premature Birth . . . . .	5	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	8
	Congenital Defects . . . . .	1	.	2	1	.	2	2	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	9
	Injury at Birth . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Want of Breast-milk Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Tuberculous Diseases	Tuberculous Meningitis . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Tuberculous Peritonitis . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Tabes Mesenterica . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
	Other Tuberculous Diseases . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Erysipelas . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Syphilis . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Rickets . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Meningitis (not Tuberculous). . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	
Convulsions . . . . .	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
Bronchitis . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1
Laryngitis . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Pneumonia . . . . .	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	2
Suffocation, Overlaying Other Causes . . . . .	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
		7	1	3	1	.	2	5	.	1	2	2	1	.	1	1	1	28	

District of East Retford Borough. Births in the year:—legitimate, 263 ;  
illegitimate, 21. Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 152.

Population, estimated to middle of 1907, 13,350.



## BOROUGH OF EAST RETFORD.

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A Report on some of the work of the Borough  
Surveyor's and Sanitary Inspector's Departments.

To accompany the Medical Officer's Report for 1907.

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GENTLEMEN,

Considerable progress in Sanitary work  
has been made as the following statistics show :

Inspections made principally in connection with drainage and conversion of privies to water closets, entailing a considerable amount of work in testing and searching for defects and including some bake- houses, cowsheds, and milkshops.	}	1131
Further inspections and tests during the progress of drainage and conversion works.	}	
Inspections of new buildings.	}	

Notices sent chiefly under Sec. 23 & 36 of the Public Health Act, 1875, to construct drains and provide water closets .....	.....	164
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### DRAINAGE AND CONVERSION PROGRESS.

No. of houses connected with new sewers .....	.....	332
also		
G. C. Railway Co.'s Engine Sheds, E. R. Corporation Baths, Beehive Works, Wesleyan Chapel, Grove Street, West Retford Schools.		
Sewage drains laid, approved and tested	.....	miles $3\frac{1}{4}$
Rainwater drains .....	.....	„ $\frac{3}{8}$
No. of sewage gulleys .....	.....	410
„ rainwater gulleys .....	.....	45
„ disconnections .....	.....	120
„ air inlets .....	.....	25
„ ventilating shafts .....	.....	147
„ inspection chambers .....	.....	329
„ w.c.s. connected .....	.....	315

„	privies abolished	.....	.....	.....	151
„	pail closets abolished	.....	.....	.....	73
„	cesspools abolished	.....	.....	.....	8
„	old drains destroyed	.....	.....	yards	297

Year.	Houses connected				
1902	.....	.....	.....	.....	367
1903	.....	.....	.....	.....	229
1904	.....	.....	.....	.....	215
1905	.....	.....	.....	.....	313
1906	.....	.....	.....	.....	252
1907	.....	.....	.....	.....	332
					1708

Total houses within drainage area Dec. 31, 1907	2730
Total connected to Dec. 31st, 1907	1708
Houses yet to be connected	1022

The drainage and sanitary improvements of the corporate properties are now complete. This work has entailed an outlay of £650.

Other matters attended to: a cowshed destroyed, bakehouses cleansed and whitewashed, abatement of nuisances caused by keeping swine, storage of manure and refuse, and stopped drains; privies in outlying districts converted to pail closets, water closets provided with increased flushing power.

**Testing.** All new drains for conveying sewage are carefully tested by water during the progress of the work, and the ventilator and last joints by smoke at the finish.

**Lighting and Ventilating Water Closets.** The question has been asked whether under our byelaws with respect to new buildings and alteration of buildings a person who converts a privy into a water closet can be compelled to light and ventilate it. The opinion of



a well known solicitor of the Supreme Court, an expert in Public Health Law, is that the person can be so compelled. Builders and others should note this and that the wholesome condition of the closet will be both directly and indirectly affected by the provision of insufficient means of lighting and ventilating.

**Slaughter Houses.** These have been inspected. There are twenty-two in the borough, six of which are licensed; the others are registered. Many are old and structurally unsuitable. The interiors are generally kept as clean as circumstances will allow. In one particular case reported to the committee trouble arose through a defective floor in the slaughter house, and keeping swine, and storing manure in such a way as to be a nuisance and injurious to health.

**Rainfall.** A rain-gauge has been fixed at the Sewage Disposal Works at Bolham at a height of 74 feet above approximate mean water at Liverpool, and recording rainfall was commenced on January 1st, 1908.

**Building Progress.** 30 plans approved for 20 houses, 6 alterations and additions to buildings, 4 temporary buildings, electric light station, factory extension, business premises, 3 stables, cowshed, cartshed, shop front, new conveniences to schools, new street.

**Certificates** issued for 41 new houses fit for human habitation. **Other Buildings erected:** 5 additions and alterations, 5 temporary buildings, teachers' centre, electric light station, factory extension, business premises 3 stables, cowshed, cartshed, 2 shop fronts, new conveniences to schools, also a new street laid out.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. D. KENNEDY.

To the Urban District Council of  
East Retford.

*Market Square,  
Feb. 14th, 1908.*